

House of Industry, County of Lincoln.

This institution is pleasantly situated on the bank of the old canal, in the township of Grantham, about one mile from the city of St. Catharines. It was opened in 1886, and provides accommodation for fifty inmates. At present the number of inmates is twenty-seven.

The main building is built of brick, with shingle roof, and consists of two flats above the basement, and an attic which is not used.

On entering the institution, we were informed by the matron in charge, that visitors were only received on Wednesday of each week, but that exceptions were sometimes made when the visitors were from a distance. Having explained the object of our visit, we were shown into the reception room, which is also the business office of the institution. It is here, that the meetings of the committees are held. This room is furnished with an office table, chairs, lounge and fire-place. The keepers apartment are conveniently situated in the centre of the building, and consist of a sitting-room on the first floor, and three bedrooms on the second floor. The rooms occupied by the male and female inmates being on either side. The part occupied by the women, is known as the James Oille ward, that occupied by the men, is named after our old friend the late Frank Wyatt. Both of these gentlemen were actively interested, as members of the county council in promoting the establishment of the institution. The wards are divided about the same. The first floor, occupied by the women, provides a bath room, water-closet, day-room and a room for church services. The second floor provides three bedrooms. two of them containing from six to nine beds each.

The building is divided by a hall running lengthways, the rooms being on either side. On the second floor the window sills being low, iron bars were put on the windows to prevent the inmates from falling out. Iron beds are used in the sleeping rooms, they are of poor design and not so well adapted for an Institution of this kind as those manufactured at the Central Prison.

An effort has recently been made to improve the ventilation in the sleeping rooms by the construction of large tin ventilators extending from the centre of the room to a ventilating flue in the wall.

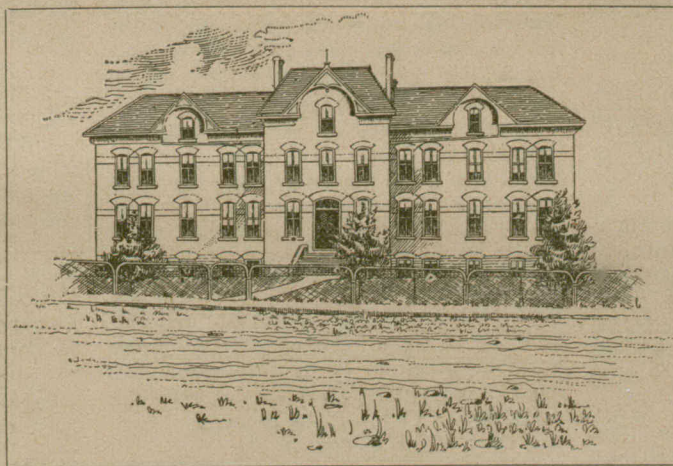
The basement, a most important part of the Institution, provides dining-rooms for the men and women, two wash-rooms adjoining, and a kitchen and pantry. The dining-rooms are furnished with tables, covered with oil cloth and seated with chairs. In the kitchen we noticed one of Copp's Home Ranges which the Matron

said worked well. On the other side of the hall is a cellar containing a large refrigerator, a laundry-room, which also contains a hot air furnace, a coal-room and a hot water boiler, a vegetable cellar and two lock-ups. The laundry contains no special apparatus. The building is heated by hot air and hot water, the hot air having been added when it was found that the hot water boiler had not sufficient capacity. The water supply is derived from the City Water Works, which have been extended to the Institution. This, with the supply of hose on the premises, provides all the fire protection necessary. All sewerage runs into the old canal situated in the rear of the buildings.

Two wooden stairs to be used as fire escapes have been constructed in the rear of the building from the second flat.

Church services are held in the Institution every Sunday morning by the Y. M. C. A., and others from the City of St. Catharines.

No special hospital wards are necessary in this Institution as all curable patients



are sent to the City Hospital, for which the County gives a yearly grant of \$500.

The sewing for the Institution is done chiefly by hired labor, although an occasional inmate is capable of doing this class of work. The mens' clothing is bought ready-made.

Inmates are allowed a plug of tobacco a week. There is no special bill of fare. This varies according to the season and the produce of the farm.

There is no telephone in connection with the city which would be a great convenience.

The farm consists of fifty acres, ten acres on the bank of the canal, and across the road forty acres cultivated. There is a fruit garden in which we noticed peaches, pears, plums, apples, cherries, currants and berries. The surplus raised is marketed in St. Catharines. The soil of the farm is sandy and does not require to be tile drained.

This county has been unfortunate in having the barns and other outbuildings burned on two occasions. The origin of

the first fire was uncertain, but the last fire was attributed to the inmates who use matches to light their pipes. The inmates of an institution of this kind should not be allowed to use matches, but instead we would suggest that a lamp be placed in a convenient part of the building, turned low, at which the inmates could light splinters of wood when desiring to smoke. In this way the keeper would be able to regulate the time and place of smoking.

The present outbuildings, which have just been completed, consist of a magnificent barn with stone basement, pig-pen, chicken-house, and drive-house all neatly painted; the basement of the barn is floored with cement, and contains four horse stalls, harness room, root-cellar, box-stall, and cow-stable all most conveniently arranged. The farm stock consists of five cows, sixteen pigs and three horses.

The employees consist of a keeper and matron at \$550 per year, a hired girl at \$10 a month, and a man who assists in farm work during eight months of the year at \$16.00 a month and board. The physician who receives \$75 per year visits the institution every two weeks, a dispensary is provided, the county furnishing medicines.

Inspector Vandusen, who is a member of the county council and chairman of the House committee, visits the institution once a week and is paid \$2.00 per visit.

The committee of management, three in number, meets quarterly to pass accounts.

Inmates are received from the city of St. Catharines at a charge of \$1.50 per week.

The farm cost \$5000. The buildings, including the new barns, etc., cost in the neighborhood of \$15,000. During 1894 the number of inmates averaged 29. The total expenditure for the year was \$4,665.16. After deducting permanent improvement receipts from sales of produce, etc., the actual amount expended for the support of the inmates of the house was shown to be \$2,009.40, making the total expense per week for each person including the keeper's family, etc., \$1.17.

The farm produce sold realized \$416, and that raised and consumed on the premises was valued at \$745. The value of the furnishing and loose property around the institution is valued at \$2,023.00.

Teddie—"What are Woman's Rights, pa?"

Pa—"Everything they want, my boy, always remember that."

Trolley car conductor—"Settle, now, or get off!" Dignified citizen—"What do you take me for, sir?" Conductor—"F' cents same as anybody else."