

OUR INSTITUTIONS:  
A RECORD OF THEIR OBJECTS AND WORK.

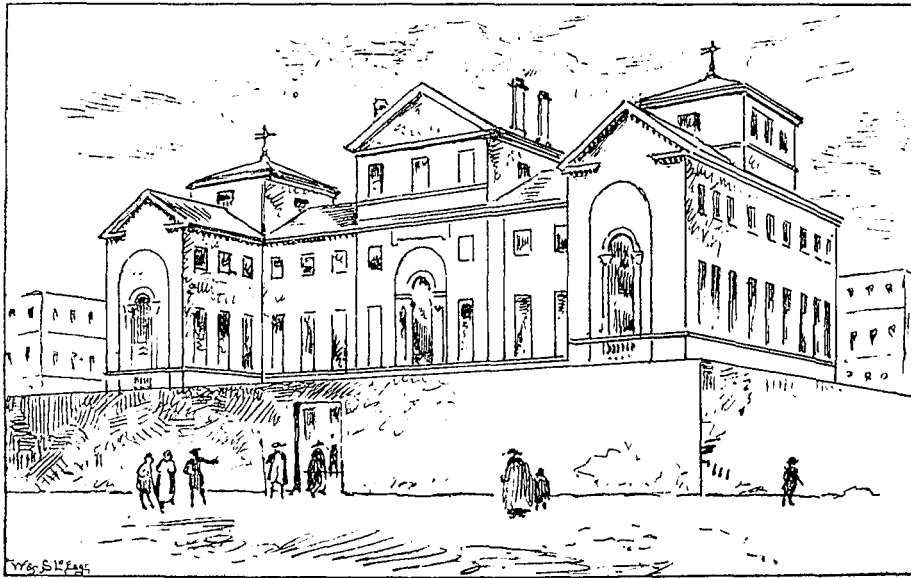
THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

THE Middlesex Hospital was instituted in the month of August, 1745, for sick and lame patients; and in 1747 a Ward was opened for the reception of lying-in married women.

The Hospital consisted, at first, of a building in Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road, but

interest of £4,000 three per cent. consolidated bank annuities for ever, by way of endowment, in aid of the Cancer Establishment. The death of Samuel Whitbread, Esq. (1796), made known the secret that he was the munificent benefactor whose name had been so far concealed. Since his death the Cancer Fund has been augmented by other donations and bequests, and especially by a legacy bequeathed by Mrs. Alithea Maria Stafford; and in the year 1854, by a bequest in the will of Sir Joseph De Courcy Laffan, Bart.

This charity is distinct in itself, and it is



this being found incommodious and inadequate, some of the most active promoters of the charity proposed to build a new and commodious Hospital in the neighbourhood. A convenient site presented itself in the "Mary-le-Bone Fields," as they were then called, and a lease of the same having been obtained from Charles Berners, Esq., for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, at a ground rent of £15 per annum, the building was commenced after the design of J. Paine, Esq., Architect. The Right Honourable Hugh, then Earl, afterwards Duke, of Northumberland, to whose unwearied exertions and personal influence the accomplishment of this great object is principally to be ascribed, laid the first stone of the present structure, with the customary solemnities, on the 15th May, 1755. To the noble house of Percy the Middlesex Hospital has ever since been largely indebted for the most liberal patronage and munificent donations.

In the year 1792 a humane and charitable benefactor, whose name, at his earnest desire, was concealed, fitted up a Ward for the admission of patients afflicted with cancer, and settled the

believed unique throughout the world. Here the victims of this almost hopeless malady find a permanent refuge, where everything that human skill and kindness can effect is provided for the cure of their disease, or at least for the alleviation of their sufferings.

In 1793 the western wing was occupied by a number of clergy and lay emigrants, driven from France by the terrors of the Revolution.

During the early part of this century the success of the Hospital was largely due to the exertions of Lord Robert Seymour, who presided over the Staff, the Weekly Board, and Quarterly Courts, visited the Wards and patients, and organised a concert, which produced nearly £2,500. He also obtained the patronage of King George IV., and by his powerful influence prevailed upon a great number of the nobility and clergy to support the charity.

In the year 1812 a *Samaritan Fund* was proposed by Richard Cartwright, Esq., one of the Surgeons, which has since been established upon an enlarged and permanent basis. Its objects are to afford temporary assistance to poor convalescent patients, whose residence in the Hospital

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