

REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM AT TORONTO.

TORONTO, 1st March, 1857.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada in Parliament Assembled.

May it please your Honorable House,—

In conformity with the requirements of the Act, cap. 188 of 15 and 16 Vict., I beg to submit to your Honorable House the following Report of the state of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum at Toronto.

During the period which has elapsed since the date of my last report in triplicate to His Excellency the Governor General, and to each branch of the Legislature, the general health of this Asylum has been very satisfactory. An extended and minute examination of nearly all the best Asylums in the United States, made in the last two years, enables me to state that the sanatory condition of our Provincial Institution for the insane, is not inferior to that of any in America ; and is much better than that of the majority.

It is my belief that the chief cause of the comparatively vigorous health of the patients of our Asylum is to be found in the simplicity, and the superior nutritive properties of their diet, as contrasted with the more varied and less digestible fare, with which the inmates of American Asylums are indulged. Our system of heating by hot water, which is circulated by