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ROYAL COLUMBIAN HOSPITAL.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 12th FEBRUARY, 1863.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

SIR,—In submitting the following report of the Board of Management of the Royal Columbian Hospital for the year ending 31st Jan., 1863, there are a great many items of importance that will necessarily have to be noticed in their first report, and therefore they respectfully claim the attention and indulgence of the public.

During the fall of 1861, the growing importance of the Colony, and the rapid increase of our population, especially in the mining season, suggested to many benevolent and philanthropic persons the great necessity that existed for a general hospital in the city of New Westminster. An institution, when inaugurated, to be conducted on liberal principles, open to all deserving patients, and free from all denominational influences. On the 12th of February, 1862, an adjourned public meeting was held in this Court House, when the present board, according to provisional regulations, were elected for one year. One of their first duties was to make an appeal to the colonists for that material aid which the charitable object deserved; they are happy to say that the call met with a response that would have been laudable from a much larger community than ours. As soon as the Board of Man-

agement were in receipt of sufficient funds, tenders were invited to construct a building according to plans and specifications kindly prepared by Colonel Moody and the officers of the Royal Engineers. We need scarcely make comment at this period respecting the building, as it stands a monument of the indomitable energy and determination of British Columbians to accomplish a noble and munificent enterprise. A judicious selection of real estate has been made, and liberally granted by the Government to be vested in the Trustees, viz: Suburban sections 37, 38, 8, 35, 36, 9, about ten and a half acres, in Block VI; town lots 17 and 18, Block XXXI. The board have secured by purchase the adjoining lot the building, and the Government has kindly granted to the institution three additional lots in the same Block, consequently the property to be vested in the Trustees is, town lots 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, Block XXXI; and the suburban sections previously mentioned; and however great the future of the Colony may be, it will be found that sufficient lands are held in trust to meet all requirements, indeed we may reasonably expect that the revenue derived from this source hereafter will in a great measure defray the expenses of the institution; but it devolves upon the public to grasp boldly the subject and provide.