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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1909.

Whitehall, November 9, 1909.

The following Address was presented to the King, on Thursday, the 4th November, on the occasion of the opening by His Majesty of the Jubilee Extension Buildings of the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queensquare, Bloomsbury :—

May it please Your Majesty.

It is my privilege on behalf of the Governing Body of the National Hospital and of all those who have helped to make this work a success to bid You welcome, and to ask Your Majesty to accept our dutiful and humble thanks for graciously coming here to-day to open the Jubilee Extensions.

This is not the first occasion on which the National Hospital has been honoured by a visit from Your Majesty. Your Majesty will remember that in the year 1885 as Prince of Wales, You performed the opening ceremony, when the main building of the hospital was completed. That building which had been begun in 1883 at the instance of His Royal Highness the late Duke of Albany was not finished until after his lamented death, and when it was opened by Your Majesty in 1885 it was with the sanction of Her Majesty Queen Victoria dedicated as a memorial to him, and it will be gratifying to Your Majesty to hear that the success attained is largely due to the affection in which the memory of the late Duke of Albany is held.

memory of the late Duke of Albany is held. As Your Majesty is aware it is now fifty years since the National Hospital was founded. During

that fifty years the hospital has grown steadily from very modest beginnings to be one of the largest institutions of its kind in the world, and one of the principal centres for the treatment and study of diseases of the nervous system. Patients are received here in large numbers from all parts of the world and the practice of the Hospital, under the direction of the eminent members of the honorary medical staff who place their services at its disposal, attracts large numbers of medical graduates from all quarters of the globe.

Thanks to the generosity of the charitable public it has been possible to keep the National Hospital up to the high standard of efficiency demanded by modern science, but as Your Majesty well knows, the system of maintaining hospitals by voluntary contributions of which this country is justly proud, involves constant demands on the goodwill of the charitable, and it is difficult enough to collect sufficient money to cover the ordinary expenses of an institution of this nature, without leaving any margin for extraordinary expenditure such as is at times imperative in order to cope with the increasing work of the Hospital.

It became obvious some time ago that the out-patient department which was large enough to accommodate the 19,000 attendances which were made in 1881 was inadequate for the 40,000 which is now the yearly average. The electrical department, the consulting rooms, the dispensary and the massage and electrical class rooms were all inadequate, and above all the accomodation for the female nurses was not at all