

The central hospital, for 78 patients	£4,560
The wash-house and laundry	824
The stables and workshops	650
Two infirmaries (each £412), for 30 patients	824
Eight houses (each £690), for 240 patients	5,520
Medical superintendent's house	1,000
The garden and court-walls	1,120
Drainage engine and boiler	1,000
	£16,698

Of course rough estimates of this kind are of little value without specifications. A house may be built to sell or built to last; and a public institution should certainly be built for the latter purpose. Whether the estimates which Dr. Fairless has obtained from an architect are founded upon scantling of timber and thickness of walls which would be needful for a substantial and lasting building, there is nothing in the pamphlet to show. Dr. Fairless remarks that our county asylums have cost from £150 to £250 for each patient; the lowest of these being more than eight times as much as his estimate; and it is scarcely probable all county asylums have been such extravagant jobs as this contrast would indicate. With the principle of this detached block system we most fully concur.

Lunacy Legislation.

A short Bill, entitled the Lunacy Regulation Bill, has been introduced into the House of Lords by the Lord Chancellor. It is to be construed as part of the Lunacy Regulation Act, and its purpose may be gathered from the exposition of the Lord Chancellor, and the remarks of the Earl of Shaftesbury, on its second reading.

“LUNACY REGULATION BILL.

“The Lord Chancellor, in moving the second reading of this bill, said a great deal had been done to improve the position of lunatics by Lord Brougham, Lord Lyndhurst, and Lord St. Leonard's; but a great deal remains to be accomplished. There were many persons of unsound mind possessing a small amount of property, which a commission of lunacy would wholly absorb. But unless there was a commission the property could not be made available for the benefit of the owner. It was proposed by the Bill that if it were made out to the satisfaction of the Lord Chancellor that these persons, who had incomes under a fixed sum, were lunatic, and if after notice they made no objection, the Lord Chancellor should have the power to dispose of the property as if a commission had issued, and they had been regularly found insane. He admitted that it was a very stringent measure, and one which he should not propose if it were not absolutely necessary. Instances showing its necessity had been furnished by the commissioners. In 1858 a governess, at that time lunatic, became entitled to about £100, and it continued to this day to be held by a