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Editorial.

THE MODERN HOSPITAL.

Within the last two or three years the question of Hospital construction has taken a new phase, largely corresponding with advances made in our knowledge of disease and its prevention. Detached blocks have, for many years, been regarded as far the best for buildings intended for Hospital use. The great objection to that method is the amount of space which is necessary, and the admittedly increased cost of administration. In large cities, where the cost of land is high, this objection is one which assumes very considerable importance. It was this fact which somewhat recently led the Committee of Management, of Manchester Royal Infirmary, to address a letter to several distinguished medical men asking their opinion on the subject. The Medical Board of the Infirmary had previously reported "that it is uncertain whether the pavilion system is so absolutely necessary, as it has been thought to be up to the present time, and it may be well to consider whether some other system requiring less ground may not be adopted." Of eleven gentlemen whose opinion had been asked, four, including Lord Lister, were of opinion that the pavilion was the best, but considered it quite possible to build a satisfactory Hospital on other than this plan. Mr. Holmes made other methods of arrangement more satisfactory, as, for instance, building on the "H" shape, that is, blocks radiating from a central administrative building. Mr