

for a Provincial Eye and Ear Infirmary, I would also respectfully suggest that a sum of not less than \$10,000 of the estate funds, be used in the erection of a suitable building for such purpose, to be attached to the Toronto General Hospital, and to be known as the 'Andrew Mercer Eye and Ear Infirmary.' "

On the 4th March, 1878, the following order was approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council:—

"The Committee further advise that out of the residue of the said estate the sum of ten thousand dollars be appropriated towards the erection of a Provincial Eye and Ear Infirmary, in connection with the Toronto General Hospital, to be called, 'The Andrew Mercer Eye and Ear Infirmary,' and a further sum of ninety thousand dollars to the erection of a Reformatory Institution, to be called, 'The Andrew Mercer Ontario Reformatory for Females,' such Institution to be maintained and managed in the same way as the Reformatory at Penetanguishene, and to be for the reception of females, irrespective of age.

"The Committee further advise that this Order be not acted upon unless approved by Resolution of the Legislative Assembly."

The Legislature having approved, by resolution, of the foregoing Order in Council, and the Government having decided to proceed at once with the erection of the proposed Institution, it was thought advisable as a preliminary step to visit a few establishments of a similar character in the United States.

With this object in view, as many Institutions as could be reached in a few days were visited and examined.

The Reformatory at South Framingham, Mass., was the only one seen which had been specially designed and erected for the exclusive custody of female prisoners. All the others were penal and correctional Institutions with departments for women, except at Buffalo, where an establishment known as the "Ingleside Home," has been founded for the reformation of female misdemeanants, chiefly fallen women, who may, under the provision of the law, be compulsorily committed to it, or who are voluntarily received. This Institution, however, as the name indicates, is not a prison but merely a "Home," and the superintendent admitted that it had almost entirely failed in its object owing to the absence of the structural means of enforcing proper and effective disciplinary and custodial regulations.

The Establishment at South Framingham is the only one which furnished information and data that would be of any value in the construction and organization of a Reformatory for female prisoners, and that only of a negative character. For, while much was seen that could be incorporated in the plans and specifications with great advantage, in order to provide as complete an establishment as possible, still there are serious structural defects, and very marked deficiencies in the South Framingham Institution, but which, in my opinion, may be very easily avoided. The buildings are a combination of the linear and quadrangular plans, and are very much scattered and disconnected. Presumably the linear features were adopted in order to obtain the means of separating the inmates into distinct corridors, and to have certain classes as far apart as possible. If so, the object has only been very imperfectly obtained, and at a very much enhanced cost, as well as at the partial sacrifice of constant and continued supervision over all the inmates, which, above all things, are of vital importance in a Reformatory of any kind, but more particularly in one for females, where influence and example are most powerful factors in the reclamation of the inmates.

In order to obtain the object the Government had in view, and at the same time to keep within the expenditure authorized by the Legislature, I was convinced that a plan differing in all respects from what was seen would have to be devised and followed. The great desideratum in the construction of such an Institution, in my opinion, is that the buildings in their design and arrangement

shall provide effective means for classifying, in the dormitories and workshops, the adult females committed or transferred to it, and shall also furnish an entirely separate department for girls under 14 years of age. To this end, after the most careful consideration, I submitted the following recommendations :

1st. That the Reformatory shall be erected in Toronto, upon the land belonging to the Province, and upon a site west of the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway crossing, having a sufficient frontage on King Street and depth to the south to meet all the requirements of such an establishment.

2nd. That the buildings shall comprise a centre structure with two wings extending from the same, with a workshop in rear extension, and still further in a rear line with the front wing extremities, two isolated buildings, one for an Hospital and the other for cells for the confinement of refractory prisoners.

The main structure to be three stories high with a well raised basement, the front portion to project sixty feet from the wing extensions, and the rear to be in a line with the same. The projecting front to contain the official departments and officers' quarters. On the ground floor a centre hall twelve feet wide, running into the building, with an office and a reception room opening off the same. A cross hall, eight feet wide, to be on the east of the building for an entrance for ordinary official purposes, and to lead to a receiving room for prisoners, and from which entrance to the Prison shall be made. In rear of the official quarters thus described shall be that portion of the main building within the prison proper, divided from the official quarters by an 18 inch wall. Extending around three sides of this interior space in the main structure, shall be well lighted halls, 12 feet wide, from which entrance shall be made into all the prison corridors and the associated dining room or class room in the centre. The first floor of the main building in the front projection to be allotted to the Female Superintendent and Assistant Officers, and the portion within the prison proper to have, as on the ground floor, three halls, 12 feet wide ; the interior portion to be taken for the quarters of the female guards, from which supervision and oversight can be obtained over the entire prison. The upper story in the main building in projection to remain for subsequent allocation, and the upper portion of the prison or interior department of the main building to be fitted up and used for a chapel and school-room.

With respect to the wings extending from the main building it was recommended that tower projections be placed at the end of each, and that the wings be divided in the centre longitudinally by an 18 inch brick wall.

In the front portion of the east wing shall be three tiers or galleries of cell structures with their backs placed against the centre dividing wall, each cell to be 8 feet deep, 4 feet 9 inches wide and 8 feet high, 60 cells in all, with a well lighted corridor 15 feet wide in front of the same, open from floor to ceiling. The two upper galleries to be reached by iron stairs, leading to oak gangways, 4 feet wide with iron railing in front of the cell doors. The ground floor of the tower projection to be also longitudinally divided by the extension of the main centre wall, in order that a bathing and store room may be had for the prisoners, upon being first received into the Prison. All the cells in this corridor to have light iron gates and such other structural fixtures in the way of bars and locks, as will render it a safe place of custody.

The corresponding space on the other side of the east wing to be divided and floored over into three distinct flats or stories, with 15 rooms 7ft. x 10ft., built against the outer wall in each story, or 45 rooms in all, with a window opening in every room. A corridor 12 feet wide, to extend in front of said rooms. The entire tower projection space on each flat to be used for day and work rooms with space partitioned off from each room for two bathing tubs and water closet.

The west wing to be of the same length and width as the east, and to have a



tower projection of a similar descripton. This wing to be divided transversely by an 18 inch brick wall 60 feet from the main building. The space next to the main building to be again sub-divided longitudinally in the same manner as the east wing, the front portion to have three tiers, or galleries of cells placed against the division wall each tier to contain twelve cells, 5 feet wide, 8 feet deep and 8 feet high—36 cells in all. The rear portion of this sub-division to have three distinct floors with 9 rooms on each, said rooms to be 6 feet wide and of the same depth and height as in the corresponding flats of the east wing, but to have no day rooms attached to them.

Through the adoption of the plan thus indicated, distinct and separate accommodation will be provided for four classifications or grades of prisoners, viz.: commencing with the east front corridor, with its galleried cells and more prison-like surroundings, and where every female will be placed when received in order to undergo probational observation; thence they may be promoted to the better and larger cells and improved surroundings and classification provided for in the front of the west wing. Continued good conduct and strict amenableness to discipline may then be rewarded by transfer to the large cells or rather single rooms in the south corridor of the west wing, from where, after a certain period of continued good conduct and marked evidences of reformation, the prisoners may be removed to the south corridors of the east wing, in which few or no prison surroundings are, and where every inmate will be furnished with a good sized single room and a window opening in each.

Under this structural arrangement and more particularly by the adoption of the plan of surrounding the interior portion of the main building by wide corridors on three sides, the largely increased cost of the linear system of construction will be avoided, and greater compactness and in consequence better supervision over the prisoners will be obtained without in any way injuriously affecting the structural means of securing a complete separation and classification of the inmates.

Coming now to the Reformatory for girls under 14 years of age, it is of paramount importance that this class should be entirely separated from the adult inmates. In order to secure this, I recommended that the western portion of the west wing should be cut off from the eastern sub-division by a brick wall, and taken for the Reformatory for girls. The entrance to it, to be from the end of the tower projection, which projection on the ground floor will be used for official purposes, and the wing portion of the same flat for culinary purposes and for dining and sitting rooms. The first floor to be divided by brick partitions, and lath and plaster as may be subsequently required. The second floor to be used for dormitories on the south side and school room on the north. This arrangement will provide accommodation for 50 inmates.

I pointed out that it was of the utmost importance that the structure should, externally, be as free as possible from prison appearance, while possessing the solidity necessary to it. I also strongly urged the desirableness of raising the building well up, so that with a basement, if possible, of 10 feet not more than 4 feet should be under ground, and further that the towers should be ornamentally though inexpensively finished, in some way to correspond with the roof finish of the main structure.

The foregoing description of the buildings required, together with other details, was transmitted to the Public Works Department along with block drawings, which were accepted as a basis for Departmental plans and specifications.

As soon as the plans were ready, tenders were invited, and the offer of Messrs. Snarr & Son accepted for the construction of the buildings.

At the time of writing this Report the buildings are fairly well advanced, and it is to be hoped that they will be fully ready for occupation not later than the 1st of January, 1880.