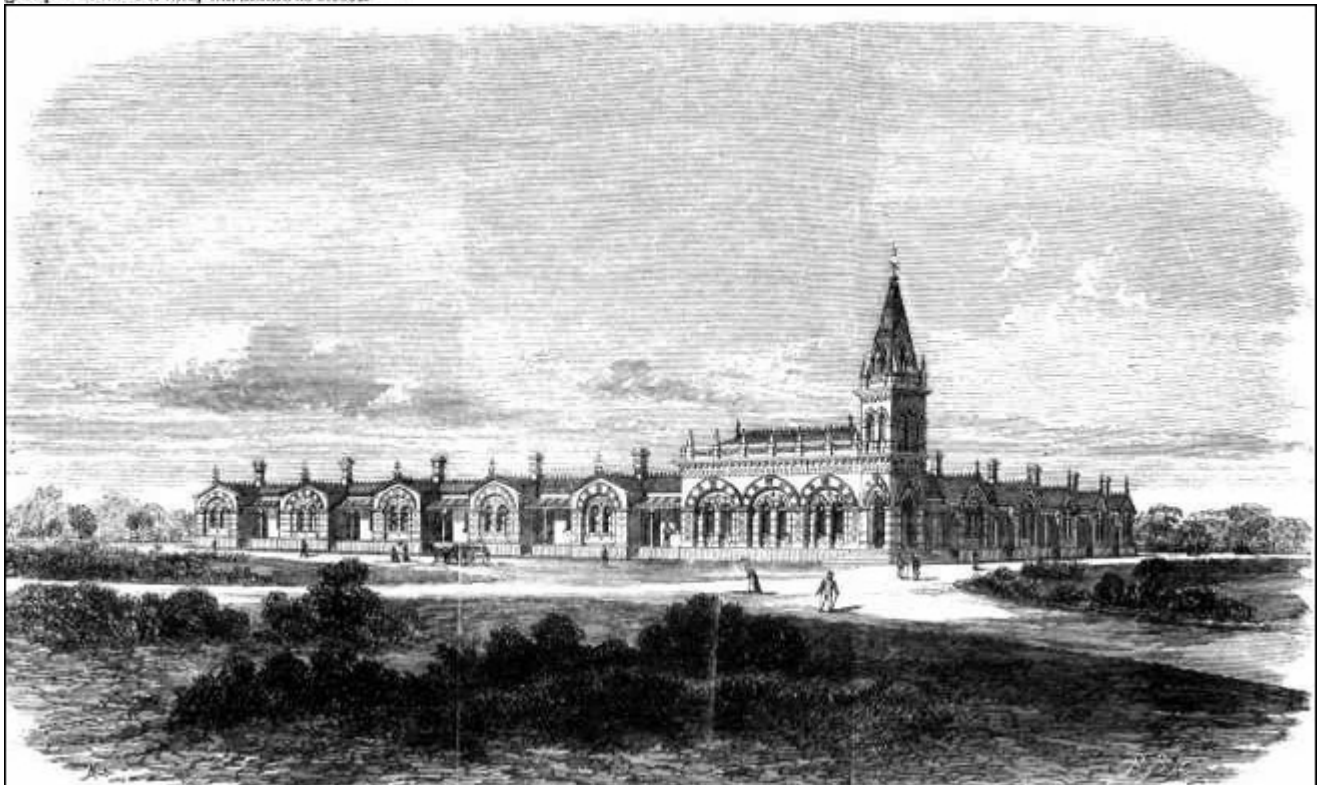


THE JEWISH ALMSHOUSES, MELBOURNE.

The Jews are everywhere remarkable for their kind consideration and treatment of the poor brethren amongst them, and the proposed erection by the Jewish community in Melbourne of almshouses for their aged and decayed people is in accordance with the charity which is characteristic of the race. The institution, when complete, as shown in our engraving, will add not a little to the attractive appearance of that suburban region which has become the favorite locale for charitable institutions of all kinds. Situated close upon the site of the now demolished loop-line of the St. Kilda Railway, it will be a good substitute for the viaduct whose unsightly appearance blocked the fine perspective of the St. Kilda road. The ground is nearly fenced in, and the builders will proceed to work immediately. The plan embraces a group of houses, which, for the present, will form two sides of a quadrangle, but the number may be doubled should circumstances require. Each house will contain a parlor fourteen feet by twelve, a bed-room fifteen feet by twelve, and a kitchen fourteen feet by nine. A verandah will extend partly across the front, while a passage, running entirely through the house, will ensure a current of air, so necessary for domestic comfort and health in this climate. The rooms will be lofty, each house self-contained, and the privacy and convenience of the inmates secured. At one of the angles of the quadrangle it is proposed to erect a small synagogue, with porch, bell-turret, and all the appurtenances of a place of worship, while the house immediately adjoining will be adapted to contain a reading-room, communicating by a private entrance with the synagogue and also a board room. The design, which is by Mr. George R. Johnson, of 46 Elizabeth-street, was chosen in competition with some dozen others. The style is somewhat of the Lombard-Venetian school—effect being gained more by a judicious selection and arrangement of materials, than by meretricious ornamentation. The synagogue, as is due, is more decorated than the dwelling houses. Its porch and bell-turret are well conceived. Altogether the group will have a fine, harmonious effect.





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