

The Hospital World.

THE ROYAL HANTS COUNTY HOSPITAL, WINCHESTER.

The famous city of Winchester, like many cathedral cities, lies in a hole, but to reach its County Hospital you must climb a hill, for it is built on a ridge from which the land slopes sharply on either side. Once reached, you have your reward; so have those who live there. No wonder the Matron and nursing staff are proud of their glorious view. From the window of the nurses' sitting-room a plain of typical English country stretches before you right across the fair county of Hampshire to the Isle of Wight in the dim distance, and set in the foreground is the Cathedral, rich in beauty of outline and in its associations of 800 years, the College from which

so many famous men have gone forth, and the beautiful church and hospital of St. Cross, constant memorials of the piety and generosity of past generations, a heritage which must be an inspiration to public spirited action, and nobility of life.

But the view cannot hold one for ever when there is so much to see and to learn from the Matron, Miss Carpenter Turner, for the Hospital, as well as doing good work in the present has an interesting record in the past. It was founded in 1736 by Dr. Alured Clarke, and it is recorded that it was the "first that had been

attempted in any part of this kingdom except London and Westminster." It was opened on St. Luke's Day (October 18th) of that year, which has ever since been observed as "Founder's Day," Dr. Clarke preaching the opening sermon in the Cathedral.

The first minute book records that on October 9th, 1736, "the first Matron Abigail Aston was engaged at a salary of £10 a year." The first Nurse Anne Hales received a salary of £7, and on December 22nd Anne Merritt, "a widow near sixty," was engaged on the same

terms. The committee of those days did not evidently approve of a lavish use of water, for on February 28th, 1737, it was "ordered that every person who required the use of the cold bath shall, before they use it, pay into the hands of the matron or apothecary the sum of



MISS E. M. CARPENTER TURNER.

Matron Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester.

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