

The Hospital World.

WE have visited several large hospitals which have been lately built, and have felt somewhat aggrieved that externally architectural beauty has been little considered. Why cannot our new hospitals be beautiful as well as useful? From the picture we present this week our readers will agree with us that no such utilitarian spirit influenced the committee when, twenty years ago, they built the new County Hospital at Lincoln; indeed, these gentlemen were wise in their generation, as the hospital stands on a magnificent and elevated site, surrounded by eleven acres of land, facing due south, and is for all time an ornament to this extremely picturesque old city.

The group of buildings consists of a central or administrative block, and two pavilions, with an out-patient annexe, all being connected by a corridor ten feet six inches wide, on the ground floor, and by a covered way of the same width on the first story, from which branch magnificent wards eighty-eight feet long by twenty-six feet six inches wide, fitted, ventilated, decorated, and furnished with science and taste.

The materials employed in the construction of this building are most harmonious—a mixture of red and white bricks, white Ancaster stone for all copings, sills, string courses, and other masonry, Luxembourg green slates for all roofs, fir timber (painted white) for all joinery. The floors of the wards are of well-seasoned English oak (which also answer the purpose of a looking glass, they are so exquisitely polished), and Parian cement has been used for all ward walls up to the ceilings. The grounds surrounding the hospital are beautifully kept—fine lawns for tennis, and firm paths for cycling—and from the windows a lovely view to the south is seen. The present Matron, Miss Cassandra Beachcroft, has held the position for fourteen years, and her work is well known to the readers of this journal. The daughter and grand-daughter of soldiers—Miss Beachcroft is imbued with the true spirit of discipline and power to command, and under her firm and kindly rule the utmost regularity and order prevails in the hospital. In 1892, after many years' hard work, she had the great pleasure of seeing the opening of the annexe, which forms a fine out-patient department and dispensary—the floor which had previously been given up to these departments having been adapted in the most charming manner as a Children's Ward, and it is here you will most often find her—always bright, cheery, and seemingly inspired by the genuine spirit of youth—anyway, the little inmates consider her their own particular property, and well she knows it. This great improvement in the construction of the Lincoln County Hospital was most generously made by the late Mr. J. Ruston, High Sheriff for the county, whose loss is still deeply lamented by the whole hospital staff.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Lord Lister has consented to preside at the annual festival dinner in aid of King's College Hospital, to be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole, on Tuesday, May 3rd.

Messrs. N. M. Rothschild and Sons have contributed £100 to the building fund of the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, in aid of which the Speaker of the House of Commons takes the chair at a dinner at the Hotel Métropole on April 30th.

The London Hospital has received, in response to the urgent appeal now being made in aid of the maintenance fund, donations of £100 from Lord Strathcona, £100 from Mr. Frederick Flood, and a subscription of £100 from Mr. John Coles.

The foundation stone of a new infirmary for Islington was laid last week by Mr. G. S. Elliott. The estimated cost of the new building, which will accommodate eight hundred patients, is £250,000.

The Festival Dinner in aid of the funds of the East London Hospital for Children was recently held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole. Mr. Benjamin L. Cohen, M.P., L.C.C., presided. During the past year £5493 has been received in legacies, and £400 from the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. The subscriptions realized as the result of the dinner amounted to £1735. The chairman begged for liberal support for the Hospital, as the income was only £3710, while the expenditure amounted to £8080.

The annual meeting of the Governors of the Chelsea Hospital for Women was held at that institution last week, Lord Glenesk presiding. The report showed that the number of in-patients and of critical cases had largely increased, while the death-rate was still nominal. £959 had been received towards the £1000 required to endow a bed in memory of the late Duchess of Teck.

The formal ceremony of opening the new annexe of the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, was performed on March 25th, by the Lady Mayoress. The beds have now been increased from twelve to twenty-eight, a very necessary addition, as the patients, including out-patients, treated annually, number 26,000. It is proposed, as soon as funds will permit, to pull down the old building and erect a modern hospital upon the site.

It was stated at a recent meeting of the executive committee of the Hostel of St. Luke, 16, Nottingham Place, W., that on account of the crowded state of the house several urgent cases, passed for admission, could not wait for vacancies, also that some of the nursing staff had again to be accommodated outside.

The festival ball in aid of the funds of the Italian Hospital, Queen Square, will take place at the Galleries of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours,

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