

*Pincher.* The bequest has been apportioned by the Lord Mayor as follows:—To Greenwich Hospital, £2,000; Seamen's Hospital Society (late *Dreadnought*), £3,000; Guy's Hospital (to endow two beds for seamen), £2,000; Poplar Hospital for Accidents, £1,000; the Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institute, £500; Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum, £200; Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Society, £105; Ramsgate Seamen's Infirmary, £105; and the Passmore Edwards District Cottage Hospital at Tilbury, £105.

At the annual meeting of the North-West London Hospital it was stated that the effort made to cope with the financial crisis had been successful. The treasurer of the hospital, Mr. Herring, in a special appeal, undertook to subscribe a sum equal to one-third of any amount which might be raised. The result of the appeal was that £2,806 was subscribed, and augmented by £1,000 by Mr. Herring. This sum, together with the gift of £1,000 from the Baroness de Hirsch, enabled the committee to discharge their outstanding liabilities, and continue the work.

The Alexandra Hospital has this year made a new departure, and its first festival dinner was recently held at the Hotel Metropole, under the presidency of the Duke of Fife. The aim of the dinner was to provide funds for rebuilding the institution; £14,000 is required for this purpose, and only £4,000 has already been subscribed. Donations to the amount of £2,890 were announced at the close of the evening.

At a meeting of the citizens of Lincoln, under the presidency of the Mayor, to consider the best means of commemorating the Queen's record reign, it was proposed and carried, "That an endowment fund be raised for the purpose of placing on a permanent basis the District Nursing of the Poor in the City of Lincoln." The work of district nursing in Lincoln has for many years been superintended by Miss Henrietta Bromhead, and this is so appreciated that it is felt that "to strengthen and extend this system, in a manner and form which will commend itself to the sympathy and help of all, whatever their class and whatever their creed," is a tribute worthy of the occasion which it is sought to mark.

The East Lancashire Infirmary, Blackburn, ranks high amongst the country infirmaries, both as regards the general management, and also on account of the high state of efficiency to which the nursing department, under the able supervision of Miss Poole, its energetic and popular matron, has attained. During last year, a laundry, which is one of the finest in the country, was added, and a new mortuary built, and it is satisfactory to notice that some of the ways in which it is proposed to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in Blackburn, are to provide a new operating theatre and new children's ward for the infirmary, of which the inhabitants of Blackburn are justly proud. The present operating theatre is in a most unfortunate position, and the patients have to be carried through one of the largest wards on their way to it. We feel sure that the necessary funds will speedily be raised for such a worthy object.

At the Annual meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary, in connection with the Pendlebury Children's Hospital, the Lady Mayoress (Miss Roberts), who presided, said that she was a great believer in the power of good women to do good work, and there was plenty for them to do in a great city like Manchester. She did not care what the institution was; if it had a ladies' committee, and if the ladies' hearts were sufficiently got at, the work would be successfully done from that time forward. Miss Roberts also spoke of the excellent management of the Children's Hospital, and said that all present knew how efficient the nurses were, and that they did their work for love rather than pay.

It is stated that there is a debt of £10,000 upon the Bristol Infirmary, and unless more subscriptions are forthcoming either two of the wards must be closed, or invested capital must be sold out. It is to be hoped that the present year will not close without a substantial addition being made to the funds of this excellent institution, both in the way of special donations and also of annual subscriptions.

It is a new idea to connect apoplexy with doves. And yet this is found by the founder of the Bird Hospital in Paris, to be the most common cause of death of this particular bird, of whom the poets have sung so much, and so romantically. This Parisian Bird Hospital is well worth a visit, and to most Nurses would prove of the utmost interest. Abdominal surgery is practised there, in those cases where a tincture has proved tempting to a pampered canary, but difficult of digestion. Lung cases—acute pneumonia and bronchitis—too, are of frequent occurrence. M. Lepinay, the great authority on birds and bird diseases, has pledged himself to reduce the large mortality existing in sick fowl, and, with the resources offered by this Hospital, no doubt he soon will.

## Resignation.

WE are informed that Mrs. Coster, the matron of St. George's Hospital, has resigned this important position. Mrs. Coster began her nursing career in 1858 as superintendent nurse at the St. Pancras Infirmary, which post she held until 1862. During this time she did good work in re-modelling the most unsatisfactory nursing arrangements. In 1872 Mrs. Coster was appointed matron of St. George's Hospital. During her *régime* the standard of nursing has been much raised, and this Hospital was one of the first to establish a three years' curriculum for its probationers. Mrs. Coster is a member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and a member of its Executive Committee and Registration Board.

We hope that she may enjoy for many years the period of rest to which no doubt she is looking forward, after so much arduous and responsible work.

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