

The Presbyterian Hospital of New York.

The Presbyterian Hospital was founded in 1868, at the suggestion of the late James Lenox, after consultation with a number of prominent gentlemen of the Presbyterian and Reformed Dutch churches. Mr. Lenox generously donated for its use the block of ground it occupies on Madison Avenue, between Seventieth and Seventy-first Street, and gave towards the buildings \$100,000, to which he added \$150,000 more before they were completed. Others of his associates gave liberally, notably James Brown, John C. Green, Joseph Sampson, R. L. and A. Stuart, W. R. Vermilye, and others. In 1872 the Hospital was opened for the reception of patients with accommodations for one hundred.

While looking to the Presbyterian and affiliated Churches for its support—and the daily religious services are after Presbyterian order—the Hospital has

patients only. In 1888 a building for out-door patients was added, the most carefully planned and the most complete in its appointments of any that had been built up to that time, large enough to accommodate eight hundred to one thousand patients per day, if kept open all the time. At present it is open from one to three o'clock in the afternoon, and the daily average is nearly two hundred.

In December, 1889, the Hospital Building was rendered untenable by fire. In the course of two years new and greatly enlarged fireproof buildings were completed. On the second anniversary of the fire these buildings were opened for the reception of patients, with a capacity of 350 beds, which, in case of emergency, as the prevalence of an epidemic, can be increased to 450.

A training school for nurses was organized at the same time, and has since been in successful operation. Hospital is to-day as thoroughly equipped for efficient work as any hospital in existence.



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PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL, NEW YORK.

been conducted from the beginning on the most liberal principles. Neither color, creed, nor nationality is allowed to interfere with the admission of patients. To be sick and needy have been the only requisites. And whatever would insure the speediest recovery, or add to the comfort of the patient, has been most liberally supplied. As the result a large number of persons have been benefitted, only about ten per cent. of whom have belonged to the religious bodies that bear the burden of its maintenance, and of whom not more than one in thirteen have paid anything for their care and treatment.

In 1880 an ambulance system was added to the Hospital equipment, that cases requiring immediate treatment might be speedily attended to, and the portion of the city east of Central Park was assigned to the Hospital by the city authorities as an ambulance district. These ambulances now bring to the Hospital between fifteen hundred and two thousand patients annually.

Originally the Hospital was intended for indoor

The design of the founders was to care for the worthy poor, those who in health maintained themselves but when sickness came, were unable to provide the aid of skilled physicians, or whose surroundings were unfavorable to their recovery. The faithfulness with which this plan has been adhered to is shown by the yearly reports. Almost every industrial pursuit by which a living is obtained is represented among its patients.

The Hospital has an annual endowment of \$26,000, and from patients, mainly those occupying private rooms, about \$25,000 more. The remaining \$100,000 is supplied by annual contributions from the Presbyterian and Reformed Dutch churches, and donations of individuals, some of whom subscribe a stated sum yearly.

During the last year nearly 21,000 different individuals received medical or surgical aid in its different departments, in-door and out door, at a cost of \$150,000. Of these, only one in ten claimed to be Presbyterians, and only one in over thirteen paid anything for their care and treatment.