

The ward nine contained seventeen cells, and was divided as shewn and indicated by Plan marked B. Seventeen patients occupied the cells. There was also a large room containing two. The patients in the two latter rooms were saved. The names marked by a cross are the names of those who were present in the cells at the time of the fire, but who are missing since.

The names of the others without a cross are those patients who were in their cells at the time but who were saved. The Plan B is a fair representation of the ward nine and its cells as occupied by the several patients.

At about half-past seven on the evening of the 29th January last, coming out of my room into the passage, I met Julie Couture, one of the patients, who cried out that the cell of Julie Breton (another patient) was on fire. I opened Julie's cell, which had been closed on account of its inmate being in a fit of excitement. I called on her to come out, but she would not. The fire was in a straw bedtick, which was in the middle of her cell—the flames were extending to the door and up to the ceiling. Julie had been placed in that cell about ten minutes before.

Previous to that I had perceived that she was breaking the mortar of the cell she then occupied, and having told Mr. Vincelette about it, he ordered her to be put in the cell where I first saw the fire, that is in a high boarded cell. I was present when she was brought to that cell. She was put into it by two men of the house, who were called in to assist us, as we had not sufficient strength to do so ourselves. She had only a night gown on at the time. She had her two hands hanging down, and I did not see if her hands were closed or not, therefore I cannot say if she had any matches or not. I never saw matches in her