The associated architects for the buildings are: Mr. John A. Cheston, F.R.I.B.A., the hospital surveyor, and Mr. Charles E. Elcock, F.R.I.B.A. (of Messrs. Elcock & Sutcliffe), 60, Strand, W.C. 2.

The consulting engineers: Hot-water supply and heating—Messrs. Wingfield-Bowles & Clay, 28, Victoria Street, S.W. 1. Electrical plant, lighting, etc.—Mr. E. W. Dorey, A.M.I.E.E., Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, Southampton Row, W.C. 1.

The general contractors: Messrs. Harold Arnold & Son, Ltd., Doncaster.

Contractors for heating and hot-water plant: Messrs. H. W. Dutton & Co., Ltd., 25, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

Contractors for electric light plant, etc.: Messrs. Bell Bros. (London), Ltd., 7, Camomile Street, E.C. 3.

ST. PATRICK'S HOSPITAL, DUBLIN.

Opening of a New Wing and Special Treatment Department.

The Governor-General of the Irish Free State, on August 27, 1930, performed the opening ceremony of a new wing which, together with new provision for modern treatment, has been recently added to this historic Dublin institution.

Chief Justice Kennedy, introducing His Excellency, expressed, on behalf of the Board of Governors, their great satisfaction at the honour being done them by His Excellency's presence that afternoon.

The Governor-General: I am glad to be associated with the opening of the new building which has just been added to this hospital. I need not enter into details as to the additional services which it will enable St. Patrick's Hospital to render to the mentally afflicted. The important points to recognize are that it will afford better facilities for methods of treatment which have in recent years been found to be beneficial, and that the already high percentage of recoveries among patients should consequently be raised in the future. I feel sure that you would like me to congratulate the Governors and the Medical Superintendent on being both willing and able to maintain the reputation of Swift's foundation.

History dwells on the personally pathetic side of Swift's generous bequest. It does not dwell on the difficulties of his executors in realizing that portion of the bequest which consisted in loans recoverable from poor men trying to develop business in Dublin. Swift's practical sympathy with poverty or suffering did not begin to operate only after his death, though his bequest made it possible to found the first, and for half a century the only hospital in Ireland for the relief of mental sufferers.

I am not going to occupy your time with an account of the development of this hospital nor with references to the distinguished medical men who have been associated with it, but I must mention one physician who was publicly thanked for his sympathetic efficiency. Dr. Emmet, the first paid physician, was the father of Robert Emmet. Each in his own way enriched our country by passing on an honourable tradition. The tradition handed down through this hospital from Dr. Emmet is still flourishing, but to-day medical services such as his are no longer recognized by personal presentations, but by affording greater opportunities of rendering efficient service. I know that Dr. Leeper places a higher value on the modern and less obviously personal manner of recognition.

I do not doubt that this hospital and its branch at Lucan will continue to preserve the eighteenth century traditions of charitable helpfulness and of sympathetic efficiency, and that its Governors will always, as now, recognize professional efficiency by removing obstructions to the application of steadily advancing medical knowledge.

Mr. J. A. Maconchy said that they were sitting in a ward of what was called St. Patrick's Hospital, but was known as Swift's Hospital. So enshrined was the name of Swift in the hearts of the people that nothing could rob the hospital of that name. He came over practically a stranger, and in a few years he was the most idolized man in Ireland. His power of sarcasm had never been equalled, but behind his fierce, biting wit there was a wonderful strain of tenderness. His life

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had been clouded by the dread malady of mental affliction, and all his fortune went to alleviate the sufferings of those who might become afflicted by the same disease. During the past thirty years the Governors, with Dr. Leeper, had remodelled the whole treatment of the hospital patients, and St. Patrick's was now in the first line of hospitals for the treatment of those whose minds became either temporarily or permanently afflicted.

Chief Justice KENNEDY said that he wished to make it known that Dr. Leeper was now President-Elect of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and to be President of that Association was, amongst men of his specialty, regarded as the highest honour they could attain. (Applause.)

Dr. LEEPER, who was received with applause, cordially thanked the Chief Justice for his kind remarks, and said that when the Association met next year in Dublin they might take it as a compliment to the country that the President was an Irishman. (Applause.)

Continuing, Dr. Leeper said: For the dawn of the treatment of the insane in the British Isles we must go a long way back. Let us go to the city of Bethlehem in the Holy Land. The basilica which enshrines the Cave of the Nativity was the starting-place of those who came to England to found a hospital for the insane. Pope Innocent IV's registers show that the Pope called upon the monks of St. Mary of Bethlehem to elect, as their Bishop, his Chaplain—Godfrey de Vico, of the Prefetti family. To this Godfrey de Vico a special encyclical letter was addressed, which was destined to cause the foundation of the institution known to half the world as Bedlam.

This institution was founded by the monks of St. Mary of Bethlehem in 1247, and was the first institution for the insane established in England. It is, to-day, the Bethlem Royal Hospital, rebuilt for the fourth time and re-opened, on its new site in Kent, by Her Majesty the Queen but a few weeks ago. The interest of all this is great to us here in Dublin, because our Founder—the immortal Dean of St. Patrick's—before he came here to Dublin, was a Governor of Bethlem Hospital. He was admitted a Governor, with Dean Atterbury, on April 26, 1714. No record exists of his attendance at Court or dinner, but in 1722, exercising—after a very long period—his privilege as a Governor, he nominated one Beaumont for admission to Bedlam. This is his characteristic letter:

> "Beaumont is mad, in London, riding through the streets on his Irish horse, with the rabble after him and throwing his money about the street. I have sent to the Secretary of the Governors of Bedlam to have him sent there, as you know I have the honour to be a Governor."

Swift surely had long sight when he wrote the digression on madness in the *Tale of a Tub*. Here he clearly set out the idea of mentality being influenced by what we call to-day the internal secretion of the glands of the body. Anticipating others who wrote long after him on the subject of the insanity of genius, he set out the theory that great conquerors, founders of religious and political schools were often persons whose reason was disturbed. He naïvely remarks that many insane persons might never have been so deranged had they found suitable occupations in life. Would it not be well, or worth while, he says, to appoint Commissioners to search Bedlam for suitable people to command regiments during war, to carry out the less agreeable researches of the laboratory, or to bawl and wrangle in the pandemonium of a law court or a contested election? Here, for instance, he says, you have a patient tearing his straw to pieces, swearing and blaspheming, and biting his grating. Well, give him a regiment and send him to Flanders. In another case you find a patient with foresight and insight. He walks daily at one pace, entreats your penny, and with due gravity and ceremony talks much of hard times and taxes; he bars up the wooden shutters of his cell regularly at 8 o'clock, and dreams of fires, shoplifters and customers. Now why should the city of London be deprived of such a model tradesman? Let the man out at once.

In 1731 it was in his mind to build a hospital called Bedlam, in Dublin.

In 1735 appears as issued from his garret in Moorfields—then the site of Bedlam—a scheme for the foundation of a hospital for incurables. This hospital for incurables was to admit incurable fools, incurable rogues, incurable liars, and the incurable vain and envious were to be eligible for admission on an urgency order. He suggests that, on the foundation, he himself should be admitted on a certificate as an incurable scribbler.

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We have recently obtained a photograph of a letter written by the Dean to Eaton Stannard, then—1735—Recorder of the City of Dublin, setting forth his intention to found St. Patrick's Hospital. This letter, written ten years before his death, is a truly characteristic one, and you may all see a photograph of it here to-day. The original letter was recently sold in London for £150, and its price to-day is over 300 guineas.

In 1740 Swift wrote :

" He gave the little wealth he had,
To build a house for fools, or mad,
And showed, by one satiric touch,
No nation wanted it so much."

As time is short I cannot do better than state something of the working of this hospital. Founded in 1745, it was the first mental hospital founded in Ireland, and for many years the only one, the Government not having established any public mental or district hospital for mental disease. It was not until 1815 that Grangegorman Mental Hospital, the parent of all the district mental hospitals in Ireland, was erected.

Swift stated, with prophetic foresight, that if a hospital extended from here to the Phœnix Park, there would be always more applicants for admission than there would be room for. This prophecy, in its partial fulfilment, explains the extension which your Excellency is here to open to-day. The Governors have found extension necessary, owing to the larger number of voluntary patients coming forward for treatment. This voluntary coming forward is due to the fact that the old idea—of there being a difference between disease of the brain and nervous system and that of the other organs of the body—is becoming dissipated, and there is a more rational outlook on the causation and treatment of mental diseases.

The Governors of this hospital have provided us with the means of carrying out every modern therapeutic method for the alleviation and cure of all forms of mental disease, and the recovery-rate, for the past thirty years, has never fallen below 50% on our admissions. This figure does not include many who have been so far relieved as to live at home with their relatives, and it has been arrived at notwithstanding that many incurable patients have—from charitable reasons—been admitted, who could not be safely cared for outside the hospital wards without grave danger to themselves or society, and therefore demanded immediate care and treatment. That the work of the hospital is appreciated is proved by the fact that patients are daily admitted from all parts of Ireland, North and South (for insanity has no boundary, though sanity may have!), and that there have been more patients admitted during the past ten years than were admitted in the previous fifty years of the hospital's existence.

Your Excellency will, I trust, have time to see portraits of Swift, Stella and Vanessa, of Dr. Robert Emmet (the father of the patriot), our first Physician and Treasurer, and one of the original Governors, Swift's escritoire, where the travels of Gulliver may have been penned, together with a marble bust recently acquired and said to have belonged to Mrs. Delany at Delville, Glasnevin, and a number of seats from the old Irish House of Parliament.

The GOVERNOR-GENERAL then declared the new wing opened amid loud applause. Attended by his A.D.C., Lieutenant Wall, and various officials and a large party of distinguished visitors, he inspected the new buildings, and afterwards was shown by Dr. Leeper portraits and letters of Swift and various documents and articles of interest. J. R. L.

BALLINASLOE MENTAL HOSPITAL.

At the meeting of the Ballinasloe Mental Hospital Committee held on November 10, 1930, Dr. John Mills, the Resident Medical Superintendent, again showed the mettle for which he is well known, especially when principles are at stake.

The occasion was a complaint that a resolution passed at a former meeting ordering that older men should be promoted had not been carried out.

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