

The Duke of Cambridge drove down to Kingston on Monday to open the Victoria Cottage Hospital, the local memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The institution has been erected on a site of nearly two acres, given by his Royal Highness. After an interesting ceremony, the Duke proceeded to the Town Hall, where the Mayor presented him with the honorary freedom of the borough. His Royal Highness suitably returned thanks, and afterwards invested the Mayoress with a new chain of office which his worship had provided for her and all future mayoresses of the borough.

We are glad to observe that Dr. Finny, the Mayor of Kingston-on-Thames, has revived an old municipal custom, and presented for the use of his wife and all future mayoresses, a gold chain of office, equal in dignity to his own. Dr. Finny's laudable endeavour to obtain one of the original chains, all of which are in the hands of collectors, has given rise to the rumour that "though on pleasure he was bent he had a frugal mind," but as a matter of fact, of course, the original chains, though only of silver, are much more valuable than any modern imitation.

The Guardians of St. Olave's, Southwark, are making special preparations for Christmas. Each workhouse in the union is to be provided with a pianoforte. This was decided upon in spite of the protests of Mr. Ecroyd, a guardian, who said it was quite unnecessary to purchase pianos at £40 each, as the workhouses already resembled harmonic clubs, the nurses and other officials being well provided with violins, banjos, guitars, flutes, concertinas, and Jews'-harps. He supposed the next proposition would be that an orchestral band should accompany the workhouse dinner.

The new Nurses' Home in connection with the David Lewis Northern Hospital, Liverpool, was last week inspected by the Committee and friends of the institution. The Home is built of Red Ruabon brick. It has three floors, there being twenty bedrooms and three sitting rooms on each floor, as well as bath-rooms, lavatories, and box-rooms. The domestic offices are in the basement, as well as a room in which lessons will be given to the nurses in sick cookery. The building is lighted with electric light. The Sisters and nurses, numbering about fifty, took possession of their new quarters last Monday. The old Nursing Home will be immediately demolished, and an additional hospital pavilion erected on the site.

A beautiful and commodious new Nurses' Home erected in connection with the Leeds Infirmary, at the cost of £10,000, was opened on Monday last.

The Victoria Diamond Jubilee Memorial, at Norwich, is to take the form of the reconstruction and extension of the Jenny Lind Hospital, so named because the Swedish Nightingale, Madame Otto Goldschmidt, took such an active part in its establishment. The foundation stone of the new building was laid on Tuesday last by Master Geoffrey Colman, an interesting feature in the proceedings being the presence of a son of Madame Goldschmidt.

Miss Bromhead has offered to erect at her own cost a temporary hospital for fever cases on the West Common, Lincoln, and to supply the necessary nursing if the Corporation will provide the foundations for the building, the fencing and drainage, and be responsible for the maintenance of the nurses and patients. The Sanitary Committee decided that it was not desirable to undertake the expense of £130 or £140 which it was ascertained would be entailed if Miss Bromhead's offer was accepted. At the same time they desired to thank Miss Bromhead warmly for her generous offer. Upon the adoption of the minutes relating to this matter being moved, Mr. E. Pratt deprecated the rejection of Miss Bromhead's offer and moved an amendment which was carried, that the Committee be empowered to accept Miss Bromhead's offer.

An outbreak of typhoid fever has occurred in the Woodbridge district which is engaging the attention of the District Council. The public analyst has reported that the sample of water submitted to him is quite unfit for drinking purposes.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that the drainage of the parish of Grundisburgh, where a case of diphtheria had occurred was a difficult problem. All, or nearly all the houses drained into the river which ran on to Martlesham; and the villagers there, as well as residents in other villages, used the water for drinking and domestic purposes. It was resolved to give notice to the owners of houses which were drained into the river to abate the nuisance.

Advices from the provinces of Livonia and Courland report that leprosy is spreading to a marked extent. The military authorities in these districts have been compelled to reject for the army many young men found to be infected with the disease. Notwithstanding the precautions taken to prevent the propagation of the scourge, the number of its victims amounts at the present time in Russia to more than 5,000.

## Lectures on Medical Relief.

As one of the series of the course of lectures arranged by the Charity Organisation Society, and delivered in the Portman Rooms, Dr. Jamieson B. Hurry, M.A., of Reading, gave a lecture on Friday in last week. The subject was a most interesting one, and one upon which Dr. Hurry is well qualified to speak, as he has a practical knowledge of the question, gained in connection with his efforts to establish a self-supporting District Nursing Association in the town of Reading, and his book upon "District Nursing on a Provident Basis," is well known.

### "THE SELF-SUPPORTING DISPENSARY AND DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION."

The normal sickness-rate of the population was first discussed by the lecturer in order to prove how common a contingency is disabling sickness. Statistics shew that during the working years of life, from 15-65, each person is, on an average, thrown out of work by illness for nine days per annum, but if the population is considered as a whole, women and children being included, Dr. Billings estimates that about 400 out of every 1,000 individuals are taken ill or meet with accident each year.

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