

modification of the plans consisted in setting back the wall of Lambeth Palace grounds at the hospital's expense. Had this not been done Number Eight Block would have been a good deal shorter than the others.

On May 13th, 1868, H.M. Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone of the new hospital. She came with a cavalry escort accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other royalties and the great officers of State, and on June 21st, 1871, Her Majesty opened the hospital, and in her reply to the address of the treasurer the Queen referred to Florence Nightingale and her School for Nurses, and after this the treasurer was knighted. Then the procession visited the two central wards on the first floor, which Her Majesty named Victoria and Albert respectively.

Returning to the central hall the Archbishop of Canterbury offered a prayer, after which a hymn was sung by the choir of the Chapel Royal to a chorale composed by the late Prince Consort, accompanied by the band of the Grenadier Guards.

"The nursing at the new hospital must," we learn, "have been immensely improved because all the available Nightingale probationers were at once taken on to the staff. Fourteen of them were made nurses, and six sisters, and since the school was now able to hold forty, the wards were soon staffed by properly trained women of a class better in every way than the Sairey Gamps whom they replaced."

In April, 1887, Mrs. Wardroper resigned the post of matron, which she had held for 33 years. When she was appointed in 1854 the nursing was in a very unsatisfactory state, but she reorganised it so successfully that Florence Nightingale selected St. Thomas's as the home for her training school for nurses.

Mrs. Wardroper retired on a pension of £350 a year, and when she died in 1892 the beautiful tablet of "The Good Samaritan" was placed in the chapel to her memory.

In June, 1887, Miss Angelique Lucille Pringle, who had been trained in the Nightingale School in the old Surrey Gardens days and had since been matron at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, was appointed.

In December, 1889, a vacancy in the post of matron was reported owing to the resignation of Miss Pringle, and in February, 1890, Miss Louisa Mackay Gordon, who had been matron at the Leeds General Infirmary, was appointed. A framed copy of the governors' minute of regret at losing her services was presented to Miss Pringle.

It is noted that in 1872 "the students asked for a room where they might smoke and read the papers. Accordingly a room in the basement of the medical school was fitted up for them; it was low and dark but their own; . . . before 1872 the dissecting room had always been the common lounge where pots of half and half were fetched in by the porter and where, in the Surrey Gardens days, Mr. Rainey used to eat his chop on one of the dissecting room tables."

We must close with an anecdote of Mr. Alexander Oberlin Mackellar, appointed assistant surgeon in 1876.

He liked to be on the friendliest terms with his patients and to learn all that he could about their pursuits. Hawkers and tramps especially interested him, though he seemed to have friends in all stations. One day while he was seeing his outpatients, he was told that a lady was waiting to see him in the central hall, and, after making cautious enquiries, his face cleared up as he said, "Oh! it's only the duchess; she can wait."

This volume should be added to the two former ones which we hope many nurses' libraries have already secured.  
M. B.

#### RED CROSS NATIONAL COMPETITIONS.

Owing to the regrettable indisposition of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley presented the Stanley Shields at the finals of the Red Cross Competitions on Wednesday, 6th May.

## THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The King has been pleased to signify his intention to give an annual subscription of £1,000 to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.

King Edward's Hospital Fund for London has just issued an Out-patients Time-table. The Time-table is published twice annually with the object of assisting doctors in their consultative use of Out-patient Departments, and of assisting patients to shorten the time they are called upon to wait at the hospital.

The Out-patient Arrangements Committee, of which Dr. H. Morley Fletcher is Chairman, was appointed to study the Out-patient problem, and we have been asked by the Committee to call the attention of our readers to the Time-table, thus assisting both patients and hospitals to improve Out-patient service. Copies of the Time-table may be obtained free on request from Messrs. Geo. Barber and Son, Ltd., Furnival Street, London, E.C.4.

The decision of the Council of Charing Cross Hospital not to proceed with the scheme of rebuilding the hospital on the Adelphi site, because the King Edward's Hospital Fund could not approve the proposal owing to the cost of the site, was announced by Mr. Philip Inman, chairman of the hospital, at the recent annual general Court of Governors. He stated that a well-known philanthropist had offered to subscribe £25,000 towards the scheme if the King Edward's Hospital Fund could be persuaded to change their minds.

With regard to the work of the hospital, he said, 1935 was noteworthy for a great achievement. The income amounted to £75,000, a record in the history of the hospital and an increase of not less than £5,000 over the previous year. In addition, a sum of £6,000 was received towards the nurses' home at Hampstead. The expenses amounted to £68,900, an increase of £1,370 over 1934. This increase, however, was almost entirely due to the cost of painting the façade, which they had to undertake every other year. After allowing for this additional financial outlay, the gratifying fact remained that their income for the year exceeded their expenditure by £6,100.

Westminster Hospital has discovered that an old banded-iron strong box in which its Great Seal is kept is a relic of the Spanish Armada. The box has been in possession of Westminster Hospital since early in the eighteenth century. It was probably given when the hospital was founded in 1719 by Mr. Henry Hoare, the banker. The earliest known record of it is contained in the minutes of the hospital for 1732-33.

A "Royal Treasures Exhibition" to be held in aid of Westminster Hospital early in Coronation Year is being organized by the Ladies' Association, of which the Dowager Viscountess Harcourt is chairman.

The King has consented to become Patron of the Hertford British Hospital, Paris. This beautiful hospital needs all the encouragement and financial support it can obtain.

A record figure of £13,270 was raised during 1935 by the contributory scheme for King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, of which the King is patron and Lord Kemsley chairman. The number of contributors increased during the year by 2,000 to over 40,000.

Sir Joseph Skevington, chairman of the scheme, in thanking the collectors said in no other country were there so many people willing to do so much self-sacrificing work.

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