

Considerable progress has been made in the plastering of our male public wards. As this work is being done by ourselves it moves but slowly. It is, however, only a question of time, and ere the close of the present year I trust that all these halls will have lost their bare, prison-like look, and be on a par with the female public wards, which leave nothing to be desired.

The former female public patients' dining-room was enlarged and handsomely fitted up as a dining-room for male private patients of a superior class.

Several of the wards were completely redecorated and now present a very attractive appearance. No class of people are more readily affected by their surroundings than the insane. For this reason, the wards of a hospital should be given, as far as possible, the cheerful, home-like appearance that goes so far toward promoting the recovery and brightening the lives of these, the most unfortunate of all God's creatures. In both the corridors and rooms of these wards, the walls have been covered with burlap up to a height of seven and eight feet, the edges of the burlap being concealed, next the floor, by a strip of quarter round, above, by a moulding four to six inches wide, which makes a very handsome finish. This adds somewhat to the cost of decorating, but more than pays for itself in the protection given to the plaster, while the effect, when it is painted, is very pleasing. Above the dado-moulding, some of the walls are painted, some papered. In connection with this work our carpenter has put up over 6,500 feet of mouldings. All the wall-paper used for decorative purposes was a donation from our ever-generous friend, Mr. Colin McArthur.

The iron gates and stone pillars presented to us by the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association were placed in position at the entrance to our grounds, where they present a very handsome and imposing appearance.

900 feet of board fence was erected around the kitchen garden. We will now, I trust, be able to reap some return from our strawberry plants and berry bushes.

The course of the creek running through our kitchen garden was straightened. By this, not only is the appearance much improved but a considerable amount of heretofore useless land has been reclaimed.

REQUIREMENTS.

Chief among our wants is an infirmary for sick patients. The insane are subject to all the diseases that ordinarily affect humanity. A patient suffering from phthisis, or other disease, should be placed where he may have perfect quietude, proper nursing, and the peculiar care his case demands. These conditions cannot be found in the ordinary wards, in fact can only be assured in an isolated infirmary,