open a large extension to the hospital in the new Nurses' Home. He spoke for the Board of Management, for all those who subscribed to the hospital, and that extension to the hospital; for the staff, Matron, nurses, and all, wished to join in thanking the Prince for his presence on that occasion. He could assure the Prince his presence would be of the greatest encouragement and help to all those interested in the work of the hospital. He held a golden key, which they all hoped he would graciously accept to open the door of the new building.

This bore the inscription: "Nottingham General

Hospital, Nurses' Home, 1st August, 1923."
His Royal Highness thereupon graciously accepted the key, and in acknowledgment said:

"Mr. President,-I thank you very much for inviting me to perform this ceremony. It has been the greatest pleasure for me to be able to pay a visit to your splendid hospital, and I have now pleasure in opening this door."

The Prince then proceeded to open the door, and as he did so the band struck up "God Bless the Prince of Wales." The party then entered the building, His Royal Highness being conducted through the splendid establishment.

The Prince expressed his pleasure with the charming arrangements throughout, and left the hospital grounds, having, as usual, won all hearts.

AN IDEAL HOME.

The new structure stands on the high land fronting the Park, and looks across the Castle grounds. It is a four-storey building, with a flat roof. The building is designed on Renaissance lines, the material used being Portland stone and Staffordshire brindled bricks. The main feature is undoubtedly the spacious terrace and imposing pillars in the centre of the front, which not only relieve what must otherwise have been a rather monotonous appearance, but add dignity and impressiveness.

Accommodation is provided for 130 nurses, each of whom will have the exclusive use of a bedroom, a privilege which very few of them enjoy at present, for they are now housed in several old and scattered buildings, entirely unsuited and inconvenient. On the first floor, facing the visitor, is a large sitting-room, 54 feet long and 27 feet wide, for nurses. On the same floor, at the west end, are sitting-rooms for the assistant matron, the sisters, staff sisters, and home sister, a room for visitors, a cloakroom, and a small kitchen and pantry.

On the ground floor are lecture and classrooms, clean and soiled linen and uniform rooms, and a The two upper floors are comshampoo-room. posed entirely of bedrooms, bathrooms, and lava-The bathroom accommodation is on the most liberal scale. There is a main central corridor 6 feet wide, with a ferro-concrete staircase in the centre and one at each end. The whole of the floors and partitions are fire-resisting, finished in parian lime, while all the floors are covered with "battleship" linoleum. Above the terrace is

a beautiful bronze trophy, measuring 12 feet by 6 feet, and composed of two regimental colours, a laurel wreath, and an anchor.

Exclusive of the furnishing, for which a bazaar held in November realised £7,000, the cost of the place will exceed £60,000. The money has already been raised, as the undertaking marks the first portion of the hospital extension scheme. The portion of the hospital extension scheme. accommodation for nurses is based on the size of the staff that will be necessary when the hospital enlargement is complete—a very wise provision.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

In the year 1878 another Edward, Prince of Wales (later King Edward the VII) paid a visit to Nottingham, and his procession passed slowly along the narrow street which divided the General from the Children's Hospital. All the "tiny wees" able to leave their cots, dressed in scarlet flannel jackets, were comfortably placed so that they could peep over the wall and welcome their future King.

One splendid little man, aged three (an amputation, alas!), piped out:

"Oh! Prince! Prince! Do look. I'se here, I'se here!"

And he did look, and, turning round, waved his hand and beamed upon us until we were out of sight.

Thus history repeats itself!

ANGLO-SAXON CHARACTERISTICS.

The Prime Minister spoke on Anglo-Saxon ideals and their value as a civilising influence in the world, at the annual dinner, at Oxford, of the Rhodes Scholarship Trust:

There are elements (he said) in the old stock, which persist, and whose very persistence qualifies the English-speaking people for that trust that the world reposes in them, and for that hope with which they are regarded. As I see it, there may perhaps be four chief qualities, persistent, consistent, among the English-speaking people. They have alike, from long inheritance, an innate sense of justice. Justice is one of the profoundest elements of our character—the desire for it, the eagerness in search of it, the giving of fair play to our own people and to other people.

Secondly, there is that real democratic feeling of valuing a man for what he is. There is, thirdly, that sense of political freedom, neither degenerating on the one side into licence, nor, on the other hand, retrograding into tyranny, and, as often has been said, the price of that liberty is eternal vigilance, without which we shall leave that razor edge of perfect liberty for one of those two pitfalls which, I have indicated, lie in wait for us on either side at all times. Lastly, besides political freedom, there is the love of spiritual freedom, and underlying everything in the English-speaking peoples there has always been, in a greater or less degree, and there is to-day that belief in God and in the responsibility not only of the individual, but of the nation, for his actions and their actions on earth.

previous page next page