

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

NOBLE'S HOSPITAL, ISLE OF MAN.

The new Noble's Hospital, Douglas, Isle of Man, was opened with all ceremony on Wednesday, September 11th, by His Excellency Lord Raglan, Lieutenant-Governor of the Island, and Lady Raglan.

The old hospital, which is still in use, was, as most people know, the generous gift of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bloom Noble. It was in the year 1849 that some benevolent ladies, through a sale of work, raised the sum of £300,

which formed the nucleus of a fund which resulted in the opening of a hospital in Fort Street in 1850, which did excellent work for 38 years. The committee by that time had for some years been faced with the inadequacy of the hospital to meet the demands upon it, and the lack of funds to provide a larger one. It was then that Mr. and Mrs. Noble stepped in, the latter providing the land, and the former the money for the building. It was supposed that the hospital would meet the needs of the town and neighbourhood for many years to come, but Mr. Noble proved not only his generosity, but his foresight, when, in making his will, he vested in trustees a large sum of money with discretionary powers, leaving a direction that they should apply part of it to improving the present hospital, or building a new one. When it became necessary, therefore, to consider the question of alterations and extensions, the committee came to the conclusion that the most satisfactory method of meeting the increased need would be by building an entirely new and modern hospital. This was made possible by the munificence of Mr. Noble's Trustees, who presented an ideal site of over three acres, over £20,000 to build and equip the hospital, and a further sum of £20,000 as an endowment. The work of con-



MISS BRIDSON. MATRON, NOBLE'S HOSPITAL.

struction having been carried out to the complete satisfaction of the architect, Mr. William Henman, F.R.I.B.A., by Mr. Mark Carine, building contractor, of Douglas, the town was *en fête* last week to formally inaugurate the good work by the opening of the hospital by Lord and Lady Raglan.

With a view to creating as much public interest as possible—for, in spite of its endowment, the new hospital will need double the amount produced annually by the investment of that sum for its support—a procession was formed at the Town Hall representative of all

sections of the community in the Island, including the Legislative Council, the Speaker and Members of the House of Keys, Justices of the Peace, Officials of the Insular Government Boards, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Town Councillors of Douglas, Clergy and Ministers of all denominations, representatives of Friendly Societies, Volunteers, Boy Scouts, Educational Authorities, Guardians of the Poor, High Bailiffs, the President and Council of the Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce, Freemasons in Masonic clothing, with Lord Raglan, Provincial Grand Master of the Isle of Man, the

Ladies' Committee of the Nursing Associations of the various Districts of the Island, Noble's Hospital Committee, and the Medical Staff, and many others too numerous to mention, who proceeded to the hospital, thousands of spectators lining the route, including no less than 4,500 school children, who were afterwards feasted at the Recreation Ground by the Noble Trustees.

THE OPENING CEREMONY.

The Clerk of the Rolls, Mr. Thomas Kneen, Chairman of the General Committee of the Hospital, presided at the opening ceremony, and the Bishop of Sodor and Man conducted the religious part of the ceremony. Miss

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