

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

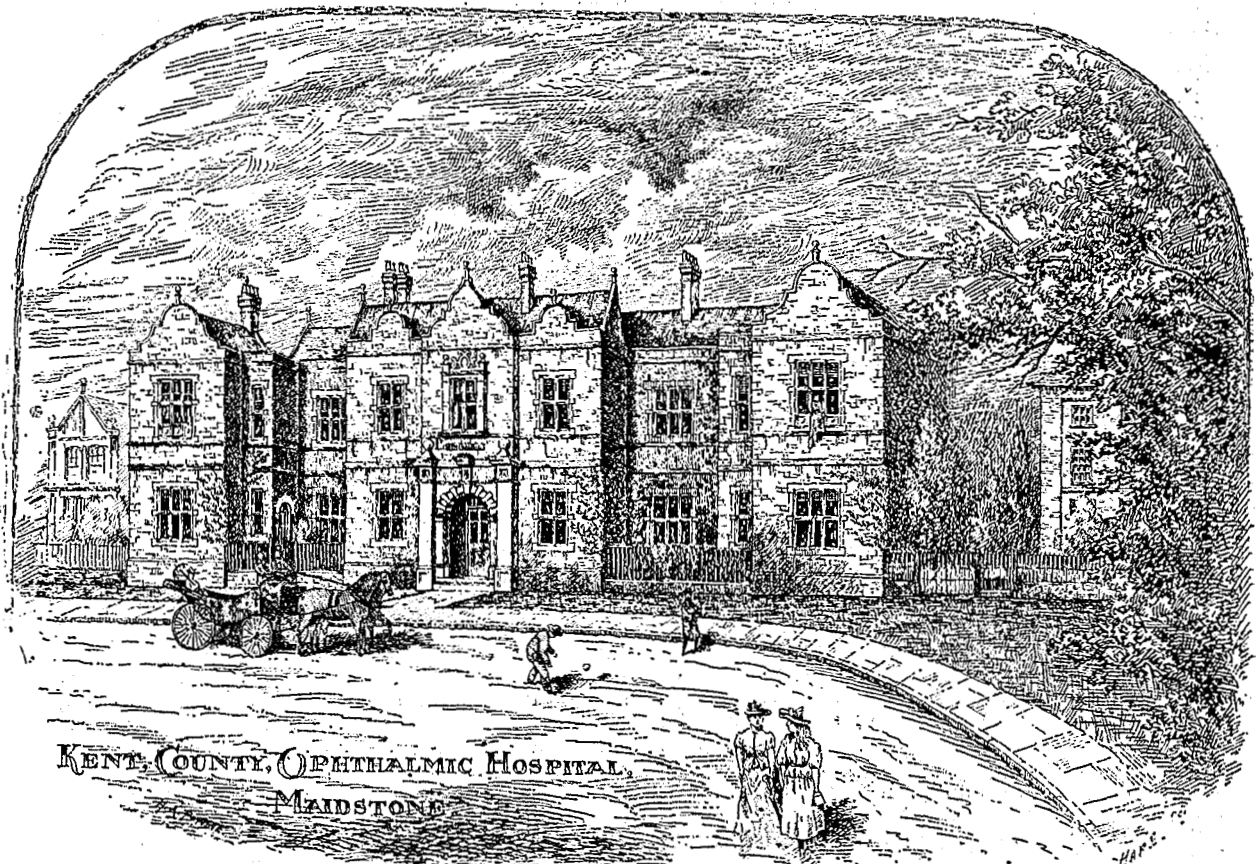


During a late visit to Maidstone, we had the pleasure of visiting the two beautiful hospitals of which the town is justly proud; and from a sketch presented, we think our readers will agree with us that the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital possesses a charming exterior. We wish all hospital architects would take a peep inside—as there appears to us no reason why our hospitals should not be beautiful as well as useful. Once inside the spacious square hall of the Ophthalmic Hospital, one is guided,

only a few beds in each, so that privacy and quiet are possible for those patients who are in pain, and the day-rooms are spacious and comfortably furnished. The nurses looked very bright and neat, and the air of refinement which pervaded the whole institution was eminently refreshing. We came away full of secret satisfaction that Miss Gertrude Brown had received her training at “dear old Bart’s.”

The Worshipful Company of Mercers have made a grant of £52 10s. to the funds of the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital.

We observe that the “Hospital Pope” was in a minority in his opposition to the proposal that a committee should be appointed to formulate a scheme for dealing with the methods and administration of the out-



KENT COUNTY OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL
MAIDSTONE

across its speckless floor by the most deferential of porters, and up a low-stepped wide staircase, with highly polished treads, made noiseless with a covering of soft crimson-edged carpets; the decorations of the walls are in soft rosy tints, with the woodwork, including handsome banisters, painted white; the same rails framing a gallery round the first floor, which is lighted from above. In a most daintily decorated room one is welcomed by the dainty matron, Miss Gertrude Brown, and offered tea; then the same lady—with evident pride and affection (for she has been matron of this lovely hospital for the past ten years)—shows us over the wards and day-rooms. Here, again, everything is speckless, and in perfect order, the wards containing

patient and casualty departments of hospitals. A resolution to this effect, proposed by Mr. Timothy Holmes, and seconded by Dr. Glover, was, in spite of the opposition of Sir Henry C. Burdett, carried at the conference recently held at St. Martin’s Town Hall, by a large majority.

We are glad to notice that the credit of suggesting the issue of a hospital stamp, for the benefit of the London medical charities, is now being accorded to the original suggestor, namely, the *Daily Mail*. At one time there was reason to fear that the credit of having made the suggestion would be adopted in another quarter.

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