

(*Union Médicale.*)

QUEBEC LUNATIC ASYLUM, PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

REPORT 1872-73.

We must congratulate the proprietary directors of the Quebec Lunatic Asylum, better known under the name of the Beauport Asylum, for having given to the Annual Medical Report of that institution the development it required in connection with the important questions it has to deal with. If there be a branch of serious medical study which has been overlooked in this country by practitioners, it certainly is this one; and we therefore trust that the interesting essay we have perused with so much advantage and pleasure, will tend to draw the attention of thinking men, especially those among the medical profession of the country to the various questions of mental aberration. Our object is for the moment to give a condensed analysis of the report, reserving to ourselves the privilege of discussing later on some questions that may prove of interest to our readers.

The medical report is prefaced by a letter of some thirty pages, addressed by the Medical Superintendents to the Honorable Gédéon Ouimet, Premier of the Province of Quebec. The preface contains some very interesting details relating to the Beauport Asylum, and indicating the advancement the institution has made. Its foundation in 1845 marks the beginning of scientific treatment of the insane in the Province. The first page of the report is embellished by an excellent photograph, giving a good idea of the site, and the extensive premises of the asylum, showing how much this institution, which had begun so humbly, has since increased.