were sinking, in consequence of the decay of the joists underneath. It was thought that the floors would have to be raised, which would not only have caused a heavy expense, but would in the mean time have greatly interrupted business. The necessary repairs have, however, been made, by supporting the basement story with granite pillars;—much expense and inconvenience have thus been avoided, and the floors it is believed sufficiently secured. New iron pillars have been erected in place of the wooden ones decayed; the exterior of the building has also been examined and repaired, by re-pointing joints and replacing stones that were decayed; a granite wall has also been built under the railings, the whole extent of the front of the Provincial Building."

## The Asylum for the Insane.

A site for this Institution has been chosen, and paid for. The quantity of ground is eighty-seven acres. The locality, we believe, is "Woodside," property of the widow MacMain, on the eastern side of Halifax harbour. "The plan of the building, designed to come as nearly as possible within our means," says the chairman of the Board of Works, "was made by the architect who projected the elevation of a similar institution now in course of erection at Washington." \* \* \* "The whole has been under the direction of Miss Dix, who has done much, and who has generously added this gift to several others, for which the Province is to her indebted." Plans have been prepared, and other preliminaries entered into "Nothing has been neglected," says the honorable chairman, "that could, with propriety, have been done since the appropriation was made." The work is going on.

In reference to the expenses connected with Education, the committee of the House of Assembly, Session 1854, remarked in their Report:—

"Your committee beg to call the attention of the House to the necessity of fixing the salaries of the Superintendents appointed during the last year. The grant for a single Superintendent, under the Revised Statutes, is 250l., together with an allowance of 100l. for contingencies of office, and travelling expenses. Mr. Dawson's salary for 1852 was not drawn, in consequence of his having resigned the office; but he was paid 1001., in pursuance of the Report of the committee on Education last year, who recommended that the balance of 1501. should be applied to partially defray the increased expense of employing two inspectors during the current year. By a resolution of the House, passed on the 4th April last, the governor is requested to carry out this recommendation; and the House pledged itself to make provision for any increased expense which it might be necessary to incur. The whole amount paid out on this account for the past year, to 31st December, 1853, is 2561. 19s., which is within the amount already voted; but the expenditure of the coming year will necessarily exceed that amount if made at the same rate.

"The committee are of opinion that the salaries of all public officers should be fixed by the Legislature, and recommend that this should be done in respect of the Superintendents."

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