

And the ends reaching from the loops nearly to the ground. The entire-frame work was first covered with different kinds of evergreens, on which were arranged flowers of almost every hue; so that the whole displayed a degree of taste and ingenuity extremely creditable to its constructor, Mr. H. Corse, Vice President of the Horticultural Society."

When the van reached the Arch, the procession again halted, and entered as at the Church; the Grand Lodge and Building Committee taking their station on a platform erected over the scite; the officers of the garrison and friends of the Institution standing near the spot where the stone was to be laid; surrounded by the brethren two deep, facing inwards; behind whom was an elevated stage for ladies and another for the band of music. Every thing being now ready, the upper part of the Chief Corner Stone was raised, to the sound of a solemn air; the Grand Chaplain repeated a prayer; and the Grand Treasurer deposited, in a cavity made in the lower part of the stone a crystal tube hermetically sealed, containing two written pieces of parchment and several coins; as follows:—

1st. PARCHMENT.

MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The centre part of this building, situate upon Dorchester street, in the St. Lawrence Suburbs of the city of Montreal, was erected in the year of our Lord Christ 1821, and in the 2d year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the 4th, (under the administration in this Province of his Excellency the Right Honorable George Earl of Dalhousie, Governor in Chief of the British North American Provinces) by voluntary contributions, for the benevolent purpose of establishing a Hospital, to be called the *Montreal General Hospital* for the reception and cure of diseased poor, and others who may not have the means or conveniency of being duly cured for when sick, at their own places of residence.

The only institution of this kind, hitherto, has been the Hotel Dieu Nunnery, which although highly useful, yet the accomodations therein for the sick being very limited, and their rules excluding certain diseases, it is found to be now inadequate to the growing population of this City and Suburbs, which is now estimated at about twenty thousand souls.

An effort therefore to establish an Hospital upon a more extended and general plan as to residents, and embracing also the reception and cure of diseased poor emigrants from the mother country, on passing through Montreal, became indispensable, and happily has succeeded beyond expectation.

The present building is so constructed, as to be capable hereafter of a three-fold extension when needful, by adding thereto a wing at each end of equal capacity with the centre.

The contributors up to the 5th day of June 1821, when the corner stone of the center building was laid with masonic ceremony; and the amount of their respective subscriptions to this praise worthy undertaking, are as follow, viz :