

After a devotional service the Princess proceeded to the marble block which is to form the foundation-stone, and on which is the following inscription:—"To the glory of God and in memory of His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Battenberg, K.G. This stone was laid by Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg, Governor of the Isle of Wight, July 31st, 1897." The stone having been laid, Mr. Burgoyne made a statement as to the finances. He explained that the block would comprise three houses, one of which was given by the executors of the late Edward Armitage, R.A., another by Mr. John P. Muller, and the third by subscription. In order that the block might be opened free of debt he had pleasure in contributing 2,000 guineas.

The Duchess of Teck laid the foundation-stone of a new Isolation Hospital at Isleworth last week. The hospital, which is intended to serve the needs of the Borough of Richmond and of the Urban District of Hounslow and Isleworth, is the outcome of many years' effort on the part of Richmond to obtain such accommodation. The hospital allows room for 46 beds. Her Royal Highness said it gave her the greatest pleasure that her first public act after her illness should be the laying of the foundation-stone of a building which she hoped would prove a most valuable institution.

An offer has been made to the Vestries of Battersea, Lambeth and Camberwell of £10,000, to found a new general Hospital to which no medical school shall be attached. The feeling is deepening in the minds of the poor that with the growth of science much of the treatment which they undergo in our hospitals is experimental, and that they are valued as "cases" first and "patients" second. One well-known special Hospital, of late years, has aroused much suspicion in the minds of the poorer patients who frequent it. "Brain surgery" is not "understanded of the people," and every care should be taken to explain to the poor sufferers who undergo such operations the probable results of lengthened convalescence, and that, in the majority of cases, relief, and not absolute cure, is to be expected.

It is proposed to recognise the services rendered by Mr. G. C. Holder towards the new General Hospital, Birmingham, by endowing a bed by subscription in his name.

We observe that the Nottingham Hospital Saturday Victoria Fund Committee have declined Mr. Hooley's offer to submit to arbitration the dispute with references to his promised gift. The committee leave it to Mr. Hooley to adopt whatever course he thinks fit, and say that if he does not fulfil his promise they will return to those donors who desire it whatever they had subscribed, on the understanding that Mr. Hooley would supplement the amount thus given by like sums.

We are glad to hear that this gentleman, the foundation of whose immense fortune was laid in Nottingham, will appreciate the privilege of helping his less fortunate townpeople, and intends to forward his cheque for £10,000 whether it was promised or not.

The Medical, Surgical, and Hygienic Exhibition.

THIS most instructive exhibition was held at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, and those responsible for its success include the names of the leading druggists and instrument makers. Although the space was somewhat limited, the arrangement of the stalls was well organised, and most of the exhibits artistically set out.

The firms exhibiting drugs—those of Messrs. Hockin, Wilson & Co., Messrs. Kirby & Co., Messrs. Parke, Davis, & Co.,—were extremely interesting; the feature of Messrs. Cooper & Co. being the pretty cachets—soluble wafer capsules for the administration of drugs—with a dainty little apparatus for filling the same. Messrs. Potter and Sacker showed Schieffelin's pills, presenting the appearance of dainty candies rather than drugs, and the silk sutures and catgut ligatures, put up in the form of balls, as suggested by Dr. Charles Cathcart, shown by Messrs. G. F. MacFarlane, were a decided novelty.

All the new inventions in instruments and surgical appliances were to be seen—21 firms contributing to this section—and of course much was to be learnt at the stall of Messrs. Maw, Son and Thompson, of Aldersgate Street, where aseptic instruments, syringes, clinical thermometers, and every appliance designed for the comfort of the sick was on view. A new curved safety pin, "The Pincesi" by name, should meet with much appreciation, as the use of straight pins is often inconvenient in securing dressings.

Dr. Maw's improved Barnes and Simpson's Forceps were on view, and the "Stethoscope," a new instrument for auscultation.

At the stall of Messrs. Bailey and Son, of 38, Oxford Street, many specially-designed enemas, douches, and other appliances were on view, and we noticed the new crêpe bandage—which is elastic and yet not composed of india-rubber—for which we predict a wide sale. These bandages are light and porous, and eminently suited for use by those suffering from varicose veins, and to prevent swelling of feet and ankles in those whose duties compel them to stand for many consecutive hours.

At Messrs. Hockin Wilson & Co.'s stall, 13, New Inn Yard, we noticed a new plated chloroform mask-clip.

Messrs. K. Stacey 4, Newgate Street, were showing many things interesting to nurses, amongst them a clinical thermometer holder, which consisted of a metal tube inserted in a small pincushion; the nurses' "Pulse" watch with a centre second-hand; and wallets of every description were to be seen, amongst them the Patent Aluminium Wallets.

Down Brothers, of St. Thomas' Street, showed several new instruments, amongst them a dainty perforated tray for sterilising needles; an all-metal (German silver) hypodermic syringe; a beautiful little steriliser for eye instruments, designed by Mr. Adams Frost; a new-shaped spatula for direct examination of the larynx; the most recent designs of Anastomosis bobbins and buttons; a new and very portable model of a bed cradle designed by Nurse Steer of Guy's; a dissector and probe for isolating nerves and veins in fine dissections; a simplified evacuator by Mr. Milton, of Cairo, and a trocar with wings to open a cyst, by Mr. Stanmore Bishop.

(To be continued.)

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