

## Diary Written in the Provincial Lunatic Asylum by Mary Huestis Pengilly

Mary Pengilly was taken to the New Brunswick Provincial Lunatic Asylum by her sons, where she kept the diary from which this book is taken. Mary records the harsh conditions and treatment received at the hands of the nurses during her stay. When Mary is released she takes it upon herself to make the authorities aware of the situation at the lunatic asylum.

From the Foreword: "This little book is humbly dedicated to the Province of New Brunswick ... by one who has had so sad an experience in this, the sixty-second year of her age, that she feels it to be her imperative duty to lay it before the public in such a manner as shall reach the hearts of the people in this her native Province.... She sincerely hopes it may be read in every State of the Union, as well as throughout the Dominion of Canada, that it may help to show the inner workings of their Hospitals and Asylums, and prompt them

to search out better methods of conducting them, as well for the benefit of the superintendent as the patient."

Total running time: 0:59:54 Read by Elaine Webb



Cover design by Kathryn Delaney

aney Photograph of the New Brunswick Lunatic Asylum, c1875