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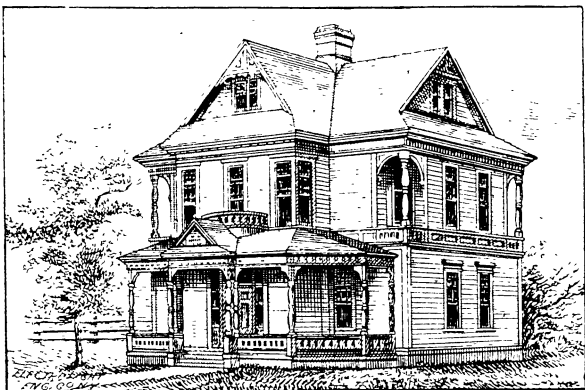
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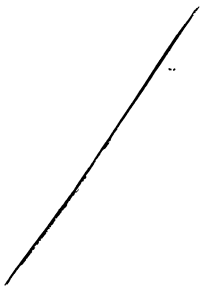
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Victoria Cottage Hospital.

*Commenced 21st June, 1887.
Opened 21st June, 1888.*

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF A LITTLE WORK BEGUN IN FAITH.

BY
LADY TILLEY.



SAINT JOHN, N. B.
J. & A. McMILLAN, 98 PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.
1888.

THE ILLUSTRATION ON FRONT COVER KINDLY LOANED BY
THE EDITORS OF "PROGRESS."

Victoria Cottage Hospital.

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF A LITTLE WORK BEGUN IN FAITH.

"What various instruments the Master useth
To carry on His work of grace below ;
Some realize the honor laid upon them,
Some utter weakness, and that only know,
Until their Lord, in His Divine compassion
(When they can bear it), gently lets them see
That, feeble though they are, he deigns to use them,
And by their means can do most perfectly."

THE work of this little Hospital has been so dear to me, so mixed up with my everyday life, and feeling what an object-lesson it has been to strengthen my faith in the "King of Kings," I thought that it might be a help to others who are travelling along the road to the heavenly country, and venture to give a short account of the marvellous way in which I have seen the Divine Hand through it all ; and knowing that I was merely an instrument used by Him to do a much-needed work, I began it in His strength.

At the commencement of the year 1887, wishing that it might be spent usefully in the responsible position in

which I had been placed, and that I might do something for His glory who has been so much to me through all these long years, I made my request known to Him, by prayer, asking if there was a work for me to do that it might be made very plain, and if He would be my guide and counsellor, I would undertake anything.

The answer to my prayer was like a revelation — that a Hospital was needed for the sick and dying I felt no doubt. And the plan was revealed to me that day like the unfolding of the leaves of a rose, one by one, as clear and plain as if a human voice had spoken to me — I felt that it was none other than the Spirit of the living God; my mind was wholly concentrated on that one subject, and that alone. When the evening came, it was so mirrored on my brain, so wonderfully complete, that I could see it like a painted picture — how I was to do it all from the beginning to the end. To me it seemed no great undertaking. He was the Master Builder, I only His workman, ready and willing to do whatever He told me; and, with one of old, could say, it would be “begun, continued, and ended in Thee.”

My first step was to ask the Government for a lot of land adjoining the Government House, which they readily gave me. Then I asked the Editors of the papers to write some articles which would be likely to enlist the sympathy of the public with me in the work;

they were all very kind, and helped me in every possible way. Some of them knew full well what the comforts of a Hospital, with good nursing, meant; therefore, could speak all the more feelingly. Then I asked some gentlemen to solicit contributions, and through the press as well. I shall never forget the feeling I had when I received a cheque for fifty dollars—my first contribution in Fredericton; it seemed such a good beginning, and the donor must have felt gratified had he but known how his gift was received. But the very first amount was given by a kind friend in New Jersey, whose name will ever be associated with this work. He sent me plans and all the latest works on buildings; finally from one of them I chose a cottage, thinking that I might put it into the hands of an architect to convert into a building suitable for a Hospital. A few days afterwards a gentleman from St. John called, and said he had heard of my intentions, and would like to assist me in some way. I gave him the paper containing a design, and he converted it into the pretty little building opened to-day, a "temple dedicated to God in the name of humanity; here all may lay their gifts on the same altar, and in communion listen to the Divine words, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.'" After the collectors had been out about ten days, the books showed over three thousand dollars, and

no one but GOD knows how grateful and encouraged I felt when they were handed to me with that amount subscribed. Then the next step was to have a Bazaar to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Her Majesty's reign. I felt that nothing could be more appropriate than to honor our Queen by doing something towards helping suffering humanity, which would remain as a monument to her jubilee year. In it all could join; those who had not the money to spare could give their time and talents to be employed in a good work that would benefit the afflicted. The Bazaar was to be carried on in a way that even the most scrupulous could not object to. The Government gave me the use of the Parliament Buildings and grounds, being a most charming place for it, and they assisted me in every way possible to make it a success by their great courtesy and kindness, and from the very start the Attorney General and his Council have encouraged and helped me, and I shall ever remember it with the deepest gratitude. Also, the Commandant and Officers of "A" Company, Royal School of Infantry, may rest assured that they have my heartfelt thanks for their great kindness during that week. They gave the services of their splendid Band, and aided in every way possible to make the undertaking a success, and on all occasions they have ever been ready and willing to give their assistance in carrying out any plan for the benefit of

the "Victoria Hospital." The Bazaar was to be represented by all denominations; two ladies from each Church were asked to meet at Government House, and consult with me about the Tables. It was decided that each Church should have six representatives, and furnish their own Tables; and the morning the Bazaar opened, it was indeed a beautiful sight, and would have done credit to London or New York, for they had all done their best, and had worked with a will, and everything passed off in a pleasant and satisfactory manner; and the sum realized was two thousand six hundred dollars, which amply repaid us all for any trouble we had taken, as it meant a good deal towards the Building Fund. And in the coming years of my life, should I be spared, I will often look back to the pleasant associations of that Bazaar week, as it brought me in close relationship with so many of the ladies of Fredericton, who have always been ready and willing to assist me in any undertaking, and there are many self-sacrificing women here, who only require the opportunity to develop their talents. As an instance of it one kind-hearted woman came to me sometime ago, and offered her services for one year. She was willing to leave her home, and go into the Hospital, and nurse the sick. The offer I have accepted, and she is now one of the staff, ready to be called upon when required. When I leave here to

make my home in another part of the Province, the Hospital will, I feel very sure, never need friends.

There were many interesting things connected with the work which tend to show how one event leads to another. While being with one dear to me in a Boston Hospital, a touching tribute was sent to him, consisting of a box of beautiful flowers, from one who desired to express his gratitude for some never-to-be-forgotten words of kindness and advice given to him as a young man when leaving his native land to make a home among strangers. On my arrival home the thought came (or rather was sent) to me one morning that the same kind heart might be ready to do something for the infirmities of others, and give me some help in the work; and, although a stranger to him, I ventured to write and ask. He at once replied to my letter, wishing me every success in the undertaking, and enclosing a cheque for two hundred and fifty dollars towards the fund, and also saying he hoped to see his way clear to give annually two hundred dollars towards endowing a bed, which he has since done. It was certainly a handsome gift to his old home, and I think that the following favorite quotation will be applicable to him:

"A sick man blessed by thee, shall make thee whole;
A poor man helped by thee, shall make thee rich;
Thou shalt be blessed thyself with every blessing which thou renderest."

Then, soon after, I had a letter from a young girl who had seen in the papers the proposed plan ; she had some years since left her home to earn her living in the States, and sent me fifteen dollars of her hard-earned wages. That little gift was certainly very gratifying. A graceful gift of ten dollars was sent from the Sunday School children of Knox Church, Shediac. Kind friends of mine in England, Canada, the United States, and even far-off Italy sent me sums of money. Young friends in Woodstock, St. Stephen and Bathurst also collected ; nearly every week there came something to encourage me. It was most interesting to watch the fulfilment of every promise. It seemed as soon as the need came for anything the answer was not far behind it. One generous-hearted man not only gave a large donation, but came and told me he would give me all the cotton for furnishing, which meant a good many yards to fit up a Hospital with twenty beds. But it would bring to him a blessing in knowing that it would do great good. I have had many gifts : from one friend a fountain for the grounds ; from another the Royal Coat of Arms, which will be very appropriate for the "Victoria" Hospital. Pictures have been sent me from Montreal, and one morning, in the middle of winter, a lame man came with a valuable contribution — something that he had made to be used for fractured limbs, having seen them in a City Hospital,

and which will be of great use. So many, many thoughtful acts of kindness I have received, and have given such real pleasure to me. The Hospital is now built. Just one year ago to-day we were here at the laying of the Corner-Stone. For situation, nothing could be more beautiful. Elevated above the water, "the silent river gliding slowly to the sea," and with the meadows beyond, secure to it a free course for the north-west breezes of summer, while the distant hills add a charm to this scene of beauty which would be difficult to surpass. If this is so delightful to those who enjoy the blessings of health, what will it be to him whose eyes behold it for the first time when he rises from a bed of sickness.

To me it has been truly a "labor of love" in every sense of the word, and feeling that in the future years to how many it will bring comfort and consolation is an all-sufficient recompense. For here may come the sick stranger, away from his dear ones, when prostrated by disease, and have quiet and kind judicious nursing, under good medical advice. The College and Normal School students who leave their homes with many an anxious mother's prayers that GOD would keep them in health and strength, but should sickness — the common lot of all — overtake them, here they may have good care and the comforts of home, which might be impossible to get under other circumstances. Here, also, may

come the young mechanic, industrious and frugal, who can pay the ordinary charges for board, but who has not, as yet, the means for the extra expenses of sickness, yet with a self-respect that would lead him to pay reasonably for his own maintenance. Female domestics, sick in the families of the affluent, may receive the care of those with whom they live, but such care must be given with so much inconvenience that they would gladly place them here at their own expense, where they can have during their illness what they can hardly obtain in a private family. To such the Hospital will bring relief, and gladden all hearts. To those who meet with fractures, accidents, or wounds (most common among laborers), who come directly to the Hospital, its doors will be open both night and day. Some private rooms are prepared for those who wish to enjoy the advantages of a Hospital, with constant medical attendance, and who are ready to pay for the accommodation and services rendered. "May those of future years who find relief here bless this work long after we have passed away and our very names are forgotten." The Maintenance Fund is satisfactorily arranged, so that no individuals will feel that they are unjustly taxed, or that it is a burden to them. An annual grant of six hundred dollars from the Government; two hundred from the City; and two beds endowed at two hundred dollars each, one of them

being by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, which I feel sure will be the means of doing great good for their most worthy cause; and with Hospital Sunday, which the Clergy have kindly consented to have, giving the collections of that day; and with paying patients, and, no doubt, occasional gifts, will be ample to sustain it. The Physicians will give their services, two being on duty each two months during the year; while they will be adding to their experience they will be doing a good work for suffering humanity. A Board of Trustees has been chosen, and after it is all in good working order, and matters arranged so that it will not be any trouble to carry on the work, it will then be given into competent hands to manage its future.

Feeling that before many years it will but constitute the beginning of what may be a large Hospital, and should GOD spare my life I will look back to this year's work, done for His suffering ones, as the happiest of all my life, and when I part with my little Hospital, it will, I know, be safe in the Master's hands.

“And so the years glide on, and only bring
Light and more light upon the shining way,
That shines more brightly to the perfect day.
Always intenser, brighter than the past,
Because they only bear me on glad wing,
Nearer the light of lights—the presence of the King.”

FREDERICTON, N. B., *21st June, 1888.*

SINCE writing my little book something so delightful has occurred that I think the story would be incomplete without it:

I have had, I may say, but one wish unfulfilled. My great desire was to have a small wing attached to the House for contagious diseases, as they could not possibly be put into the Wards; and one night I laid awake for several hours planning this little building, and when it was completed in my mind, the thought came about the expense, and I felt that it could not be done (as I would like it) for less than one thousand dollars, so I gave up the idea, thinking that it must be left for some one else to do the work in the future. But, just before the completion of the Building; a message was sent to me from a gentleman in Canterbury, N. B., saying that he intended presenting me on the day of the opening with one thousand dollars. My thoughts at once went back to my "castle in the air," and I recognized in that gift the same kind Hand that had been with me from the beginning, and Who had no doubt put it into the heart of that good man to send me the means to enable me to carry out the only remaining wish. Again I can say, from my heart, that it was "begun, continued, and ended in Thee."

NAMES OF THE LADIES

In charge of the Tables at the Bazaar.

LADY TILLEY'S TABLE.

Miss Temple, Miss Wetmore, Miss Jennie Winslow, Miss Margaret Bailey,
Miss Katie Jones (St. John), Miss Bayard (St. John), Miss McLellan (St. John)

INFANTRY SCHOOL TABLE.

Mrs. Maunsell, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Hemming,
Mrs. Hilyard, Mrs. F. Hazen.

CATHEDRAL TABLE.

Mrs. J. J. Fraser, Mrs. T. Carleton Allen, Mrs. Hazen, Mrs. John Black,
Mrs. T. E. Winslow, Mrs. E. L. Wetmore.

BAPTIST TABLE.

Mrs. Randolph, Mrs. Steadman, Mrs. D. F. George, Mrs. Herbert Creed,
Mrs. J. Henry Phair, Mrs. Allan Randolph, Miss Babbitt, Mrs. J. Z. Currie.

ST. ANN'S TABLE.

Mrs. George Bliss, Mrs. Tabor, Miss Tabor, Miss Mabel Jack, Miss Earle
(St. John), Miss Crookshank (St. John).

METHODIST TABLE.

Mrs. Blair, Mrs. C. H. B. Fisher, Mrs. Lemont, Mrs. Fowler, Mrs.
Coulthard, Mrs. F. P. Thompson, Mrs. Coburn.

ST. DUNSTAN'S TABLE.

Mrs. O'Malley, Mrs. McPeake, Mrs. Dever, Mrs. McDonald, the Misses
Sharkey, Miss McPeake.

FREE BAPTIST TABLE.

Mrs. Vanwart, Mrs. Gaunce, Mrs. McLeod, Mrs. Freeze, Mrs. Tennant.

REFRESHMENT TABLES.

Mrs. Alfred Street, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. A. A. Sterling, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Melville Jack, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Stopford, Mrs. Richey, Mrs. George Babbitt, Miss Carman, Miss Babbitt, Mrs. Richards, Mrs. Coburn, Mrs. McLearn, Mrs. Goodridge Roberts, Mrs. W. W. Long.

YOUNG LADIES' TABLE.

Louise Wetmore (Clifton), Alma Gibson (Marysville), Josephine Thompson (Douglas), Gertrude Jones (Woodstock), Addie George, Bessie Babbitt, Myra Hatt, Fanny Phair, Lily Lyons, Blanche Seely, Gertrude Lugin, Nan. Lugin.

GIRLS' MISSION BAND—ICE CREAM TABLE.

Maggie Jaffrey, Mary Akerley, Alice Cropley, May Straton, Cecil Phair, Fannie Burnside, Ida Allen, Harriet Rainsford, Bessie Hunt, Maud Beckwith, Bessie Williamson, Myra Sherman, Helen Sterling, Eliza Hunter, Maggie Allen, the Misses Lister.

FLOWER TABLE.

Mamie Tibbits, Nellie Wetmore, May Whelpley, Frankie Babbitt, Blanche Tibbits, Kathleen Gordon

SODA WATER TABLE.

Miss Blair, Miss Randolph, Mr. H. C. Tilley, Mr. L. P. Tilley, Mr. G. Blair, Mr. R. Randolph, Miss Fowler, the Misses Gregory, Mr. Stewart Skinner.

DINNER AND TEA COMMITTEE.

Mrs. Douglas Hazen, Mrs. Moses Akerley, Mrs. Spafford Barker, Mrs. Sheehan (Frederick Junction), Mrs. McLearn, Mrs. A. Beckwith, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. T. Tibbits, Mrs. Hilyard, Mrs. Harry Beckwith, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Gregory, Miss Quian, Miss Morehouse, and Mr. Boutillier (the Barracks).

Captain Akerley, Mr. Alfred Street, Mr. T. Carleton Allen, Mr. Quinn, and Mr. H. Wetmore took charge of Tickets, and assisted in many ways.