Oliver Wendell Holmes Hospital.

Dr. Irving D. Wiltrout, Founder.

Hudson, Wisconsin.
ANNOUNCEMENT

OF THE

Oliver Wendell Holmes

HOSPITAL.

Hudson, St. Croix County, Wisconsin,

1887.

MINNEAPOLIS:
Tribune Job Printing Co.,
1887.
Boston, Feb. 4th 1886

My dear Sir,

I am much obliged to you for your prompt, courteous and satisfactory reply to my letter of

Yours,

I will now say that if you confer the honor upon me of giving my name to the Institution I shall consider it one of the highest compliments ever bestowed upon me. I am, dear Sir, 

Very truly yours,

Oliver Wendell Holmes.
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ORGANIZATION.

THE projectors of the above institution, deeming it the part of wisdom to throw around it all the safeguards necessary for the proper care and management, have organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin. Accordingly on the first day of May, 1887, the Oliver Wendell Holmes Hospital was organized and articles of incorporation were duly filed in the office of Secretary of State.

LOCATION.

Hudson, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, is a city of three thousand inhabitants, beautifully situated on the eastern banks of the famous Lake St. Croix. This sheet of water is noted for its scenery—a few hours by steamboat takes the visitor to the celebrated Dalles of the St. Croix.

It is a noted fishing grounds for tourists during the summer months. Dividing the city proper from North Hudson is Willow River, emptying its waters into Lake St. Croix. The scenery on this river is of surpassing beauty. Skirting it on either side are high bluffs, covered with young forests of every variety of western timber, whose varigated foliage adds a wondrous charm to the summer and autumn scenery. This river with its tributaries is a varitable fishing preserve, a perfect Arcadia for the followers of that ancient worthy, the "gentle Isaac Walton."

The city lies in a basin encircled by hills on the south and east, and gradually sloping toward the lake.

It has all the advantages accruing from the possession of great wealth, intelligent society, an admirable common school system, handsome churches, belonging to the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Episcopalian, Lutheran and Roman Catholic bodies, while palatial residences, with their well-kept lawns and gardens, add a charm to its natural picturesqueness. The city is lighted by the Edison Incandescent system of electricity.

RAILROAD FACILITIES.

The railroad facilities are unrivalled, it being at the junction of three lines of railroad. It is situated on the main line of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad, distant eighteen miles from St. Paul, and twenty-six miles from Minneapolis. It is twelve hours
ride from Chicago. A steam ferry crossing the lake every hour to Lakeland, makes connections with daily trains over the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad. Running north is the North Wisconsin Railroad, whose termini on Lake Superior are Ashland and Duluth.

It will thus be seen that our geographical location, together with our railroad and telegraphic facilities are such that no place is better adapted for the establishment of an institution of this character.

HEALTHFUL CLIMATE.

The entire region is noted for its healthfulness and beauty. It is absolutely free from malaria, and beyond the reach of the damp atmosphere, fogs and cold of the great lakes. It therefore affords a safe and delightful home for residents of Chicago, Milwaukee and other lake shore cities during the late winter and early spring weather, when the cold lake winds especially prevail.

Many southerners are annually coming to our northern climate for the improvement of their health. No locality enjoys a higher reputation than that of Northern Wisconsin. The Oliver Wendell Holmes Hospital, organized and operated on a strictly professional basis, with an efficient corps of Consulting Physicians and Surgeons, affords special advantages.

SITE.

Upon a beautiful wooded slope of Willow River, and about a mile from its mouth, overlooking Lake Mallalieu, an expanse of the river, and commanding the most delightful and extensive views, the hospital is located. It is built on the highest point more than ninety feet above the lake, the entire area of the grounds being covered with magnificent forest trees, while finely kept carriage drives and foot paths lead down to the water's edge. Commodious boat houses and bathing houses skirt the banks. The proprietors have spared neither pains nor expense in laying out and making the extensive grounds attractive and of unsurpassed beauty.

ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING.

The building is a modification of the Queen Anne style, and was designed by the eminent architect, L. S. Buffington, of Minneapolis, under the direction of Dr. Irving D. Wiltrout, the projector of the institution. It is four storied and is surrounded by a broad and spacious veranda affording the patients a desirable promenade. This veranda in winter time will be enclosed with glass, and warmed by steam, thus affording a delightful place where the invalid may promenade in the sunshine during the cold months. The views to be obtained from some of the
upper chambers, and from the observatory on top of the house are strikingly beautiful. The building is finished in natural oak throughout; and the plans which for architectural beauty, convenience and adaptability to hospital work cannot be excelled. It is the testimony of all who have inspected the building and more especially the testimony of superintendents of similar institutions, that in thoroughness of detail the building is unapproached by any institution of like character.

HEATING AND VENTILATING.

Appreciating the fact that in this rigorous climate, convalescence, health and comfort depend very largely on warmth and a plentiful supply of fresh warmed air at an even temperature, the management have spared no pains nor expense to procure the very best method of heating and ventilating the building.

The hospital is warmed by direct radiation, heated by hot water circulation, the water therefor being heated by transmitted heat from steam. This method insures rapidity of transmitting heat to the circulating water. The ventilation is mechanical, Plenum Movement, and is accomplished by forcing a volume of air to every apartment, the total of which is equal to about 9,000 cubic feet per minute, using a Blackman Air Propeller. This air is warmed by being passed through a coil of pipe containing about 7,000 feet, and the coil is heated by a hot water circulation, which insures even temperature avoiding sudden fluctuations. Either the direct radiation, or the indirect radiation for ventilation, is of ample capacity to warm the building.

The apparatus was constructed by E. F. Osborne, of St. Paul, Minn., and is a special system designed and constructed by Mr. Osborne. The system adopted in this case, is known as Osborne’s Duplex System. Its distinctive features are, the facility with which the steam generated can be used to maintain special temperatures or pressures (automatically) to accomplish specific results with economy, quietness of operation, ease of management, and assures at all times a uniform temperature throughout the building.

PLUMBING AND SEWERAGE.

All plumbing and sewerage was designed by an expert sanitary engineer, and is perfect in detail. The refuse matter is disposed of by being washed a distance of ninety feet to the base of the elevation, and received into an iron receptical, half-filled with charcoal and chloride of lime. The water filtering through this bed finds its way to the river, while the refuse matter is gathered in the meshes of this bed of charcoal and chloride of lime and then subjected to heat and thus destroyed.
This receptacle is in a substantial building of stone 12x12, properly ventilated, and so arranged that the gases arising from the burning of these wastes are again submitted to heat and consumed before passing out of the chimney.

LIGHT.

The building is lighted by the Mather Self-Regulating Incandescent System of Electricity. It is absolutely free from danger. The dynamo, engine and boilers are located in a fire-proof brick structure, some distance from the building proper, communicating with the hospital by an underground passage-way. A steam laundry, together with hot and cold water apparatus throughout the building, and perfect fire extinguishing appliances on every floor, constitutes in a general way, the plan of the structure.

BATHS AND TREATMENT.

There will be suitable apartments for plain, electric, Russian and Turkish baths; gymnasium, Sweedish movement exercises, Massage and electric treatments—and all other modern appliances that are helpful methods in conjunction with skillful medical treatment in overcoming and mastering diseases, whether in the acute or chronic forms.

ARRANGEMENT OF ROOMS.

The ground floor is devoted to attendants sleeping apartments, Sweedish movement apparatus, laundry, ventilating chamber and surgical wards. The second floor is devoted to parlors, library, Superintendent's room, diningroom, kitchen, bath and baggage room, and four sleeping apartments. The third floor has twenty private chambers, conservatory, dispensary, and operating rooms. On the fourth floor are the single rooms, one ward, a lecture room, gymnasium, conservatory and bath rooms. The different floors are reached by a spacious hydraulic elevator of an improved pattern.

PATIENTS' ROOMS.

The plans are such as to give to each patient a room or a suite, as may be required. These communicate with public rooms and halls, so as to afford in all suitable cases the utmost freedom and enjoyment; or when desirable, many of the most pleasant rooms can be entirely isolated from all others. By these plans therefore, it is possible to permit the greatest freedom and at the same time to protect every patient in the house from annoyance from any other. Cheerfulness, comfort and safety have been the chief controlling ideas in the architecture. All rooms in the house, public or private, are large and light;
there being but one room in the entire building into which the sun may not shine at some hour of the day.

The electric bell system and fire alarm are a convenience in every room.

The furniture is of antique and quartered oak, and is of the latest and best styles. Open firegrates and elegant mantels with French mirrors are in most of the rooms on the second and third floors.

**TREATMENT OF PATIENTS.**

The design is to treat acute and chronic diseases, nervous diseases being a specialty. Attention will also be given to general surgical work.

**MEDICAL STAFF.**

The directors take pleasure in calling attention to the personnel of the medical staff. Each member holds a prominent place in the profession and several have a national reputation. All are members of the American Medical Association.

**NURSES AND ATTENDANTS.**

None but intelligent and educated nurses will be employed. They will be under the supervision of Dr. Alcinda J. Auten, Dean of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Hospital College for Nurses. Constant medical attention will be given all cases by the resident physician, the physician in charge, and by the consulting staff when required. Nurses and attendants will be required to give their undivided attention to the welfare of their patients.

**DIET.**

Special effort will be made to provide a liberal and varied bill of fare. Everyone receiving an abundance and variety of wholesome food. In certain cases, however, we shall find it necessary to prescribe a special course of diet.

**RECREATION AND AMUSEMENTS.**

Recognizing the influence of mind over the body, we shall seek to avoid the prison hospital appearance and methods, so far as is desirable, and to surround the inmates of our hospital with a home-like atmosphere. Music, lectures, and a fine library, with daily periodicals will be some of the indoor recreations; while boating, fishing and driving will be a daily relaxation for those patients who have sufficient strength.
EXPENSES.

The charges for board and treatment will be as low as are consistent with the advantages and superior accommodations.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION.

For any further information address the Physician in Charge, Dr. Irving D. Wiltzroug, or Rev. M. Benson, Superintendent, Oliver Wendell Holmes Hospital, Hudson, St. Croix County, Wis.