

exhausting diseases. We do not believe that wine or spirit of any kind is an essential aliment, but we are fully alive to the benefit to be derived by a prudent use of wine in those conditions of the system in which the assimilative powers are at fault from deranged function. We have made trial of the wine given to us by the Canada Association, and we believe it to be a pure juice wine palatable and nutritious; it contains much grape sugar and a sufficient quantity of alcohol to prevent fermentation if carefully kept from exposure. A second kind of this wine is called Madeira and very closely resembles the Madeira produced in the Island. There is also a port wine which is less fiery than the imported port, but very similar to it in flavour. These wines are comparatively cheap, and we think they might with propriety be introduced into use in our hospitals as they can be furnished at a little over one-half the cost of the lower grades of imported wines, being at the same time to our taste, quite equal if not superior to the better qualities of those wines.

### Medical Items

#### LUNATIC ASYLUMS IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

*To the Editor of THE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.*

DEAR SIR,—Your readers being very interested parties as to the mode of procedure, to obtain orders for the admission of patients into either of the asylums, I beg to inform them, that by virtue of an order in council, passed in the month of November, 1878, at the suggestion of the Hon. Prov. Secretary, Mr. Marchand, under *no circumstances whatever*, can any *non-paying patient* be admitted into either of the asylums without a government order, and this order can *only* be obtained by making an application for it to the Hon. Provincial Secretary, Quebec. Where application is made to him, the applicant, at once, receives all necessary information.

Truly Yours,

HENRY HOWARD, M.D.

Govt. Med. Attendant, Lunatic Asylum, Longue Pointe, P.Q.

Montreal, 26 Berri st., Dec. 24, 1878.