

ite, and covered with brazier's copper. The central building and south wing were completed in January, 1836, and the north wing in 1852. The location of the Institution is one of surpassing beauty and commanding prominence, and has been admired by the hundreds of thousands who sail annually through the broad bay. The principal building stands nearly in the center of an arc, the lower point of which extends to the Narrows, and the upper to the entrance of Kill Von Kull. From its windows the eye sweeps over the entire bay of New York, and searches for vanishing objects far out on the boiling Atlantic. Vessels from every quarter of the globe and of every variety and size, bearing the ensign of their own nationality, are constantly passing laden with the products of many lands. At one view is seen the majestic ocean steamer, leaving its track of foam, and sending billows to the shore on which the smaller vessels rock and gracefully nod obeisance to their passing superior; and at another, coast steamers, sloops, brigs, schooners, and the playful yacht may be seen to skim, rock, and toy in the breeze and sunlight. A wider and richer view of the commerce of the world can rarely be obtained on any continent. In nothing did the founders of this Institution evince more taste and judgment than in the selection of its location. The invalid sailor who cannot leave his room can still breathe the bracing air of the sea, and look out upon this immense picture of nature and art, which contains more of beauty and attraction for him than all the rest of the world. He almost forgets his malady and confinement, while the sight of his chosen element, decorated with the bright flags, whitened with the sails of a world-wide commerce, is spread out before him.

In 1841, the brick building on the hill, first erected, was fitted up for the treatment of insane patients, and a suitable enclosure thrown around it. An oven for baking and a large wash-house were also added the same year. In September, 1842, the granite edifice situated on the north-east corner of the grounds, since occupied by the resident physician, was erected.

An association of ladies, styled "The Mariner's Family Industrial Society," was incorporated April 6, 1849, having for its object the relief of the destitute families of seamen. By an act of Legislature, passed March 17, 1851, a board of trustees were created for its management, consisting of New York City officials and the Board of Councillors of the

Mariner's Family Industrial Society. In June, 1852, the corner-stone of the Asylum, ordered by the Legislature the previous year, and which had been contemplated in the legislation of 1847, was laid. The plan was to provide a suitable building for the use of such "destitute, sick, and infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, or widows of seamen, as gave satisfactory proof that they had paid the hospital tax for the term of two years."

Its location is on the south side of the farm, at the highest point of the rise from the bay, and about fifteen hundred feet from it. The building is a square brick structure five stories high, with accommodations for sixty inmates. The five acres of ground connected with it are finely cultivated, producing an ample supply of vegetables and fruit. The view from the upper windows is rich and varied. The eye sweeps over three cities, the Bay from Coney Island to the Palisades, over much of Staten Island, Long Island, and New Jersey. The Legislature, by act of April 12, 1854, directed that ten per cent. of certain receipts of the Trustees of the Seaman's Fund and Retreat should be paid to the trustees of this Asylum, which arrangement still continues.

The Seaman's Retreat has been favored with wise and pious officers. In 1851, a Temperance Society was organized by the Superintendent, and during the six years following, 3,200 seamen signed the total abstinence pledge. Prayer-meetings have been held weekly most of the time for many years. The published report of the Institution for 1869 declared that more than one hundred seamen had given evidence of conversion during the last three years. Besides the services of a regular chaplain, the Institution is occasionally visited by Pastor Helland and Pastor Hedstrom, who minister to the Scandinavian sailors in their own language. These services are often seasons of thrilling interest; the sermon being supplemented by the prayers and exhortations of the sailors, and not unfrequently attended with the tears and sobs of the impenitent. Many who have entered the Retreat in quest of physical remedies only have found to their great joy the balm of the soul, and returned to their occupation with aspirations and hopes hitherto unknown. As our foreign mission work in the past has been greatly retarded by the dissipation and impiety of sailors representing Christian countries, may we not hope for the day when their consecrated energies shall make them rank among its most potent

auxiliaries? The conversion of a humble sailor often sets in motion a series of moral influences which sweep around the world, and may never, never cease their vibrations. How powerful the motive to labor for this class of persons! Some of its surgeons have been men of remarkable piety. Thomas C. Moffatt, M.D., who expired December, 1869, and who was the fourth physician to fall a victim of ship-fever contracted in discharge of duty, was a most amiable and saintly man. During the fifteen years that he had the medical charge of the Hospital, his religious influence was as marked as his professional. Skillful as he was in prescribing for an enfeebled body, he was no less wise in administering to a disordered soul. His labors in the chapel, at the prayer-meeting, and temperance meeting; his tender, thoughtful, and affectionate treatment of all his patients, had so won the confidence and love of all, that when the long procession came to take the last look at his remains, many brave hearts broke down with emotion, and turned away to weep. Few in his position have, in so eminent a manner, exemplified the excellence of the Christian religion.

The Institution is provided with the current periodicals of the day, and has a circulating library of about a thousand volumes. The inmates are for the most part expected to recover. Incurables are transferred to Sailor's Snug Harbor, or to other Institutions if possible; if not they are provided for here. Fifty-six thousand disabled seamen have been admitted into the Institution since its establishment in 1831, most of whom have been cured and returned to the sea.

The grounds also contain a handsome cemetery, situated on an eminence at the western end of the grounds. Here the hardy tars find a resting place by the side of their comrades when the storms of life are past.



THE END,

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The book cover is a rich brown color with a textured surface. It features a prominent black decorative border with intricate geometric and floral patterns. In the center, a large, vertically oriented oval frame contains the text. At the top of the oval is a small crest with a sunburst. Below this, the words "NEW-YORK" are printed in a bold, serif font within a trapezoidal frame. Underneath is a decorative flourish with the word "AND" in a smaller font. The word "INSTITUTIONS" is printed in a large, bold, serif font within a curved banner-like frame. At the bottom of the oval is another decorative flourish. The corners of the cover are adorned with square, stepped geometric designs. A small, rectangular, light-colored label with a speckled pattern is affixed to the lower right side of the cover.