



## Catholic Hospital Digital History Book Collection

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the  
Congregations of Religious Women and Men in Canada,  
their mission in health care, and the founding  
and operation of Catholic hospitals.



## Livres numérisés sur l'histoire des hôpitaux catholiques

Retracer l'héritage et la contribution  
des congrégations religieuses au Canada,  
leur mission en matière de soins de santé ainsi que la fondation  
et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques

# St. Elizabeth Hospital Farnham, Quebec

in the Third Report of the  
Missisquoi County Historical Report  
1908

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THE THIRD REPORT  
OF THE  
MISSISQUOI COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1908

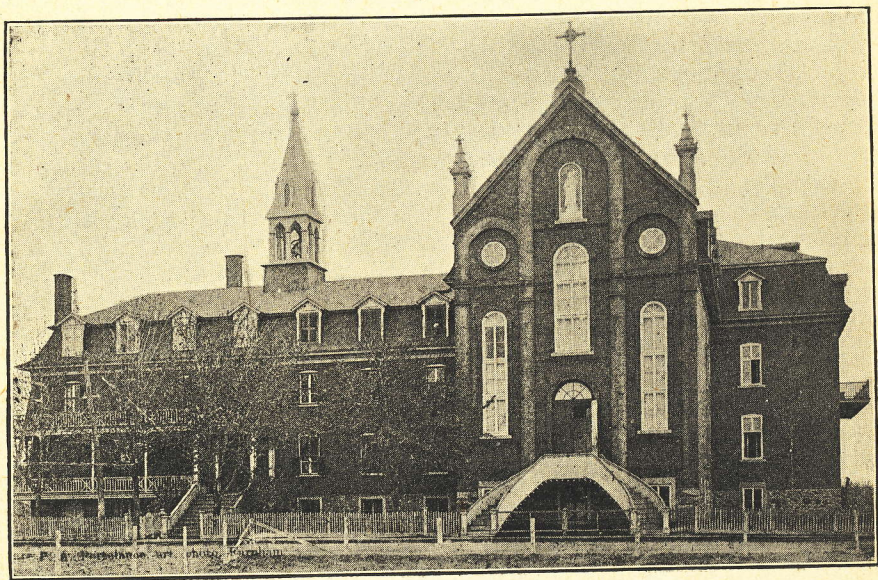


# The Farnham Hospital.

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The Ste. Elizabeth Hospital, situated in the town of Farnham, in the county of Missisquoi, and directed by the Soeurs Hospitaliers—whose mother house is in

latter must be well recommended. They are usually feeble persons, women, old people or a few members of the clergy taking a needed rest.



THE STE. ELIZABETH HOSPITAL, FARNHAM, QUE

St. Hyacinthe—enjoys the unique distinction of being the only institution of its kind in the county or, for that matter, in the District of Bedford. Its object is to afford a refuge for the sick, the poor and the orphans, where they can find a comfortable home, at a reasonable price, and even gratuitously when possible. It is above all a shelter for the unfortunate, and it is only when these are comfortably placed that there is room for patients or lodgers at rates which seem low for the accommodation given. The

The Hospital was founded in the spring of 1876 by the Rev. J. B. Veronneau, Curé of the Parish of St. Romuald de Farnham, who had just founded a Convent for the girls and a College for the boys of his parish, apart from the completion of the interior of the parish church. It will be recognized at once that his personal efforts must have been of the highest, apart from the fact that into those institutions and into that work he put all his savings and income. It is due to



him that credit should here be given him for his zeal and benefactions in these respects. In the first days of the existence of the Hospital he was almost alone its sole support. The worthy sisters were not then located in the excellent edifice, of which the front alone appears in the cut herewith, but their asylum was part of a house situated on the corner of St. Paul and Yamaska streets. It was only in the autumn they were able to take possession of that part of their own building, then completed, to which constant additions have since been made, as necessity for their work required.

The deserving and self-sacrificing sisters had no means of their own, and, in the first days of their work, had to rely upon their own industry and the alms and presents bestowed from time to time by generous persons, who aided them with furniture, provisions, linen, etc., for, in that period of a financial crisis money was scarce. Little by little as the years rolled on the institution grew, until today the buildings cover many hundreds of square feet, surrounded by a considerable piece of land, from which a part of the subsistence of the Hospital is derived. There is now, as a fair average, 250 persons under the sheltering roof of this well managed Hospital, among whom there are many who contribute nothing for their board, lodging and care, whilst those who pay do so at a modest price. To make up for the deficits the good sisters rely upon Providence and the charity of the public. So well known are their good works that they are welcomed in the localities where they solicit aid as disinterested workers for the relief of the Lord's unfortunate poor. Ordinarily collections are solicited only in the parishes and places from whence have come the

poor, the sick, the orphans and the unfortunates, for relief and help in the Hospital. They have, incidentally, greatly relieved many municipalities from the great expense which public and municipal charity necessarily exacts, thus lessening the burden of the taxpayer. Of late years, one of the principal sources of revenue has been an annual bazaar, held in the month of February each year, in the organization of which the good sisters are ably assisted by the Ladies' Charity Society of Farnham. Thus, this year, so zealously did they work and plan that the receipts amounted to over \$2,000 in the space of only one week.

It should be borne in mind that the doors of this institution are freely opened to all without regard to nationality or religious faith. If one suffers from hunger or pain, admittance is gained without other qualifications or restraint. Its usefulness has been shown in cases of accidents and particularly those which occur upon the different railways which converge at Farnham. It is not a rare spectacle in Farnham to see the victim of an accident carried through the streets of Farnham from the cars of the C.P.R. or G.T.R. to the Hospital, where wounds are dressed and often serious operations performed. It is to the credit of the medical men of the town that they have, among themselves, arranged to give their services gratuitously, each in their turn, to the unfortunate sick patients of the Hospital, recompensing themselves in part from private patients and those able to pay. The Hospital has a laboratory and pharmacy ample for its needs.

Finally, one may be permitted to say that this is one of the most useful and beneficent institutions



of the district. It is a credit to the town and county. The zealous and self-sacrificing sisters who conduct it are entitled to the kindest appreciation for arduous and oft-times unpleasant duties always gratuitously performed so far as they are personally concerned. In furnishing this brief sketch of so

deserving a local institution, one cannot do better than to suggest a visit to it, when passing through Farnham, to see the excellent work which is being done. Such visitor will be welcomed and it will be edifying to the visitor.  
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