

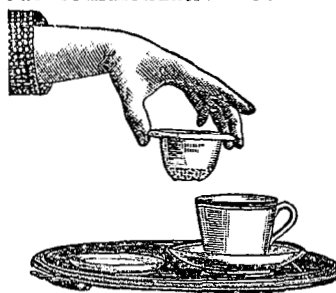
of this Hospital, but this will be much harder in the future, owing to these building expenses, and the additional working capital we shall require. I might mention that we hope to have the Ward in which we now are and the other Wards of this Hospital ready for use by the autumn of this year, but whether we shall be able to keep all the Wards of the Hospital quite full depends upon the liberality of the public. This new building has been fitted up with all the modern requirements, and we consider at a reasonable cost. There will be a debt on it, but hitherto we have always had the balance where it should be. I hope we shall be able to continue this. We shall probably be in debt to the amount of about £10,000, which will cost about £400 a year. I trust very sincerely that we shall be enabled to wipe this off. This Hospital was opened in 1852 with twenty beds, and it contains now altogether one hundred and seventy-nine, which I think is an eloquent testimony to the estimation in which the Hospital is held.

The DUKE OF FIFE: I beg to thank both the mover and seconder of the Resolution for their kind expressions. I can assure you it is a great pleasure to me to take part in this meeting, and I will do everything in my power to further the support this Hospital deservedly should receive. Unfortunately these Institutions are often on the begging list, for the number of the helpless class deserving sympathy are always with us. It should be always with us. It should be better known; and I, for one, will do as much as possible to bring it before the public. This oppressive heat has been referred to, but I feel it is my business to be present, but, at the same time, it is a pleasure to me. However, being a hot day, I think we should have some regard for your feelings, and therefore we shall not detain you any longer. (Cheers.)

The meeting was then concluded.

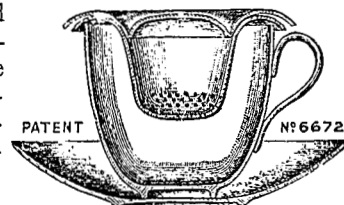
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