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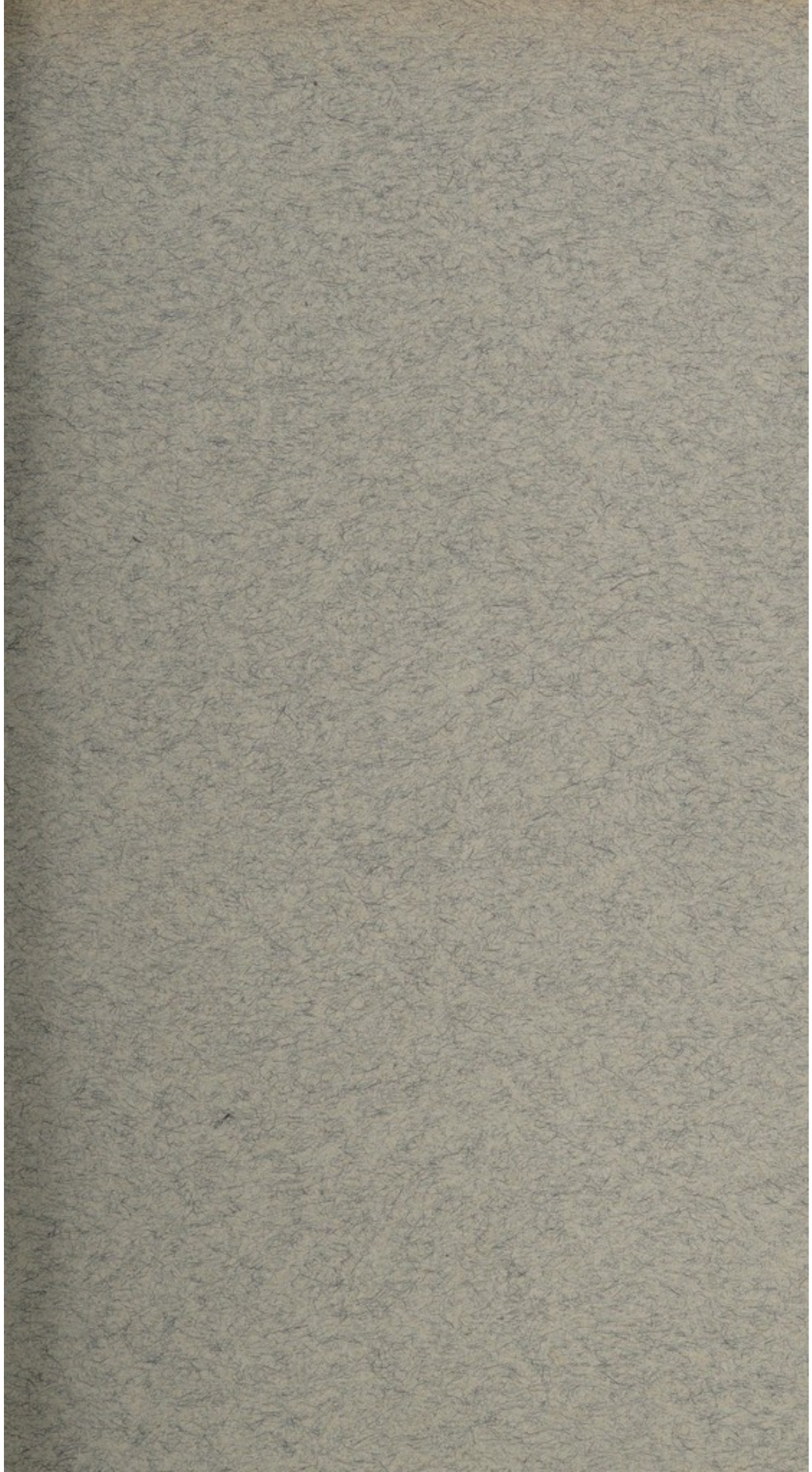
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I

THE REBUILDING OF THE HOSPITAL IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

BY

SIR D'ARCY POWER, K.B.E.

Part I

THE story of the rebuilding of the hospital between the years 1730 and 1769 has never been set out in detail, though Sir Norman Moore told it in part by the condensed extracts from the Hospital Journals which he printed in the second volume of his great history (vol. ii, pp. 359-75).

The present scheme of reconstruction, which promises to be no less drastic than the previous one, has led to a fresh examination of the hospital records. I am indebted to Mr. H. Wingfield Cross, the Estates Clerk, for a copy of many of the minutes which are here printed and, with the permission of the Treasurer and Almoners, Mr. Hayes has allowed me to examine the bills which are preserved in the strong room.

The Stuart Hospital.—We know nothing of the hospital as it existed before the Reformation, and we can only guess what it was like until the year 1617, when a plan was made. This plan is still in existence, and has been copied more than once. It shows that the hospital occupied its present site, though the ground was put to very different uses. The church stood where it still stands, just inside the Smithfield gate, but the space between it and the Clerk's Office was then a grass-plot, marking the former graveyard for members of the hospital staff. Bounding this grass plot and running parallel with the church was a cloister, leading to some detached hospital buildings on the site of the present Abernethy Ward. Opposite the

church and stretching across the ground now occupied by the Steward's Office was another cloister with pillars supporting a great hall. This hall in later times was provided with tables, benches and a raised reading-desk. It was probably used as a receiving and dining room, and may have replaced the original hall in which sick patients lay and were treated. This older hall was warmed by a fire in the centre which was at one time fed by the bounty of King Henry II, who ordered an oak-tree to be given for the purpose from the forest at Windsor, but it is especially stated that the oak was not to be one of his best. There were more detached hospital buildings beyond the hall.

The rest of the ground, except for a small "well yard," where the fountain now stands, was covered with houses—many with a small strip of garden. The houses were placed irregularly for the most part, but a minute street of shops had grown up, leading to the Little Britain Gate, and so over the sites until lately occupied by the Matron's and the Steward's lodgings, into Little Britain itself.

For a time, too, there was a lane leading from the south gate of the hospital, where is now the Dunn Laboratory, to the Bluecoat School, which was entered by an arched gateway. The Lane was bounded at first by the burial-ground for patients dying in the hospital, then by a garden on either side, and finally by two more burial-grounds, that on the right belonging to Christchurch, Newgate Street, and that on the left to the Bluecoat School. It was not therefore a very cheery path on a misty night in winter.

There were at least ten wards in 1571, of which one was used to accommodate the sisters. The number seems to have remained unchanged until after the plague and fire of London, when the depopulation of the City was so great as to allow of the closure of some of the wards and the conversion of others into shops. The wards were probably buildings of one story, except in the case of the cloister wards which, as has been said, were raised upon pillars.

Enlarging the Old Hospital.—There is an order in 1680 that new wards shall be built over the shops and from this time onwards there is evidence of increasing pressure upon the beds. New wards were extemporised and various makeshifts were adopted to postpone the inevitable rebuilding until, in March 1712, there is a minute in the

Journals of the Hospital that "the building of new wards is to be considered," and a committee was appointed to report on the matter. The report was made in the following year, illustrated by a plan for three new wards, the building to be of four stories in height with a tiled roof: "The President's and Treasurer's names in golden letters on black marble and the date are to be fixed in front." The estimated cost was £1,800, and the building was to be of brick.

Excavations for the foundation were begun on June 6, 1713, when £50 was paid "for the digging out and removing earth for the new building," and afterwards "Labourers 43 days carrying out of Rubedg to ye Carte at 1/10 per day equals £3 18s. 10d. for 8 baskets." The drains cost £15 18s. 8½d. The brickwork was estimated for at the rate of £1 12s. 6d. per rod, Robert King being the bricklayer and William Chapin the carpenter. The building operations were continued till November 1714, by which time the three new wards probably came into use. They were called Peter, William and John, and in 1722 there is a bill for 9s. for cleaning sixteen sash windows in the block.

Seven years later it was again reported that there were more applicants for admission to the hospital than could be accommodated, and it was decided to build three more wards, again at a cost of £1,800. Some of the Governors, however, took a wider outlook, and at a

"GENERAL COURT HELD ON 25TH JULY, 1723,

"It being the opinion of the Governours present that some Part of this house be immediately rebuilt and that the whole in Process of time will fall under the same necessity it is therefore thought proper in regard to posterity and the conveniency of this Hospital that a general plan be prepared for the whole and that a Committee be appointed for that purpose and that they prepare and lay the same before the next General Court. And a Committee was accordingly appointed of the following Governours of which any 5 to be a quorum, viz. :—Mr. Alderman Brocas, President, Robert Witham, Esq., Treasurer, William Andrew, Esq., Mr. Depy. Robert Alsop. Almoners, The Honorable Henry Bertie, Esq., James Gibbs, Esq., Arthur Trevor, Esq., Doctor Mead, Mr. John Townsend, Doctor Freind, James

Joye, Esq., Richard Mead, Esq., Mr. Henry Hoare, Sr. Thomas Hardy, Kt., Mr. John Staplehorne, Mr. Richard Cambridge, Nicholas Hawkesmoor, Esq., Major William Knight, Arthr. Vansittart, Esq.”

Four members of this committee are worthy of special mention. Dr. Mead and Dr. Freind, the medical members, are well-known names in the history of medicine. “The princely Mead” (1673–1754) was the second owner of the gold-headed Cane, the Mæcenas of his day, a friend of Pope and of the wits of his time. John Freind (1675–1728) was the author of the *History of Physic*. He was imprisoned in the Tower for his Jacobite principles, and owed his release to his Whig friend Mead, who declined to treat the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole, until the necessary order was signed. It is said that after Freind’s release Mead presented him with five thousand guineas, which he told him he had received from his patients whilst he was in the Tower.

The two architects on the committee were equally notable. Nicholas Hawkesmoor (1671–1736) had been “a scholar and domestic clerk” of Sir Christopher Wren. He drew the designs for Chelsea Hospital, and was responsible for many parts of Greenwich Hospital, as well as for the south quadrangle and street façade of Queen’s College, Oxford, and for the towers of All Souls.

James Gibbs (1682–1754) was a native of Aberdeen. He had already designed the Church of St. Mary-le-Strand, added the steeple and the two upper stages to the tower of St. Clement Danes, and had built St. Peter’s, Vere Street, and St. Martin’s in the Fields. His designs for the Radcliffe Camera at Oxford and for the rebuilding of King’s College at Cambridge had been accepted in preference to those sent in by Hawkesmoor. Yet Hawkesmoor and Gibbs served amicably on this committee of the governors of the hospital, for both were generous and great-hearted artists. It is especially recorded of Gibbs that in the rebuilding of the hospital he gave all his drawings, time and attendance “out of Charity to the poor.” He was presently called upon to design the monument in Westminster Abbey to his fellow governor Dr. John Freind, who died on July 26, 1728.

The report of the committee was greatly delayed, and so

far from its being presented at the next Court in 1723, it was not until the

“GENERAL COURT ON 12TH SEPTEMBER, 1728,

“that the Committee for preparing a Plann for rebuilding of this Hospital did lay before the Governours at this Court a Plann of one part of the Square of such intended new building which is thought proper to be first rebuilt containing a large Hall for the meeting of the Governours at a General Court, a Compting House for the Governours’ meeting for the dispatch of the other business of the Hospital, a Hall for the taking and discharge of patients, a house for the Clerk to reside in and other convenient offices. The charge whereof they reported would not exceed £8,500. It is thereupon reported that the said Committee be desired to prepare a plann of the whole intended building and cause the same to be engraved on a copper plate and that one of the impressions thereof be sent to every Governour.

“And Mr. Alderman Child and Sr. William Jolliffe be added to the said Committee.”

Nothing further seems to have been done until the

“GENERAL COURT—24TH JULY, 1729,

“A plann or design of the intended new building of this Hospital having been sent to every Governour pursuant to the order of the last General Court the same is by this Court unanimously approved, and it is ordered that all future planns of this Hospital be regulated and done in all respects agreeable to ye same plann or design.”

The Governors naturally began to think of the expense, and one of their first actions was to order a Return of Benefactors from the year 1547. This was drawn out and it was found that between the years 1547 and 1666 there had been 397 benefactors, “whereof 153 are under £20.” From 1666 to 1733 there had been “382 names of which 36 are under £20 making a total of 779 in 186 years.” An examination of the list of benefactors shows that the majority of the sums varied from £10 to £20, with an occasional gift of £100 and once of £500.

Steps were taken to carry out the order of the 24th of July, 1729, and the hospital by its Treasurer and Clerk entered into agreements with various persons to carry out the work under substantial penalties for non-performance. Amongst the more important of these was an agreement with Mr. Ralph Allen, of whose life there is an interesting account in *The Dictionary of National Biography*. He undertook to supply stone for facing the new buildings and proved, as will be seen, a generous benefactor to the Hospital, although at times he was rather hardly treated. At the beginning of the negotiations he states plainly that he wanted an advertisement for his quarries by using the stone for some public building in London, and his philanthropy as regards the Hospital only developed at a later period. His first offer is:

“I will supply all the work and materials and what shall be necessary to complete the said pile of Buildings whose circumference is 460 feet and height 50 feet according to Mr. Gibbs’ Printed Design with 44 Vases upon the top of the said Building.

“I will Do, Find and Set up (according to the foregoing scantlings and Dimentions) in good Workmanlike manner, the Hospital finding Scaffolding and getting leave of the City for my Men to come and work within their Liberties for ye Sum of £1,700 Pounds.

“BATH, December 4th, 1729.”

A formal agreement was entered into with “Ralph Allen of the City of Bath, gentleman, dated the 14th of August 1730 for bringing and fixing the stone. If the building exceed or be less than 50 feet in height £25 a foot in height shall be allowed or abated and if the circumference exceed or be less than 460 feet, three pounds a foot shall be allowed or abated. The Governors to supply outside scaffolding and cramps.”

There is a maintenance clause for thirty years in case the stone should “fly dark, moulder or decay.” As a guarantee Ralph Allen transferred to the Governors four-score shares in the Sun Fire Office with the proviso that the Governors are not to be held responsible for any calls upon the same.

FIRST PILE (1730-32)

The first block, consisting of the present Great Hall and the Treasurer's house, in which Mr. Hayes now lives, appears to have been begun in 1730, when one bricklayer was employed for six days at 3s. a day and 21 labourers at 2s. a day, who carted $126\frac{1}{2}$ loads of rubbish which were shot into Moorfields at 1s. 1d. a load.

Thirteen rods of reduced brickwork with workmanship and mortar were laid at £2 2s. per rod, probably in the foundations, as 85 rods of reduced brickwork were also paid for at £5 6s. per rod.

On January 6, 1730-1, Mr. Allen says that "7 men will have to be made free and in the cheapest company this will come to £30 a piece." There is no record of what company eventually admitted his workmen as members of the yeomanry, but it shows how rigidly the liberties of the City were protected.

Mr. Richard Biggs, in the employment of Mr. Allen, was manager of the stonework at St. Bartholomew's. He served the hospital well and remained manager until the fourth pile was completed in 1764. The stone was landed at Cotton's Wharf, Lambeth, and was carted from there to the hospital. Mr. Gibbs, the architect, proposed originally to have a parapet wall at the top of the building ornamented with vases, but he altered this afterwards to the present baluster and rails. There is a letter of June 9, 1731, from Mr. Allen, saying that "Allabaster's people who were setting the stone are abusive and very idle. The carpenters too are very dilatory in laying the floors."

In October 1732 a considerable number of Dutch tiles were being used for some purpose not specified. There were :

"Rose and Canted corners extraordinary blue and white Dutch tyles at $1/6$ per foot.

"Dutch landskapes at $1/4$ per foot.

"white Dutch tiles at $-/9$ per foot.

"for plain Tyling finding all but the tiles at $-/1\frac{1}{2}$ per sq."

THE GRAND STAIRCASE AND GREAT HALL

The Grand Staircase and the Great Hall were built between the years 1732 and 1734. Both are good examples

of the spacious architecture of the early Georgian period. The expenses are set out separately under the following headings :

	£	s.	d.
“ 243 ft. 1 in. run of Oak Right wainscot step at 2/- per foot	24	6	2
51 ft. 4 in. run of large Right wainscot Rail and Ballister at 3/6 per foot	8	19	8
105 ft. 2 in. sup. of Right wainscot half pare and joysts at 14d. per foot	6	2	8½
519 foot 5 in. superficial of wainscot mouldings wrought by hand 2s. per foot	51	18	10
11 feet running of oak Freez carved with Oak leaves, ribbons, and Herons 5 inches profile at 3/- per foot	1	13	0
to carving 2 scrolls to ye inside middle chimney peice in ye hall	1	16	0
to 2 Sheilds and carving to 2nd Chimney peice in ye hall	2	14	0
Festoons to do. and Carving	0	8	0
The account for the frett work done by John Baptist St. Michele for ye great Ceiling for (including washing and colouring of ye same £4 4s.)	160	0	0
for 5 roses in ye stair case, a large and four smaller ones, for ye large	3	0	0
for ye smaller, each 12s.	2	8	0
for eight festoons done in ye walls of the Great Room each one at £2 2s.	16	16	0
for 12 smaller festoons each one at 10s. 6d.	6	6	0
summa	192	16	0
Paid May 2nd, 1734.”			

Things seem to have gone on pretty steadily, for on August 3, 1732, there is an “Order that the 2 new rooms adjoining to the Great Staircase in the new building be furnished with tables chairs and benches for discharging and taking in of patients next Wednesday.”

The Hogarth Paintings.—The minutes record that at a General Court held on Thursday the 21st of July, 1737, it was “Resolved that the thanks of this Court be given

to William Hogarth Esqre., one of the Governors of this Hospital, for his generous and free gift of the painting on the Great Staircase performed by his own skilful hand in characters (taken from Sacred History) wch. illustrate ye charity extended to the Poor Sick and Lame of this Hospital."

William Hogarth was born on November 10, 1697, in Bartholomew Close, "next door to Mr. Downinge's, the Printers, and was baptised at St. Bartholomew's-the-Great on November the 28th in the same year." Eight years before the date of this minute he had run away with and married the only daughter of Sir James Thornhill, was living in Leicester Square and had already made his name by his engravings of "The Harlot's Progress" and "The Rake's Progress." He says of the pictures on the Grand Staircase of the hospital: "I entertained some hopes of succeeding in the great style of history painting; so that without having had a stroke of this grand business before, I quitted small portraits and familiar conversation, and, with a smile at my own temerity, commenced history painter and on the Great Staircase at St. Bartholomew's Hospital painted two Scripture stories, the "Pool of Bethesda" and the "Good Samaritan," with figures seven feet high. These I presented to the Charity and thought they might serve as a specimen to shew that since there was an inclination in England for encouraging historical pictures, such a first essay might prove the painting them more easily attainable than is generally imagined. But as religion, the great promoter of this style in other countries, rejected it in England, I was unwilling to sink into a portrait manufacturer; and still ambitious of being singular, dropped all expectations of advantage from that source and returned to the pursuit of my former dealings with the public at large."

The first block or pile being completed, the Governors decided that the names of the subscribers should be perpetuated. Accordingly on Friday, August 19, 1737, "the Governors viewed several specimens of characters for the Benefactors' names and ordered Mr. Richards to prepare against next Monday specimens of letters in a Roman Character of an inch and an half an inch and a quarter and one inch and three quarters of an inch." An inspection

of the different letters appears to have been made, for on Monday, August 22, 1737, it was "Resolved that the letters in the upper table be an inch and an half and that Pannells be drawn from the bottom of the upper tables to the top of those below them and the Benefactors' name placed therein the Letters of which to be an inch and a quarter. The Letters of the lower table to be of one inch and all in a Roman Character To begin on the right hand of the room and to fill one whole column including the upper and lower tables and the Pannell between, and so on to the next And that Shields be painted under the upper windows for the holding of more names, but not to be filled with any at present. Mr. Richards agreed to accept such price as the Governors shall think reasonable when the work is done."

The last clause is a good example of the great reliance which workmen placed on the integrity of their employers in those days. The list of names of the benefactors and the shields are still clearly legible in the Great Hall. This method of perpetuating the names of benefactors was an old custom of the hospital. It is recorded on March 25, 1657, that "The Cloisters are to be plastered and whitened," and on June 1, "Benefactors' names are to be written in the cloisters, the ground white the letters and pillars black, the capitals and bases of the pillars gold." Again in 1689 it was ordered on March 8 that "Benefactors' names to be set up in the great cloister."

It was finally decided on Thursday, April 27, 1738, "that the groundwork of the painting of the Benefactors' names in the Court Room be of a darker porphyry colour than that already laid and the letters to be of gold, and that Mr. Richardson do go about the same as soon as possible." The porphyry colour and the letters of gold remain to this day.

The work of the first pile having been completed, and Mr. Ralph Allen having been chosen a Governor on February 2, 1738, "and a green staff sent to him," there is an entry at a General Court held on March 15, 1738, that "It being represented to this Court that Ralph Allen Esqre. having entered into Articles of Agreement with the Governors for the doing of the Mason's work with Bath Stone in the new Building of this Hospital and transferred four score

shares in the Sun Fire Office by way of security for the due performance of those Articles And that he had now completely finished the stone work of two of the wings of the intended building it was therefore moved on his behalf that the said fourscore shares in the said office be retransferred to him upon giving his own bond by way of security in lieu of the said shares.

“Whereupon it is referred to the Treasurer and Governors meeting at the Compting House to do therein as they shall think fit.” Accordingly, on March 22 the committee handed over the shares in the Sun Office to Mr. Allen on his giving his bond to the penalty of £3,200 to perform the covenants contained in the articles of agreement with him for doing the stonework in the new building.

THE SECOND PILE (1736-40)

“AT A GENERAL COURT HELD ON THURSDAY, THE ONE AND THIRTIETH DAY JULY, 1735

The President acquainted the Court, “That a Person (whose name is desired to be concealed) by the Hands of Henry Marshal Esqre. one of the Governors hath Voluntary given and paid as a free gift the sume of Two Thousand Pounds towards building a second Wing of this Hospital for harbouring of the sick and poor.

“Resolved that the thanks of this Court be given to that unknown Person for the great and charitable donation of Two Thousand Pounds towards building of a Second Wing of this Hospital for the harbouring of the Sick and Poor and Mr. Henry Marshall by whose hands the said charitable gift was conveyed is desired to return the thanks of this Court accordingly.

“Resolved that another subscription of the Governors and other well disposed persons be taken in order to raise a sume of money which together with the said Two Thousand Pounds shall be sufficient to defray the expence of another new Wing or pile of Building to consist of Wards for the use of the poor patients only and the following Resolution is agreed to be the Preamble to the said intended Subscription.

“Whereas by the generous and charitable contributions of many of the worthy Governors of this Hospital and

others well inclined to support the Charity here administred to the Poor one Pile or Wing of the new Building is completely finished and the whole expence thereof discharged. And the Governors having good reason to expect further encouragement as well from the Governors and other who have already subscribed as from such who have not yet contributed thereto Do Resolve that one other Pile or Wing to consist of Wards for the use of the poor Patients only be forthwith built agreeable to the plan designed for that purpose. And in order to defray the charge thereof we the Governors and others who have hereunto subscribed our names do hereby severally promise to pay to the Treasurer of this Hospital for the time being the several sumes of Money set against our respective names to be employed in such new Building."

A beginning having thus been made, at a General Court held on Wednesday, April 21, 1736, it was "Resolved that a new Pile or Wing of Building to be used as Wards for the poor Patients be forthwith built agreeable to the plan prepared for that purpose to be of the same highth and the same ornaments on the outside thereof as the present new Wing lately built."

This second pile is the present South Wing containing Lawrence and Stanley Wards on the ground-floor. Some beginning was made on September 23, 1736, when there is an entry :

	£	s.	d.
" To 1 bricklayer and 2 labourers 4 days each .	1	8	0
25 Hods of Mortar, 400 bricks	1	0	6
Nov. 8th. To 3 labourers, 1 bricklayer 6 days each	2	14	0
December 23rd. To 7 Hods of Mortar, 100 plain tiles.	0	6	6
200 pantiles.	1	5	0"

Real work does not seem to have been begun until April 1, 1738, when there is an account :

" for 3456 yards of digging and carrying away at 1/10 per yard, £316 16s.

" Jan. 27th. 1738 (-9) :

16 hods of Mortar, 8s.

1 bricklayer $\frac{1}{2}$ day and 1 Labourer $\frac{1}{2}$ a day, 2s."

This block contains a small swimming-bath in the basement, perhaps originally a spring, though it is now filled from the ordinary water mains. Its construction or preservation seems to have been a matter of some difficulty, for in 1739 there is a bill on

“ May 5. About digging for the Bath and holes for posts at the West end of the Building.

To 5 days a Bricklayer and 5 Labourers 6 days each, £3 15s.”

And again in 1740 :

“ June 14. One load of mortar, 650 Bricks, £1 6s. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. the 16th. About do. and Raising the Wall and Ground and digging and clearing the Ground out of the cold Bath and clearing down the wards and cutting down the windows of the Bath.

To 1 Bricklayer 6 days. 1 do. 2 days $\frac{1}{2}$ £1 5s. 6d.

100 Plain tiles 3s.

1740. Do. and making the Drain and Building the Cold Bath and Clearing.

To 2 bricklayers 6 days each and 1 Labourer 5 days $\frac{3}{4}$, £2 7s. 6d.

July 21–26. To 1 Labourer 1 day and $\frac{1}{4}$ and 1 Load of Mortar, 17s. 6d.

Cutting down the walls round the bath for the Drain and raising the setting at the Bottom.

October 20. About making good the Bath for ye Mason and Raising the Bottom and Covering over the Drain on the top . . . and making good backwards with plain tiles.

To 1 Bricklayer and 4 Labourers 6 days each, £3 6s.”

In 1736: “ Reduced brickwork was £5 per rod in ye foundation and £5 10s. per rod with scaffolding.”

In 1738: “ Reduced brickwork was £5 12s. 6d. per rod.” On August 17, 1736, the Clerk writes from the hospital to Mr. Ralph Allen, “ Please send stone and communicate with Mr. Gibbs.” This was an answer to a communication dated August 14, 1736, intimating that “ Mr. Allen was unwilling to provide the outside scaffolding as he had done for the first block on account of the disagreements which had arisen ” between my people and the people I employed to put it up.”

The slating of the roof in this block appears to have been done badly, for on February 27, 1752, "Mr. Westcott is to take off the slating and refix. Every slate to have 2 clout sixpenny nails of seven pounds to the thousand, well painted with white lead and oil complete at 14/- by the square and one pound ten shillings by the square for all the work covered with new slates."

Whilst the second block was being built the Governors continued to make some alterations in the Great Hall, thus on Thursday, September 8, 1737, "the last minutes were read but Mr. Gibbs advising some alterations in placing of the shields by putting them between the upper and lower tables and not under the windows and having drawn a sketch for that purpose in order for Mr. Richards to prepare a specimen thereof the Governors postponed the consideration thereof to another time." These shields, bearing the names of the more important benefactors, are still in a good state of preservation, painted as Mr. Gibbs advised, above the windows of the Great Hall. There are also armorial bearings of the Treasurers to the time of Mr. Foster White (Treasurer 1855-74) above the windows in the Great Hall.

On Tuesday, December 19, 1738, it was "Ordered that Mr. Priest Carpenter to this Hospital do forthwith remove the large picture of King Henry VIII the gifte of Mr. Sweete now in the Compting House into the Great Court Room and fix the same where the small Picture of King Henry the Eighth now is and fix that small Picture in the Compting House And Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Hogarth two of the Governors are desired to see the large Picture properly framed and fixed with decent and respectful Ornaments.

"And Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Hogarth are also desired to give orders for preparing a Busto of Rahere the First Founder of this Hospital to be taken from his Monument in Great St. Bartholomew's Church to be fixed in the Great Court Room over the Middle Chimney."

Sir Norman Moore says of the smaller picture: "A memorial of this constitution (the first after the reformation) exists in the date 1544 upon a three quarter length portrait of King Henry VIII which occupies a panel over the fireplace in the Committee Room. The King is standing upright facing the room with a black staff mounted in

gold in his left hand. His dark brown gown with hanging sleeves is handsomely barred with gold and is lined with white fur and fastened with jewels. On his head is a dark cap ornamented with gems and pearls and a plume. On the background are the words 'ANNO DNI. 1544 AETATIS SUAE 53.' Something appears to have been done to it in 1617, perhaps in the nature of a restoration, for there was an order on February the 1st of that year: "... picture maker to have paid him by Mr. Treasurer £6 for the picture late made by him of King Henry the Eighth and the same to be set up in the Court Room."

The large picture given by Mr. Benjamin Sweete on Thursday, July 21, 1737, was the full-length portrait of Henry VIII, with the Order of the Garter on his leg, which now hangs above the dais in the Great Hall.

The busto of Rahere which was prepared under the direction of Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Hogarth is no longer in the Clerk's Office or the Great Hall: one exists in Rahere Ward, but without any history of its provenance.

On Thursday, May 15, 1743, it was "Ordered that a Piece of Painting in glass representing King Henry VIII, Founder of this Hospital delivering the Charter of this Hospital to the Governors which was formerly in the window of the old Hall be now placed in the West window of this Parish Church and that the same be prepared and be secured with a wire frame on the outside of the window." For some reason not disclosed the order was never carried out, for on Thursday, May 19, 1743, "upon reading the last Minutes the Governors upon further consideration Resolved That the picture of King Henry VIII painted on glass be put up and fixed in the middle window of the Great Court Room opposite to the middle chimney as the most proper place." And there it still remains. This painted window is the sole relic of those which adorned the Hall of the old hospital. It was ordered on February 1, 1664, "that the windows in the Great Hall for the preservation of the effigies of King Henry and the rest there portracted should be made good and the Steward to see this carefully done." The picture represents King Henry VIII delivering the Charter of the Hospital to the Governors. There is a companion picture of Edward VI delivering a Charter in the Court Room at Bridewell. It may be noted that when

all the glazed windows on the south side of the Great Hall were blown out by an air-raid explosion on June 13, 1917, this window alone remained undamaged.

THIRD PILE (1743-52)

“ AT A GENERAL COURT HELD ON THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-FOURTH DAY OF MARCH, 1742,

“ Resolved that another new Pile or Wing to consist of Wards for the poor Patients only be forthwith built and that another subscription be taken of the Governors and other Charitable persons for advancing money towards the expence thereof and that the President, Treasurer and Governors who have already or shall hereafter contribute to the same, be a Committee for carrying on the same and any seven or more of them be a quorum and this Court doth desire and authorise them seven or more of them to cause the said intended Wing for the poor to be built with all convenient speed and to contract and agree with such workmen for the building thereof as they shall think fit.

“ And it is referred to the Treasurer and Governors meeting at the Compting House to dispose of the materials of the old buildings as they shall think proper.”

This is the West Block, with Rahere Ward on the ground-floor. A notice appeared in the newspapers on Tuesday, July 12, 1743, that “ On Friday last the workmen began to pull down the Houses in King Street near West Smithfield in order to clear the ground to build the third wing of St. Bartholomew’s Hospital.” The work was actually begun on June 18, 1743, and was continued until October 12th of this year. Water had to be pumped out of the foundations and a few piles driven.

A sum of £14 18s. was received in 1744 for some hundreds of yards of old wainscoting, e.g. 20 yards for 10s., and 15s. for some old lumber.

Mr. Ralph Allen writes from Bath on July 30, 1743: “ I will make use of every opportunity to cause the new work to be executed in the best manner, however expensive it may prove to me, and very expensive I expect it will be for I find ye exceeding in freight only will create a loss to me of near £500. And tho’ neither the Governors nor I at the time of making our Agreement had any thoughts

of a Warr, this nor any other incident wch may affect me Shall on this occasion bring the Least additional charge to them."

This was the war of the Austrian Succession in which we had become involved, and it led eventually to an entire stoppage of the building operations.

Mr. Allen writes again on January 7, 1743-4, that he has had to buy part of a large ship for conveyance of the stone from Bristol to London. He complains on August 4, 1744, of the difficulty of getting convoys for his ship, so that only one voyage a year can be made instead of the usual three. It may take five years to get the stone up he thinks. Would it be worth while to continue to build in other materials? He will give £200 to the present pile and £300 to the fourth pile. He is obliged to the Governors for obtaining protection from the Admiralty for Captain Wade (that is to say, for obtaining exemption from being pressed) but the protection only lasts until the ship reaches the Thames, and not whilst she is unloading. Can this Order be enlarged?

He writes on October 14, 1744: "Capt. Wade is unable to sail from Bristol because most of his men have quitted him for the Privateers. The expense to which I shall be put will be near on £2,000 and the money I receive from the hospital is not quite £1,900. The quantity of stone we compute for your third wing is a thousand tuns of our measure allowing 20 cubicall feet to every tun."

He reports on April 13, 1745, that he can send no more stone until the war is over, as he is already £500 out of pocket by what he has sent, and this quantity is but one fifth part, whilst the price of stone at Bath will be at least £700 more. Will the Governors build in other material, or wait?

It was decided on June 3, 1745, that the Governors will not proceed any farther in their building this year, and on Thursday December 5, 1745, "Mr. Treasurer Stanford is desired to give directions for covering with straw the Foundation of the new Building where it is wanted." In spite of this some of the Governors seem to have been dissatisfied, and in reply to some further request Mr. Allen wrote the following letter, which sets out his difficulties in detail:

“ SIR,

“ By the Letter which you sent to me the 31st of the last month I perceive that the Governours of St. Bartholomew’s Hospital are come to a Resolution to carry on the building with all expedition and with the same materials that the other parts are built, therefore have ordered you to write to me to send up with all convenient speed a sufficient quantity of Bath Stone for this purpose with that which is already there, and that my chief workmen may attend the next Committee to receive instructions &c.

“ These express directions without any regard to the great difficultys and heavy charges which I have already labour’d under in my endeavours to supply the Hospital, or the least overture to ease me in any part of the remaining expense, causes me to presume that these orders must be issued from Gentlemen new in the Government of the Hospital, and in a great measure unacquainted with what have passed between the former Governours and me through your Father and yourself on this subject, and is my motive for takeing the liberty to transmit to you and to desire that you will lay before those Gentlemen, the following recital of the whole transaction.

“ In the year 1730 I being desirous by some publique work to introduce my Stone in London made my proposals to the Governours of that Hospital to build the first Wing of that Building for the low price incerted in our Articles, . . . I need not now take any notice of ye different sorts of oppositions which was then made to all kinds of tryal of my Stone, but Sir Richard Brocas who was then President of the Hospital with several other of the Governours who thought well of it, being desirous that not only that Pile but likewise the rest of the Hospital should be built with it, asked me whether I had any objection to build the remainder of the Hospital on the same terms that I proposed to build the first Pile, if my proposals shou’d be accepted of; my answer was that I choose a Charitable Work to introduce my Stone that from the beginning I might be a contributor to so laudable a work, and therefore if they designed to carry on their other Buildings without any considerable interruption, I was willing to agree to it; and upon their assuring of me that this was their intention

and that they had not the least reasonable doubt of meeting with proper encouragement for that purpose, I agreed to insert this last Covenant in our Articles.

“ In consequence of this Agreement the first Pile was begun in 1730, and the Stone work of it finish'd in 1731, but I receiv'd no directions to begin the second Pile til 1736; then I met with some difficultys, and was at an additional expense for my freight. However the Stone Work was finished in 1738, but I received no acc^t. of any design to build y^e third Pile with my Stone til after another Interval of five Years, in 1743, when the Spanish War was begun and the French War apprehended.

“ This unhappy situation caused me to meet with New and much greater difficultys for the freight from Bristol to London, and after several unsuccessful attempts to engage Vessels for this purpose I as my last Resource agreed to buy part of a Large Newcastle Ship to be wholly Employ'd in that Service. But after a very Expensive Tryal found it was Impracticable to be done during the War: For tho the Hospital had a Claim for Protecting the seamen from being Pres'd and made use of their influence, The Expense first in waiting for a Convoy from y^e Downs to Portsmouth, staying there for a second from thence to Plymouth for a third from that Port to Scilly, and a fourth from Scilly to Milford Haven, and the Men running from the Vessel to Privateers at Bristol. The Ship which at other times easiely made three cou'd now hardly make one Voyage^r in a Year. These expensive obstructions caused me to acquaint your Father with them in a Letter dated the 4th. of August 1744, and after I had in that Letter shewn how Impracticable it was to carry on that Building with my Stone during the War, I to give the Governours a New Instance how well I wish'd the Hospital propos'd to give them five hundred pounds towards building of the two remaining Piles with any other materials. The 18th. of October following and the 30th. of April 1745 I in other Letters acquainted Mr. Tims & your Self with farther Expensive delays which I had met with, and again shew'd how Impossible it was for me to proceed during the War.

“ In answer to these Letters and another to your Self on this subject You the 30th of May 1745 acquainted me

that the Committee of Building, in Consideration of the Extraordinary Expense and difficultys in sending my Stone occasion'd by y^e War was come to a Resolution not to proceed any farther in y^e Building that Year, And as the War Continues and Consequently all the obstructions which I've met with and Laid before ye Governours Stil remains, I had not the Least Expectation of any New opposit directions from them on this head. The only material alteration which has occurred since my former Letters on this subject (but indeed unknown to them) is that the Ship which I bought a quarter part of to carry the Stone is Cast away, by which Misfortune I am a farther Sufferer of two hundred pounds more ; However to give a farther Instance of my regard to the Hospital I beg you will acquaint the Governours (especially those who during the War are so earnest to carry on the Building with my Stone) That if they will be pleas'd to contract with any Persons to fetch it from Bristol to London I will make the Hospital a Compliment of all the Stone which they shall want for this third Pile, and be at the Expense my Self to send it from my Quarrys to Bristol for them where y^e Lowest price tis Sold at is Eleven Shillings p^r Tunn ; By this New offer instead of my giveing the Hospital five hundred pounds in money towards the Expense of the two remaining Piles with other Materials, they will receive from me at Least five hundred & fifty pounds in Stone, towards this third Pile only, For there will be a thousand Tuns wanted.

“ The two hundred Tuns which is now at y^e Hospital may in this Case be Sold to any Purchaser for my use in London, or if the Governours Choose to have it, they instead of paying the Extravigant charges which I have been at to send it up, shall pay me only the Same Price which they may then pay for y^e fright of the other eight hundred Tuns which they are to have from Bristol.

“ The Governours may cause the Stone which I offer to send in this New manner to be work'd and set in the Building at their expense in London by any Workmen that they shall choose themselves, But if they sho'd prefer any of my People for that purpose I will cause them to execute it for the Hospital on the same terms which I must pay them there my Self.

“ If the Gentlemen shou’d approve of either of my proposals they on proper Notice from you shall be duely Comply’d with, But if they refuse both, I must beg that they will be so obliging as to trouble you with no farther orders to me that is not in my power to comply with.

“ Before the Conclusion of this Long Letter I thought it not Improper to acquaint you that I have not Sold so much as one Tun of Stone in London since y^e Commencement of the War, neither have I the Least Expectation to sell any there til tis ended.

“ I beg my hearty Compliments to the Treasurer and am,

“ Sir,

“ Your most hum^{ble} Serv^t,

“ R. ALLEN.

“ Bath, February 7th. 1746.

“ P.S.—For fear the Letters w^{ch}. I in this paper Refer to shou’d be mislaid I’ve under this Cover transmitted Copys of them

“ To Mr. TIMS, at ST. BARTHOLOMEW’S HOSPITAL, LONDON.”

Nothing more seems to have been done until 1749, although Mr. Allen wrote on May 12, 1748, that he hoped to have been able to send some stone “ during the present cessation of arms,” but it is still too expensive to do so.

He did not send any, and on June 25, 1748, the Clerk to the Governors wrote to him that “ As the price of Seamen’s wages Insurance and Freight is already very much lessened at London they apprehend the same will soon be reduced at Bristol,” to which he replies on July 11, 1748, that he hopes to send some stone soon.

Building appears to have been recommenced in earnest at the end of 1749. Various agreements were entered into, each being stamped with three sixpenny stamps and a bond for due performance was taken in each case :

(i) Between the Mayor, Commonalty and Citizens, Governors of the House of the Poor, etc., and Mr. William Cooper junior, for the bricklaying work for the third pile of which the foundations are already laid at £5 10s. per rod. The work to be finished before September 29, 1750.

No short bricks to be used, only good sound plain bricks. Dated February 17, 1748-9.

(ii) The Mayor, etc., and Mr. Tobias Priest for carpenter's work for the third pile at 1s. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per cubic foot for girders, joysts and floors; 1s. 9d. for doors, the oak and fir to be well seasoned. Mr. Priest enters into a bond for £500 which is dated March 7, 1748-9.

In the following July he was paid a bill for :

“ 1951 feet 8 inches cubical of fir in the girders, &c. of the Naked floors at 1/5 $\frac{3}{4}$ per foot, £144 6s. 10d.

“ 77 feet 11 inches of teak in joysts and in trusses of the girders at 2/10 per foot, £11 0s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

“ Fixing the Trusses and Bolts in 19 Girders at 12/- each girder, £11 8s.

“ Measured per George Dance July 18 1749.”

Gibbs did not die until July 1754, so that George Dance was acting as architect for the New Building for some years under his superintendence. And of George Dance [1700-1768] there is an account in *The Dictionary of National Biography*.

Mr. Allen writes on February 14, 1748-9, that he will send Mr. Biggs to confer with Mr. Gibbs but that he is not inclined to provide scaffolding as heretofore, although there is some advantage to the contractor in doing so, but whatever remains the new contractor may have, if he pleases, on easy terms. This offer was not so generous as it seemed, because there is very little doubt that a good deal of the scaffolding had perished as a result of the long period during which it had been lying by.

Biggs continued to hold the post of director of the stonework both for the third and fourth piles. He was paid £188 9s. 11d. for his services on April 28, 1764.

Mr. Priest, who had proved himself a faithful and honest builder, died in 1750, and a fresh agreement was entered into with his widow, dated July 25, 1750.

(iii) Mr. Robert Willis agreed for plumbing on March 16, 1749-50, the plumber to receive 3s. a day and his labourer 2s. a day.

(iv) On March 16, 1749-50, Mr. Peter Westcott undertook the slating of the third pile providing good slates and nails steeped in oil at £2 15s. per square.

Mr. Ralph Allen, of Prior Park, Bath, was paid :

£	s.	d.	
500	0	0	on July 22, 1749.
500	0	0	on November 17, 1749.
700	0	0	on September 24, 1750.
349	18	0	on April 22, 1751.
<hr/>			
2,049	18	0	for stone for the third pile.

On July 31, 1749, the Governors sold £700 old South Sea Annuities at 108—the Brokers' Commission being 17s. 6d.

On September 27, 1750, £1,600 Bank Stock was sold at 104 and one-eighth, Brokers' Commission £2.

On May 10, 1751, £500 old South Sea Annuities were sold at 103 and five-eighths. Brokers' Commission 12s. 6d. There was no stamp duty.

It is noted on December 14, 1752, that a sum of £14,383 19s. 4½d. had been received towards the cost of building between August 2, 1745, and November 21, 1752, and that £14,363 7s. 4d. had been spent, leaving a balance of £20 12s. 0½d. These figures appear to have been the result of a more careful method of keeping the accounts, for it had been ordered on January 12, 1743, "that the President be desired to give directions that the accompt of the new Building of this Hospital be made up by way of debtor and creditor."

The staircases in each of the blocks have always excited admiration for their ease, spaciousness and general appearance. There is an account for the new staircase in this third block which is dated April 6, 1751, viz.:

	£	s.	d.
" 18 Wainscot balls at 2/-	1	16	0
185 four inch wainscot bannisters at 21d. each	16	3	9
722 feet in wainscot steps and quarter pares at 14d. per foot	42	2	4
495 ft. 5 in. super. in wainscot moldings at 2/- per foot	49	10	10 "

N.B.—In the former building the oak floor was done for 2s. 9d. a foot, but that was done chiefly with East County Oak, and the present floor is much better worth 3s. a foot than the other was 2s. 9d.

“ for 994 feet 8 in. cubical of oak in the ground-floor at 3/-
£149 4s.

“ Measured and settled Pro George Dance, April 6, 1751.”

“ June 10th, 1752. To making two new sisters' rooms, 256 ft. superficial of 2 inch deal partition, framed tooled and plain pannells on both sides, measured on one side only at -/8 per foot, £8 10s. 8d.

“ June 31st. To 205 whole deal shelves and ledges in sisters' closets planed on both sides at -/7, £5 19s. 7d.

“ William Matt. Hillyard,

“ receipt signed by Christopher Horsnaile.

“ July 30th. 1752 stairs leading to Garrets.

	£	s.	d.
8 square wainscot Newels framed and fixed at 3/- each	1	4	0
For 7 pendants to ditto.	0	2	0
For 91 2 inch wainscot bannisters at -/9 each	3	8	3
For 133 feet cub. Oak in carriage of great stairs at 4/- per foot	26	12	0

It was decided at a General Court held on Thursday, June 18, 1752, that “ This Court having taken into consideration the Minutes of the same Committee Recommending to this Court that a way or passage be made for coaches and carts to the front door of the third pile of the new building.

“ Resolved and Ordered that such a way or passage be made by pulling down the house in the occupation of Elizabeth Farewell, and laying open the Yards belonging to the said Elizabeth Farewell, Elizabeth Hannis and Joseph Slack and pulling down part of Joseph Slack's shop and the house over it agreeably to the plan and estimate prepared by the Surveyor and recommended by the Committee.”

“ It was ordered at a Committee on Friday, July 10th, 1752, that the new wards of the third pile of building be used for the reception of women patients only and that four of the said Wards do bear the names Marshall, Watt, Colston and Aldred in memory of Sir Henry Marshall, Kt.,

the worthy President, John Watt, Edward Colston and John Aldred Esqre., being great benefactors to this hospital and that the eight other wards do bear the names of Mary, Elizabeth, Martha, Magdalen, Faith, Hope, Charity and Patience. It was ordered at the same Court that Mr. Almoner Horsenaile is desired to give directions for a marble slab to be fixed in the blank window over the arch of the first Pile of Building towards Smithfield and the Inscription ordered by the General Court to be made thereon." The inscription still remains and may be read over the inner gateway of the Hospital. The date 1102 is an error, as it should be 1123. Its wording was determined upon

“ AT A GENERAL COURT HELD ON THURSDAY, 18TH JUNE,
“ 1752, WHEN IT WAS

“ Ordered that the following inscription be sett up on a table to be fixed on the outside of the blank window over the Arch on the first Pile of Building fronting Smithfield and that the Treasurer and Committee of Governors meeting at the Compting House do give the necessary directions accordingly :—

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL

FOR THE RELIEF OF SICK AND LAME POORE :

WAS FOUNDED BY RAHERE, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, JJO2

AND AFTER THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES, ETC.

GRANTED BY KING HENRY THE EIGHTH

TO THE MAYOR, COMMONALTY, & CITIZENS

OF THE CITY OF LONDON

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1547.

BUT BEING GREATLY DECAYED WAS REBUILT AND ENLARGED,
BY THE VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CHARITABLE DONATIONS

OF MANY OF THE WORTHY GOVERNORS,

AND OTHER PIOUS AND WELL DISPOSED PERSONS

GIVEN AND APPROPRIATED FOR THAT PURPOSE ONLY :

THIS BUILDING WAS BEGUN IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD J730.

AND IN THE MAYORALTY OF

SIR RICHARD BROCAS, KNT., PRESIDENT

SAMUEL PALMER, ESQRE, TREASURER

This inscription was recut at a later period and the following words were added :—

AND FINISHED IN THE YEAR 1770

THE RT. HON^{BLE}. THOMAS HARLEY ALD^N. PRESIDENT.

JOHN DARKER ESQUIRE TREASURER

JAMES GIBBS ESQUIRE ARCHITECT,

A GENERAL REPAIR OF THE HOSPITAL WAS COMMENCED IN 1784. AND COMPLETED IN 1820, WHEN CONSIDERABLE ALTERATIONS WERE MADE IN THE FOUR WINGS, FOR THE ADDITIONAL COMFORT OF THE POOR PATIENTS, AND THE BUILDING ERECTED FOR THE GREATER CONVENIENCE OF THE MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT.

SIR JAMES SHAW BART. AND ALD^N. PRESIDENT

HUGH POWELL ESQ^{RE}. TREASURER

THOMAS HARDWICKE ESQ^{RE}. F.A.S. ARCHITECT

THE STONE CASING OF THE EXTERNAL WALLS OF THE HOSPITAL HAVING BECOME MUCH DILAPIDATED IT WAS RESTORED IN THE YEARS 1851. AND 1852. WHEN NEW BUILDINGS WERE ADDED TO THE WARDS AND INCREASED ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED FOR THE POOR PATIENTS

JOHN KINNERSLEY HOOPER ESQ^{RE}. ALD^N. PRESIDENT

JAMES BENTLEY ESQ^{RE}. TREASURER

PHILIP HARDWICK ESQ^{RE}. R.A. ARCHITECT

He that hath Pity upon the Poor,
Lendeth unto the Lord :
And look what he layeth out
It shall be paid him again.

Proverbs, chap. 19th, verse 17th.

(To be continued.)