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*Thesis.*  
*of Soldiers Home.*



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In view of the number of soldiers who fought in the late war now suffering from the infirmities of old age and thereby incapable of supporting themselves, the government proposes erecting a home where about two hundred may be cared for comfortably.

This home must have, at least, the following rooms, viz: - parlors, libraries, dormitories, dining rooms, a large play-room, an entertainment-hall and chapel, a dispensary, an operating room, an examining room, a convalescent room, laundries, and toilet-rooms.

In a building of this kind, the designer should keep several things prominently in his mind. He should have the different parts of his building well connected

in order to allow free circulation; still, he ought not connect too intimately the hospital with parts of the building designed for other uses. Then, as the inmates of the home are infirm, he should use the greatest allowable area and as few stories as possible in order to avoid climbing several flights of stairs. For whatever purpose intended, he should have his rooms large, well lighted, and well ventilated.

In general, the plan of the building which I have designed is in the form of a cross. The officers' quarters form the front arm of this cross; the chapel and entertainment hall, the rear arm; the hospital, arranged around a rectangular court sixty-four feet by ninety-six feet, the right arm; the dormitories for the soldiers arranged around a court exactly like the one on the right, the left arm. The main divisions are connected by wide corridors;

and by a double parlor and a library. From the outside of the hospital to the outside of the dormitory is four hundred and ninety four feet; from the front of the officers' quarters to the back of the chapel is two hundred and fifty-six feet. The part for the officers is three stories; the portion for the dormitory and that for the hospital are two stories; the other divisions are only one story. Under the whole building is a basement twelve feet high.

With the exception of a projection of ten feet by two rooms one on each side, that part of the building intended for the officers is rectangular. It is fifty eight feet long by seventy two feet wide. The first story contains six rooms, three on each side, separated by a vestibule six feet by twenty feet, an octagonal hall twenty eight feet wide and which forms the central feature, and a hall of the same

width and sixteen feet long.

Entering under an arch sixteen feet wide in the middle of the officers quarters, a person ascends a flight of ten steps, and enters the vestibule spoken of, from which he passes into either of the two rooms twelve feet square, one on the right, the other on the left, or into the large hall. In this hall he sees four statues in niches, Corinthian pilasters on the sides of the four broad doors in opposite sides of the hall, a large cornice at the top of the wall enriched with frescoes, and a beautifully panelled ceiling. From this hall one gains access to either of two rectangular rooms twenty feet by seventeen feet one on the right, the other on the left, and also to the hall which likewise is between two square rooms situated as the first. He goes through this hall, then through a corridor twenty-three feet by thirty-two feet ornamented with a row of Corinthian col-

umns on either side five feet from the walls, and comes to another hall. On the right of this hall are two rectangular rooms each of which is thirty feet by twenty-eight feet. These two rooms, the parlor and reception room, are connected by sliding doors ten feet wide. On the left of this hall are two rooms of the same size and arrangement, the reading room and the library. Proceeding from this same hall, a man enters the middle of a passage thirteen feet wide which extends eighty-four feet either way at right angles to the part already described. At each extremity, this passage meets at right angles another passage ten feet wide and one hundred and thirty two feet long. This intersection is about eighteen feet from the center of the latter passage. On the right hand side this last corridor or passage marks the beginning of the hospital; on the left, that designed for the dormitory.

As both, the hospital and the dormitory, are exactly alike in size, in form, and in arrangement, only one side, the former, will be described.

From the last mentioned corridor, a person enters the dispensary, the examining room, and two small service rooms. From both ends an arch cuts of twenty feet in each of which divisions a flight of stairs eight feet wide is placed. Each of these arches is a continuation of a wall between another corridor of the same size and at right angles to the one just described and a large room one hundred and twenty feet long and twenty feet wide. This room on the <sup>near</sup> side of the coast towards the sea is the convalescent room; on the front side of the coast, it is the dining room for convalescents. From the farther end of the corridor last spoken of, one passes into the toilet-rooms, the room for the

watchman, and two small service rooms.

Returning now to the hall on the axis of the building, a man crosses the passage first described, passes through a corridor thirty-two feet by twenty-four feet, and comes to a flight of four steps which takes him to the vestibule of the chapel. This chapel is rectangular with an apse twenty feet in diameter on its rear, and rooms ten feet square forming slight projections on its four corners. It is one hundred and two feet long, sixty-one feet wide, and eighteen feet high. Its seating capacity is three hundred and fifty.

The arrangement of the rooms in the second and third stories of the officers' quarters is practically the same as in the first. With the exception of the divisions of the larger rooms which in the first story are used as general dormitories into eleven bed rooms twelve feet by sixteen feet, the second story of the dormi-



tory and hospital are like the first. No description of the second and third stories will, therefore be given.

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