

On March 27th, 1849, an act was passed by the legislature to make provision for the management of the establishment, and for vesting the property in the Queen's Majesty, her heirs and successors. By the terms of this act there was to be a board, consisting of not less than five, or more than nine, commissioners, appointed by the governor in council to conduct the affairs of the asylum, said commissioners to receive no compensation. This board, of which three were constituted a quorum, was given power to make by-laws, etc., which, however, were to be submitted to both branches of the legislature. Provision was also made for a monthly visitation of the asylum by one or more of the commissioners; half-yearly visitations by the majority of them; and a yearly visitation by the entire board, which had to report to the governor in council. Another provision of the act exempted the medical officer, keepers and under-keepers, and servants of the asylum from service in the militia and on juries.

Toward the close of the first year of the asylum's existence, Dr. Peters retired from the office of medical superintendent, and on December 1st, 1849, Dr. John Waduell was appointed to fill the vacancy, entering on the discharge of his duties on the 6th of that month.

By 1853, the part of the building originally constructed had become filled to overflowing, and a wing was erected on the south side, which gave a temporary relief.

For a number of years there had at different times been complaints with regard to the management of the various provincial institutions under the old Tory (Family Compact) party, and in 1857, after the advent of the Reformers to power, the House of Assembly passed a resolution to the effect that it was in the opinion of the House the duty of the government to cause inquiry to be made into the management of the lunatic asylum, and all other institutions receiving provincial aid, with a view, if possible, to reducing the expenses of maintaining the same. Commissioners were accordingly appointed to inquire into the management of the asylum and other public institutions. Their report was laid before the legislature in 1858. As a result, in 1859, the control of the asylum was vested in the provincial board of works.

In 1861 yet another change was effected by the transfer of the