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ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR NEURO-DISABILITY:
Administration : Governance records : Letters
received by the Board of Management

Letter received by Frederic Andrews from
T Roger Smith, dated 16 August 1861

Ref No : GB 3544 RHN-AD-1-10-10

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By hand W. C.

16 August 1841

Si.

I have postponed
replying to your letter
of the 10th August in
the hope of being able
to take the advice of
Mr Rawlinson, and
also to visit the premises
at Putney before I made

any suggestion to
you as to cubic
or other space in the
proposed Royal Hospital

I have however
been unable to accomplish
either of these things, and
am unwilling longer to delay,
should anything arise
to make it desirable that
I should modify my
present suggestion will

write again.

Meantime I think
judging from the
best data at my com-
mand, that you ought
to provide, in wards
where bed-ridden patients
will remain day and
night a cubic space
amounting to 2,000
cubic feet per patient
or very closely approaching

that area. In
the sleeping wards
of these patients who
are to have the use of
a sitting or day room
during the whole
or part of the day
I think you ought
to provide 1500 cubic
feet per bed. and
in the day rooms you
ought I think to

Provide about
 1200 cubic feet of
 space for each person
 expected to occupy
 the same.

The best written
 authorities are, Helme
 Miss Naylor's "Notes
 on Hospitals" and
 the recently published
 "Report of the Commission
 appointed for improving

The Sanitary conditions
of Barracks and Hospitals,

The medical staffs
of the Madras and
King's College Hospital
have also paid attention
to the subject.

I would further
suggest that you
would do well to
apply to the authorities
of the Consumption Hospital

to learn from them
the quantities of cubic
space in day-rooms
and ward at their
Sanatorium at Bourne-
mouth in Hampshire, a
building in its purposes
not altogether dissimilar
to the Royal Hospital.

I am aware that
a great difference exists
between your hospital
and any ordinary building

of the class - but I
 am of opinion that
 the less possibility there
 is of employing any
curative agents there
 more ought you to
 ensure to the patients
 an ample supply of
 that best of all sanatory
 agents pure fresh air.
 Ample
 cubic space does not
 necessarily imply the
 presence of great supply

of fresh air - but
 it is impossible to
 obtain such a supply
 without injurious drafts
 should ample cubic
 space not be provided.

I need not add
 that the suggested
 amount of space here
 suggested would require
 a very much larger
 superficial area than
 "Nine square feet by day
 "and twenty five square

AD/1/10/90

"Lucky night" as
specified on p. 2 of
the printed instructions.

I trust the committee
will not think it ob-
trusive if I suggest that
on this point the best
living authority without
doubt is Miss Nightingale
and that her opinion
and that of the two
eminent men who formed
the Sanitary Commission

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in the Crimea - for
Sutherland and Mr
Robert Rawlinson
ought to be asked
if the Committee feel
any doubt

I shall be very much
obliged if you will
forward me the plan
and sections of the
ground. It will be
possible, if I can

furnished with that
to make some progress
with my design while
awaiting the decision
of the committee as to
the actual size of ward

I am Sir

Yours of service
P Roger Smith

J. Andrew Esq.