

subscribers, while the confidence excited in its judicious management, operated as a stimulus to many to make greater exertions for its support.

But although this was another step towards the attainment of this important object, and a near approximation to it, still it was not on such a scale as our population required; and by the favourers of the plan was rather looked upon as an experiment to ascertain how far the expenses of such an establishment could be defrayed by subscriptions from the citizens and other funds raised within the town, than any thing else. Such however was the general impulse in favour of the plan, and such the desire to have an Hospital established upon a proper footing, that the undertaking was not allowed to linger long in this state of experiment. At this time there was a piece of ground situated in a convenient place, in the St. Lawrence suburb; and which then belonged to a person of the name of Marshall who occupied it as a nursery. With a liberality highly deserving to be recorded to their credit, the Honble. John Richardson, the Honble. William McGilivray and Samuel Gerrard, Esq. purchased upon their joint credit this lot of ground and by a notorial deed made, declared it to be in trust for the purpose of erecting an Hospital upon it. This occurred in the month of August 1820, and gave a new stimulus to the exertions already made for the attainment of this desirable object.

The next step was to devise the means of erecting a suitable building for such an establishment, and previous to this being tried it was very properly deemed expedient to procure plans and estimates of a building so designed that it would suit for an Hospital adapted to the exigencies of the present population, and at the same time so contrived that additions might hereafter be made, as an enlargement became necessary, without violating the proportion or altering the design of that which was now intended to be erected. At the next meeting a plan and estimate embracing the foregoing intentions was submitted by Mr. T. Phillips and approved of—and such was the zeal of those present at the time that above 800*l.* was subscribed by individuals present, *instantly* to assist in erecting the building.

The plan thus approved of comprised a centre building, 76 feet in length by 40 wide—capable of containing 72 patients—and in cases of emergency 80, with the other necessary apartments for attendants &c. It was also so laid down that at a future period when the augmentation of the population should call for it, two wings could be added, projecting to such an extent in front and rear of the centre that each of them could be fitted up to contain as many patients as the centre building. The estimate for the erection of the centre building, exclusive of an apparatus for warming it by heated air upon a similar plan to that of the Derby Hospital, and besides the sum required for the Cupola, double windows, furniture and out buildings, &c, was about 2,200*l.* It was therefore considered necessary, to limit the object at present to the erecting of this part, as being sufficient in extent for the demands of the present population and within what the funds they could readily raise would be adequate to complete.

A committee was appointed to carry round subscription lists to raise this sum; and such was the general feeling in favour of the In-