



# Children's Ward

in the Protestant Hospital,

Ottawa. ✽ The Gift of the

MAY COURT CLUB.

**SPEECH** *by the May Queen and by Her  
Excellency the Countess Grey.* ✽ ✽ ✽

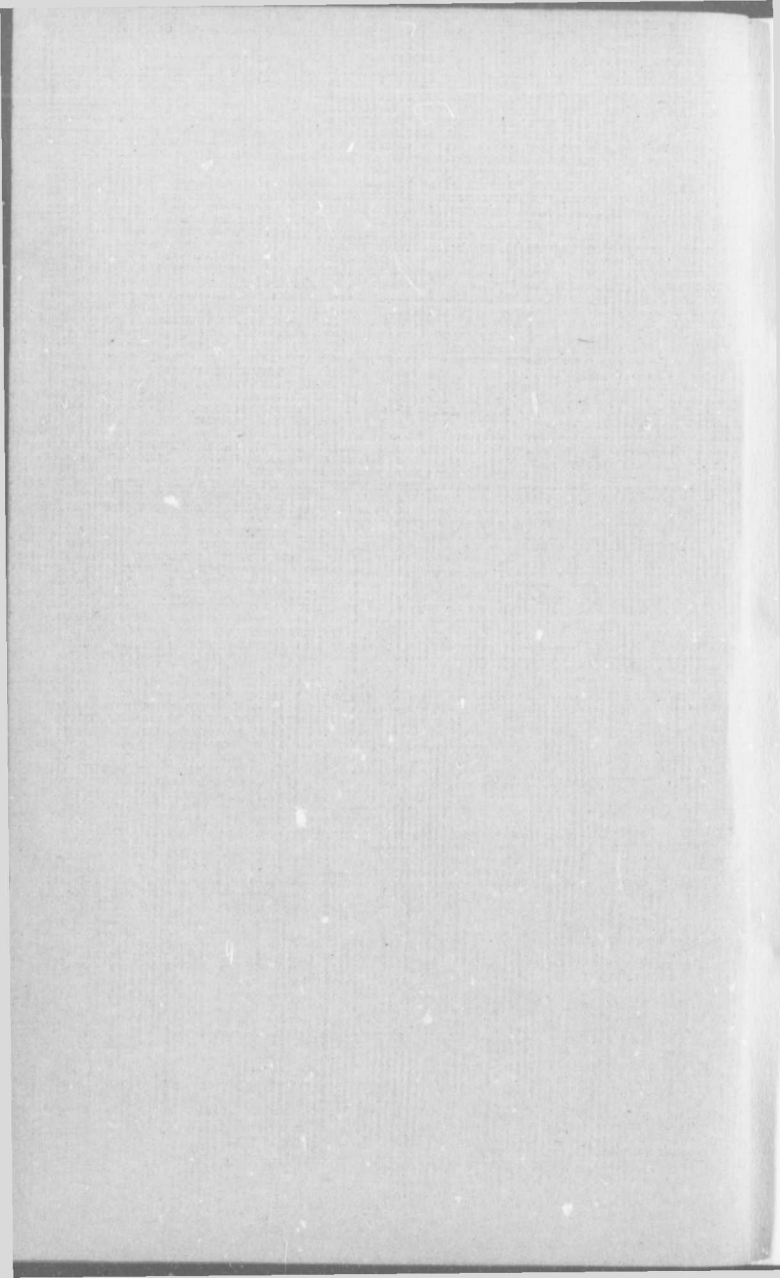


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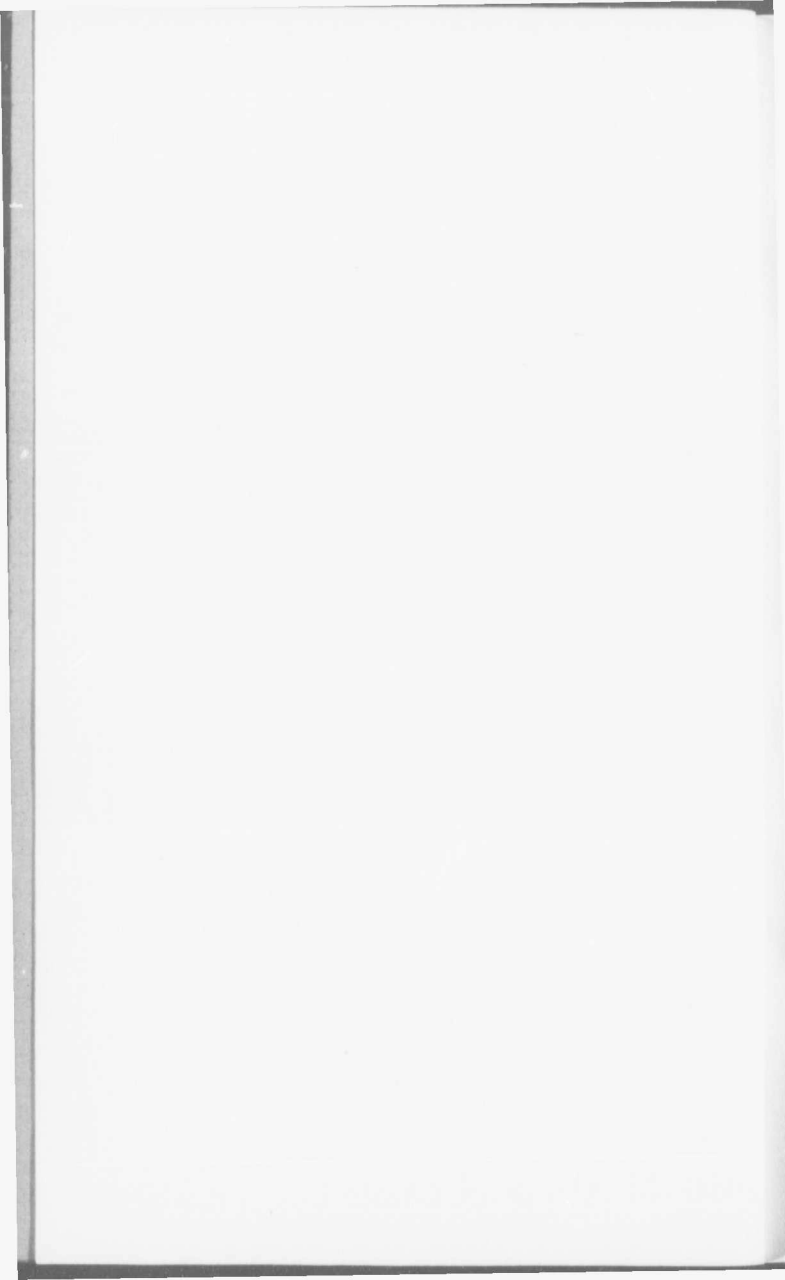
12 copies printed for A. G. Doughty. ✽ ✽ March, 1905.

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CHILDREN'S WARD in the Protestant Hospital, Ottawa, formally opened by Her Excellency, the Countess Grey. ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

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An account of the proceedings, reprinted from the "Evening ❁ ❁ Citizen ", Ottawa, February 7th, 1905 ❁ ❁

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I N the gracious words of the Countess Grey, many a grateful mother's heart will bless the ladies of the May Court club for the beautiful children's ward in the Protestant hospital which Her Excellency formally declared open yesterday afternoon.

The formal ceremony took place at 3.30. There was quite a large attendance of friends but many who were expected did not come and it was learned, too late to make amends, that about one hundred of the invitations sent out by the May Court club had not reached their

destination owing to a mistake in the post office. There was but one opinion expressed regarding the ward and its equipment and that was that nothing better could well be imagined. The cots were placed in position yesterday morning and the children, who hitherto have been scattered all over the hospital, were gathered in, except one or two who were considered too ill to stand the excitement of the crowd at the opening. Several of the little tots were in their beds, others in the part of the room divided off for playing, while one was in the invalid's chair.

The ward, which is spacious and well lighted, has been finished in oak and the walls tinted a light color. An oak fence, the gift of J. W. Woods, divides the room into two parts. The part on the south side is the day nursery for convalescents. Around this part, against the wall, are oak boxes which can be used for seats but which are to contain toys, picture books, etc., when not in use. An oak cabinet contains warm dressing gowns, slippers and stockings for the children to wear while play-



ing. There are small tables and chairs for the children's games. Before leaving Ottawa, Lady Minto sent up a number of toys from Rideau hall. Others have been promised but all have not yet been received.

The part of the ward devoted to the beds is particularly bright and attractive. The dainty little white enameled iron cots, with their spotless linen looked very inviting and it was not surprising to see the little patients wearing smiles of contentment. The invalid's chair, the ward carriage for dressings, the bandage case and the screens were all purchased in New-York and are the most modern that could be secured. The furniture includes two swinging cots, a desk, iron tables with glass tops and oak chairs.

The hospital directors put a new floor in the ward and tinted the walls. The May Court club did the rest, though as the cost will be \$900 the members were of course assisted by friends. But aside from undertaking the most commendable work and being responsible for it, the ladies of the May Court club did a lot of

personal work. The ward was furnished complete in every detail including a liberal supply of linen, dressing gowns, and night dresses. All the sewing for these was done by the ladies who had the use of the room and sewing machines of the women's auxiliary.

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Her Excellency Lady Grey was accompanied by Mrs. Hanbury-Williams and Lord Bury. None of the guests entered the ward till after their arrival. When all had gathered, Miss Fitzpatrick, the May Queen, on behalf of the club handed over the ward. In doing so she said :

« It is with a deep feeling of pleasure, almost pride, that as president of the May Court club, I to day, give over to the hospital authorities this children's ward, and yet I fully realize how very little I have done. When the idea was suggested to me the undertaking seemed quite beyond us. The small revenue

of the club could not warrant the expenditure of so large an amount for one of our eight committees. The equipment of the ward with all the furnishings and linen meant a tremendous lot of work and who was to undertake it and put it through ?

« We asked a few kind friends for help and everyone of them responded with a generosity that surpassed our expectations. Others volunteered without being requested, and in less than three months we had over \$700. The hospital authorities kindly repaired the room, and put down a floor. Miss Ethel White, with a committee of twenty members of the May Court club, undertook the equipment of the ward. They ordered the furniture, did all the sewing and have already provided for the comfort and relief of ten poor little invalids. Their work was made much easier through the kindness of the Women's auxiliary, of the hospital, who allowed them the use of their room and sewing machines. Miss Meiklejohn and Dr. D. M. Robertson helped us as nobody else could. They were ready to give us the best

and most necessary of advice, and were un-failing in their desire to be of some use to us. I feel it will be my last and only opportunity of meeting all our kind friends together and I wish to thank them over and over again for the help which they have given us. It is to them and to Miss White and her able committee that the entire success of our undertaking is due.

«-Thanks also to Your Excellency for so kindly consenting to be present this afternoon, and for conferring upon us the honor of opening the May Court ward. As long as it exists Your Excellency's benovelence will be recalled with pleasure and gratitude. »

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Mr. Geo. L. Orme, president of the board of directors, accepted the gift and in kind words expressed the greatest appreciation for the kindness of the May Court ladies. He assured them that the ward will be well cared for

and that the little patients will receive the attention for which, he said, the hospital was noted.

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Her Excellency Lady Grey said it gave her much pleasure to be present on the happy occasion of the formal opening of such a beautiful ward. She referred, in a gracious manner, to the loving care and thoughtfulness shown in making the ward so complete in every detail. She expressed pleasure that the children would have a separate ward, fitted up with every convenience to make them comfortable while sick, and a play room for convalescents. « Many a grateful mother's heart will bless the ladies of the May Court club, » said Her Excellency. She again expressed the grateful feelings that would be experienced on the part of the little children and formally declared the ward open.

Then the members of the May Court club came in for warm congratulations from all

sides. Her Excellency, accompanied by Miss Meiklejohn and Mr. Geo. L. Orme, inspected the entire hospital including the kitchen wards and private rooms. She expressed much pleasure at the way she found things.

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The ladies who have worked so generously in this noble undertaking included Miss Fitzpatrick, Miss Edith Macpherson, Miss Ethel White, Miss Borden, Miss Foster, Miss Meiklejohn, Mrs. Minnes, Misses Wickstead, Morna Bate, Ethel Bate, Eleanor Bate, McCarthy, Florence Fielding, Lula Lambert, Zoe Greaves, Elsie Cotton, Dorothy Cotton, Lola Powell, Edna Moore and Mrs. Henderson.

A shower of American Beauty roses adorned the centre of the table. The guests included, Mrs. Hanbury-Williams, Mrs. Irwin, Mrs. Collingwood Schreiber, Mrs. F. W. Avery, Mrs. John Gilmour, Mrs. Crombie, Miss Sparks, Mr. Walter White, Col. R. H.

Smith, Mr. W. A. Allen, Mrs. Fitzpatrick,  
Mrs. H. A. Bate, Mrs. T. C. Bate, Mrs. Fleck,  
Mrs. Courtenay, Mrs. W. C. Edwards. The  
Misses Sparks, Mrs. Gormully, Mr. and Mrs.  
Soper, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Woods, Mrs.  
Echlin, Mrs. J. B. Fraser, Mrs. W. H. Fraser.

