

which yielded a good supply of vegetables and small fruits. We suffer great inconvenience and loss from having such a small quantity of land suitable for agricultural purposes attached to the Asylum. I hope, however, to find employment for those patients who are capable of working, in improving and beautifying the grounds which will take several years to accomplish.

5th. Amusements for the Patients.—I regret that I have not, hitherto, applied for something to amuse and entertain the patients, and enable them to enjoy the long winter evenings, which now are spent in moping about the wards. I must request the Board of Directors to recommend the Government to place at my disposal sufficient means to enable me to purchase a magic lantern, a supply of slides, a small library, and some games to enlist the attention of the patients and direct their minds from incessantly brooding over their real or imaginary misfortune.

6th. Necessity for Increased Accommodation.—Rockwood Asylum was originally intended for criminals only, and the male lunatics were for several years confined in a basement apartment beneath the dining hall of the Provincial Penitentiary. A plot of land was purchased as a site for the Asylum, and the new building was erected at a distance of about one mile from the Penitentiary. A large number of convicts were employed in making excavations for the foundations and drains, quarrying stone, and preparing all the necessary material, the entire building having been constructed by convicts alone, thus furnishing a very large building at a very small cost to the country.

The Asylum, as it now stands in its unfinished state, presents a frontage of about 310 feet in length. The main or central portion is four stories high above the basement, and the wings one story less. We have now accommodation for about 300 patients; but when the building will be completed it will present a frontage of 570 feet, and will afford accommodation for about 550 patients. I would most respectfully but strongly recommend the Government to order the remaining portion of the building to be commenced, and pushed forward to completion with the utmost despatch, as more extensive Asylum accommodation is yet required in the Province, and nowhere else does a more desirable or magnificent site exist for such a building, nor better hygienic conditions to be found. In addition to which it may be urged that in no other part of the Dominion could such a building be erected at so small an outlay of the public funds, as all the labor could be furnished by the convicts of the Kingston Penitentiary.

7th. Completion of the Church.—A very beautiful room has been set apart for a Church, but it is still in an unfinished state, and no seats have yet been procured for it. Many of the patients on the Sabbath day express regret that they are debarred the privilege of attending religious worship, and look upon this as a great deprivation. I would, therefore, strongly recommend the Church to be completed as soon as possible, as I am satisfied that a large portion of the patients would be edified and benefited by attendance on religious ordinances.

8th. The very great desirability of severing the connection lately formed between Rockwood Asylum and the Kingston Penitentiary.—I regret that the Board should have taken such strong ground against what I had written on this point, and refuse to allow it to appear in my "Annual Report" because it had not been discussed previously in some of my quarterly ones. I must, therefore, for the present, submit to your authority; but, at the same time, I must claim the right to take an early opportunity to bring under the notice of the Government the great injury this Asylum sustains by being declared to be part and parcel of the Kingston Penitentiary, and the great violence that is thereby done to the feelings of the unfortunate inmates and their friends.

I may be permitted to state that of the two hundred and eighty-nine lunatics now in the Asylum, only thirty-two were sent from the Penitentiary.

The usual statistical tables will be found appended. The obituary one shows the number of deaths during the year to have been twenty-six. The deaths must always rate higher in this institution than others, as long as discretionary powers are withheld from the Medical Superintendent in regard to the admission of patients.