

MARITIME MEDICAL NEWS.

VOL. XI.

FEBRUARY, 1899.

No. 2.

Editorial.

A SANATORIUM FOR CONSUMPTION.

We have received from Dr. A. P. Reid, the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health, a circular descriptive of his ideas with reference to the construction of sanatoria for consumptives. Dr. Reid has had twenty years of experience in hospital management—fifteen years as the medical superintendent of the Nova Scotia Hospital for the Insane, and five years as the medical superintendent of the Victoria General Hospital—and this, added to his interest in hospitals during an additional twenty years of private practice, should certainly posit him a competent authority upon hospital construction. We, therefore, turn expectantly to his circular to learn the views which his varied experience has led him to adopt.

The circular at once indicates that Dr. Reid has lost none of his old time love for mechanical work, for, instead of a sketch of a building such as an architect would provide, we find that the doctor has himself erected a model of his ideal sanatorium and then taken photographs of the model. This explains a certain lack of finish in the illustrations, which are intended simply to illustrate a principle and not as works of art.

Dr. Reid's sanatorium would be, "in fact, 'a crystal palace' of iron and glass, a house within a house, or a house surrounded by verandahs, also of iron and glass, and each open to sunlight and air from all sides." The use of wood would be limited as much as possible. The supporting structure would be tubular and so arranged as to permit a hot water circulation through it, thus doing away with coils while assuring an