

The Hospital World.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA INFIRMARY, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE foundation-stone of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was last Wednesday laid by the Prince of Wales (who was accompanied by the Princess of Wales and Princess Victoria) on behalf of the Queen, amid scenes of much enthusiasm.

At the site of the new Infirmary, their Royal Highnesses were received by the Governors of the Royal Infirmary, who presented an address, setting forth that the citizens of Newcastle and the residents of Northumberland and Durham had subscribed over £100,000, of which £20,000 had been subscribed chiefly in weekly subscriptions by working men. Mr. John Hall, since deceased, had subscribed £100,000, and there was a legacy of £5,000, so that the total amount of funds available would probably be over £220,000.

The design of Messrs. Lister Newcombe, of Newcastle, and Mr. H. Percy Adams, of London, the architects of the Infirmary, show it to be a handsome and well arranged building, covering a large area, and built on the pavilion plan, so that there is the maximum amount of air space between the various blocks, and the best possible aspect is obtained for each department.

In no case are the blocks containing wards more than two floors high, and the surgical wards are invariably on the ground floor, it being considered essential that these should be on the same level as the operating theatre, without any steps or slopes of any kind intervening.

The Nurses' Home occupies the highest level of the site, facing the entrance to the Leazes Park, while the laundry occupies the lowest level. Will the nurses realize, we wonder all they receive in this well-appointed Home, which has, by the way, a conservatory attached for their benefit? Nurses are apt to look upon their salary received in cash as their total emoluments, but they will do well to realize that residence in a well-built and well-furnished house represents a considerable sum, while good service, and cleanliness, are costly luxuries.

Considerable attention has been paid by the architects to the arrangement of the out-patient department, the entrance-hall and lodge of which can be used as a coffee and tea bar.

The accident and reception department has been so arranged as to be easily accessible by carriage from the public road, while the operating theatre has been the matter of special attention on the part of the architects, who have carefully studied the leading theatres in Europe. The Infirmary, when finished, should be one of the finest of its kind.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Prince of Wales has forwarded a cheque for 50 guineas to the treasurer of the Epsom and Ewell Cottage Hospital, to commemorate his recent Derby victory with Diamond Jubilee:

At a Garden Party given at the North London Hospital for Consumption last week, it was announced that it had been found necessary to provide greater facilities for the extension of the open-air treatment, with the result that a special open-air wing with balconies to accommodate forty patients has been erected at the cost of £3,000, which was opened by Sir Henry Harben, who was able to point with conviction to the fact that early last year twenty-four beds were set apart experimentally, that the windows of the wards in which these beds are situated have remained open in all weathers, the patients being kept warm by means of additional blankets, artificial heat, etc., and that this treatment, combined with proper rest, good feeding, and graduated exercise, has proved so successful in arresting the progress of the disease that every available ward except those reserved for bronchitis and asthma cases has been converted into an "open-air" ward.

The North London Hospital for Consumption has received donations of £100 from Mr. Robert Gordon and the trustees of Smith's (Kensington) Charity.

On Sunday last, eloquent sermons were preached in all places of worship in the Metropolis, pleading for support for the London Hospitals, and in spite of the enormous sums already given by the public in charity this year, to meet the needs of the war in South Africa, and the Famine and Plague in India, it is hoped that a liberal contribution to hospital charities will result.

A munificent donation has been made by Mr. George Herring, of 1, Hamilton Place, Piccadilly, of £10,000 to the Hospital Sunday Fund, and he offers £10,000 more if £90,000 is raised.

The annual prize-giving of the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, 8, Hunter Street, W.C., was held on Thursday, 28th inst. when the prizes were distributed to the students of the school by Lady Roberts. Among the speakers were Sir Owen Roberts, Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., and Mr. Stanley Boyd, F.R.C.S.

Mrs. Dowling has bequeathed £1,200 to Charing Cross Hospital on condition that the grave of herself and her husband is kept in order, in default the legacy passes to the Bromley Cottage Hospital. In addition, legacies are left to thirty-three other hospitals and institutions, among which the residue of her estate, estimated at £30,000, is to be distributed.

The St. George's-in-the-East Guardians were informed at their last meeting that three more cases of small-pox had occurred in the infirmary. This brings the total up to six within the past few weeks.

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