

sick and suffering. Your Infirmary has been established for more than a century and it is also, I am informed, the largest Hospital outside London. These extensions are a striking proof that the people of the Potteries are fully alive to the responsibilities consequent upon the development of their district, and that their reputation for public spirit and generosity towards all good objects is well deserved.

It is indeed most satisfactory that all members of the community have contributed both to the cost of enlarging your Hospital and to the ordinary maintenance expenses, and shows that the support of the Infirmary rests upon a broad and sure basis.

The Queen and I are gratified by the reference in your Address to our constant interest in the great industry of this district. Pottery is a branch of applied art which necessarily concerns every home throughout the land. Those who make and decorate it can exercise a strong influence on the artistic education of the nation. In their hands lies the power to kindle the desire for beauty of form and colour and to satisfy it in the common objects of everyday life.

The development and importance of your town and industry enable me gladly to consent to the request that the title and status of a City shall be conferred upon your County Borough.

I pray that the Divine Blessing may rest upon your labours: and that the City of Stoke-on-Trent may enter upon and enjoy a future of even greater usefulness and prosperity.

#### NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE INFIRMARY.

May it Please Your Majesty:—

It is recalled with sincere pleasure and gratitude that 59 years ago, on the 25th June, 1866, our forefathers had the signal honour of welcoming Your Majesty's august and beloved Father and Mother, when the Foundation Stone of this Infirmary was laid by H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales. Since that date 125,000 In-patients and 758,000 Out-patients have received gratuitously the services of our able and devoted Staff of Physicians, Surgeons and Nurses.

To-day, Your Majesties have graciously come amongst us to lay the Stone of the Extensions of our Infirmary, and this great and loyal population rejoice to recognise in this most gracious act the traditional sympathy of Your Majesties with those who may need the services of this and similar Hospitals.

It is our object, by these Extensions, to add the accommodation necessary to meet the needs of the district. The present additions will be erected at the cost of £150,000. Of this sum we have received no less than £100,000. This money has been contributed in varying sums from every section of our population, including splendid donations from leaders of our trade and commerce and by the extremely generous and enthusiastic response of the working people and children of the district.

We are deeply grateful to Her Majesty for so kindly consenting to receive purses to-day.

In the history of our Infirmary, we have been privileged to associate many portions of our establishment with the Royal Family, e.g. The Victoria Ward: The Albert Ward: The

King Edward VII Nurses' Home (in commemoration of the Coronation Year, 1903); The King Edward VII Memorial Out-patients Department (erected in 1911); the Princess Mary Beds and Cot (endowed in honour of the marriage of H.R.H. to the Viscount Lascelles).

We feel it fitting and permissible on this occasion for us to express the hope that Your Majesty has, by the blessing of God, been restored to a full measure of health and strength and pray that you may long be spared to reign over your loyal and devoted subjects.

*To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—*

The Queen and I thank you for your loyal Address. It gives me especial pleasure to lay the Foundation Stone of the Extensions to the North Staffordshire Infirmary, and thus to carry on the work begun by my dear Father in 1866, when he laid the Foundation Stone of the existing Infirmary at Hartshill.

In 1802, when the Hospital was first founded, the population of the Potteries was less than 25,000. To-day it is much nearer half a million. It is not only this increase and concentration of population that necessitates extensions to your buildings—these are also demanded by the simultaneous advance of medical and surgical treatment during the past hundred years.

I have been informed that upwards of 90 per cent. of the beds in this Hospital are in regular occupation: and that now an in-patient remains there for less than a month, thus making it possible last year to treat over 5,000 in-patients:—a striking testimony to the beneficent service rendered by the Hospital.

It is gratifying to learn that the extensions of the Hospital have received wide and generous financial support throughout your district, from working people and their children, as well as from employers and leaders of industry.

All that I have heard of the character, administration and efficiency of this great Infirmary is most satisfactory and I have much pleasure in acceding to the request that it shall in future be known as the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary.

I pray that God may bless this Hospital and all who within its walls labour for the relief of the sick and suffering.

*Whitehall, June 11, 1925.*

The following Addresses were presented to The KING on the occasion of the Opening by His Majesty of the New Buildings of Bristol University, on the 9th instant:—

#### BRISTOL CORPORATION.

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY AND TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

The Humble Address of The Lord Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the City of Bristol.

May it Please Your Majesties:—

We Your Majesties' faithful Subjects, the Lord Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the City of Bristol, humbly beg to offer to Your Majesties a most hearty and loyal welcome to our Ancient City to-day.