

specimens were kept for inspection, so arranged that there was ample ventilation from outside.

The Infirmary is doing excellent work, and it is regrettable that the Committee have again to report that the ordinary income has fallen short of the ordinary expenditure. We hope it is only necessary for attention to be drawn to this for more liberal support to be given to this great charity. The indefatigable Secretary, Mr. Benjamin Brooks, will gladly receive new subscriptions and donations, as well as the names and addresses of persons who would be likely to subscribe if approached.

#### TRINITY HOUSE.

The Trinity House is as beautiful a specimen of an old building as can well be imagined, fitted with stately and fine old furniture, and it is fortunate indeed in possessing a Matron who appreciates its charm and cherishes its rare possessions. The precious furniture is cared for, cleaned and polished, till everything looks the pink of perfection, and, in its unique setting, carries us back to past centuries, when the craftsman loved his art and took infinite pains to make each piece a masterpiece.

The Council Chamber in which the brethren of the Guild of Trinity House hold their meetings is still strewn, as of old, with rushes obtained from the banks of the Humber, and they do their business seated on Chippendale chairs which are the envy of collectors. In one perfect room, oval in shape, the Adam mantel-piece, and the beautiful mahogany doors, are curved in accordance with the design.

In addition to being a treasure house beloved of the antiquarian, the House has an interesting maritime museum, and one part of its work is the maintenance of a Navigation School, in which boys receive an excellent free nautical education. The Trinity House is, in short, an ancient and honourable foundation which, in the present as in the past, is doing most useful work.

(To be concluded.)

In *The British Medical Journal* Dr. Watson advances the lack of perspiration as the main cause of rheumatoid arthritis. In the opinion of Dr. W. G. Midelton this is merely a symptom, and the Aix treatment has in many instances proved positively harmful. He considers that the outstanding cause of this disease is now acknowledged to be microbic infection.

A Conference on "Women Prisoners from Arrest to Rehabilitation" will be held under the auspices of the Penal Reform League at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Thursday, October 30th, at 3.30 p.m.

## REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR

The interest of Her Majesty the Queen in the movement for a new Sick Children's Hospital for Aberdeen was graciously manifested last year, when she paid a visit to the institution, and by her practical sympathy gave the building scheme a substantial help forward.

Recently, in conversation with the Lord Provost, she expressed her continued interest in the project and much satisfaction that a site had been secured.

The Duchess of Albany will open the extension of the Florence Nightingale Hospital for Gentlewomen, Lisson Grove, on November 14th.

The Ladies' Association of the West London Hospital, following the example of several other large London Hospitals, decided last May to start a Ladies' Needlework Guild, to keep the hospital supplied with garments for patients' use in the wards. On Friday (17th inst.), Mrs. Waterlow King (of Chiswick), asked the Matron of the West London Hospital, the Hon. Mrs. Beddard and Mrs. Lauriston Shaw, to address a drawing-room meeting on the subject. After hearing the speakers it was decided by a crowded meeting to form a local and independent centre. The success of the new scheme is assured.

There is some cause for anxiety lest the new King's College Hospital at Denmark Hill will not be kept so prominently before the public as when it was in the centre of London. In connection with the Pest House Charity the General Purposes Committee of the Westminster City Council have decided to pay three-fifths of its annual income of £600 a year to Charing Cross Hospital, instead of to King's College Hospital, as heretofore, and the remaining two-fifths to other approved hospitals and dispensaries within the interested parishes.

The National Committee for the Prevention of Destitution, of which the Bishop of Birmingham is president, has decided to organise a national campaign against the new Poor-Law order about to be issued by Mr. John Burns. In a statement issued on behalf of the committee by Mrs. Sidney Webb it is declared:—

"This new order, ignoring the unanimous recommendations of the Royal Commission, would perpetuate, in all the rural unions, the general mixed workhouse; and, far from doing anything to reduce destitution, would continue an evil system that is condemned by every reformer. . . . This perpetuation of the general mixed workhouse is all the more grave now that we see that other Government measures are failing to save many of the destitute from the Poor Law.

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