

results. But this fact becomes more apparent, when a comparison is made with England and France, the unfavorable position in which this country is placed being always kept in view. At a distance from Europe, from which we have to procure necessary products not raised in this country, we have to pay heavy freight charges, to which are to be added customs' duties. To this may be added the severity of our winter season, the length of which necessitates a larger consumption of fuel, which we are also compelled to seek in foreign countries. As regards the necessities of life, which are found here, every country possesses them in an equal degree, and the cost of living in that respect is not dearer elsewhere than here. There is, therefore, an equality of resources on this head; but our country has not the less to struggle against the inconveniences which we have mentioned, and to which we are obliged, in spite of ourselves, to add another that has arisen and increases every day; we allude to the price of labor, which, within the last two years, has increased 24 per cent, that is to say, nearly one fourth.

However, while keeping within the small grant awarded to us by the Government, we managed to attain the end in view, and are happy to state that we gained the following praise from the Inspectors: "The Government, having assured itself that the Quebec Asylum fully corresponded to its high mission, that its unfortunate inmates are looked after with a truly paternal care, has concluded with its proprietors new arrangements for the next decade." <sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> Report of the Inspectors of Prisons and Asylum, for the year 1871, page 5.

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