

but that its uses were designated by the varying circumstances of the moment, and the occasional temper and views of the corporation of the city of Baltimore; It is, your committee believe, not to be doubted, but that the institution, while thus loosely and casually administered, was productive of little comparative benefit, even as a local establishment, and was nearly, if not entirely useless as a common state hospital.

The institution remained in this neglected condition until June 1808, when the corporation of Baltimore passed an ordinance to lease it to Doctors M. Kenzie and Smyth for the term of fifteen years. By the terms of this ordinance the lessees were to covenant, that the buildings be exclusively appropriated as a hospital or infirmary for the reception of maniacs, and diseased persons of every description—that they will receive all city patients sent by the commissioners of health, or other authorised persons, at stipulated rates. That lessees will use their influence to obtain a grant of money for augmenting the buildings from the state, or authority to draw a lottery to raise money for that purpose; that they will keep the premises in repair—that both branches of the city council shall by joint ballot appoint five visitors of said hospital, whose duty it shall be monthly to visit the hospital, and to report annually to the mayor the state of the hospital. If the visitors report that the hospital is not faithfully applied to the purpose intended by the lease, the sick not properly provided for, or the buildings suffered to want repair, then the corporation of the city may vacate the lease on six months notice to the lessees. If both lessees die or remove away, the lease is to be void. By the lease the whole direction and government of the institution, with the right to the emoluments and profits arising from it, is devolved on the lessees for 15 years; subject only to a monthly visitation from the visitors appointed by the corporation of Baltimore. By an ordinance of the corporation of Baltimore on the 24th of March 1813, the number of visitors was increased to twelve. In pursuance of this lease, the lessees applied to the legislature, who at the session of 1808, c. 106, authorised a lottery to raise money to be expended by the lessees in the enlargement and alteration of the hospital. The lottery produced 20,000 dollars.

By the act of 1811, c. 140, the assembly granted 5,000 dollars a year for three years to be applied to the same purpose. These several sums have been expended by the lessees in the enlargement of the buildings and improvement of the premises, by which they are rendered greatly more commodious, and better adapted to the purposes of a hospital. By an ordinance of the 21st of March 1814, the term of Doctors M. Kenzie and Smyth is extended ten years beyond the original term, provided they complete the centre building, the lunatic asylum, and build an east wing.

By an ordinance of the 18th March 1807, the commissioners of health are empowered to give an order for the reception of any persons into the hospital afflicted with contagious disease, dangerous to the community. The funds which have heretofore been applied toward this institution by the state, consist of the appropriation in 1797, of

of that in 1811 of \$ 5,000 for 3 years,	\$ 8,000 00
Which with the present proposed appropriation of	15,000 00
	30,000 00

Would make a total granted by the state, of

your committee are informed by the petitioners that the city have contributed	\$ 53,000 00
the proceeds of the lottery were	\$ 18,000 00
that these petitioners in their own right, not as manager, now drew a prize of	20,000 00
which they applied to this object, and have out of their own funds beside ex- } pended the sum of	15,000 00
	8,500 00

Making a further sum of

which added to what has been given and is now proposed to be given, will amount to	\$ 61,500 00
	\$ 114,500 00

The lessees state that they have an unexpired term of 17 years in the institution. From this rapid view of the institution it will appear, that the object of the state in the original appropriation was to establish a common state hospital for sick and lunatic persons. That the institution is at present a private institution, without any fixed and permanent government. That by the terms of the lease, and the ordinances of the city of Baltimore, all persons infected with dangerous contagious diseases, who may be sent by the city of Baltimore, must be received without discretion by the lessees. The obligation on the lessees to receive persons infected with contagious diseases, is in violation of the fundamental principles upon which hospitals ought to be erected, and as your committee believe, is in contravention of the ordinary principles which prevail in the government of all well regulated hospitals. It is in fact converting it into a pest house instead of an hospital. It appears to your committee, that if the city of Baltimore, and the present lessees, would agree to the establishment of a respectable and energetic government of the institution by a permanent board of trustees or directors, with proper and apt officers to conduct and manage the affairs of the institution, to whom the entire government and management of the institution should be committed upon the principles contemplated by the legislature in their original donation, it would be an institution of a purity worthy the liberal and munificent patronage of the state. Upon what terms the city of Baltimore would accede to such a proposal, your committee are unable to state, since no opportunity has existed of consulting the city of Baltimore; but the lessees animated by that public spirit which has made them so actively useful in promoting and forwarding this excellent institution, have readily yielded their assent; and from the obvious benefits which the city would derive from it, your committee feel little doubt but that they would also accede to the same terms. Your committee therefore, in order to avoid the delay which would arise in aiding and fostering so valuable an institution, if time was taken to consult the corporation of the city of Baltimore, recommend that a law be passed incorporating a board of superintendants, or visitors, with full powers and authority to govern direct and regulate, the whole concerns of the institution, with a view to give permanent existence to it, upon the benevolent principles upon which the assembly originally made their first donation, with a provision, that if the city of Baltimore, and the present lessees, rescinded the lease, and acceded to the terms and provisions of the law, that the appropriation made by the resolutions referred to the committee should be paid to said board, to be applied under their direction, in such manner as shall best promote the great objects of the institution. All of which is respectfully submitted.

By order,

T. J. BRICE, C.