

**Hull Royal Infirmary : an account of the opening of the new north west wing and out-patients' department, together with a description of the further proposed alterations and enlargements of the building.**

**Contributors**

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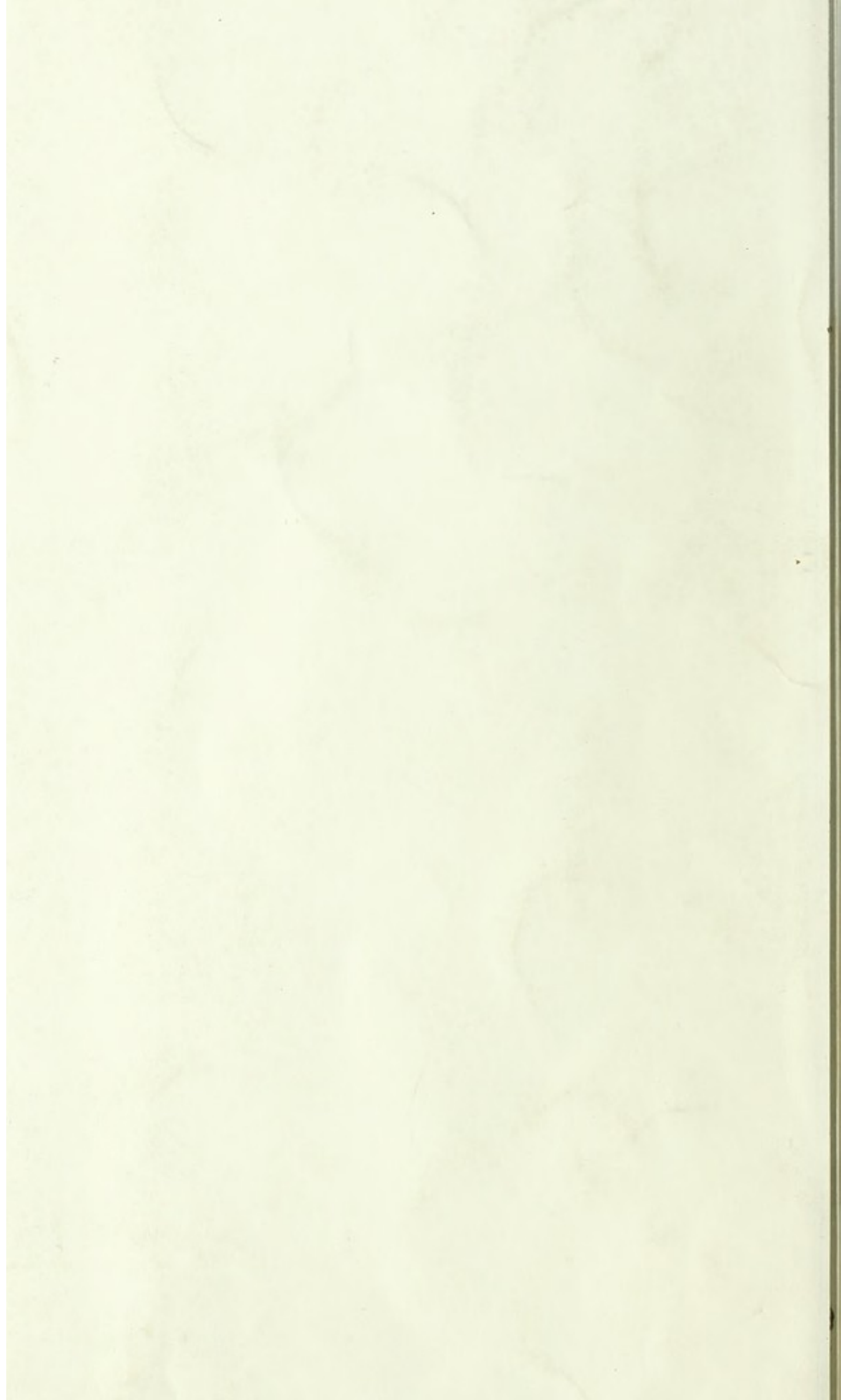
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HULL ROYAL INFIRMARY.

AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

OPENING OF THE NEW NORTH WEST WING

AND

OUT-PATIENTS' DEPARTMENT.

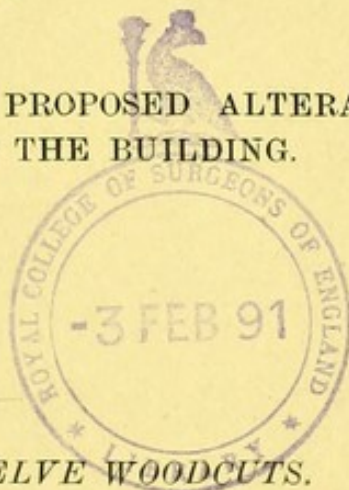
TOGETHER WITH A

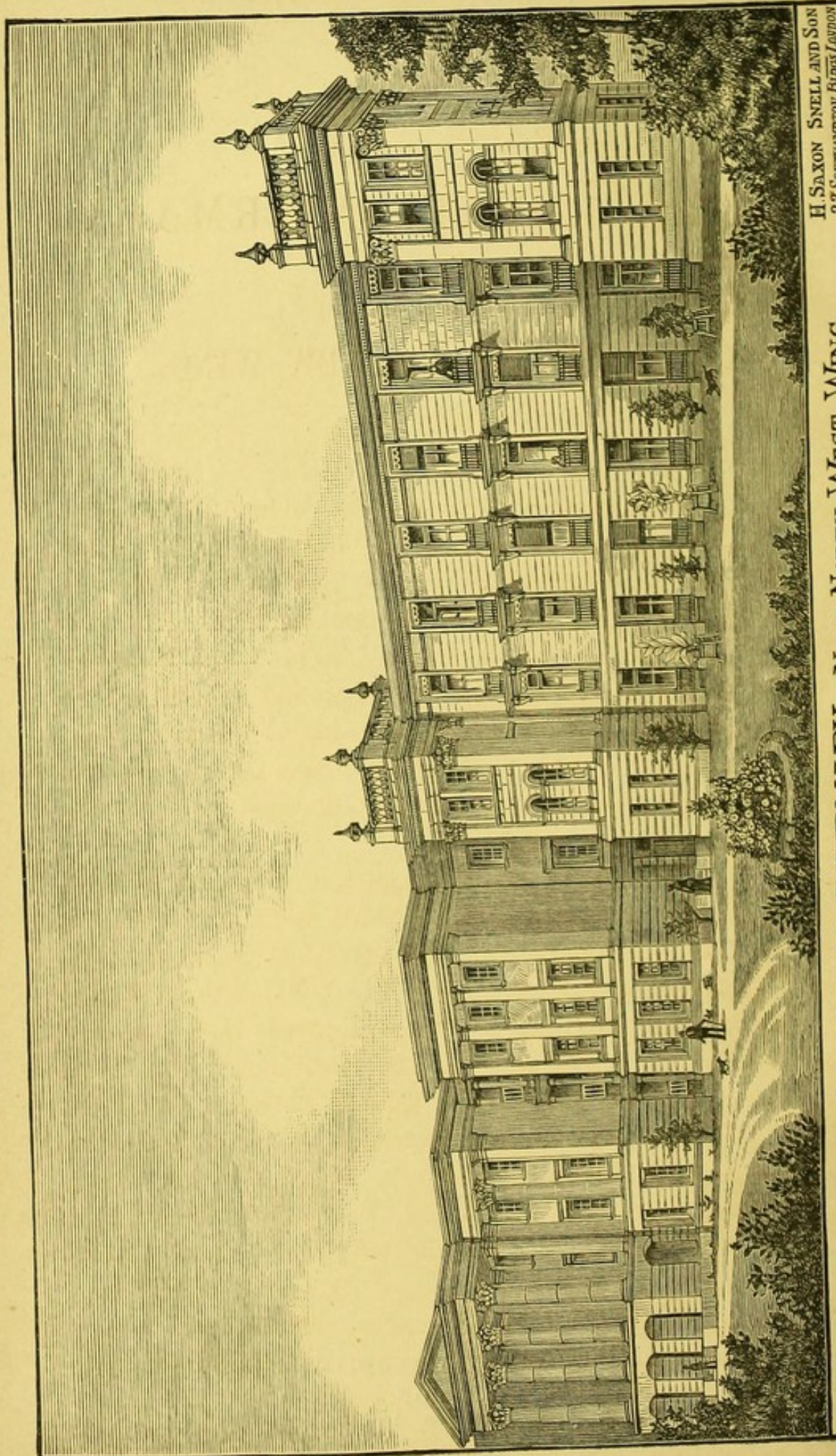
DESCRIPTION OF THE FURTHER PROPOSED ALTERATIONS  
AND ENLARGEMENTS OF THE BUILDING.

ILLUSTRATED WITH TWELVE WOODCUTS.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

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H. SAXON SNELL AND SON  
22 SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS LONDON

HULL ROYAL INFIRMARY NEW NORTH-WEST WING

# HULL ROYAL INFIRMARY.

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## OPENING OF THE NEW WING.

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THE new north-west wing of this building having been completed, it was opened by the Right Honorable Lord Herries (Lord-Lieutenant of the East Riding), and the Mayor (Dr. Rollit), on the 6th November, 1885.

The invited guests were received in the Board Room by the Chairman, Mr. Henry Simpson, and the Board of Management, and afterwards proceeded to the new wing, accompanied by the Architect, Mr. Saxon Snell, and the Builder, Mr. Jackson, where prayers were offered by the Reverend George J. J. Cox.

Mr. H. Simpson presided, and was supported by Lord Herries (Lord-Lieutenant of the East Riding), the Mayor, (Dr. Rollit), the Sheriff (Dr. King), Mr. C. M. Norwood, M.P., Colonel Smith, M.P., Colonel Goddard, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Revs. Canon McCormick, Canon Rowsell, H. W. Kemp, and G. J. J. Cox (chaplain of the Institution); Drs. Daly, Elliott, F. Nicholson, Lunn, Craven, Sherburn, R. H. B. Nicholson, and Thompson; Messrs. W. R. King, Alderman Fountain, D. Burton, J. E. Wade, W. T. Dibb, E. Dixon, T. Stratten, J. D. Holmes, T. B. Holmes, W. Sissons, R. H. Dawe, Town Clerk, Consul-General Good, Colonel Pudsey, J. T. O'Brien, H. Wilson, J. H. Hill, J. M. Hamilton, G. Jackson (contractor), Councillors Jarman and Briggs, &c., &c. Letters of apology for non-attendance were



satisfactory result of this first gathering was an offer on the part of Mr. James Reckitt, of Swanland Manor, to contribute £1,000 towards the sum it was sought to raise, and to give an annual subscription of fifty guineas. This liberality, no doubt, greatly influenced the ultimate character of the subscription list.

A circular was then issued, followed by a personal canvas, with a result which is now a matter of history; but one feature in the effort is deserving of special record.

Out of all the promises made there has not been a single failure in payment, and of the aggregate, amounting to over £24,000, the committee have received every instalment that is due.

The consideration of the proposed alterations and the best method of carrying these out was then submitted by the Board of Management to a building committee, composed of the honorary medical staff and the more practical members of the Board. This committee, with a thorough knowledge of the needs and condition of the house, and bearing in mind that not only comfort but health and life itself depended on the work being properly done, saw the necessity of obtaining a competent adviser.

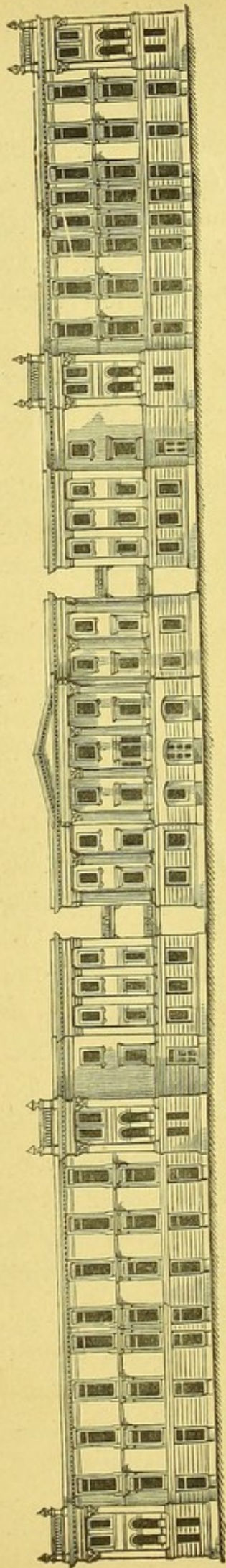
The result of careful enquiries led to their seeking an interview with Mr. Saxon Snell, of London, a gentleman of position and authority in sanitary science, who had made the construction of Hospital and Parochial Institutions his specialty.

The report of Mr. Snell, which was able and exhaustive, appeared with full illustrations in the *Lancet*, from which it was copied in detail by some professional journals in Paris and Madrid.

Without going into detail, it may perhaps be useful to describe generally what was the nature of Mr. Snell's report.

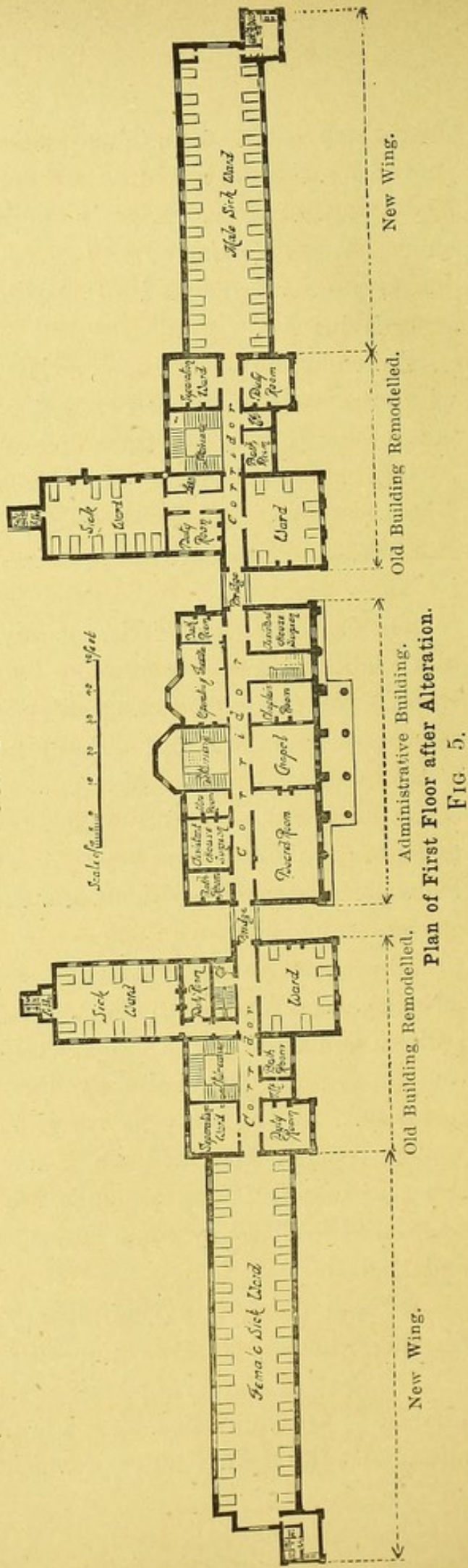
The general plan of the buildings and site, as they then existed, is shown at Fig. 1. Fig 2 shows the proposed alterations, the main feature of which is the cutting of two





Front Elevation as Altered.

FIG. 4



Plan of First Floor after Alteration.

gaps through the main building, and thus separating the central administrative and officers' department from the wards containing the sick patients. This alteration was imperatively called for, in consequence of the sickness that had existed for some years past among the officers whose living and bedrooms adjoined the wards occupied by the patients.

An enlarged plan, Fig. 3, shows the main building as it existed before the alterations were commenced, and Figs. 4 and 5 indicate the alterations proposed to be made.\*

The plan, elevation and section of the proposed new North-west Wing are shown on Figs. 6, 7, and 8, and Fig. 9 is an enlarged plan of the ward offices.

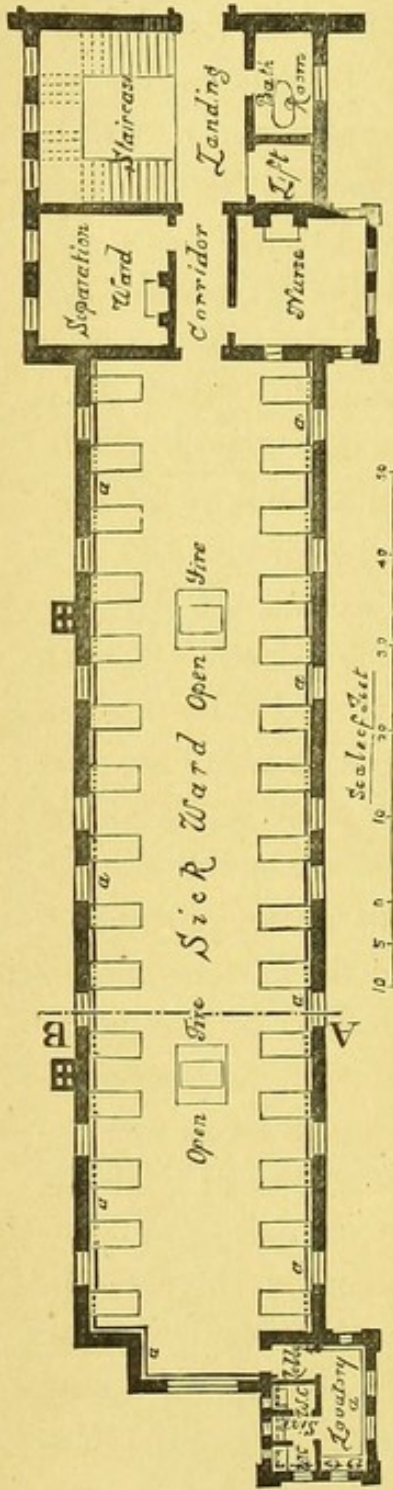
These plans were carefully considered by the Building Committee, and ultimately it was recommended that Mr. Snell should be appointed as architect to carry out the work, a proposal which was unanimously confirmed by the Board of Management, and approved by the Centenary Committee.

The first stones of the new North-west Wing, and the out-patients' department were laid by their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on the 1st October in the last year; and it is not intended now to describe the whole of the proposed alterations, but to give in brief detail an account of what has been completed, and to refer shortly to the work still in hand.

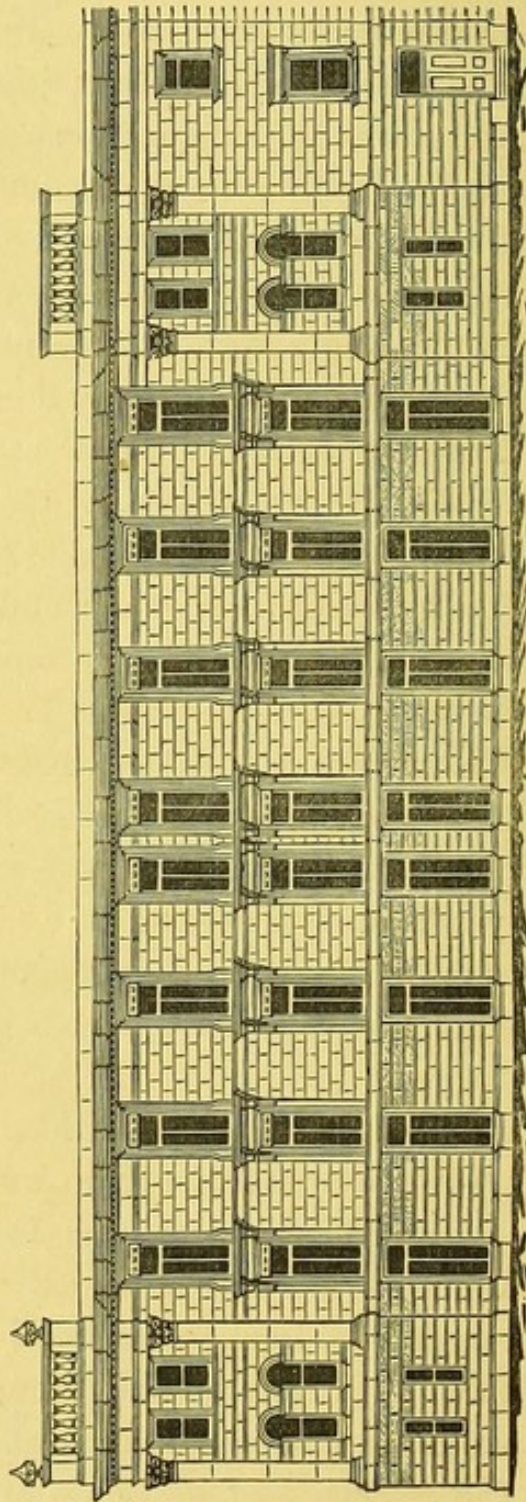
The work completed and about to be opened consists of a new North-west Wing, a plan of which is shewn at Page 10, and an interior view at page 16; an external view forms the frontispiece of this pamphlet. It consists of three wards, each 85 ft. 6 in. long, exclusive of the end bay window, 26 ft. wide and 13 ft. 6 in. high. These are lighted by eight windows, ranged along each side wall, with one large window at the end. Each ward will be warmed by patent double open

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\* In consequence of the widening of Brook Street, the ward of the New N.W. Wing will, as described further on, contain only 24 instead of 26 patients.



Plan of First Floor, S.E. Wing.  
FIG. 6.



Elevation.  
FIG. 7.

fire hot water stoves, also by hot water pipes, and the ventilation will be effected by purely natural means.

The windows are depended upon for a supply of fresh air, though these will be supplemented by inlets between each pair of windows on a level with the floor line. Removal of the foul air will be provided for by the means of shafts constructed in the ceilings, and running up the side walls. The lighting of the wards will be effected by gas burners under inverted basins, connected with pipes so arranged as to assist in the extraction of the vitiated air.

The flooring is formed of ordinary timber joists covered with teak flooring boards, waxed and polished. The W.C.'s and lavatories are situated in the tower at the extreme ends of the building, and will be cut off from the wards by lobbies, and well lighted, cross-ventilated passage ways.

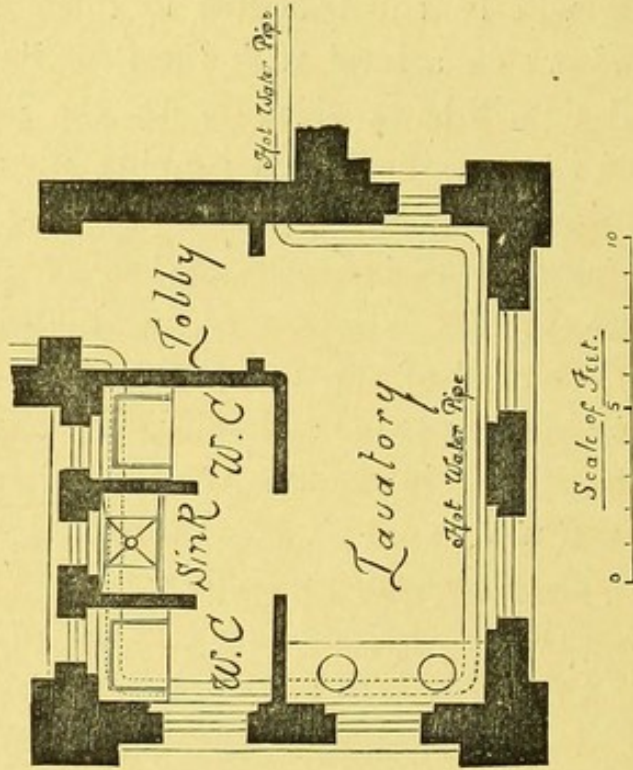
The bath rooms are roomy, and have each a fixed earthenware bath, while a movable bath on wheels is provided, and this can be raised to the upper floors when needed by the lift.

The principal staircase of this wing occupies an area of 405 ft., and has steps 5 ft. long with a tread of 12 in. and a rise of 6 in. Leading out of the entrance-hall on the ground floor is a lift 7 ft. 6 in. long and 6 ft. wide, for the purpose of conveying patients, coal, &c., to and from the various wards.

The accommodation provided on each floor of this wing will be one ward for 24 beds, one ward for 10 beds, and one ward for eight beds, besides a separation ward for two beds, while on the ground floor there will be a small ward available for accidents.

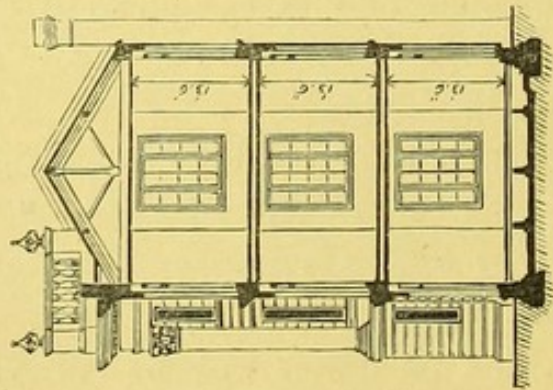
As soon as the new wing has been occupied, the patients will be removed from the central portion of the main building, and the interior will be remodelled to accommodate all the administrative offices.

The kitchen and its offices will be removed from the South-east Wing and will be placed upon the upper floor of this central building, which will generally be appropriated to the accommodation of the domestics and kitchen stores



Plan of Waterclosets.

FIG. 9.



Section on line A B.

FIG. 8.

Another storey will also be added to the rear portion of the building, and be devoted to this department of the establishment.

It is intended that the cooking shall be done by gas, so as to avoid the labour and expense of raising coal. A lift will be provided for raising the kitchen stores, and lowering the food when cooked to the various floors of the sick wards.

Very little alteration will be made upon the lower floors of the central building, except the readaptation of the various rooms in such manner as is considered best for the future organization of the establishment.

When the central building has thus been completely remodelled, a second gap will be cut out so as to separate it from the South-east Wing, in a manner similar to that on the opposite side, and then this wing will be remodelled for the better housing of the patients, the present kitchen being refitted as a sick ward.

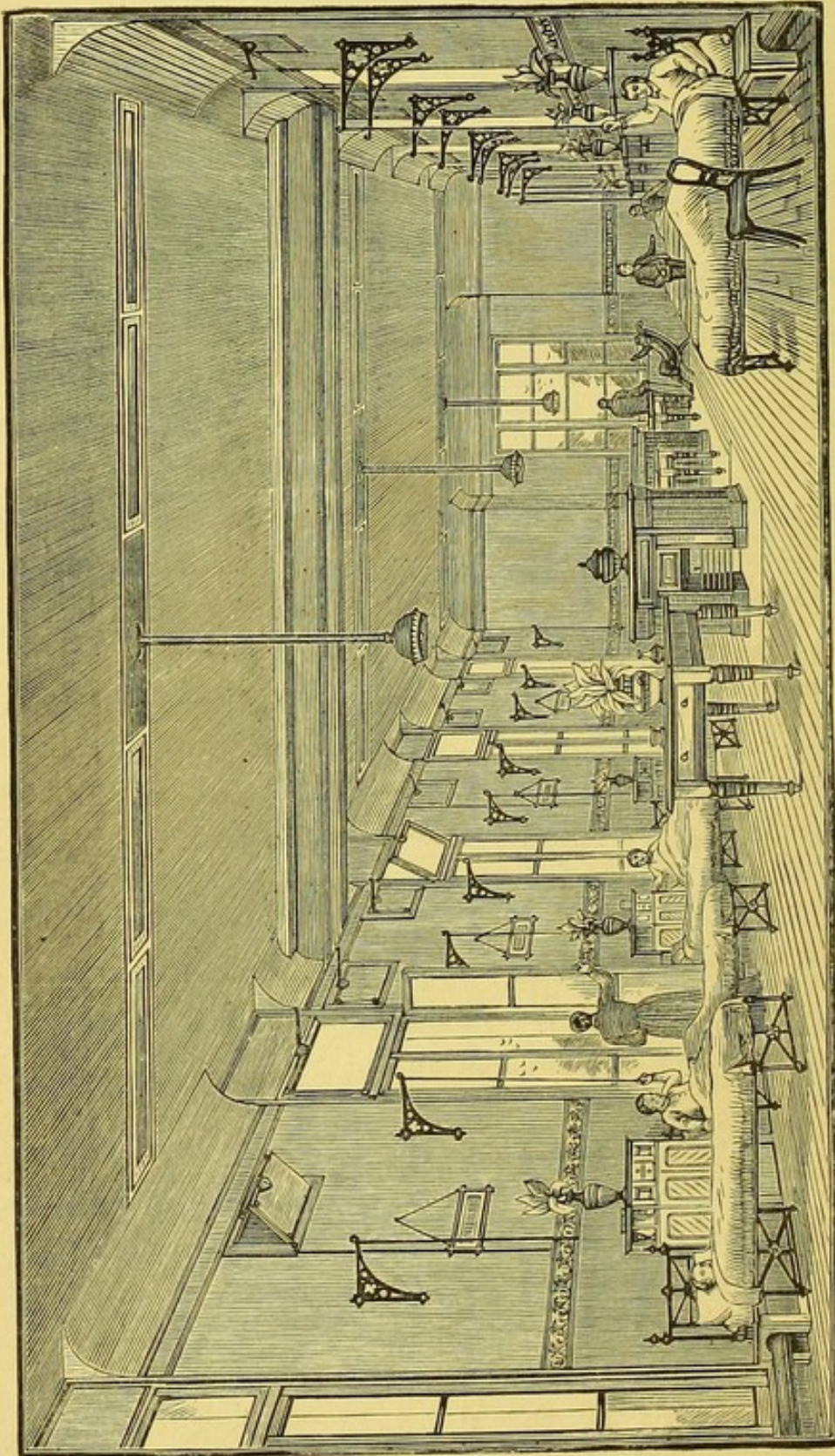
The defective sanitary arrangements of this portion of the building will be attended to, and a new stack of W.C.'s built at the end similar to that on the opposite side, and this will be carried up as a tower for holding the tank required for receiving water after it has been softened.

The process of softening the water will be carried out by means of the Porter-Clark apparatus and it is anticipated that the adoption of the process will effect a considerable saving in soap and soda, and in the repairs of boilers and pipes.

The new out-patients' department, shewn at Fig. 10, has been erected with funds benevolently provided by the late William Bailey, Esq., supplemented by the more recent gifts of his family.

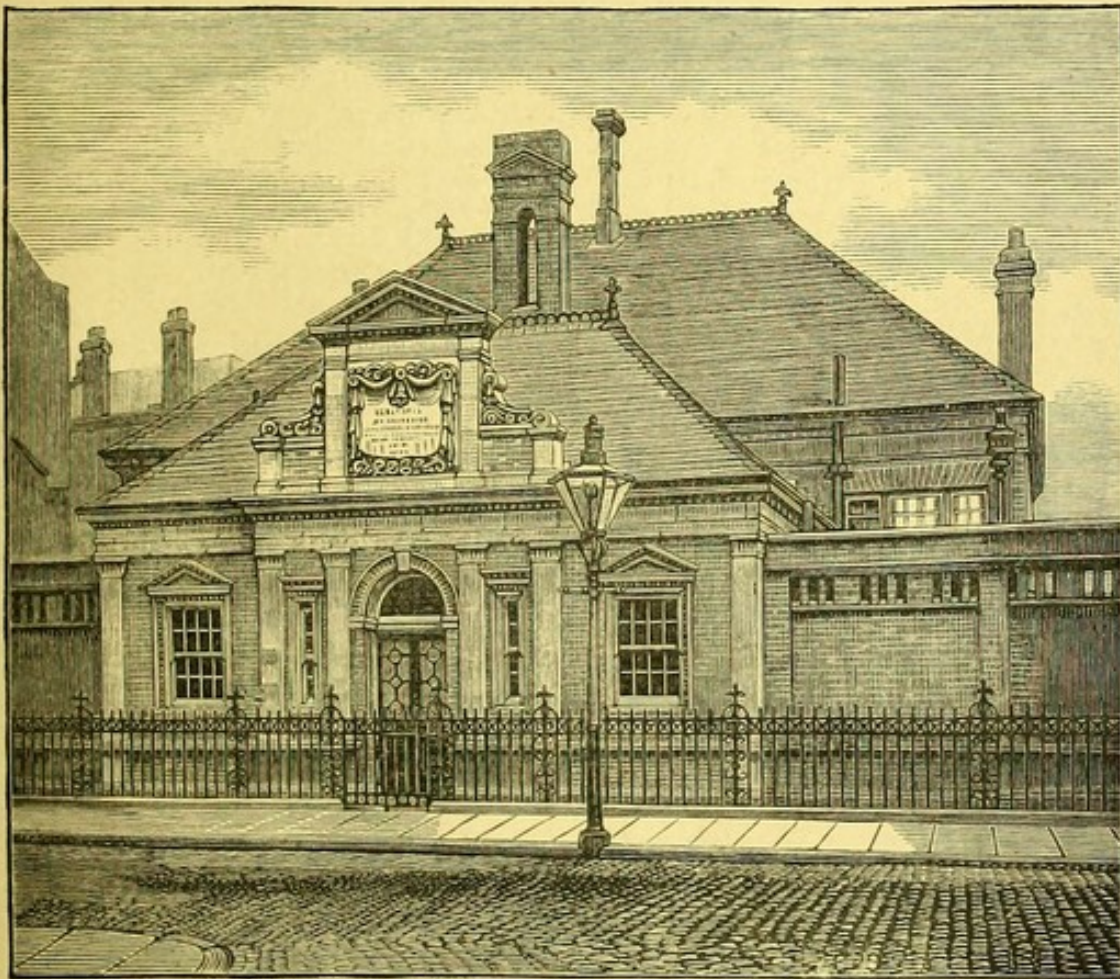
It is detached, and situated at the extreme south corner of the Hospital ground, and upon that portion of the property lately purchased by the Board of Management for the enlargement of the Institution.

The main entrance of this building is in Brook Street,



INTERIOR VIEW OF NEW WARD.

and its front elevation forms a handsome, though inexpensive, red brick and stone façade, setting back somewhat from the general line of houses next the street and enclosed by a chastely-designed wrought iron railing, manufactured by our townsmen, Messrs. King & Co. On either side of the entrance lobby there are two rooms fitted up for the use of the medical officers, who may be required to attend to accidents and cases of a casual nature at other than the prescribed times for seeing the generality of out-patients.



The large waiting-hall for ordinary out-patients is entered directly from the entrance vestibule, and is a lofty and well-proportioned apartment, 51 feet long, 28 feet wide, and an average height of 26 feet; it is divided by barriers into three compartments, the two divisions on either side are for the accommodation of patients waiting to see the medical officers, whose consulting rooms are entered through a lobby at



the extreme end of each division. These consulting rooms are 16 feet long, 14 feet wide, and in the rear of each there is a smaller room the lighting of which is so arranged as to make them available for the examination of ophthalmic or other special cases.

After being seen by the medical officers the patients will leave the consulting room by a door admitting them to the central compartment of the waiting hall, where they will wait their turn to receive the medicine prescribed.

The Dispensary communicates with this central compartment by means of two hatchways, through which the patients are served, and it may be well to say that the general planning and fitting up of this dispensary, and the drug store adjoining it is, in all respects, perfect, and would well repay a visit from those interested in the arrangement of hospitals generally.

Messrs. Jackson & Son are the contractors for the entire building works. The locks, railings, fire-places and chimney pieces have been supplied by Messrs. King & Co., and the baths, glazed bricks and apparatus for working the ventilators and windows were manufactured in Leeds, and, indeed, with the exception of the heating apparatus and hydraulic lifts, nearly all the materials, labor, fittings and furniture have been or will be of local or Yorkshire manufacture.

Hitherto want of space has made it very difficult to provide the accommodation and comfort that is due to those engaged in the exacting duties of nursing. Some improvement will be made in this direction, which it is believed will increase the number seeking to adopt this important vocation, a result manifestly to the advantage both of the Hospital and the community at large.

It is further satisfactory to note that, although some other and self evident additions are needed to complete the work as a public improvement, the building when finished will approach the best recognized type of hospital construction, and that, owing to the present most convenient site being

retained, this will be accomplished *at one-half the cost that would have been incurred by the erection of an entirely new building.*

With regard to the Centenary Fund, it may be interesting to have some particulars, and I have, therefore, prepared an analytical statement of the number of donors with the various sums contributed, and, to show how widely the movement has ranged, I would state the largest individual gift was £2,500 and the smallest under one shilling.

There were 411 donors in all, and of these 106 contributed £1 and under, 48 from £2 2s. to £2; 11 from £3 3s. to £3; 76 from £5 5s. to £5; 49 from £10 10s. to £10; 43 from £21 to £20; 33 from £52 10s. to £50; 23 from £105 to £100; 4, £200; 4, £300; 7, £500; 1, £700; 4, £1,000; 3, £2,500.

The Board of Management have done all in their power to acknowledge the several donors according to their gifts, and as a first step all those who gave £21 and upwards were at once made Life Governors.

Reverting to the more substantial donations, I would state that, while it is intended at an early period to recognise definitely all who have helped us either with substance or service, we propose to-day to commemorate the generosity of our largest benefactors.

What has been done by the Wilson and the Bailey families, both as regards the amount of their contributions and the kindly manner in which their gifts were presented, needs no comment. It is proposed as an expression of our gratitude that the new Wing which we are about to open shall be called "THE WILSON WING," and that the other most important addition to our institution shall be named "THE BAILEY OUT-PATIENTS' DEPARTMENT."

Mr. SIMPSON then called upon

Lord HERRIES, who said he could assure them that since he had had the honour of being Lord-Lieutenant of the East Riding he had on no previous occasion had greater pleasure

in fulfilling the duties incumbent upon him than in performing the task with which he had been entrusted that day—viz., that of declaring that splendid addition to the Hull Infirmary open for the reception of patients. He considered it was a happy thought of the Board of Management, at the time when the celebration of the Centenary took place, that an opportunity be taken of bringing before the town the necessity of adding to the Hull Infirmary, an institution which had served its time well, but which had evidently become inadequate to the increasing wants of the town. The proposal, once made, was taken up in a manner worthy of the community, and he thought it was almost unique in the history of a building of that kind that so large a sum had been obtained with so little difficulty in so short a time. He believed that on the occasion of the Centenary it was mentioned by Mr. Simpson, the Chairman, that at least £20,000 was required to make the building worthy of the town. More than that sum had been raised within the short period that had since elapsed, and he thought that the fact stated by the Chairman, that all who had promised their subscriptions had paid up, was most creditable to the subscribers, especially in bad times like the present. It was also gratifying that the Board of Management had been able to present that building to the town free of debt. At the same time, he would ask them to remember that the annual subscriptions should be increased, in order that that splendid institution should be properly maintained. He would also ask them to remember when they were making their wills to give such institutions a place in them. In opening that splendid addition to the Hull Infirmary, he must not forget that it was to be called the “Wilson Wing,” and he thought deservedly so, as he believed that the three brothers had subscribed no less a sum than £6,000. Therefore he wished, without further preface, to declare the Wilson Wing of the Hull Infirmary open; and at the same time he took the opportunity of expressing his wish that it might prove a lasting benefit to the town of Hull, and that the

blessing of Divine Providence might rest upon it and upon all those who had contributed towards it.

The CHAIRMAN said it might be opportune, as having some bearing on his lordship's remarks upon the subject of legacies, to say that he had only last night received an announcement of a legacy of £10,000 to the institution.

Mr. ARTHUR WILSON then returned thanks on behalf of his brother (Mr. C. H. Wilson, M.P.), whose unavoidable absence he much regretted. It gave him the greatest pleasure to see the usefulness of that institution so greatly increased by the important addition that had been made to it. He was sure his brother and he himself would always continue to take the greatest interest in the welfare of that institution. He must say that he thought that thanks were far more due to Mr. Simpson and those gentlemen who had devoted their time to looking after the welfare and interest of the institution.

The MAYOR (Dr. Rollit), in declaring the out-patients' department opened, congratulated them, as the official representative of the town, on that magnificent addition which had been made to its utility, and, on behalf of the whole town, he thanked those who had enabled that to be possible. He thought that he expressed the strong feeling of that great community when he said that the obligation would be most lasting. He also alluded to the efforts which had been made by the Working-men's Committee and to the increased subscriptions of the working-classes on last Hospital Sunday. That honourable, independent spirit which had been shown by the working-classes of Hull was the best return that could be made for the sacrifices and the liberality which had been made on behalf of the town in connection with that institution. His Worship then alluded in terms of praise to Mr. Bailey, Messrs. Wilson, as well as many others connected with the work, for the liberality and sympathy they had exhibited, and concluded by thanking the Chairman and Committee for having carried out so admirably all the

details. He then declared the out department formally open for the use of the patients.

Mr. NORWOOD, M.P., moved a vote of thanks to Lord Herries and the Mayor for their presence and valuable services that day. They had heard so much and so well from the Chairman and the various speakers, both as to the position of the institution and its objects, that it was unnecessary for him to take up much of their time. The unanimity shown in the movement and the extent of the magnificent gifts were causes for congratulation. It was satisfactory that the good old sentiment which pervaded the great commercial towns in the middle ages, when merchants, having made their money, handed down to posterity the blessings of it by supporting noble institutions, still lived in the town of Hull, and that two great firms, the Messrs. Wilson and Messrs. Bailey, had generously supported the institution in the manner named. As to the Lord-Lieutenant, they all felt a deep debt of gratitude to Lord Herries for his constant and kind attention to the borough of Hull. It was not every Lord-Lieutenant who considered it his duty to attend and take part in gatherings of that kind, and they would all join in tendering their heartfelt thanks to his lordship for his assistance to movements for the welfare of the people.

The SHERIFF (Dr. King) seconded the motion, remarking that in the closing days of his Shrievalty he was glad of the opportunity of taking part in the proceedings of that day. He then proceeded to remark upon the improved sanitation of the new building as compared with the old one. He trusted the stigma as to the unsanitary character of the old building, as it formerly existed, had been removed, and that in the new building they had a model and an example for others to copy. There was a great necessity for improved sanitation in private dwellings and public institutions, and he hoped the valuable lead taken in respect of the Infirmary would be followed.

LORD HERRIES briefly acknowledged the vote of thanks, stating the pleasure he had felt at being present.

The MAYOR (Dr. Rollit) also replied, and regretted that his brother-in-law, Mr. Bailey, had been unable to attend.

Colonel SMITH, M.P., moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Board of Management. He testified in warm terms to the energy and ability which had characterised the actions of the Chairman, without whose efforts those additions could not have been carried to a successful conclusion. The large subscriptions which had been provided must have been wisely expended, otherwise they would not have had those additions to the institution completed with so much speed. Speed was of the greatest importance in the management and consideration of public works, and he was sure that the Chairman and the Board of Management had recognised in expending the money that the sooner they could place those buildings at the disposal of the town so much the more would the subscribers and the town at large be satisfied. He then alluded to the importance of enlargements being made to an institution of that kind in a town like Hull, where, with a rapid increase of population, there must unfortunately be an increase in the amount of that form of suffering which that Infirmary was established to relieve. He offered the warmest thanks to the Chairman and Board of Management for the care and tenderness with which their men, injured in their service, were watched and nursed by the Infirmary officials.

The EX-SHERIFF (Mr. W. T. Dibb) said he had great pleasure in seconding the proposal, which must commend itself to every inhabitant of Hull and the immediate neighbourhood. He trusted the Chairman and Board of Management of the Institution would live to see the full and perfect completion of the noble work to which they had given so much labour. He was sure they would most heartily and most willingly pass the vote of thanks which had been so ably proposed by Colonel Smith.

The motion was passed amidst applause.

Mr. SIMPSON acknowledged the vote, and referred to the long and self-denying exertions of the Board of Management. He stated that on joining the Board fifteen years ago he found as veterans in the service gentlemen who were still taking their share in the work. He might further mention that, although the Board most readily rewarded outside services, he was not aware of one instance where a Life Governorship had been conferred on any elected member of the Board of Management. All they desired or deserved was an acknowledgment that the obligations they had undertaken had been faithfully carried out, and such an acknowledgment was contained in the resolution, for which he begged to thank them.

The Company present then proceeded to view the new buildings.

Photographic views of the Board of Management and the leading gentlemen present were taken during the afternoon by Mr. Watson, Photographer, Anlaby-road.

