

# THE PROTESTANT HOSPITAL For the Insane.

Situated at Verdun, parish of Lachine, three miles from the city, and on the property lately acquired by the Governors.

This noble building, designed for the treatment and cure of mental diseases, is fast approaching completion, but much remains to be done before it will be ready for occupation. Even after that great point will have been reached, the laying out of the grounds into farm and gardens will still remain to be carried out, so as to make the institution and its surroundings all that is desired and intended.

A visit to Verdun at this season, when nature appears brightest, will prove to the visitor the wisdom exercised in the selection of the charming site now occupied by the hospital building. It fulfills in every particular the requirements laid down as essential by Dr. Kirkbride in his standard work on "Hospitals for the Insane." Located in the country, three miles from the city, it is easily accessible at all seasons by the Lower Lachine turnpike road, which runs across the front of the property. Dr. Kirkbride's words in describing an ideal site for an institution of this kind could be quoted with but slight variation as being precisely descriptive of the ground at Verdun. It is "a pleasant, healthful, fertile district; the land is of good quality, easily tilled, the surrounding scenery is varied and attractive, and possesses numerous objects of an agreeable and interesting character, while the hospital itself is retired and its privacy fully secured, the views from it exhibit life in its active forms." There are also secured by this site the necessary requirements of "wood, tillable land, ample water supply, facilities for drainage, space for pleasure grounds, also for future extension of buildings." The property embraces 110 acres of land which afford "adequate and appropriate means of exercise, labor and occupation for the patients," these being "now recognized as among the most valuable means of treatment."

These quotations from the highest authority show how completely and in all practical essentials the governors have complied with the scientific, aesthetic and sanitary conditions in the selection of a site for the hospital.

But one must stand upon the spot and survey the truly magnificent prospect spread on every side to form a just appreciation of its beauty, extent and perfect fitness as a retreat for those suffering under mental disorder. The mountain, with its wealth of green wood, the wild stretches of cultivated fields, the villas surrounded by gardens, the great river spreading to a misty shore line beyond, the woods of Nuns' island, relieving the middle distance to the left, the Lower Lachine rapids flashing and dancing on the right, sending a "voice of many waters" with the perfume, laden breeze, combine to form a scene that cannot be surpassed, and exert an influence which may be felt, but cannot be described.

When the building is completed, and the grounds about it laid out and cultivated, as pleasure grounds, gardens and orchards, it will be one of the most charming retreats of the kind to be found anywhere in America or Europe.

### THE BUILDING.

As the governors showed their wisdom in the selection of the site for the hospital, so have they taken care that the building shall be in all respects up to the highest modern standard of utility. When completed it will possess everything essential to the comfort, proper and economical treatment of the patients. Acting on the advice of those having mature experience, the governors have not attempted a structure entirely new in design. They have wisely profited by the knowledge of those who have had a practical familiarity with the wants and requirements of the insane, and after a careful study of existing institutions, have combined as far as possible all their good features, and endeavor to avoid their defects and inconveniences. The style of architecture is plain but pleasing, good taste being needed in this, as in everything designed for the treatment of a disease like insanity, in which the surroundings of patients greatly influence their conditions and feelings.

It is not necessary to enter into the details of the construction. The most approved plans and methods have been adopted and the best material used throughout the building. The outer stone walls are lined with brick, and of brick all the internal partitions are constructed. The system of heating and ventilating is the most perfect known; while the disposal of refuse by cremation largely does away with the objection regarding sewerage contamination.

From the general outline now presented it will be seen that the Protestant population of the province will soon be in possession of one of the best equipped and beautifully situated hospitals for the insane that could be desired. The report of the Royal Commission on Lunatic Asylums of the Province of Quebec, 1888, contains evidence of the need for the new hospital, the primary object of which is the care of the insane in all possible cases. The increase of population and the generally crowded condition of the asylums show reasons in themselves sufficient for the establishment of an hospital for Protestant patients. Built by private subscription, aided by legislative grant, and incorporated by special act of the legislature it will be supported and governed under the eye of the public with the single purpose of giving the best humanitarian and scientific treatment to the insane.

These facts and considerations, the governors believe, have only to be sufficiently impressed on the minds of the Protestants of the Province of Quebec to secure a response that will clear away the existing claims and place the institution on a sound financial basis.

The hospital has to be furnished and supplied with those equipments which must be

completes in order to secure thorough efficiency in all departments. By such thorough efficiency alone can it be made to answer its purpose.

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.

Men engaged in the ordinary avocations of professional and business life have usually little time to bestow on objects of philanthropy, yet there are few who do not feel and acknowledge a sense of duty towards their suffering fellow-beings. It is necessary, however, to remind them occasionally of this duty, in order to secure their co-operation and assistance.

The great reason why Protestants and others of Quebec should have a hospital for the treatment of insanity is because the care of the insane in this province is farmed out to private individuals and religious institutions. In Great Britain and the United States, as well as in the other provinces of the Dominion, public opinion is against the system. In joint committee the Vermont State Legislature has declared that it is an anomaly to send the insane to an asylum over which the legislature has no control. (Vide "Report of Royal Commission on Lunatic Asylums of the Province of Quebec" page 51). "Lucere" says that this report, page 52, "is the necessary correlative of farming out, and the fact of the insane being let out by contract, leads the public to see in the contract

only speculation and a stinginess which in many cases is only too real."

Quite recently the world has been shocked by reports of abuses and cruelties practised in lunatic asylums in Illinois and Minnesota. The recital of these horrors in the newspapers has justly excited the public mind, and though no such atrocities are alleged in connection with the management of asylums for the insane in this province, it is not denied that there is need for reform in them. The questions arising in connection herewith are many and intricate, but without entering into discussion of them, or presuming to reflect on any institutions or persons, the promoters of this hospital simply desire to secure for the afflicted the most perfect ample facilities of treatment, with a view to their restoration to health, home and society.

Actuated by these sentiments, the governors and promoters of the Protestant Hospital for the Insane again appeal with hopeful earnestness to the charitable public for subscriptions to enable them to complete the undertaking. The amount required is small compared with the population and wealth of those to whom this appeal is made.

### THE COTTAGES.

It is intended to set apart a portion of the grounds where the patients (if their friends so desire it) may reside with the advantage of all the comforts and accustomed conveniences

of home, with their relations and friends. This system has been found to work admirably elsewhere, and does away with the real or fancied restraint of an asylum proper.

### HOSPITAL GOVERNMENT.

A subscription of \$200 constitutes a life governorship.

Any subscriber to the amount of \$10 per annum is eligible to any elective governorship.

The Board of Governors is comprised of not less than twenty-four elective and life governors. An annual subscription of not less than \$20 by any Protestant church or congregation, within the province of Quebec, or by any national society, shall have the right of appointing one person as governor, who shall act during the year for which such subscription shall be made.

### THE PLANS.

The buildings, shown dark upon our plan, and now approaching completion, comprise the centre and west portions of what will eventually present a facade of 284 feet front by an average depth of 75 feet exclusive of the "annexes" in the rear.

A reference to the plan will sufficiently explain to our readers the relative positions of the several parts of the buildings to one another, without any special description. The "Administrative Building," entered from the tower in the centre of the block, contains on

the ground floor the various rooms necessary for the carrying on of the business of the institution, and includes board room, secretary's office, large room for general meetings, etc. On the upper portion of this building are apartments for the manager or superintendent, etc.

For the accommodation of private patients rooms of ample size with all requisite sanitary adjuncts have been provided in rear of the central building, having their separate corridors, staircases, etc.

The hospital for sick patients, with nurses' room, bath, etc., is situated in the most westerly wing over the "Marking and Mending Rooms", and is isolated from the rest of the building.

Supervision and communication with the several parts of the buildings are obtained by means of corridors 10 feet in width, radiating from the central octagonal hall on each floor, 30 feet in diameter, lighted by a metal skylight the full size of the same.

A high, dry and well lighted basement story extends under the whole of the buildings, which will be utilized as occasion requires, and the same may be said of the attic or third story.

A chapel and recreation rooms are provided over the central large wing in rear.

Externally—the style of the buildings is of a plain, but pleasing and extremely substan-

tial description. They are constructed of coursed lime-stone masonry, neatly pointed in the body of the work, relieved by cut-stone strings, cornices, lintels and sills on each floor. Contrast and relief by color, are obtained by the introduction of double pressed red brick, for the jambs and arches over the lintels of the windows.

The roofs are covered with slate of the best quality on the sloping, and galvanized iron on the flat parts.

All the walls are brick lined and the dormitories, corridors, dining room, &c., are painted in oil of selected tints.

The heating and ventilating is being executed by Messrs Smead, Dowd & Co., which system has given universal satisfaction wherever introduced.

The contractors for the several branches of the work are as follows—

Masonry and cut-stone work—Messrs. Quinlan and Turner.

Brickwork—Mr. Chas. Thackray.

Carpenter and joiner's work—Mr. Wm. Byrd.

Roofing, &c.—Mr. G. W. Reed.

Plastering—Mr. Thos. Phillips.

Painting and glazing—Messrs. Wm. Young & Co.

Plumbing—Mr. E. Chanteloup.

Heating and ventilating—Messrs. Smead, Dowd & Co.

Architects—Messrs. J. W. and E. C. Hopkins.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

His Lordship Bishop Bond.

George Hague. Revd. Dr. Shaw.

James Shearer. J. A. Cantin.

J. S. Hall, sr. Geo. Cruikshank.

Alfred W. Kennedy. Alfred Perry.

Robert Reid. Ald. James McBride.

Rev. S. Massey. James Moore.

Walter Drake. I. H. Stearns.

Wm. Rutherford. F. Scholes.

Wm. Reid. W. S. Evans.

### OFFICERS.

Hon. J. K. Ward, President.

Henry Lyman, 1st Vice-President.

Chas. Alexander, 2nd Vice-President.

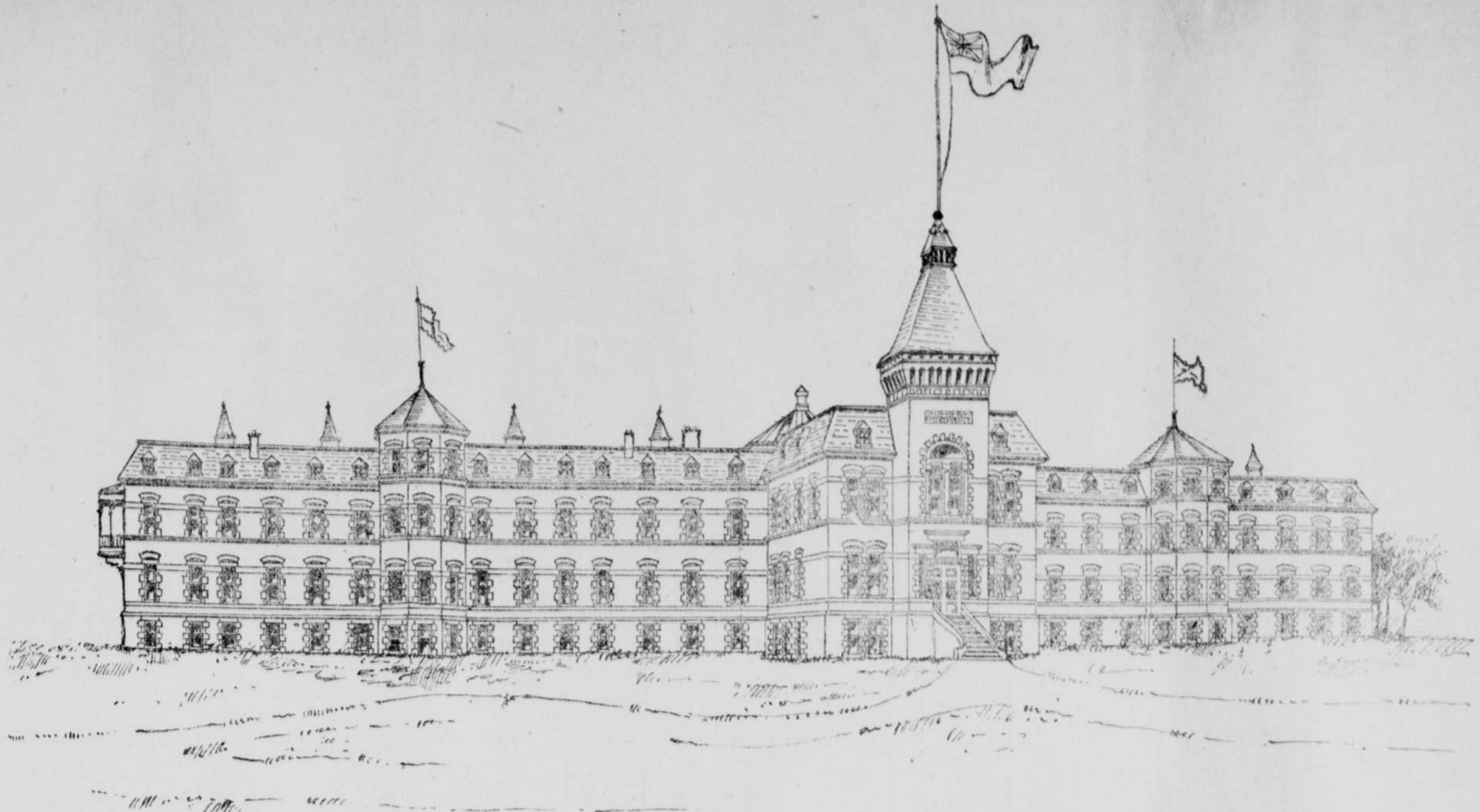
F. Wilford Thomas, Treasurer.

Dr. S. H. Davidson, Hon. Counsel.

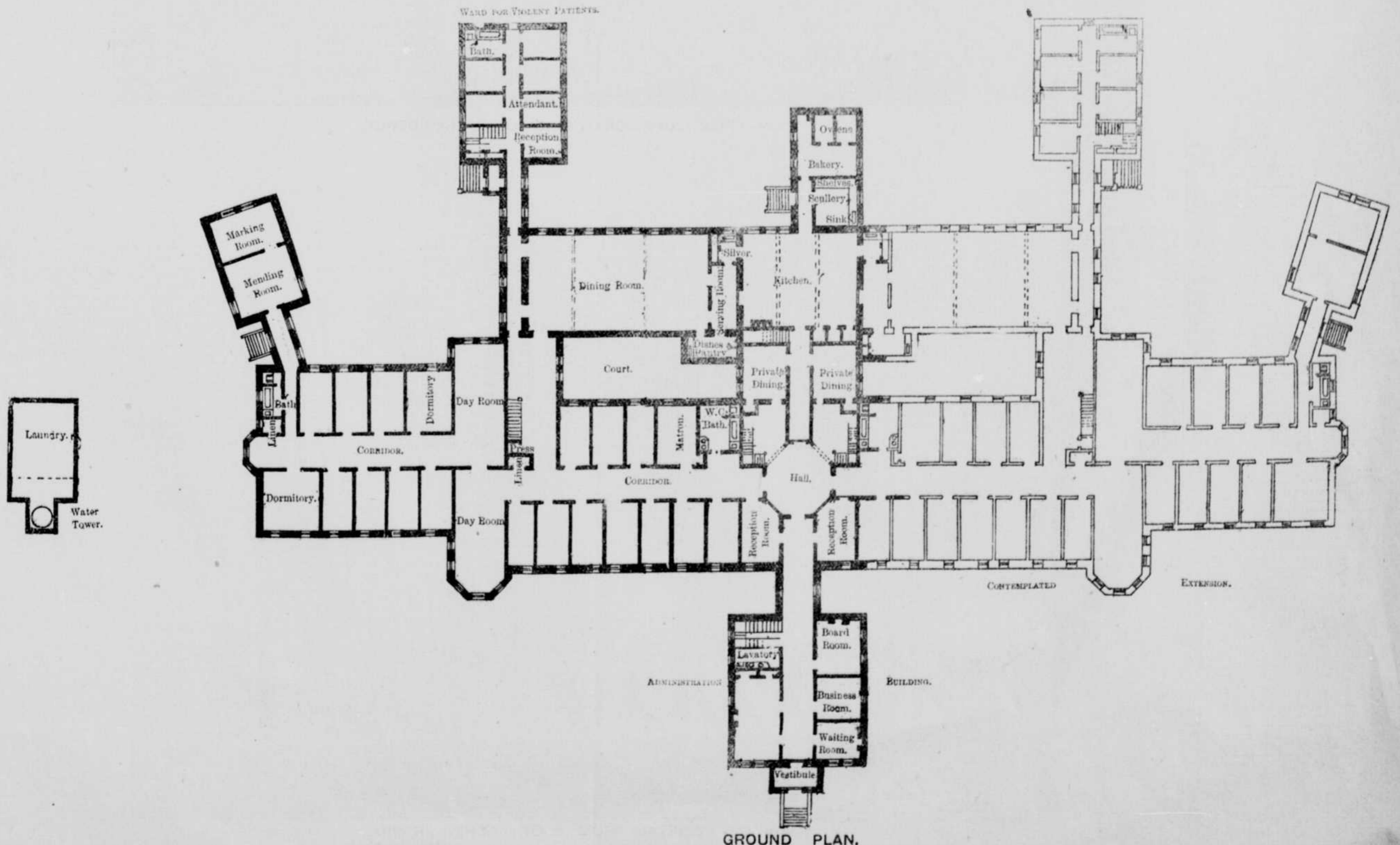
Dr. John Wastley, Hon. Secretary.

Edward Hall, secretary.

The Governors have thought it desirable to place before the Protestant population of the Province of Quebec the several views and a plan of the buildings, as now existing, and make this a final appeal for money to enable them to complete the same for occupation this fall. It is calculated that there are confined in League Point and Beaupre some two hundred of our co-religionists. By an arrangement with the Government it



VIEW OF MAIN BUILDINGS WHEN COMPLETED, FROM LOWER LACHINE ROAD.



is expected these will be, on completion of the building, transferred to this institution, the Government paying an annual fee for their maintenance. The buildings, so far will accommodate two hundred and fifty inmates, and with the proposed extension will contain about four hundred. Ample accommodation is in the course of being provided for private patients in the main building. Plans for separate cottages are in course of preparation, where private patients can reside and have their own personal attendants. As yet no medical superintendent has been engaged, but it is the intention of the Governors to obtain persons of the best practical experience that can possibly be obtained to conduct the establishment.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Table with 2 columns: Description of financial items and Amount. Includes 'Amount already expended upon contracts and purchase of property, say \$90,000' and 'Total estimated expenditure \$1,177,787'.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

Table with 2 columns: Subscriber names and Amount. Lists names like Allan, John; Ayer, A. A. & Co.; Armstrong, George; etc., with corresponding amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Subscriber names and Amount. Lists names like Ewing, S. H. & A. S.; Gross, F.; Hatton, P.; etc., with corresponding amounts.

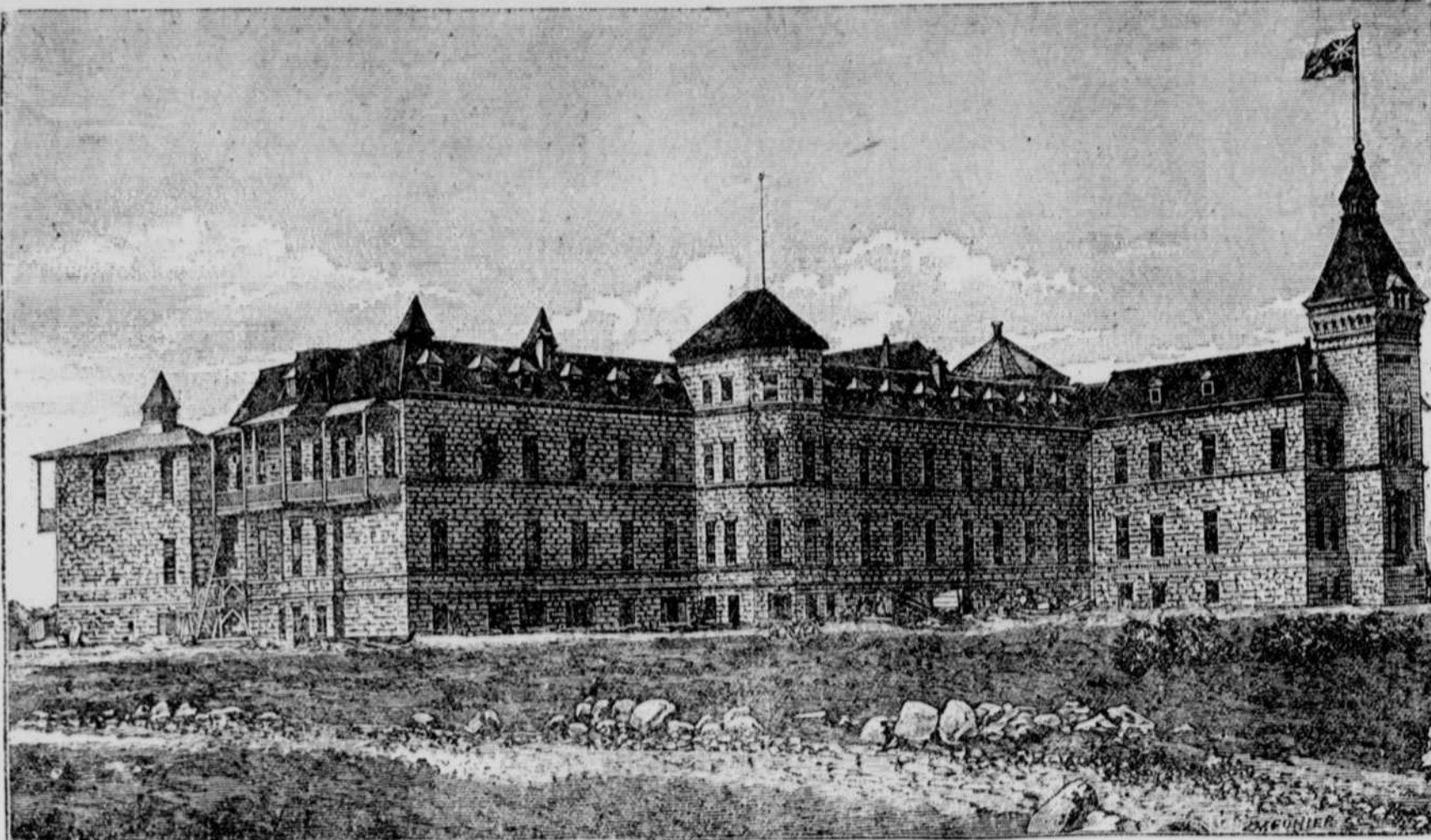
Table with 2 columns: Subscriber names and Amount. Lists names like Henderson, J.; Jones, J. H. & Co.; Kennedy, William; etc., with corresponding amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Subscriber names and Amount. Lists names like Latimore, R. C.; Lefebvre, J. & Co.; Loring, W. B.; etc., with corresponding amounts.

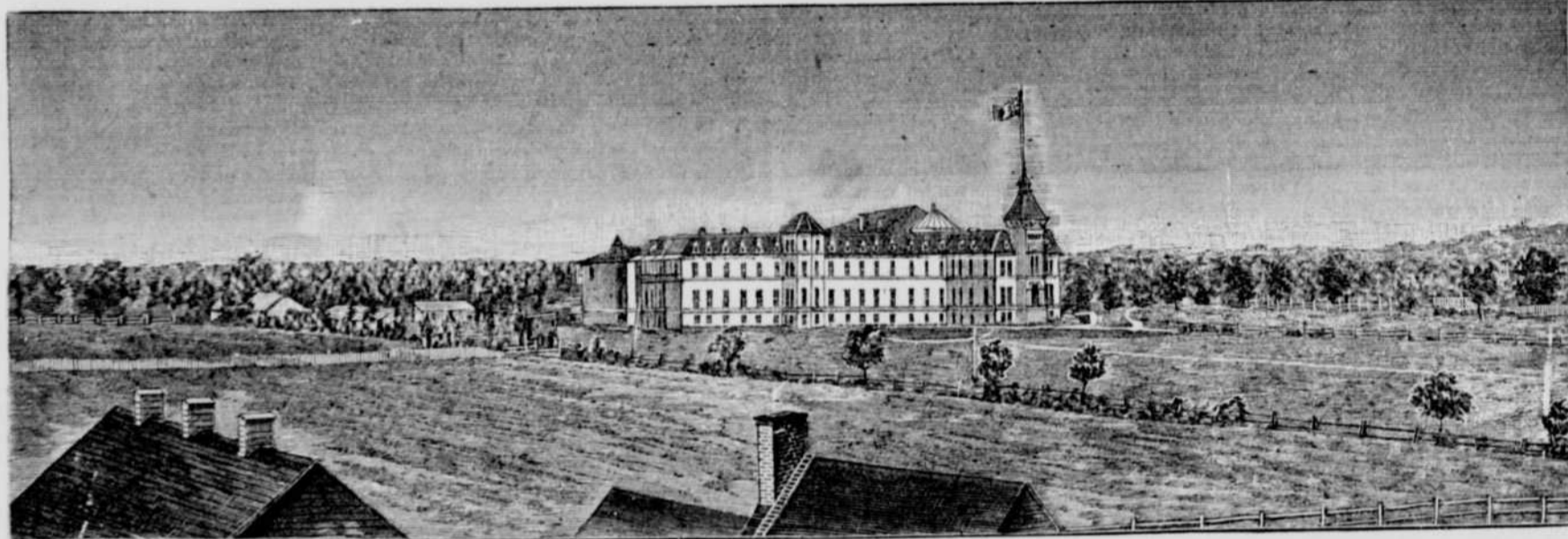
Table with 2 columns: Subscriber names and Amount. Lists names like Molson, W. A., M.D.; Molson, Mrs. John Thomas; McCallum, D. C., M.D.; etc., with corresponding amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Subscriber names and Amount. Lists names like Murray, Grace; Murrison, John; MacFarlane & Patterson; etc., with corresponding amounts.

Table with 2 columns: Subscriber names and Amount. Lists names like Thomson, James; Thomas, F. Wolfertan; Tremblay, Thomas A.; etc., with corresponding amounts.



FRONT VIEW, FROM THE LOWER LACHINE ROAD.



VIEW FROM JOHN CRAWFORD ESQ'S RESIDENCE.



VIEW OF HOSPITAL FROM FOOT LACHINE RAPIDS.