

REPORT
OF THE
PHYSICIAN OF THE MARINE HOSPITAL.

MARINE HOSPITAL,
 January 1st, 1855.

To the Honorable,
the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore:

GENTLEMEN:

I have the honor to submit the following Report of the Marine Hospital, for the year ending December 31st, 1854.

Number of Patients admitted into the Hospital up to January 1st, 1855, with the following diseases:

	Admitted.	Cured.	Died.	Remaining.
Typhus Fever, - - -	23	21	2	—
Typhoid Fever, - - -	6	5	1	—
Remittent Fever, - - -	2	2	—	—
Intermittent Fever, - - -	1	1	—	—
Ephemeral Fever, - - -	1	1	—	—
Variola, - - - -	11	6	4	1
Varioloid, - - - -	100	89	6	5
Rubeola, - - - -	4	4	—	—
Pertrissis, - - - -	3	3	—	—
Cholera, - - - -	1	—	1	—
Fatigue, - - - -	2	2	—	—
Destitution, - - - -	2	2	—	—
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 156	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 136	14	6

In addition to the above, 11 corpses were received and buried at the Hospital, making whole number received, 167.

Number of vessels boarded at quarantine 1,276, viz :

179 Ships, paying	- - - - -	\$1,074 00	
164 Barques, "	- - - - -	984 00	
164 Brigs, "	- - - - -	656 00	
769 Schooners, "	- - - - -	1,538 00	
		<hr/>	\$4,252 00
1,276			
Receipts from Hospital and farm,	- - - - -		1,495 78
Sum total paid to City Register,	- - - - -		\$5,747 78
Amount due from city, for pauper patients,	- - - - -		147 50
			<hr/>
			\$5,895 28

By an oversight, the receipts for the month of December, included in the above statement, and amounting to \$440 87, will not appear in the returns of the Register or the Board of Health, for the year 1854, they having been omitted to be returned till the 1st of January, 1855. Thus placing that sum to the credit of the Hospital for the year 1855 instead of 1854. The above is, however, the real receipt for the past year.

By comparing this with my last annual report, it will be seen that the receipts this year exceed those of last, by \$1,254 78, which increase would have been much larger, but for the general unhealthiness of cities bordering upon our Atlantic coast, and the necessary detention all vessels arriving from such ports, were subjected to.

The expenses have been but slightly increased, notwithstanding three times as many patients have been received into the Hospital. A surplus of near one thousand dollars, (\$1,000) remains to the credit of the Hospital, after all its current expenses for the year have been paid.

Thus you will perceive, that after the liberal appropriation made by the Council in 1853, to liquidate the old indebtedness which so weighed upon the Hospital, and encumbered my predecessors, the Institution, instead of being an expense to the city for the past two years, has become a source of revenue. By an economical administration of its affairs, the amount of surplus will most likely increase with each succeeding year. And I would most earnestly advise the Council to appropriate such surplus, to be expended in filling up and draining the marshes, which makes the Hospital so terribly unhealthy,—this could readily be done, and at a small cost, by making them a place of deposit for the mud and sediment taken from the bottom of the river and basin. The sickness, which prevails every summer and fall, among the employees, adds much to the expenses, by rendering the employment of additional hands necessary; besides, sadly crippling the efficiency of both the Medical and Agricultural de-

partments. I had the honor to invite your attention to this subject, in my last annual report.

There is now, in course of erection, a new and more commodious dwelling house for the Physician: owing to its distance from the city, together with much unnecessary delay on the part of the contractor, it is, as yet, unfinished, but is now being rapidly pushed to completion under the superintendence of the City Commissioner, Mr. Peregoy. It will, when done, add much to the appearance of the place, as well as to the health of its occupant.

Owing to the long continued drouth of the last summer, the produce of the farm was not so great as I had hoped it would be. Nevertheless, after reserving enough for the use of the Hospital and stock during the winter, over two hundred dollars worth has been sold.

The duties of the Physician at the Hospital, are too arduous for one man to perform. He is required to board all vessels arriving between sun-rise and sun-set; to attend all cases admitted into the Hospital; to superintend the farming operations; to sell his surplus produce; to audit all accounts, and to collect all monies due from vessels, &c. These various duties require his presence in different places at the same time, or else forces him to entrust chance and irresponsible persons. I would therefore, suggest to your honorable body, as the law already makes provision for the appointment of a medical assistant, but attaches no salary to the office, that some compensation may be affixed so as to render that portion of the law, operative.

Efficient aid has been rendered me by Mrs. Brown, the matron, Mr. F. Winters, my acting assistant, and Mr. James Haggerty, the head farmer, as well as the other employees.

Respectfully,

WM. H. GRAFTON,
Physician to Marine Hospital.