

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the Congregations of Religious Women in Canada, their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Projet de la Grande Histoire des hôpitaux catholiques au Canada

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leur mission en matière de soins de santéainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

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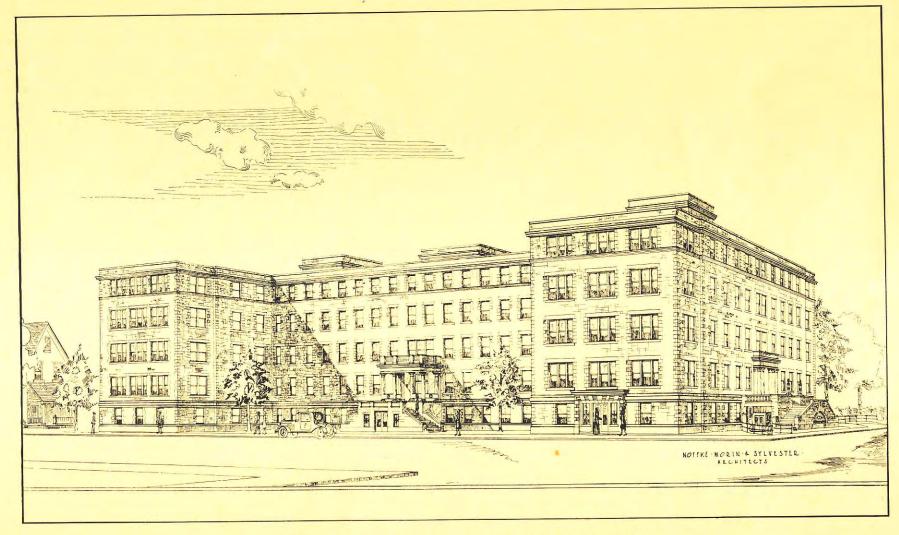
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THE NEW ANNEX OF THE OTTAWA GENERAL HOSPITAL





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WATER STREET

HISTORY OF THE OTTAWA GENERAL HOSPITAL

Caring for stricken strangers under one roof is an essentially Christian undertaking: to the Pagans a hospital was a thing unknown. It is only in the Fourth century that we find the first shelter intended for the sole use of those whom the Church calls the "suffering members of Christ". Constantine is no sooner established in his new capital than, following in the footsteps of the Bishops of Rome, he sets about founding hospitals. At a later date Julian the Apostate strives to imitate the disciples of Christ by establishing refuges 'where we can do for the Pagans what the Christians do for all". Before long the hospital idea has travelled far afield: from the East it invades Gaul, crosses the Rhine and the Channel, and soon all Europe, both East and West, is dotted with asylums for the stricken. The Hôtel-Dieu at Paris, at Lyons, at Tonnerre, tell the tale of what the Middle Ages, particularly the Thirteenth century, did for the sick and the wounded. Furthermore the Crusades gave rise to vast leper colonies and from that time forward the public hospital progressed side by side with the science of Medicine.

In Canada the hospital dates back to the Seventeenth century. It was in 1637 that the Duchesse d'Aiguillon founded the Hôtel-Dieu at Quebec; five years later Jeanne Mance founded its counterpart in Montreal. One hundred years elapsed before the Venerable Mother d'Youville founded the Order of Grey Nuns, which was destined to expand until its activities penetrated the entire North American continent, with results nowhere more remarkable than in Ottawa.

The institution which holds particular interest for us — the Water Street Hospital, as everybody calls it — owes its existence to the untiring zeal of a young nun of twenty-seven years of age: Elisabeth Bruyère who, born at l'Assomption, Que., on March 19th, 1818, departed this life at Ottawa on the 5th of April, 1876. She it was through

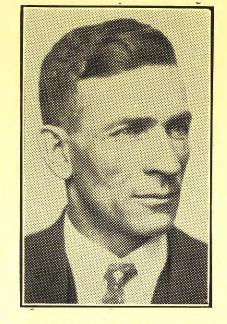
whom Divine Providence chose to accomplish the mission which, though beset with such tremendous difficulties, was nevertheless destined to endow Ottawa City with sweet and simple Charity. Everywhere Elisabeth Bruyère is known as Mother Bruyère; never perhaps did the lips of the poor and the unfortunate murmur with more tender feeling the hallowed name of "Mother" than when speaking of our saintly Mother.

Sister Bruyère founded the Ottawa General Hospital; she also founded the convent of the Grey Nuns at Bytown and became its first superior, as she became the first superior of the Institute of the Grey Nuns of the Cross.

Let us set a few benchmarks, in order to give a precise survey of the ground on which we are about to enter. In 1844 the village comprised two distinct sections, the one and the other groups of the population being settled, at a certain distance, along the banks of the Rideau Canal, between the Rideau River and the Chaudière Falls. The permanent population numbered some four thousand souls, but this was constantly being added to by the influx of motley groups, forever on the move. Since 1819 the work on the canal had drawn toward the upper country all those who shook the dust of the East from their feet; the prospect of trade with the workmen, of varied birth and station, engaged in the undertakings of the Royal Engineers, had attracted many others to this locality. The virus of profitable barter attacked with telling effect all this variegated human assemblage, once the opening of navigation between the St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers had become a fact; shortly thereafter little groups of traders and peddlers were joining the parties of lumberjacks and divers woodmen who left, most every day, for the lumber camps to the north, there to provide - for a consideration - those who roam







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the forest, with board and lodging, clothing and countless things that minister to human needs.

Bytown was divided into two sections, Upper and Lower Town, separated by the canal, and a dense woodland formed a barrier from Sussex to Elgin Streets. The only link between the two sections was the Sappers Bridge which crossed the canal uniting both sections.

Parliament Hill was at that time nothing but a grove studded here and there with primitive cabins; it extended to a point just behind what was the Russell Hotel, where it joined the communicating highway between the eastern and western sections of the city. Beyond, all was marshland.

The roads, or rather what was generously given that name, were merely a bewildering maze of sandy hills and muddy holes where passing vehicles wallowed with delight. The chroniclers of the period inform us that Bytown could not boast of a single sidewalk before 1847, when it received its city charter.

Lower Town proper was made up of a few stores and dwellings strung along Rideau and Sussex and the few cross-streets which forded the swamp of By Market and disappeared into the woods bordering the brook which wended its way toward the river where King Edward Avenue runs to-day.

The more far-sighted amongst the citizens of the place felt very keenly the dissolute lives of some people and their complete ignorance of hygiene. Father Telmon, of the St. Patrick street Oblate Mission, was peculiarly awake to the social menace of Bytown, and ardently desirous of reform; if unaided, however, he was helpless. His appeals to the authorities wring your very heart. But the good man did not plead in vain, for in the Fall of 1844 the Right Reverend Bishop Phelan, Coadjutor of Kingston, proceeded to Montreal and begged the Grey Nuns to send some of their Sisters here to educate the children and care for the sick.

The prospect is far from cheerful. The task demands resolute self-

denial, a firm will and a vocation truly inspired by Almighty God. The Bishop of Regiopolis does not mince matters: he tells the Sisters just what they are to expect: there is no money, no decent housing accommodation, no families well-disposed towards the nuns outside of Lower Town and, above all, no police protection; all that is offered in the way of recompense is a life of poverty and, very likely, the ingratitude of the people whom they will befriend. These promises suffice and every nun burns to undertake the new mission. All cannot be chosen, however. Finally, Sister Bruyère, Sister Thibodeau, Sister Charlebois and Sister Howard, are consecrated to an apostolate of service and suffering in Bytown.

Five months later, on the 19th February, 1845, the four Sisters. with Father Telmon at their head, left Montreal for the banks of the Rideau. They had spent the previous day in prayer and on the morning of their departure had sought in Holy Communion the strength that Heaven bestows. At sunrise the little party was already on its way.

What shall we say of the journey? The railroad had no place in the picture: at that time it existed only in the minds of the promoters. The weather was changeable, a day of intense cold following closely upon a downpour of twenty-four hours. The roads were a mass of snow and mud, full of diminutive craters and gaping holes which literally swallowed up the wheels and runners of passing carriages. Flooded depressions, here and there, hid a thousand dangers.

After thirty-four hours of jouncing and bumping, the travelers arrived abreast of the Marier quarries, near what is to-day Notre-Dame cemetery. The rain was coming down in sheets, the horses straining every ounce of energy. Humanly speaking, the new arrivals should have been down-hearted; there was indeed no solace in the thought that they were entering a new locality which promised only indifference, if not open hostility.

Suddenly at a bend in the road, though the barren trees which line the meandrous way, the sisters catch sight of a strange procession of vehicles and people on foot, approaching to meet them. What a memor-





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THE HAND-MAID OF THE LORD

Marie Marguerite Dufrost de Lajammerais, widow d'Youville, foundress of the Grey Nuns was born in Varennes, Que., October 15th 1701. She received her education at the Convent of the Ursulines in Quebec.

In August, 1722, she was married to Mr. d'Youville. Left a widow in 1730 without resources and with two sons, who later became priests, she was inspired to sacrifice her life in the care of the sick and needy.

In 1747, Madame d'Youville received in her home five incurables; three companions volunteered to share with her the care of suffering humanity, thus laying the foundation of a religious society.

Soon was realized the prophecy made to her by the first promoter of her apostolate, Mr. Dulescoat, p.s.s.: "Console yourself, my child, God destines you for a great work, you will rebuild a house which is on its decline". (This house was then known as the General Hospital of Montreal).

Twenty-four years of hard labor was given to the organization of this new community. By this time Mother d'Youville fully realized that her Institute was firmly established in spite of the many trials she met in the daily exercise of her duties towards the less fortunate.

In the year 1771, this beautiful soul, on the wings of sanctity, rose to Heaven.

Of all the French Canadian women who have played a role, social or, religious, there are few who command more respect and admiration as the venerable Mother d'Youville.

May God glorify His humble servant by giving to the Church in Canada a saint on Her Altars.







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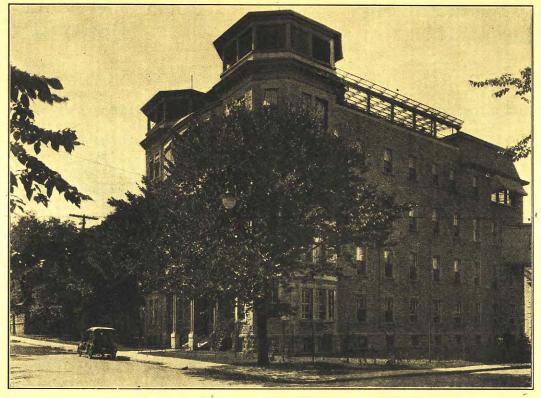
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able day in the annals of our Institution is the 20th of February, 1845! In the procession are people of all races and of all creeds; for once they have joined wholeheartedly in a common greeting to God's heralds of Peace and Consolation. The Reverend Dr. Spence, pastor of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, was in the ranks, as were also Father Molloy, shepherd of the Irish Catholic flock; a young man, Mr. Heney, who was destined for knighthood shortly thereafter; and Mr. Turgeon who, two years later, in 1847, sat in the mayor's chair. Never in the history of Canada and never for the sake of a nobler cause had there been seen such a miscellaneous gathering of language and costume and station. Despite the downpour, hearty greetings were exchanged, as you may well imagine, and the eighty odd vehicles which had come to meet the Sisters rolled slowly back towards the village while the crowd on foot, in serried ranks, picked their way through the mud and snow, proud to escort the harbingers of a new dawn.

Whoever traveled, in those days, from Montreal to Bytown, followed the present highway. Once across the Rideau river the traveler climbed a steep ascent of clay uncovered between two knolls of sand, and made his way abreast of the graveyards which were then to be found where McDonald Park stands to-day. From this point the road undulated down to the wide expanse of swampy-ground between Nelson and Cumberland streets, through which a sort of crude corduroy road provided a passage. Here the eye met nothing but desolation: everywhere stark, naked trees rising from a bed of filthy mud.

The sparse houses of Rideau and Sussex streets wore their gala dress on that day of the 20th of February, 1845. The travelers, their muscles aching from the constant strain, and wet clear through - but happy withal - were cheered right lustily as they made their way, under proud escort of their new friends, to the little chapel on St. Patrick street, where a service of thanksgiving was held. The good sister who describes the ceremony in the Annals assures us that the voices were wet with tears.

Already the day was too far done to find lodgings for the party;

however, the Oblate Fathers graciously yielded their quarters in a neighbouring house to the Sisters and themselves sought accommodation elsewhere with members of their flock.

The next day, February 21st, Sister Bruyere assumed the direction of the new community. Her first deed was to find temporary quarters near the spot where the hospital was opened later on. Not a single moment was lost: on the 24th, three days after, classes were begun in a log-hut next to the Sisters' extemporized dwelling. In a fortnight the house had been set in order, and thereafter the missionnaries continuously taught school, nursed the sick in their homes and visited the poor.

Bytown was then far from enamoured of hygiene, a fact brought forcibly home to the Sisters who frequently had to nurse patients in the last stages of indigence. This state of things provided Father Telmon with an opportunity to act the part of the Good Samaritan. The groans of the wounded and the dying reached his heart, and strengthened his determination to better conditions. At a cost of \$60, he procured for the Sisters two little wooden houses next to the Oblate lodgings. Mr. Lavoie, the former owner, saw that all repairs were rushed to completion with the utmost possible despatch and, after two months of expectancy, the Sisters were presented with the key to their new mansion, which comprised in all an estate of some eighteen by twenty-four feet. The hospital had become a reality.

Now let us determine the exact site of these historical buildings. The first house occupied by the Grey Nuns has today given way to the concrete building where the Cathedral choir holds its rehearsals; the structure adjoins the Archbishop's palace. Next came the chapel, a larger building than the others. To-day that spot is Nos. 165 and 167 St. Patrick Street. Finally, the hospital occupied the plot where stands No. 169.

Those who expect to find a picturesque note in everything done by the pioneers, would be rather disappointed were they privileged to see the Sisters in their everyday life. Hospital Sisters are like any other women.





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One looks in vain for the halo above their forehead or for the ostentatious piety which the world seems to associate with the beginnings of a charitable Order. The Sisters' first meal brings to mind the traditional topsy-turvy of moving-day: an old discarded door, laid upon two saw-horses, was all they had for a table. But we have there merely the visible, outward aspect of the new Order's birth; the inner life, ardent, intense, of those chosen souls, is beyond analysis.

Before detailing the highly interesting evolution of the hospital, let us pause a moment to acquaint ourselves with the leading spirits of this little monastic group. The mentality of these two women can be explained in only one way: by attributing to their most profound faith, and to a really true vocation, the strength of character and the greatness of soul which strike one at every page of their life history.

Sister Thibodeau, was the hospital's first nurse. Her faith was of the deepest kind; she was, however, characterized by an imperative need of action, a most extraordinary tenacity of purpose and physical vigour. Born November 16th, 1812, she entered the noviciate on the 23rd of July, 1828, and made her vows on the 29th of July, 1830. Sister Thibodeau had studied medicine and, at the time of her arrival in Ottawa, was a consummate pharmacist. She was called the poor people's doctor, for she undertook the care of all those who needed treatment, but were unable to pay for the services of a regular physician. Resistance to her kindly ministrations was always short-lived and sickness never tarried long in the presence of this good Sister.

Sister Thibodeau was also the doctor of the soul. She undertook discreetly the moral reformation of those under her care, visiting the homes where disorder reigned and preaching harmony and understanding, without paying the slightest heed to the invectives hurled at her, particularly by the men. Her irresistible strength of purpose and her bodily power earned for her the nickname of "policeman", but neither vile names nor threats ever prevented her from accomplishing what she believed to be her duty. One may well say that this sterling nun's influence was productive of more good than all the statutes imaginable.

Sister Thibodeau founded St. Joseph's Orphanage in 1866. She returned to her Maker on the 10th of March, 1883. Her funeral oration was pronounced by the poor, who mourned her sincerely, as one mourns a mother. There can perhaps be no greater praise of her devotedness.

Sister Bruyère and Sister Thibodeau were the two moving spirits who gained a lease of life for the Ottawa General Hospital under truly miraculous circumstances, as we shall presently see.

We quote willingly from the Annals of the Grey Nuns of the Cross. Under the date of February 27th, 1845, we find these words: "We have begun the care of a great many poor, who are ill, in their homes. We could care for still more if the necessary medicine were not lacking. A lot of our patients are workers from the lumber-camps."

The Sisters continued to nurse the sick in their homes until the 8th of May, when they received the key to the new hospital.

The inauguration of the new hospital took place on Saturday, May 10th, 1845, the last day of the Octave of the Holy Cross. The first patient was a consumptive named Pierre Ethier. The nuns repaired to Lis home and brought him in triumph to their hospital. The annalist writes: "This day has been for us a day of great rejoicing". Ethier's long illness had deprived him of his last farthing; he was even without a single friend who could afford to harbour him. His triumphal welcome to the hospital reveals the character of the institution.

The Sisters opened wide their doors without discrimination of race, creed or colour. On May 14th, 1845, a young negro lumber-jack suffering from a frozen foot, was brought to the hospital. The journey from the forest camp to the city had been long and hard, with privation necessarily the rule. Never in the course of their apostolate had the Sisters met with a more famished being than Snowball. Food placed before him was not eaten; it was devoured. Leaning out of the window on the St. Patrick Street side, he proclaimed his hunger to the passerby. His presence caused quite a stir in the nighbourhood. The negro strove to condone his constant longing after food, for when he was asked one







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MOTHER BRUYERE



PI.XIII Vato taule devanie

Marie Elizabeth Bruyère was born in L'Assomption, Que., March 19th, 1818. She entered the Novitiate of the Grey Nuns in Montreal, on June 18th, 1839; she made her religious vows May 31st, 1841.

On the 20th of February, 1845, she was sent to Ottawa, then Bytown, by her Superiors, to found a house of their Order. The Sisters Thibodeau, Charlebois and Howard accompanied her.

As first Superior of the new establishment, Mother Bruyère, following in the footsteps of Venerable Mother d'Youville, governed her community with wisdom and prudence until her death, April 5th, 1876. She was then at the age of fifty-eight. This distinguished. foundress carried the burden of superiority during thirty-one years with firmness, kindness and charity, giving the example of the spirit of prayer and sacrifice which she wished to leave as a heritage to her beloved Community.



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The years roll by, each leaving in its train a greater task for these daughters of mercy. Day by day the friends of the hospital mount in number, but to all these friends the thought of the future is an anxious one. How can the hospital be maintained without visible resources, without any practical aid? Note the simplicity of Sister Bruyère's answer: "Divine Providence is ever watchful."

Sunday, May 11, Dr. Van Cortland offered his services free of charge to the patients.

However, the population of the neighbourhood was increasing and its needs were urgent. On June 27th, there were in the little wards of the hospital five patients under treatment besides two invalids and two young Irish orphan girls. August 6th brought four young girls in a serious condition; three of these latter were immigrants, and for their care the city paid the Sisters the munificent sum of forty cents a day!

But even if the needs of the Sisters were growing heavier, Divine Providence was watching over them; we have it on the assurance of the nuns themselves. The month of November brought them help in the shape of an old man named Etienne who, having witnessed the Sisters' endeavours for the alleviation of poverty, had decided to help them in his own way. On All Souls' Day he gave himself and his fortune, \$210, to the Sisters. But this bequest was doubled, trebled, for on that day Sister Thibodeau began her duties as a permanent nurse. It had become necessary to have some one constantly occupied with the care of the inmates.

In those days, there were at the foot of Sussex Street, near Cathcart, certain ramshackle structures which served as a shelter for immigrants. These hovels were in very truth the abode of misery; sick people languished in a most pitiful state. The agent, Mr. Burke, was at a loss—as were the authorities of the day—where to turn for aid. He dared not approach the Sisters for the fear that he might later be called upon

to settle for their services! The good Sisters, however, were not overly occupied with that question of compensation; they were far more conscious of the still voice within their hearts, bidding them to succour the needy. These daughters of Christian mercy made regular visits to the immigrants, soothing both body and soul with their knowledge of medicine and of God's Word. More than that, the immigrants' washing and sewing were secretely done at the convent.

Here is a statement covering the first nine months of 1845:	
Poor accommodated at the hospital	6
Orphans	7
Foundling	1
Paying patients (40 cents per diem)	4
Patients cared for without charge, not counting the poor	
(invalids)	10
Sick people treated in their homes; half of them furnished	
with medicine free of cost	250
Poor furnished with clothing	15
_	
Total	293
Money distributed among the poor	.00

We do not intend to follow, step by step, the development of the hospital. What we wish, chiefly, is to throw some light on the more fetching and intimate events of its existence. Hence we pass the year 1846 to take up a period which for all time is weighty with significance in Canada's history. In 1847, Bytown had just received its city charter when the typhus epidemic broke out. During that year the Grey Nuns admitted 573 patients. Many were already at death's door when they reached the hospital, and of their number 185 fell victims to the disease. The hospital proper, the little house next door, the neighbouring houses, were filled with the sick and dying; and still they came. The Sisters







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their new building. Their request was granted. On the 15th of December the ladies of the town held a bazaar which brought in \$900. On New Year's Day, 1861, His Lordship Bishop Guigues made a present to the

hospital of \$1,200. Other offerings were received from different sources and the plans of the new building were left to Mr. Bourgeau, a Montreal

architect, who prepared them with Father Aubert.

present site, on the very spot occupied to-day by the outer buildings of the Mother House. Five years after, in 1850, the hospital's work had grown to such a degree that it was altogether out of the question for the Sisters to continue in their cramped quarters. The beds were continuously in demand and

obtained permission to set up tents on their convent grounds. Even then

more room was needed and the Immigration authorities built a wooden

hospital on Bolton Street (now Water Street), to the left of the hospital's

the nuns had to move into a more spacious structure if the poor were not to be abandoned to their sufferings - and never for a single instant did the Sisters tolerate the thought of leaving their sick patients.

His Lordship, Bishop Guigues, consecrated Bishop of Ottawa in 1847, was at once with the Sisters in their plans for expansion. To implement his wishes as Pastor, he purchased the Immigration structure and its outbuildings, and presented them to the Order. The building proper later housed the convent, the private wards for aged people, invalids and orphans, beside the patients' rooms. The other structures were remodeled and made into a public hospital. The sites of these former buildings are occupied respectively to-day by the Mother-House of the Order.

Six years later, in 1856, the R. C. Bishop of Ottawa gave the hospital \$500 with which to purchase its first surgical instruments. The increase in the number of patients had been unbelievable. In 1860 the institution found itself just as much cramped for space as it had been ten years earlier. Its wards were occupied by twenty aged invalids, six orphans and had received one hundred and sixty patients. Once again the Sisters must take heed of the future, must see to it that sufferers of a later date shall find shelter within the portals of the hospital. Nothing daunted, the nuns set about the materialization of their plans. On the 19th of September, Sister Phelan, bursar of the convent, together with Sister Marie-de-la-Nativité, went to the headquarters of the lumber industry in Aylmer with the request that they be given the necessary wood for

Annals show that Mr. Petrus Rocque was foreman of the building operations at a salary of one shilling per hour. Mr. W. Davis had charge of the masonry; Mr. Marier, of the stonework and Mr. Pigeon, of the carpentry. On May 3rd, the workmen began laying the foundation on land that formerly belonged partly to the Ordnance and partly of the Grey Nuns' Order. The central building of the present hospital is reared on this foundation. As the work proceeded lay-offs were rather frequent, due to the absence of funds. At last, after many delays, a great religious ceremony united the entire population around the new building on March 19th. 1866.

While the building was going up divers ways and means had served to swell the hospital fund. A collection taken up on the occasion of the laying of the four cornerstones, May 26th, 1861, netted \$180. Shortly afterward, Mr. Goodwin brought in \$180 subcribed by the Protestants of Ottawa. Another bazaar held by the ladies contributed \$2,800 to the fund — this in 1864. His Lordship Bishop Guigues, always very generous where the poor were concerned, gave another \$2,000 to the hospital; and Miss Julie Dulong bequeathed to the nuns, together with her services which were to continue uninterrupted, the sum of \$1,200.

One incident stands out above all others in this universal outpouring of charity. There had come to Ottawa in 1857 one of the former burgesses of the North-West Company who, after the merger of the firm's trading interests with the Hudson Bay Company, in 1821, had retired from active business in the Golden West to take up in Eastern Canada the work he had loved so well in his youth. Joseph Felix Larocque, a brother of the famous explorer François-Antoine Larocque, and himself





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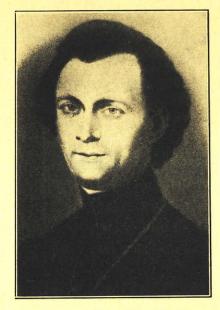
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Reverend Father A. TELMON, O.M.I.

Born in Barcelonnette, in Lower Alps, 1807, entered the novitiate of Oblates of Mary Immaculate, ordained priest in 1830, missionary in France (1830-41,) in Canada 1841, parish priest of St.-Hilaire (1842) and of Longueil (1843-44); transferred to Ottawa (1844-48) where he founded the General Hospital — superior of the seminary in Pittsburg, Penn. (1848-50); returned to France; died in Aix, Provence, April 7th., 1878, after a career rich in deed virtues and merits.







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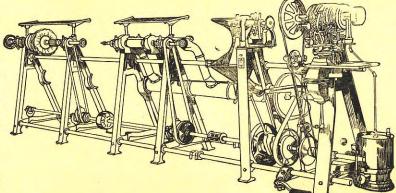
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To the left, Water Street Hospital built in 1866. To the right, wing erected in 1897.



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a discoverer of note, had left the West to found the post of Mingan and take over the superintendence of the posts established by the Hudson Bay Company on the lower St. Lawrence. In March, 1833, he married Miss Archange Guillon and crossed to France in 1837, to return only fourteen years later. In 1857, he retired, together with his wife, into the hospital. A widower in 1863, Mr. Larocque busied himself exclusively with his own salvation.

This eminent old gentleman passed to a better life on December 1st, 1866; he had previously made a gift of \$10,000 towards the cost of building the new hospital.

The Grey Nuns of the Cross, despite the generosity of the offerings which poured in, could not meet expenses. As a consequence they were forced, in order to complete the building, to go very deeply — but very gloriously too — into debt to the Liverpool Insurance Company, and all for the sake of their sick people.

The Bishop was apprehensive of this new undertaking; he saw, with misgiving, the Grey Nuns' Order embark upon such a perilous financial venture. He advised the Sisters to cease the care of the invalid poor, since it was impossible for them to do everything alone. Mother Superior, however, delayed; and we may thank the Foundress' splendid courage for the magnificent General Hospital which we possess.

The first patient admitted to the Water Street Hospital was Father Gigoux. The date of his entry was September 1st, 1866. Since that day thousands have followed him. If time were not measured, we could mention a great many incidents in the history of the hospital from that period onward. Let us say, however, that during the Fentan Raid the hospital was commandeered by the Government. In the meantime the Sisters lodged their patients on the very spot occupied to-day on Water Street by St. Charles' Home. It was only in 1871 that the hospital proper was handed back to the Sisters. Only once in all its history did the institution succeed in balancing its finance — in October 1891. The right wing was constructed in 1897 by Mr. Fauteux.

From the year 1877 the progress of the institution was steadily on

the upward grade. 1899 witnessed the beginning of d'Youville training school for nurses. A special wing was erected containing dormitories and recreation halls.

Prior to this time the nursing was done exclusively by the Sisters; but with rapid growth of the hospital and in compliance with the conception of duty to the public, the Sisters decided to accept young ladies of proper moral, physical, and intellectual qualifications as students in nursing.

From 1900 the progress of the hospital and the training school crept along until, in 1921, the nursing staff alone numbered sixty-seven lay women and twenty-nine Sisters. The medical staff comprised eighteen attending physicians and twelve associates. Over 4,500 patients were treated that year, more than half being free patients. The hospital in all had 207 beds and it was easily seen that at the rate the hospital was growing it would soon be necessary for further enlargement. A new extension or wing was then planned measuring 200', 47' x 70'.

The \$600,000.00 wing is now complete and is a reproduction of the interesting achitecture of the older wings. This corner stone was laid in November 1927, in the presence of a brilliant and distinguished assembly.

The new annex will house the following much-needed features:

The best of materials have gone into the construction of this imposing new edifice of Ottawa General Hospital. The building is well designed architecturally, while the interior represents the last word in both structure and equipment. Everything that conduces to comfort of the patients and to the greatest efficiency in administration has been planned.

The building is spacious and modern in every way. It has a 112 ft. frontage on Water St., and extends the full depth from there to Cathcart street, a distance of 235 ft.

The building is five storeys high, with basement. It has a steel frame and is fireproof throughout, the floors are of terrazo and rubber.

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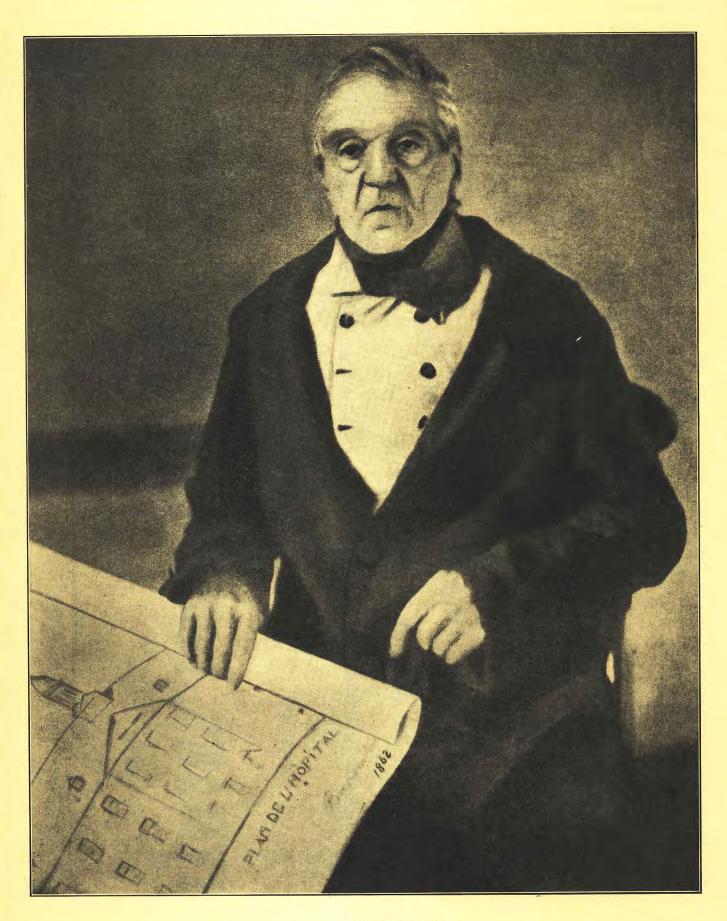
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to some extent the pressure which existed and enable the hospital to take care for the sick who were being turned away daily because of bed shortage.

Two new modern operating-rooms to implement the five which are now in constant use. Of these, one will be devoted to children's cases exclusively and the other reserved for special cases.

The corner of Parent and Water Streets Section gives the ground floor to the Dispensary. The ambulance entrance is on Water St., near this door are the Admitting and Examination rooms. To meet the urgent need of accident cases which occur daily, an Emergency room is situated on the street level.

Following is a list of departments to serve the out-patients: Surgical, Medical, Gynecology, Genito-Urinary, Dental, Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat and Physio-Therapy, etc. In connection with this out-door-department we find a pharmacy, a laboratory, a nurses' work room, a recovery room for patients having taken anesthetic.

To prevent any possible contagion being carried to other patients, a complete "Isolation Ward" is to be used for doubtful diagnosis. The patients will be kept under observation until the full nature of the case is diagnosed.

On entering the building through the main entrance one ascends a few steps to the principal lobby. On this floor, are situated the Office, Interns' Head-Quarters, Doctors' Board Room, Physio-Therapy Department, etc.

In the early days of X-Ray a dark room was necessary for the work: naturally the basement was chosen. About 1914, however, apparatus was improved so as to eliminate this need, the only procedure requiring darkness being the fluoroscopic examination. This means that X-Ray work can be carried on in an atmosphere of sunshine, so our Radiological Department has been transferred to more spacious quarters which will enable the department to cope with the ever-increasing demands.

On the third floor is the Children's Department. The provision of more spacious accommodation for children has been a problem with the

authorities of the Hospital for some years and this modern department fills a long-felt want. The children's wards are beautiful — something that every mother wants for her own child — wide windows letting in the light and sun; softly painted walls; rows of tiny spotless beds, plus several private rooms for those desirous to obtain more privacy for their child.

On the fourth floor is located the most complete department of the hospital, namely Obstetrical Department. Nothing seems to have been overlooked that might contribute to the care and comfort of the mothers and babies — it is the last word in efficiency. This department was opened three years ago, to facilitate our pupil nurses in obtaining a complete training in Obstetrics.

The Physical therapy and Hydro therapy are two branches of medical science that have made great progress within the last few years. In the treatment of many sicknesses, they play an important part. Physicians are realizing more and more the great value of Physical therapy, and the effect and influence of Hydro therapy; so the most interesting features in connection with this new wing is the opening of these two departments.

A tunnel on the basement floor level connects the new wing and main building to the boiler rooms, which will be a great benefit to all outdaily journeys from one building to the other.

NURSES' HOME

The principal entrance to the Nurses' Home faces Cathcart St. Upon entering the vestibule we are led into a spacious corridor off which are two large reception rooms, library, living apartments of the superintendent and assistant superintendent of nurses also special department for the graduate nurses.

On the ground floor there are the "Probationer's Lecture Hall", two Demonstration Rooms, Laundry and Ironing room for the use of nurses, a kitchen equipped with the most modern appliances, making possible a







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SISTER THIBODEAU

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She was inspiring to all by an untiring devotedness to suffering humanity and loving charity for destitute children.

She founded St. Joseph's Orphanage in 1865.

Like the Great Healer, she went about doing good.









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thorough and scientific training of the students in the matter of dietetics.

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On every floor is a large solarium adjoining a cosy sitting room with fire place. These make delightful rooms for the nurses to lounge in after a busy day.

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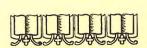
The present Ottawa General Hospital or Water Street Hospital, as it

is called today, is one of the finest and best equipped hospitals on the continent: it has grown from a tiny seed planted by Sister Bruyère and her three companions and kept alive and flourishing by their successors.

Water Street Hospital belongs to the association of the Catholic Hospitals of North America which has a membership of over 675 hospitals distributed throughout the continent.

Associated with the Ottawa General Hospital are medical names honored and revered in the whole Dominion.

The Sisters of the Ottawa General Hospital thank the doctors, their many friends and the general public for the confidence in, and loyalty to their institution. They will carry on the good work in treatment of suffering humanity and it is their aim and ambition to give a service which is expected from every up to date hospital.











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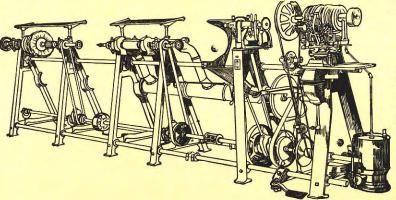
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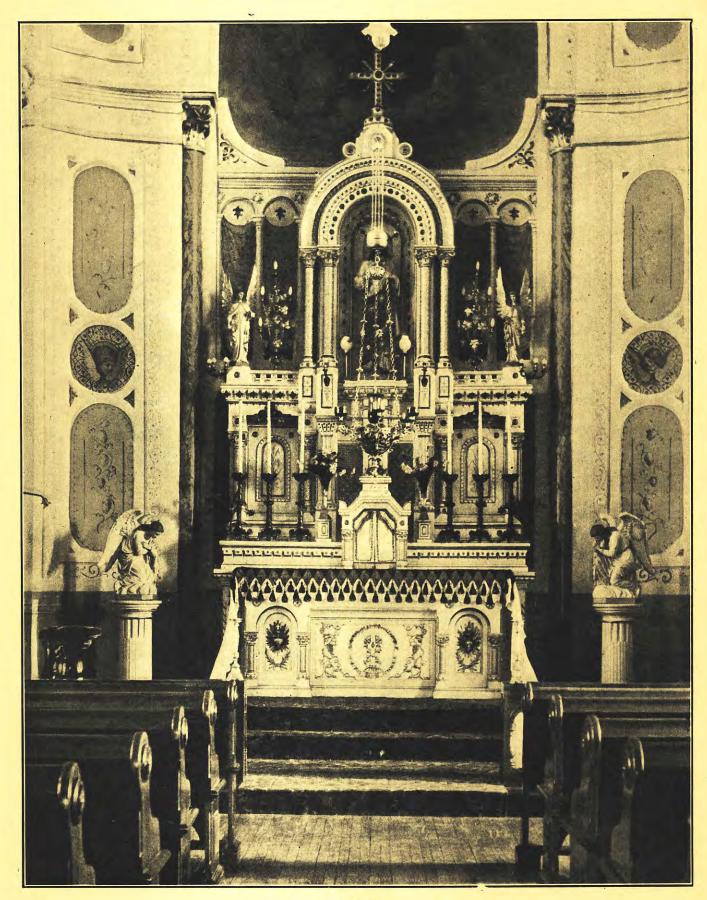
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Financial report for the year ending 30th September, 1928

20—Salaries and Wages

	73,854,98
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER, 1928	73,854.98
No. 1—Fresh or Canned Meat, Fish, Fowl, Butter and Eggs	Total. \$196,673.78 Reserve for depreciation Plant and Equipment \$14,100.46 Reserve for depreciation Buildings 15,224.04 Bad Debts written off 4,367.00 Interest on Mortgages 17,419.37 Paid to Contractors (New Building) 414,500.00 — 465,610.87
6—Beer, Wine and Spirits\$ 1,077.09 7—Drugs, Medicines, Medical and Surgical Appliances, Instruments, etc	\$662,284.65
27,806.73	By Maintenance and Treatment, Paying Patients\$132,092.59
8—Furniture and Furnishings, Beddings, etc 3,033.73 9—Clothing for Patients, Boots and Shoes	Maintenance and Treatment from Municipalities for Indigent Patients Grants from Municipalities — Prescott, Russell anr Carleton\$ 3,329.70 City of Ottawa
11—Fuel — Coal, Wood, Gas, etc. \$ 20,761.74 12—Lithing of all kinds, Electric, Gas, Candles, etc. 3,494.36 13—Water and Ice Supply 2,694.66 14—Hay, Straw and Framing or Gardening Appliances 15—Taxes and Insurance 3,525.18 16—Ordinary Repairs 4,593.69 17—Coffins and Funeral Expenses 20.00 18—Printing, Postage and Stationery 2,832.39 19—Miscellaneous, Telephone and Telegraph, etc. 4,857.13 — 42,779.15	Miscellaneous Sales







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Interest on Investment, or Income from Property belonging to the Hospital 562.88 Interest 1,170.50 Money borrowed on Mortgage 431,750.00 — 443,213.63 Total from all sources other than the Government Grant \$633,006.40 By Grant from Provincial Government \$ 16,676.10	Bank Loans \$277,722.84 Accounts Payable \$277,722.84 Trade Loans 603,000.00 Mortgage Loans (Money borrowed on Mortgage) 603,000.00 Trust Funds, etc. 14,100.46 Reserve for Depreciation Plant and Equipment 15,224.04 Reserve for Bad Debts 4,367.00 — \$ 914,414.34
By Loss for year carried to Balance Sheet	By Balance beginning of period
BALANCE SHEET, 30th SEPTEMBER, 1928 Assets	CLASSIFICATION OF PATIENTS BY DENOMINATION Roman Catholics 4,414 Protestants 414 Other Religions 105
Cash on Hand and in Bank	CLASSIFICATION OF PATIENTS BY NATIONALITY
Investments Plant and Permanent Equipment 256,974.97 Buildings 886,441.95 Cash on hand for Construction 71,199.34 — \$1,255,844.98	Canada 4,558 England 89 Ireland 28 Scotland 23 United States 81 Other Countries 154







4,933

Total.....

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RESIDENCE OF PATIENTS City of Ottawa 3,361 County of Carleton 126 Other Counties of Ontario 684 United States 11 Other Provinces 751 Total 4,933	
Number discharged from the Institution during the year. Number of deaths during the year. Number of patients remaining in the Institution on the evening of the 30th September, 1928	4,630 140 163
Total	4,933
Average days' stay of patients in the Institution	39 33 days

Collective days' stay of adults in the Institution........... 63,341 days

Collective days' stay of Infants under one year of age in the Institution	days
Total collective stay of adults and infants for the year in days 66,36	8
NUMBER OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO DISPENSARY	
Surgical	
Medical	
Dermatology	
Gynecology	
Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat	
Pediatrics	
Total8,870	4
Number of patients treated at Dental Clinic	2,480
Number of patients examined and treated in X Ray Dept	2,874

Total number of employees on 30th September, 1928, 38 Sisters, 107 Nurses in Training and 76 Domestics.







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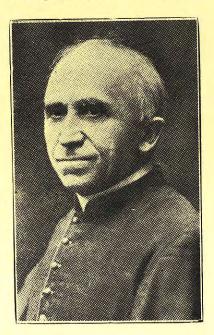
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Canon Plantin was born in the little town of Béage, in Ardèche, France, on January 6th, 1849.

He received his primary education in his native town; from there he went to Vivier Seminary.

On the 30th of May, 1874, he was ordained to the priesthood.

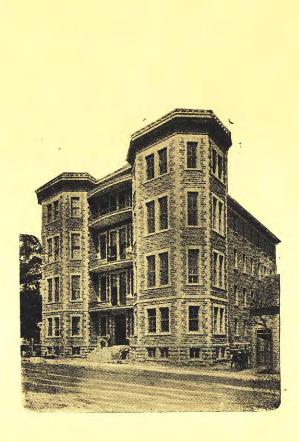
In 1877, he came to Montreal where he was Curate at Notre Dame! Church.

Becoming Curate of Notre Dame Church, Ottawa, in 1884, Canon Plantin remained here till the last.

In 1889, he received the title of Canon.

Being appointed chaplain of the General Hospital in 1902, he displayed an untiring devotedness, consoling the weary and preparing many for their eternal journey.

Canon Plantin was called to His Maker on the 26th of December, 1926, leaving a reputation of sanctity.







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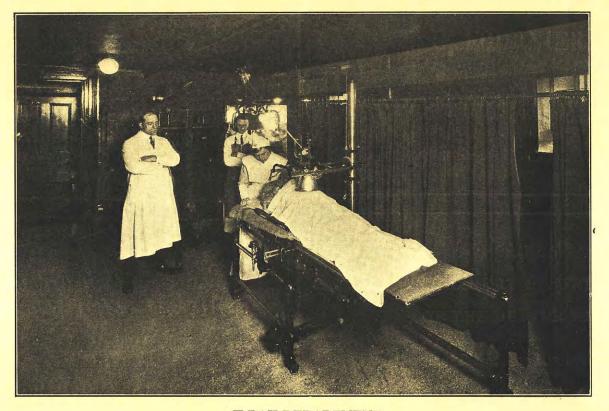
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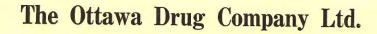
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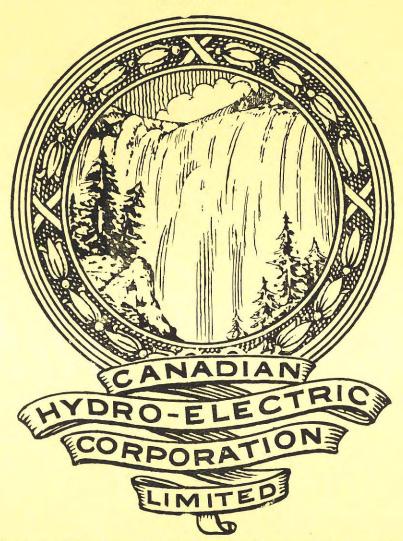
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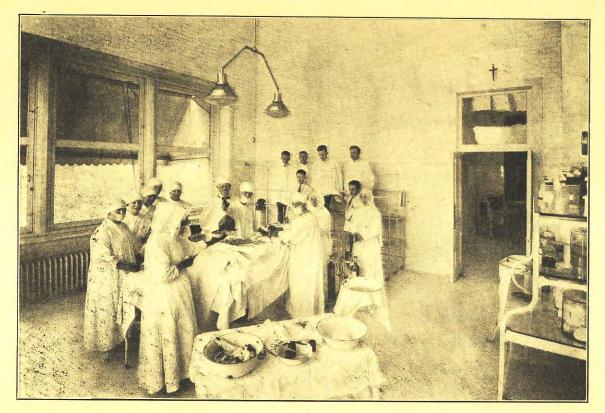
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