

venience of students who wished to live within the hospital. Its site was part of the gift to the hospital of Hersent, wife of Geoffrey of St. Loy, William FitzSabelline, and of John Bocointe. The Bocointes, or family of Bucca uncta, "oily mouth," were distinguished in Stephen's reign, and John's father, Andrew, was the leading citizen in 1137, when he was Justiciar of London, a position which gave him precedence even of the sheriff. In 1877 an institution was established for training nurses in connection with the hospital, and in 1885 a complete convalescent home was opened at Swanley, in Kent, to accommodate 70 patients. The clinical practice of the hospital now comprises a service of 744 beds; of these, 231 are allotted to medical patients, 335 to surgical cases, 25 to diseases of the eye, 32 to diseases of women, and 50 to general and isolation cases. There are no separate wards for the diseases of children. During the year 1903 the number of in-patients under treatment was 7,264, and of out-patients 137,305, while 1,538 midwifery cases were treated at their homes.

The hospital has several times renewed its youth by rebuilding its premises, and in each instance the renewal has been coincident with a time of great intellectual vigour. The twelfth century was remarkable for the Crusades, the building of the great cathedrals, the coming of the friars, and the growth of feudalism, it was the prelude to the Renaissance. This hospital was built and grew most strongly during the middle of this period. The second foundation was the direct outcome of the Reformation, that peculiar movement which in a few years separated at once and for ever mediæval from modern England. The third rebuilding of the hospital came on the wave of philanthropy, which raised infirmaries in every county town throughout the kingdom, a tide whose origin and far-reaching effects have never yet been adequately discussed. The necessity for rebuilding has again arisen, and must be faced by the present generation, a generation familiar with the advent of steam, of iron, and of electricity. As on all the former occasions, it must be gradual, but it will be none the less thorough. Money will come in but slowly, and as it comes so the work of rebuilding must be carried out. New out-patient rooms, accommodation for the special departments of medicine and surgery and pathological laboratories will be built first, for the King, patron of the hospital, has already laid the foundation-stone of this block on land obtained at a great price from Christ's Hospital.

The wards must then be reconstructed, for enormous improvements have taken place in the construction of hospitals, and public opinion demands, what the governors freely allow, that a determined effort be made to bring the buildings up to a modern standard.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The working men of Hull appear to hold their Royal Infirmary in warm esteem, to judge from the energy they have thrown into their efforts to give financial support. The Newington Ward Committee have just paid over the handsome sum of £302 0s. 10½d. to the Infirmary Fund, besides £2 2s. to the Withernsea Convalescent Home.

The Sanatoria Committee of the Hospital Saturday Fund has issued an appeal for £50,000. They state that by means of the subscribed funds it is proposed to erect a first sanatorium for the accommodation of 200 patients, men and women, which is intended to be self-maintaining. In allotting beds a strong preference will be given to patients in the earliest stages of the disease.

The Winsley Sanatorium for consumptives at Limpley Stoke, near Bath, is almost completed, and recently a small party was invited to inspect the institution, which is to serve Somerset, Gloucestershire, Bristol, and Wiltshire. It is a building equipped in the most up-to-date fashion, and its situation on an eminence commanding an extensive southerly view is regarded as one of the best in this country. The grounds, which include a beautiful wood, comprise about fifty acres. The total cost is about £26,000, and £6,000 has yet to be raised. The sanatorium consists of two large blocks and provides for sixty patients, in addition to the rooms for the staff. There are at present sixteen patients, and Dr. Lionel Weatherly, the chairman of the board of management, explained that in about a month's time the whole sixty beds would be occupied. The expense has been shared by county councils and municipalities in the three counties, who have given grants, in addition to the private gifts, which have been considerable. In explaining the scheme, Dr. Weatherly said that for situation, construction, and almost every detail they had an institution worthy of the name of an ideal sanatorium. The formal opening is to be in the spring.

An electrical pavilion, which is one of the most perfect in the provinces, has been built at the Cardiff Infirmary at the cost of £2,000, the amount having been mainly contributed by an anonymous lady. By a generous, ready, and liberal response to a special furnishing appeal, the building has started on its useful career this week.

In brief, the work to be undertaken in this most important department of the infirmary is as follows:— Examination and treatment of patients by means of the electric appliances; photographing fractures, dislocations, and diseases of bones; localisation of foreign bodies; examination of chest (including detection of phthisis in early stages), heart, and kidney. Also the treatment of lupus and certain forms of cancer (rodent ulcer), and various skin and other diseases. Of lupus many cases can be cured, in rodent ulcer it is practically a certain cure, and in almost all cases of cancer it affords a very considerable relief from pain. The electric magnet will be used for removing particles of

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