

Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir

As the Superintendent of the hospital has written to you
my application to him for
respecting a ~~new~~ wooden building of about 25 or 30 feet square, I
shall just mention my reasons for the application. I found this
hospital extremely dirty, and was obliged to endure it until a new
steward or overseer was appointed. In pursuing the reform in point
of cleanliness, I found it necessary to have some lumber room into
which beds, bed frames & a number of other things used in a hospital
might be occasionally taken to be cleansed & deposited for
use. They had heretofore used the chapel, a handsome room
nearly 40 feet square in the center of the building for this purpose,
but I have had this cleared out & cleansed & divine service
performed in it. The various articles deposited in this room & in
other parts of the hospital now stand in the open air for want
of some place in which to put them. In spite of our regulations,
certain infectious cutaneous disorders will creep in and
^{in time past} has infected the whole house, we therefore want a detached
room for curing this infection & preventing this great evil,
I want a proper place to deposit, at the proper season
a quantity of straw, we have given more away quarters for that
necessary article than would purchase a supply for a year.
This hospital stands in an inclosure of 5 acres, and the hay
cut from it has been continually lost to the institution because
there was no place to put it in. In a word I am confident
that a building which would cost between 150 & 200 dollars
would soon pay for itself by the savings we could make
by it, not to mention the assistance it would afford, in
our present plan of ^{entire} extreme cleanliness.

Of the 5 acres of land belonging to this house, I have crossed
one acre & a half to be laid out for a garden; ^{there} I assure myself
great medicinal advantages from this improvement, but more
profits produce than from the benefit to our invalids will
derive by working in it. For the great desideratum in all
our hospitals is some pleasant employment for those young
men who are not absolutely disabled. I have planted more
or 200 ornamental & fruit trees, in hopes of making ^{this spot} it a

X I saved to the Treasury more of my salary

...ant to the eye, but was healthy to its substance,
As I found no rules traditional or verbal, I drew up
those which I here enclose, a copy of which is placed
in every ward; and I have the satisfaction of in-
forming you that we have hitherto been able to
keep up to them; and in the midst of a professional
opposition bordering on persecution; I have been able
to effect a reform in almost every department of
this institution, ^{and I have the great satisfaction of reflecting that while I have done this, I have}
I have dispensed nearly 90 cures
since the 1^o of April, I have still about 40 in the
house; for the effects of the embargo, was the emptying
of the boarding houses for seamen into this hospital;