

BARTHOLOMEW MOSSE, M. D., SURGEON,

Founder of the Dublin Lying-in Hospital.

With a Portrait.

IN our last Number we alluded to the establishment of that noble institution, The Dublin Lying-in Hospital, as one proof of the high estimation in which the science of medicine and surgery has been held by those engaged in the practice of it in this country. We may add, further, that it is an evidence of energy and benevolence such as have rarely been exhibited. Men will labour diligently for their own advancement, either directly or indirectly, and will even contribute liberally to the relief of distress; but how seldom do we see an individual devoting his time, his talents, bodily and mental labour, and his wealth, to the sole purpose of raising up an asylum for the relief of suffering, and, at the same time, for the improvement of his own profession, without the prospect,—nay, we may say, without the possibility,—of an adequate reward? And yet this was what was done, simply and without display, and, as will appear by the following memoir, under circumstances of unparalleled difficulty, by the founder and builder of the Lying-in Hospital in this city. If the College of Physicians may justly glory in such a man as Sir Patrick Dun, the Surgeons have no less reason to be proud of Dr. Mosse.

As a sketch of the life of such a man may afford encouragement and support to those who are engaged in the actual strife of life, and cannot but interest all who are occupied with similar pursuits, we now present to the profession, and to the city of Dublin, for which he achieved so much, such details as we have been able to collect(*a*).

(*a*) In the memoirs which shall appear in this our Gallery of "Illustrious Physicians and Surgeons in Ireland," we shall in every instance acknowledge our obligations to the various authors, and also state the sources from which we or they have drawn the materials of such. It is strange that up to the present date, no Life or Sketch of the noble philanthropist who forms the subject of this memoir should have appeared in print. The corporation of the Lying-in Hospital should certainly have done some such honour to his memory. In the second volume of Whitelaw and Walsh's History of Dublin, published in 1818, we find some brief notice of the benevolent founder of the Lying-in Hospital, but the scale of that work forbade any extended biography. "The case of Mosse," presented to the Irish Parliament, printed bills of the various "schemes" invented by him for the purpose of raising money to build and support the Hospital, and such like means of information, occasionally crossed the path of the literary antiquary; but no effort was made, either by the corporation or the medical staff of the hospital, to collect and arrange these materials, till a few years ago, when his descendant, William Monck Mason, Esq., author of the History of St. Patrick's Cathedral, &c., made some searches after the papers of Mosse, and commenced to collect information, with the intention, we understand, of publishing his Life; but this, if ever completed, has never seen the light. This circumstance, however, may have prevented those immediately connected with the institution from engaging in

BARTHOLOMEW MOSSE, son of the Rev. Thomas Mosse, rector of Maryborough, Queen's County, was born in the year 1712. After receiving a "genteel education," he was sent to Dublin, and bound apprentice to Mr. John Stone, surgeon. We know no-

the matter. To our esteemed friend and contributor, Dr. Fleetwood Churchill, the profession is mainly indebted for reviving the history of Mosse. With great labour and research he procured and condensed all that was known about Mosse (chiefly, however, in a medical point of view), and read it at one of the meetings of the Obstetrical Society, in the year 1842. Dr. Churchill kindly placed his MS. in our hands some weeks ago, and we had it at once put into print. On reading it over, however, we found references made to an unknown biographer, and to an original document, of which the following is the history, and which we consider of such value in an historical and archaeological point of view, and moreover, so unlikely again to meet the public eye, that we have stopped the press, abstracted the Ophthalmological Report which was promised in our last, and have printed this most interesting record almost entire, and without alteration, in its stead.

This document is a manuscript "Account of the Rise and Progress of the Lying-in Hospital in Dublin, with an Attempt towards the Life and Character of Doctor Bartholomew Mosse, the Founder thereof, by B. H——," which is now in the possession of Dr. Collins, ex-Master of the hospital, who received it from the late Dr. Joseph Clarke (with whose memoir we hope one day to present our readers); and Dr. Collins kindly placed it at our disposal. Upon searching the records of the Hospital, we find that the author, Benjamin Higgins, was first secretary to the board, and afterwards the registrar of the Hospital in 1760,—and must, therefore, have been personally acquainted with Mosse, and an eye-witness of much of what he wrote about. Moreover, Dr. Collins has, in a note to us, borne the following testimony to this gentleman: "Mr. Higgins was one of the most correct men that ever filled any public office, as well as a man of most exemplary character. I have often and often heard Dr. Clarke speak of him in the highest terms, and it always appeared to me to give him much pleasure to do so." This account is drawn up in a clear, simple style; is a plain statement of facts, and a transcript of several documents, the originals of which do not, in all probability, now exist, but to which several references are made in the archives of the Institution. With the exception of a few transpositions, we have made no alteration in the text, and have marked as quotations, and printed as they were written, all those portions extracted from Higgins's "Account."

Mr. Strickland, the present registrar, has with laudable zeal and industry lately collected into a large volume several most interesting documents, consisting of various original letters, petitions, deeds, statements, accounts, receipts, and agreements, &c., relating to the founding of the Hospital. To this volume, together with the minute book of the Hospital, we have been kindly permitted access by our friend, Dr. Johnson, the present Master, who has also presented us with a copy of a manuscript history of the institution, written by the late Dr. Cleghorn. To Dr. Churchill, however, we owe the great bulk of our obligations.

We are happy to inform our friends, that the portrait which accompanies this biography is entirely a work of Irish art. The original picture, which now decorates the board-room of the Hospital, was presented to the institution by W. M. Mason, Esq., in November, 1838, but by whom painted we have not been able to discover; the sketch was made by Mr. James Forde, and engraved by Mr. Duncan. There is also a plaster bust of Mosse, standing on a bracket in the hall, with this inscription underneath:

BART. MOSSE, M. D.
MISERIS SOLAMEN
INSTITUT.
MDCCLVII.

It seems to have been modelled from a mask taken after death, and was probably the work of Van Noet. We offer no apology for, but rather congratulate our readers and the public on this lengthened biography of our distinguished countryman.—EDITOR.

thing of his pursuits or habits of life as a student, but that they were creditable to him, and that he availed himself of such opportunities as offered, may be presumed from the following certificate, which was found among his papers after his decease:

"I do hereby certify that Mr. Bartholomew Mosse hath faithfully and diligently served his apprenticeship to me; and I do hereby believe him well qualified to practise surgery.

(Signed),

"JOHN STONE."

Dublin, 12th July, 1733.

The Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland was not incorporated until 1784, and it appears that, previous to this event, the Surgeon-General possessed the power of examining and granting licenses to practise surgery. Thus we read:

"I do certify that I have examined Mr. Bartholomew Mosse, who served his apprenticeship to Mr. Stone, in Dublin, and find him very well qualified to practise the art of surgery.

"Dated in Dublin, this 12th day of July, 1733.

"JOHN NICHOLS."

There is a discrepancy here which we are not able to explain, except by supposing that Mr. Nichols acted as a substitute for the then Surgeon-General, as he himself was only appointed to that office by letters patent dated April 3, 1761.

Sometime after receiving this qualification or license (probably about 1737 or 1738, but the exact date is uncertain), Mosse was employed by the Government to take charge of the men drafted from Ireland to complete the regiments in Minorca; and that he performed the duty satisfactorily is shewn by the following certificate.

"We do hereby certify that Mr. Mosse, one of the surgeons appointed by Government to take charge of the men draughted from Ireland to complete the regiments in Minorca, has performed his duty in taking care of those men that were under his charge, and likewise has greatly recovered those who came on board diseased.

"Given under our hands, at St. Phillip's, October 4, 1738.

"WILLIAM CONGREVE,

"CHAS. WHITEFOORD.

"ROBT. COTTER."

We here quote from the manuscript memoir of Mr. Higgins, referred to in the foregoing note, and from which we have gleaned many of the previous particulars.—"Dr. Mosse, both before and after the above appointment, practised surgery and midwifery with great success; but this did not prevent his seeking to add to his information, by intercourse with the practitioners of other countries, for in a paper which he afterwards published, he states, that, 'intending to perfect himself in surgery and midwifery, he travelled into England, France, and Holland, and several other parts of Europe; and that from his first entrance into such study and profession he became convinced of the great usefulness, if not necessity, of having an hospital for lying-in women in the city of Dublin, and

resolved as far as in his power to have such an hospital established; and for that purpose laid himself out particularly to inquire into and to observe the hospitals in the countries through which he travelled."

The conviction thus early entertained, and the plans thus carefully matured, were not likely to remain inoperative in a mind so energetic in its benevolence as Dr. Mosse's: indeed, had he been less prompt, an adequate stimulus would have been offered by the misery and want of the poor, witnessed by him in the course of his practice. Even in the present day, when the means of relief for the distressed have been so multiplied, there are few of us who have not met with cases of melancholy destitution at a time when there is more than usual need of kindness and comfort. The necessity of an institution for poor lying-in women thus rendered apparent by his daily experience, Dr. Mosse determined upon putting his plans into speedy execution. "Having," says his biographer, "settled in Dublin, he married the daughter of the Venerable Dr. Whittingham, Arch-Deacon of Dublin, and having obtained a license in midwifery he quit the practice of surgery."

"In the course of his practice charity often demanded his assistance; and he hath often declared, that the misery of the poor women of the city of Dublin, at the time of their lying-in, would scarcely be conceived by any one who had not been an eye witness of their wretched circumstances; that their lodgings were generally in cold garrets open to every wind, or in damp cellars, subject to floods from excessive rains; destitute of attendance, medicines, and often of proper food, by which hundreds perished with their little infants.—*State of the Hospital, published November, 1750.*

"These distresses excited his compassion, and he resolved no longer to delay his endeavours to establish an hospital for poor lying-in women. Having communicated this humane and charitable intention to a few particular friends, who highly approved of his schemes, he took a large house in George's-lane, which he furnished with beds and other necessaries, and opened the same on the 15th of March, 1745, continuing to support it chiefly at his own expense, and constantly attending it in person until the apparent usefulness of it induced several well-disposed persons to encourage the undertaking by benefactions and yearly subscriptions, which encouraged him to enlarge his plan.

"He belonged to a society called 'The Union,' consisting of a number of persons of different occupations, most of whom subscribed four shillings and four pence yearly, to be paid quarterly, for the support of the intended hospital; and this is supposed to have been the first assistance he received."

It is quite clear that this would go but a very little way towards defraying its expences, nor have we any information as to its other sources of revenue, but Dr. Mosse seems to have confidently anticipated that an institution so valuable would not be allowed to fail for want of funds. Perhaps he thought, as we heard a well-known

charitable individual of our day declare, that the "best way of getting money is to get into debt." The house which he purchased in George's-lane is at present No. 59, South Great George's-street, opposite Fade-street; it stands back from the street, and is now approached by a narrow alley; the first building contains twelve rooms, with closets for nurses; and at the rere of this is a second, containing one large and two small wards, with out-offices. In front of it there was originally a court-yard, which may still be seen on some of the old maps of the city(*a*), but this space has long since been filled up with buildings; the whole is now in a most dilapidated condition, and tenanted by a number of poor families. The accompanying sketch of this most interesting building, even in its present state of decay, may not be without its interest.



So far, then, we may consider the original hospital founded and established by the enterprize of one man; and in our estimate of the credit due to him we ought not to forget that the institution was the first of the kind in the British dominions, and may therefore be truly regarded as the parent of all those in the capital of the sister country(*b*).

(*a*) See the charts published with Wilson's Dublin Directory about that period; see also Pool and Cashe's Views of the City of Dublin, 1780. In the lower part of the old hospital in George's-lane originally resided the father of the late Archbishop Magee; and in the small building behind it (now an envelope manufactory), was, some years ago, the well-known "Daly's Academy."

(*b*) In consequence of applications then made to Dr. Mosse for information as to

In *Faulkner's Journal* for March, 1745, we find an account of the opening of the Hospital in George's-lane, and at the conclusion of it the following notice, from which it would appear that the founder received but little sympathy from his professional brethren, although he offered them advantages that few would now be slow in accepting. It is as follows:—"Constant attendance will be given at the said Hospital by Mr. Bartholomew Mosse, until assisted by the rest of the gentlemen of the faculty."^(a)

As the hospital became more known, its friends and supporters increased; and besides ordinary subscriptions, Dr. Mosse, who was essentially a "man of many projects," had recourse for its support to plays, lottery schemes, concerts, oratorios, &c.; and we may mention that he brought over Castrucci, the last pupil of Corelli, as an attraction to these concerts. These various resources had produced, since 1745, about £3649 altogether at the time (1750) when he published his first Report.

Reports of the Institution were published annually, giving the number of females relieved and children born, with a statement of the receipts and expenses; and from one we give the following extract, shewing the care taken in the economical disbursements of the funds, when compared with similar institutions: "The supporting of 2307 women in the British Lying-in Hospital, London, as ap-

the plan and method of conducting his hospital, the Brounlow-street Hospital in London was established in 1747; and in the year 1748 or 1749, the British Lying-in Hospital, Long Acre; followed in 1750 by the City of London Lying-in Hospital, Aldersgate-street; in 1752 by Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, Paddington; and in 1765 by the Westminster Lying-in Hospital, Lambeth, "on the same plan and with similar regulations."

(a) We copy the following from *Faulkner's Journal*, No. 1884, from March 23 to 26, 1745:

"On Friday, the 15th instant, was opened an hospital for poor lying-in women, in George's-lane, facing Fade-street; and the same evening Judith Rochford was received into the said hospital, recommended by the minister, churchwardens, and a great number of the principal parishioners of St. Andrew's parish, as a very great object of charity; and on Wednesday last she was safely delivered of a son.

"As this hospital is solely designed for the use of such poor and distressed women as are not in circumstances to provide themselves at such a time with a convenient place to lye in, or with the common necessaries for persons in such a condition, by which means many poor though honest and industrious women perish, and leave their helpless orphans a burthen to the public (notwithstanding they may at any hour have the best assistance in the physical way that this city affords), therefore, the directors of this hospital request that the public recommend none but such as truly merit the benefit of this most useful charity.

"The beds hitherto erected are few, but the directors in a short time hope to be able to fill the house, which will conveniently contain twenty-four beds. This number, they apprehend, will be sufficient to relieve all the poor objects, in such a way, in this city. Every woman is to have a warm, decent bed to herself, and shall be provided with all manner of necessaries, and the greatest care imaginable will be taken of her and the new-born infant from the time she is received until well able to leave the hospital without danger; and all this without the least expense to her.

"N. B.—Those who are inclined to contribute to the support and encouragement of this so useful and charitable an undertaking may send their subscriptions or benefactions to the Rev. Dr. Wynne, Dr. Blashford, Sir Arthur Gore, Bart., Thomas Prior, and Ralph Simpson, Esqrs.; or any of the clergy in and about Dublin."

pears from the printed state of the said hospital, cost £7313 16s. 10½d., which is more than £3 3s. 5½d. each; whereas the supporting of 3975 women in the Lying-in Hospital in George's-lane, Dublin, including all expenses, came to but £3913 13s. 0¼d., which is very little more than 19s. 8½d. each. By which the manager of the last named charity saved to the public no less a sum than £8696 12s. 5½d.; for had the above 3975 women cost £3 3s. 6¼d. each, the whole amount would have been £12,610 5s. 6d."

"This hospital, besides the relief of the distressed, was intended as a school for young surgeons intending to practise midwifery, as it might render it unnecessary for such to resort to France and other foreign parts for instruction; and also as a nursery to raise and transplant into the several parts of the kingdom, women, who, being duly qualified, might settle in such parts as most stand in need of them. The Doctor was, at the time of opening the hospital about thirty-three years of age, in full health and vigour, of a clear understanding, affable and agreeable in his conversation and behaviour, and beloved and esteemed by all his acquaintances; and the great advantage of it being soon observed, as well abroad as at home, application was made to Dr. Mosse, in the year 1747, by several persons in London (particularly Dr. Layard), for his plan, scheme, and regulations, which he transmitted to them; and an hospital was erected in London the year following on the same plan, with the same regulations, which soon met with so great encouragement from the public, that before the year 1751 two more hospitals for lying-in women were opened in the said city."

We have now arrived at the second grand epoch of Dr. Mosse's undertaking. Finding that the applications for admission exceeded the accommodation of the house in George's-lane, and also that there were many inconveniences which he could not remedy, he determined to erect an hospital which should combine extent with suitable convenience. Promptitude in executing that which he deemed advisable appears to have been a remarkable feature in Dr. Mosse's character, and in the present instance was displayed as usual: for on August 25, 1748, three years after the opening of the old house, he took the piece of ground in Great Britain-street, consisting of 4A. 19P., at present occupied by the hospital gardens and Rutland-square. By the lease, dated as above, W. Naper, Esq. made over the ground to Dr. Mosse, his heirs and assigns, for lives renewable for ever, at the yearly rent of £70.

This was of course a considerable addition to the limited finances of the original hospital, but it was a trifle comparatively. The new hospital had to be built, and on no limited scale, and meanwhile the old establishment had to be kept up; and yet we find no hesitation in the mind of this large-hearted man about the personal difficulties in which he might be involved by his benevolent undertaking. He seems to have embarked his whole interest and heart, as well as his money, in the institution, from which, it is evident, he could have little hope of remuneration. No sooner was the ground taken than

he set about devising how it might be rendered available to the funds. "And in order," says his biographer, "to secure a probability of maintaining such hospital, he first, at the risk of his whole fortune, laid out and furnished a garden, with an orchestra, coffee-room, and decorations, for the entertainment of the public in the manner of Vauxhall, near London, whereon he expended about £2000. He then employed a band of music, and soon found his expectations fulfilled by a constant resort of company during the summer season which produced nearly £400 annually. The Doctor was so much delighted with the beauty of the garden, that he employed a painter (M. Grezoni), and had a perspective view of it painted on canvass, with the company, music, &c., which cost him an hundred guineas. This picture was accounted a great masterpiece, and was so true a representation, that the Doctor intended to have it engraved the size of a large sheet of paper, and to be sold at three half-crowns each, for which he actually received subscriptions from several persons. He sent the original picture to France to be engraved, but it was seized, upon being landed there, and could never since be recovered.

"About the year 1749 there were many reports propagated reflecting on the character of Dr. Mosse, which it is supposed were occasioned through envy of his great talents and success, as several gentlemen of the professions of physic, surgery, and midwifery, were his chief enemies, and made use of all their endeavours to blast his reputation and overturn his scheme. Amongst many reports to his disadvantage, one of the chief was, that he had taken the lease in his own name, and for the use of himself and family, without any intention of building an hospital; and that, under the specious pretence of public charity, he was then extorting large sums of money, with which he meant to quit the kingdom. To obviate all suspicions of that nature, and to satisfy the public of the rectitude of his intentions, he executed a declaration of trust, endorsed on the lease, whereby he made over the same to three gentlemen of note, in trust for the use and support of the said charity. This declaration was dated the 1st of January, 1749, and was duly registered."

We know not whether Dr. Mosse expected that the public would give him credit for disinterested benevolence in these varied schemes—perhaps he never thought about it; but in the present day, at least, we do not believe that any evidence could convince some persons that a man who founded an hospital that flourished, gave concerts, bought ground, laid out gardens, &c., &c., was not making a very large fortune by it; and that simply, because they know of no other motive which would tempt themselves to do likewise. We need not, therefore, be surprised that, notwithstanding his enormous personal risk, and the actual outlay of money, and in the teeth of a yearly authentic statement of accounts, that these prudent speculators suspected a good per centage somehow, and reported that he intended "to quit the kingdom."

"Having now purchased timber, and many other materials

towards erecting the new hospital, he thought proper," (says the manuscript memoir from which we quote), "to distinguish the city of Dublin, for the relief of whose poor the Hospital was chiefly intended, by giving to the Lord Mayor the honour of laying the first foundation stone. And, accordingly, on June 4, 1751 (May 24, 1751, old style), being the birth-day of His Majesty King George III., then Prince of Wales, the first stone was laid by the Right Honourable Thomas Taylor, Lord Mayor; Thomas Morgan, Esq., Recorder; Thomas White and George Reynolds, Esqrs., Sheriffs; who came for that purpose, attended by the Aldermen, Commons Council, and the Masters and Wardens of the several corporations of the city, with their proper insignia." The first stone was laid at the west corner of the front of the hospital, and under it Dr. Mosse placed an engraved plate of copper, giving a brief account of the particulars already mentioned, with gold, silver, and copper coins of that year. The building, as it now stands, was designed, and also built, by Mr. Casseles, a distinguished architect of this city.

The following anecdote is so characteristic of the energy and hopefulness of the subject of it, and told with so much *naivetè*, that we give it in the words of his biographer: "It is worthy of remarking what the doctor assured an intimate friend, that on the morning of the 24th of May, whereon the first stone was laid, he was *barely worth* £500; and although he knew the hospital would cost him above £20,000, yet he never despaired of seeing it finished." And he rather quaintly adds: "As a further proof of his resolution and perseverance, he gave the Lord Mayor and his attendants a genteel and liberal entertainment, to which he had formally invited them; so that he seemed to be possessed of many thousands, while no man, besides himself, knew his real circumstances, having before been obliged to expend almost his whole personal fortune, and to mortgage his estate for near its value."

The building, thus commenced, was carried on with spirit as far as the funds permitted; the Doctor raised all the money he could on his own credit, and then unfortunately had recourse to lottery schemes, at that time much in vogue. We say unfortunately, for although at first he succeeded in raising about £8000, yet they ultimately failed, and involved him in debt and difficulties.

"In the year 1752 the Doctor projected a scheme of a lottery, and as a sanction, offered to give the city of Dublin two-thirds of the profits towards rebuilding Essex-bridge, the other third to be divided between the hospitals following: Inns'-quay Infirmery, Mercer's, The Incurables, and Lying-in Hospitals. But £500 was to be given to the Lying-in Hospital out of the two-thirds allotted towards the bridge, and the like sum out of the dividends of the other hospitals, in the consideration that the Doctor had projected the scheme, &c. On this occasion a great number of the chief citizens, with all the physicians and surgeons belonging to the several hospitals, formed themselves into a society, and had many meetings. This lottery was intended to be drawn in Dublin, and Dr. Mosse

provided wheels, &c., at a great expense. But, after the tickets were all sold, the Lords Justices would not allow the drawing. Thereupon the Doctor went to London, to the Duke of Athol, to endeavour to obtain his leave to draw it in the Isle of Man, and offered the Duchess £1000: but such leave could not be procured, so that all the money received for tickets was returned, and the whole expense fell on the Doctor; the several others who were to have had share of the profits absolutely refusing to bear any share of the loss, which amounted to a very considerable sum. Notwithstanding this discouraging prospect, he continued to carry on the building, and raised money for that purpose (but soon planned another scheme) on his credit; but upon his going to London to forward a scheme in 1753, his enemies raised many scandalous and fresh reports, giving out that he had absconded for debt, and could never return; that he had deceived the town by attempting to work miracles, but that no man of common sense had ever looked upon him in any other light than that of a madman, or a builder of castles in the air.

“Whilst his character was thus roughly handled at home, he met with many difficulties abroad by his lottery schemes, for which he and many others were prosecuted. But, being of an undaunted resolution, he surmounted every obstacle, and continued to carry on the building to the surprise of his friends and the mortification of his enemies. The Doctor being in London in December, 1753, an intimate friend in Dublin wrote him a letter, which has been found amongst his papers, dated 11th December, 1753, from which the following is an extract: ‘I assure you that your success in London cannot give you more pleasure than it does me. Mr. N——t wrote a private letter to Mr. M——ll, which he was pleased to communicate to me, and in this he gives him to understand that Dr. Mosse hath done wonders, that his traffic in the mercantile way hath lowered the exchange, and that he hath supported the credit of poor Ireland at a very critical time.’ In the year 1754 he founded a scheme on a Dutch lottery which would have enabled him to finish the hospital had it met with success. But meeting with many obstacles and unforeseen misfortunes in the progress of that scheme, and finding his character likely to suffer on that occasion more than ever, he thought proper the year following to lay a state of his whole proceedings in that affair before the public; which he accordingly published, and many hundreds of them were dispersed as well in London as in Dublin.”

As this public manifesto, which was published in 1755, has reference chiefly to matters of accounts in this lottery scheme, and insurance, and to a subject long since universally acknowledged,—the clearing of Dr. Mosse’s character and reputation,—we do not think it necessary to insert it here. It was originally intended that the hospital should have £10,000 from the scheme, but from losses and unfortunate chances it received but £2450.

In order to effect an insurance on this lottery, and to save all parties, Dr. Mosse proceeded to London. “This was readily procured by

the temptation of a premium of thirteen and a half per cent. The insurance was full immediately, and many gentlemen offered themselves for underwriters, for whom there was no room. Several merchants, of great note and fortune, were bound in a policy of insurance to secure the charity against the hazards of the wheel. The scheme was deemed very advantageous by every person, as the insuring adventurers had five per cent. above par. Still the success was far from answering their expectations, as will appear by the following state of the account and dealings between them and the managers, and a balance of £2320 4s. 6d. *still due to the charity remains in their hands.*"

[Here follows, in Mr. Higgin's narrative, the statement of the accounts].

"It is mentioned in the foregoing narrative," says Mr. Higgins, in commenting upon this public statement of the accounts, "that the managers had paid the fortunate chances, until they had reduced the demand under £2000, which sum it was not in their power to discharge, as the insurers were upwards of that sum in their debt, and as they had expended on the building, out of the profits of that scheme, the sum of £2450, as appears by a state of the hospital published in the year 1757; so that they were obliged to stop payment, which was the occasion of great exultation to their enemies, and lessened the number of their friends, or, at least, such of them as would not be at the trouble of a nice examination of facts.

"Sometime after this the Doctor filed a bill against the insurers, to bring them to a fair account, to which they filed an answer, and therein acknowledged a debt of £2130. But the Doctor's death put an end to the suit, and the same debt remains due by the insurers, and about the like sum is still due to the fortunate adventurers."

The following romantic adventure occurred to him while returning to Dublin, after effecting the insurance just alluded to. "Amongst the many difficulties and distresses which the Doctor underwent in the last-mentioned scheme, the following is somewhat singular. Having been in London, paying off the fortunate chances, he left that city the latter end of 1755, in order to come to Dublin; and having arrived at Holyhead, as he was there going on shipboard, he was arrested by a person who had followed him from London, at the suit of a person who had been employed by him there, for an alleged debt of about £200. He was taken to Beaumaris, and there confined; but before his friends had notice of his situation he made his escape by night out of a back window which hung over the sea, and prevailed on two boatmen to carry him over an arm of the sea to a considerable distance, where, perhaps, no boat had before ventured, and he remained in a poor cabin on the wild mountains of Wales for some weeks before he would venture home."

All this time, however, the old hospital in George's-lane continued in active operation, dispensing its blessings among the poor, and educating a class of practitioners who were to carry the prac-

tical advantages which its instruction afforded, not only throughout our own, but to every civilized country on the globe. Up to this period (the end of 1755) Mosse had contrived to collect or otherwise procure no less than £11,694, chiefly by means of plays, oratorios, and "schemes" of various kinds. Of this sum, £3531 was laid out upon the support and maintenance of the hospital in George's-lane, and £8163 expended on the new building in Great Britain-street. At this period all his resources appear to have been exhausted; yet notwithstanding the ill success of his previous venture, he attempted another scheme, but his character was so much depreciated by the last that it did not succeed, and he found himself under a necessity of dropping that method of raising money. He was, moreover, involved in debt, and hourly subject to arrest and imprisonment, having sold or mortgaged almost every thing he was worth. In this distressed condition he communicated his unhappy situation to some persons of the first rank, and was encouraged to make an application to the House of Commons, and to pray their aid to pay off the debts he had contracted on account of the hospital, and to enable him to finish the same.

A copy of this document, to which we have already referred, and which was very widely circulated at the time, now lies before us. It is styled, "The Case of Bartholomew Mosse, Esq., of the City of Dublin, Surgeon, and Licentiate in Midwifery, 1755," and sets forth the erection of, and benefits derived from, the hospital in George's-lane; and, among other items, sheweth, "That the said hospital has been a means of stopping or lessening that most unnatural, though formerly frequent, practice of abandoning, or perhaps murdering, new-born infants; for since the first opening of the said hospital there have been few or no instances of a child exposed or murdered within the city or suburbs of Dublin. That such hospital being established in this city makes it unnecessary for such gentlemen as intend to practise midwifery to resort to France or other foreign parts for instruction and experience in this branch, several such having already been instructed in said hospital, and applications are daily made by others for the same purpose. * * * That the said Bartholomew Mosse hath laboured under many and great difficulties in the support of the said charitable institution, and in carrying on the building of the said new hospital, and cannot finish the same without the aid of the honourable House of Commons, having already been obliged to expend thereon a considerable sum of money out of his own private fortune."

Attached to this document are the whole accounts, receipts, and disbursements of the old hospital in George's-lane, as well as the sums expended on the erection of the new; by which it appears that during the ten years and a half ending the 30th September, 1755, there had been received £11,694, of which sum £10,548 was obtained from plays, oratorios, and various "schemes" in lotteries, devised by Dr. Mosse, the remainder only being donations and subscriptions. The sum of £3531 was expended upon the hospital in

George's-lane, and the fitting up of the gardens in Great Britain-street, leaving the Doctor and his work in debt £5830. As a claim or set-off against the country and the institution, the Doctor adopted a form of debtor and creditor account, not quite unknown in the present day. It runs thus at the top of the third page of his memorial :

" To the said Bartholomew Mosse's trouble in superintending the hospital in George's-lane ten years and a half,	—	—	—
" To ditto's trouble in superintending the new building in Great Britain-street seven years and a half,	—	—	—
" To ditto's five journeys to London and other parts of England, to further several schemes for the benefit of the hospital,	—	—	—
" To interest of money borrowed to carry on the building at such times as money could not be raised any other way,"	—	—	—

Then follows " An Account of the Women admitted into the Hospital in George's-lane, from its first opening on the 25th March, 1745, to the 30th September, 1755, with their different Ages," the parishes in Dublin and the other parts of the kingdom from which they came, the class of society to which they belonged, the number of deliveries, results, and sex of births, and the mortalities of mothers and children, together with the number of twins, &c., forming altogether one of the most interesting as well as the earliest statistical tables of this description on record, and shewing that the registry of this hospital a hundred years ago was better kept than many of the present day. Finally, to this case of Mosse was appended a recommendation from the Protestant clergy and churchwardens of the various parishes in Dublin.

" We observe," say these latter, " that generally the habitation of the working poor in this city is only one room, and a family, or perhaps more, therein, where, when the wife is in labour, and sometimes before and after, the work of that room must be suspended, whereby not only the ordinary expenses must be continued, but even extraordinary must accrue for the use of the lying-in woman ; and yet no work is carried on to support them, for fear of disturbing the woman, which frequently throws poor families, as objects of distress, on the parish, and the handicraft for the time is totally lost ; therefore this hospital, besides the humanity of relief, may continue workmen at their employment, for the service of the public, and remove one common excuse for idleness. We further observe, that the condition of the wives of soldiers, menial servants, and labourers, more especially when they are left widows with child, is so deplorable, that they frequently have either no lodging for their reception in their distress, or are obliged to lie in ruinous untenanted houses, destitute of all conveniences of clothes, fire, &c., to the manifest danger of themselves and children."

This petition was presented in his own name in the session of

1755, and on the "23rd March, 1756, the House addressed His Majesty to grant a sum of £6000 to be 'expended in paying such debts as were then due, for materials and work done, at the said hospital, and in finishing the same,' and this sum His Majesty was graciously pleased to grant."

Before this time, so early as the 16th June, 1752, Dr. Mosse had applied for a charter to incorporate a number of noblemen and gentlemen as governors and guardians of the hospital; and in the year 1755 he succeeded in obtaining it. It is dated December 2, 1756; and in the preamble sets forth that, "in answer to a petition addressed to the Duke of Dorset, stating the number of poor women distressed at their lyings-in, and of children lost, especially the wives of soldiers and sailors; and that as a considerable sum has been collected and legacies bequeathed, and in order to prevent gentlemen going abroad for instruction," &c. &c., for these reasons it appoints the Lord Lieutenant, the Lord Primate, the Lord Archbishop of Dublin, the Lord Chancellor, the Right Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Lord Mayor, the Lord Bishop of Kildare, the Commander-in-chief, the Dean of St. Patrick's, the Archdeacon of Dublin, the High Sheriffs, the Earls of Kildare and Shelburn (afterwards Duke of Leinster, and Earl of Arran), the Lord Bishops of Clogher, Cork, Ross, and Raphoe, the Right Honourable Sir A. Gore, Right Honourable J. Ponsonby, Dr. Mosse, and others, to be a body corporate, under the name of the "Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Relief of poor Lying-in Women in Dublin," with the necessary powers and liabilities as such; with one President, six Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, Secretary, and Master, with a Committee to manage the affairs of the hospital, &c. &c.

By it, the master is to be elected or re-elected annually, and certain rules are laid down for the election of other officers, and their salaries, &c.; and each master is now *ex officio* a governor, after his term of seven years has expired.

The following extract has reference to the medical appointments, and to the pupils:

"And we do further authorize and direct, that the master of the Lying-in Hospital for the time being be always some experienced practitioner in midwifery, and that he shall have two assistants, men-midwives, to be proposed by him; the said master to be appointed by the then sitting committee. And that all students in physic, surgeons, or apprentices to surgeons, and all such others, whether men or women, as intend to practise midwifery, and shall be approved of by the said master, shall and may have full liberty to attend the hospital, and be instructed under the said master and his two assistants. And that from and after the death, resignation, or removal for reasonable cause, of the said Bartholemew Mosse, whom we hereby appoint first master of the said hospital, and to continue in the said office for and during the term of his natural life, unless he shall sooner resign, or be removed for a reasonable cause, no

one person, however deserving, shall be capable of being elected master of said hospital, who has been master for seven years, either successively or at different times, but amounting in the whole term to seven years.

"And our further will is, that in all future elections of master of the hospital, regard be always had, and preference given, to such as have been assistants to the former or any master of the hospital; and that on proposing or appointing all future assistants, regard be always had and preference given to such as have been instructed in the said hospital. And we do hereby authorize and direct that no one person shall be continued assistant to the master longer than for the space of three years.

"And our further will and pleasure is, that these our letters patent, and every thing therein contained and specified in the enrolment thereof, shall be in all and every thing firm, valid, and effective in law, according to the perfect tenor of these our letters patent, &c. &c.

(Signed)

"DOMVILLE."

The topographical relations of the locality which was chosen for the site of the hospital in Great Britain-street, and the "New Gardens," as they then, and even up to a very recent period were denominated, may not be uninteresting. Let us follow the route which must have been taken from George's-lane to the upper end of Sackville-street. We suppose the passenger could with facility find his way under the creaking signs which projected from the narrow, gable-fronted houses of Dame-street, by "King William," if not better known, more revered a century ago; by the Old Post Office, afterwards the site of Daly's Club House; by Turnstile-alley, and the Old Parliament House, to the College; and, turning through a collection of wretched sheds and thatched cabins, which then surrounded the river side of Alma Mater, into the narrow passage of Fleet-lane and Fleet-alley, which occupied the site of the present Westmoreland-street; by the Lazar House, through the barbers' shops, lime-kilns, and saw-pits(a), to "the Ferry," where he took boat to the northern side of the Liffey, nearly at the place where Carlisle-bridge now stands. There were no proper quays on any part of the river at that time; but a dirty strand occupied its banks, with the ends and backs of the houses presenting an irregular and broken line of dark, gloomy buildings along it, the lanes and alleys of which were unsafe to walk through, even in the day-light; while the shipping passed up to the Custom House, which stood a little below the southern end of Essex-bridge. Having reached the opposite bank, he might choose one of the two narrow streets and lanes, called the Dutch Lots, and Bachelor's-lane, which ran up-

(a) One of the oldest inhabitants of Dublin lately told us, that once passing through that lane to the river, in the open day, he no sooner entered its gloomy and polluted precincts, than a man called out, "There's a rat in the trap;" on which he was attacked by a ruffian who rushed out of an open door, and from whom he only escaped by defending himself with his cane-sword, without which few gentlemen ever then went abroad.

wards into Drogheda-street(a), now Lower Sackville-street, as far as the "Barracks," which occupied the locality of the present Post Office, to "The Mall," a large open space, with an oval enclosure, which occupied the site of the present Upper Sackville-street, then the almost suburban residence of many of the Irish nobility and gentry. Here a double row of tall elms shaded the Dublin belles and macaronies of 1750; and the loungers of the north side of the city vied with those of the south, who strutted within the sunk fence and dirty ditches of St. Stephen's-green. Beyond Great Britain-street it was almost "the country." The sloping ascent of what is now Rutland-square led to the Barley Fields; and an open space of waste ground opposite Britain-street, on which there were a few small thatched cabins, a pool of stagnant water, a "noddy stand," and "the bowling green"(b)—the whole being a locality memorable as a spot on which the Irish and the inhabitants of Dublin once overthrew the Danes in a fierce combat,—was chosen as the site of the present Hospital and Rotunda.

"It has often been regretted," say Whitelaw and Walsh, in their History of the City of Dublin, "that this fine edifice did not face Sackville-street, to which it would have formed a noble termination; and such, we are told, was the founder's wish, but a refusal on the part of the proprietor of that street to accede to the proposed exchange of some ground necessary for this purpose, obliged him to relinquish a plan which none but a man devoid of taste and judgment could reject."

The building was continued under the patronage of the governors and guardians of the new corporation; although in point of fact the management was very properly left in the hands of the founder, and, as we shall presently find, it was prosecuted with his usual energy. In the course of the session of 1757, the new corporation, at his instance, again petitioned parliament for a further supply for carrying on the work, and besides "recommended Dr. Mosse to the consideration of the House, setting forth 'that he had solely attended to the hospital in George's-lane twelve years, and superintended the building of the new hospital in Great Britain-street,

(a) The ground on this side of the water belonged to the Earl of Drogheda, from whom all the streets in this locality were named, thus—Henry, Moore, Earl, Off, Drogheda; Melifont-lane, now called Elephant-lane, was likewise named after a well-known locality on his property. Why do not some of our young antiquaries collect materials for preserving some record of Old Dublin, the topography, legends, and history of which, a hundred years ago, would, we are sure, make a most entertaining volume, and supply some future chronicler or novelist with materials which, in a few years more, it will be impossible to grasp?

(b) The Bowling Green, which was in use after the enclosure of the Rutland-square Gardens, is the piece of level ground still forming the lower part of this space. On the 14th of February, 1767, a number of gentlemen, residing in Rutland-square and its vicinity, petitioned the Board of Guardians to have it still kept up and put into proper order. In this petition they say: "We, therefore, presume when you know that we and many of the subscribers are entertained with that diversion (bowling) during the summer, you will give your directions for having the bowling-green put into proper order against the approaching season. This will much oblige us and several others, whom we apprehend will not subscribe unless they have the pleasure of such amusement in a better manner than heretofore."

and the making of the garden thereto, nine years and a half, with the utmost diligence, and that thereby the same were done in the most effectual and cheapest manner. That by such attendance and superintendence, and advancing and borrowing money to carry on the work, he had injured himself greatly in his profession, and hurt himself and his family in their circumstances.' In consequence of this petition, the Honourable House, on the 11th November, 1757, were pleased to grant a sum of £6000 for the use of the hospital, and £2000 to Dr. Mosse, as a reward for his exertions."

At the close of the same year, 1757 (six years from the laying of the first stone), the hospital being nearly finished, and the upper floor furnished with fifty beds and all other requisites, the Doctor determined to open it immediately for the reception of patients, which was accordingly done, December 8, 1757, by His Grace the Duke of Bedford, then Lord Lieutenant, who, with Her Grace the Duchess, and a great number of the nobility and gentry, was entertained at breakfast at the hospital; after which, says the manuscript memoir, "fifty-two poor women, great with child, who attended in the hall with proper certificates for admission, and were all decently clothed in uniform at the expense of the hospital, each in a blue calimanco gown and petticoat, shift, handkerchief, cap, and apron; and thus they appeared before His Grace as President of the hospital, the Duchess, and the rest of the Governors and Guardians, with many of the nobility and gentry, who all expressed the highest satisfaction. During the whole time of breakfast and the ceremony of opening the hospital, their Graces and the company were entertained with a concert of vocal and instrumental music, and every thing was conducted in the most regular, easy, and genteel manner.

"Thus we see a public building, useful in its design, and beautiful in the execution, begun and carried on by the address and resolution of a single person, without either the security of fortune or patronage of the great; and yet, no application to Parliament until facts had silenced malice and extorted a general approbation(a)."

The hospital in George's-lane was now closed; and in one of the Annual Reports of Dr. Mosse, to which we have already alluded, it is stated, that "in the space of twelve years previous to the opening of the new hospital, 3975 women were delivered in the old one, of 2101 boys, and 1948 girls,—in all 4049 children, 74 women having had twins; and at an expense of £3913 13s., or about 19s. 8½d. for each woman and her child." Of the entire number Dr. Mosse observes, that the

" Proportion of males to females was as 12 to 11		
" Women having twins "	1 "	53½
" Women dying "	1 "	90½
" Children dying in the first month "	1 "	17
" Children still-born "	1 "	34

(a) See Wilson's Dublin Magazine for April, 1763.

" OF THE AGES OF THE WOMEN :

409	were from	15 to 20
2452	"	21 ,, 31
935	"	31 ,, 41
89	"	41 ,, 53"

" The Doctor being a native of the Queen's County, was looked upon by the grand jury and gentlemen of that county as an honour to it: and they at an assizes made a collection towards erecting and supporting a bed in the hospital, which they supported for some years, and it was called the Queen's County bed. Whereupon he intended to apply to the Grand Jury of every other county in the kingdom, and endeavour to induce each of them to erect and support a bed. He had a petition prepared for that purpose, which he had intended to have printed or engraved with proper blanks; but by his sickness and death this scheme, with many others, proved abortive.

" Doctor Mosse had also formed a scheme (which in fact was partly executed) for nursing, clothing, and maintaining all the children who should be born in the Lying-in-Hospital, whom their parents should consent to intrust to his care. A school was to be opened, provided with able Protestant masters in the most useful trades and manufactures. Into this school the children, at a proper age, were to be received; there to be instructed in the principles of the Christian religion, in honesty and industry, and to be taught some such trade as their genius most strongly inclined them to; (but his chief intention was to establish a hardware manufacture as at Birmingham in England); and it is a fact, that with a view of this kind he, at his own private expense, had put out some children to be nursed, who, after his death, were returned to their parents."

Among the various means resorted to by Mosse to support the hospital were the entertainments at the "New Gardens," as we already stated. What the exact condition of those gardens was on their first opening we are unable to say, as the picture which was painted of them was lost in Paris; but from some of the bills and private papers of Mosse we learn that a low wall originally surrounded the gardens, within which were planted rows of elm trees. Bands of music, and public singers, &c., were employed, and the gardens were occasionally handsomely illuminated, and the trees covered with coloured lamps. They were illuminated on all festivals and days of rejoicing. Thus we read in an account between George Falkner, the celebrated printer and editor of the *Journal* which bears his name, the following item: "This present evening, being the anniversary of the battle of Dettingen, the New Garden will be illuminated;" and again we find a similar advertisement inserted on account of the taking of Belleisle. Occa-

sional illuminations were ordered "by special command of the Lords Justices." We may here remark that the first play given for the benefit of the Lying-in Hospital was "The Conscious Lovers." Among the accounts for exhibitions we find a tinman's bill "for the erection of Pluto's palace;" and we find under the item of "payments to musicians," during one summer, no less a sum than £1240.

Among the decorations and attractions got up by Dr. Mosse for the benefit of the Gardens was a picture of Charity (probably a transparency), painted by an artist named Tudor, who likewise "received £140 for painting the orchestra."

Mr. Higgins gives the following account of the Doctor's intention in decorating the Gardens:—"There is a part of the Garden wall on the east side, next Cavendish-street, which on the Garden side is built or lined with brick; there, he intended to build a pavilion, which would stand in the county of Dublin (all the rest of the Garden being in the city). For this pavilion he had actually provided hewn stone, and other materials. He also intended erecting a magnificent statue of Juno Lucina (the heathen goddess presiding over women in labour), and to call the garden Lucina's Garden. He had also agreed with the celebrated Mr. Van Nost for several statues which were actually fixed on pedestals, but as none of them were paid for in his life-time (one excepted), they were returned after his death."

Most of the bills and accounts which passed between Dr. Mosse and Van Nost for these statues being still preserved, and now lying before us, we are able to rectify this error of Mr. Higgins, who, probably, had not access to Van Nost's receipts, and we think the following list may not be uninteresting to the lovers of art. Some of those works were in marble, but the great majority were castings in metal. We find receipts for at least ten of these busts, only two of which are now forthcoming; some of the work was retained by the artist for non-payment of agreement after Dr. Mosse's death; but we have a positive receipt for the following:

"To Statues delivered at the Lying-in Hospital by John Van Nost.

"To a statue of Antinous, always sold for eighteen guineas, but agreed with Dr. Mosse to remit eight guineas in each of the six statues,	£11	7	6
"To a Venus de Medici,	11	7	6
"To a Mercury,	11	7	6
"To an Apollo,	11	7	6
"To a Faunus,	11	7	6
"To a sitting Venus,	11	7	6
"To a marble bust of Lord Sudley,	39	16	3
"To a marble bust of Lord Shannon,	39	16	3
	<hr/>		
	£147	17	6

Of which sum we find £97 7s. 3d. was paid by Dr. Mosse, through

the hands of Mr. Murray; and at foot of the account we find the following notice in the handwriting of the artist:

“The intention of Dr. Mosse was by agreement with John Van Nost to have had several more marble busts, and two large statues, one of his present Majesty, the other of the Prince of Wales, to be fixed on each pavilion in the front of the building.”

We quote the following from a letter of Van Nost's, drawn up by him in 1759, after Dr. Mosse's decease, for the information of the Governors and Guardians of the hospital:

“At first he talked of twelve marble busts for the three long rooms, but concluded to make a beginning with four, namely, the Earl of Kildare, Bishop of Clogher, Lord Shannon, and Sir Arthur Gore. Three of these gentlemen sat for their likenesses to Mr. Van Nost, who, by directions of Dr. Mosse waited on the Earl of Kildare above three years ago, to beg the favour of a sitting for his Lordship's likeness. The Earl of Kildare refused it, but Dr. Mosse intended to use all the interest he could for that honour. Meanwhile Van Nost went on with the other three, two of which are finished, and the third boasted out. There were intended six statues in metal for the gardens, four of those are finished long ago, and they would all have been fixed up in the garden last summer had Mr. Darley completed the pedestals in time. The pedestals are now done in the garden, and one of the statues is fixed on. It was also agreed that John Van Nost should also execute two large statues in lead, and to be bronzed in gold; the one was to be King George the Second, the other the Prince of Wales, to be fixed on each pavilion in the front, as Van Nost has proportioned the plinths now set on the pavilion for that purpose. On agreeing for this business Dr. Mosse was pleased to tell Mr. Van Nost that he would not tie him down to any particular price, but desired that he would execute the work in the best manner, and from the good opinion he had of John Van Nost he would abide by his demands.”

The public may fairly ask what has become of this fine collection, of which, with the exception of two busts,—probably those of the Bishop of Clogher and Lord Shannon, which stand on short pillars, in the entrance hall,—no vestige now remains. The following letter, addressed by the artist to the board of governors, shortly after the decease of Mosse, may, however, throw some light upon the subject.

“I have several days past done myself the honour of attending this Board, concerning my statues, to beg to know if you will be pleased to purchase them, or if they are to be returned to me. Counsellor Whittingham was pleased some time ago to tell me to bring them, and fix them on the pedestals in the garden, as was intended by Dr. Mosse, telling me that if the gentlemen of this honourable board approved, I should be paid for them; if not, he promised they should be returned to me. According to his directions I fixed them on their pedestals with some expense. I have been a long time past collecting and making these six statues, on

purpose for this garden; four of them I could have sold the other day, but was not permitted to take them away." Mr. Higgins, however, informs us that they were all returned to the artist.

We have thus far entered into a detail of the foregoing circumstances, as affording an instance not only of the intense energy and perseverance of Mosse, but of his acquaintance with, and cultivation of the Fine Arts, and of his enlarged views and grand intentions with respect to the structure which he had designed, and, had he lived, would, no doubt, have completed. The gardens, as they must then have appeared, with their statues, pavilions, ornamental walks, fountains, water-works, and shrubberies, together with the entertainments given there, with bands, concerts, and pyrotechnic displays, and their constant and tasteful illuminations, must have formed a novelty most attractive in our city at that period; and indeed we believe this public promenade, which generally presented "a numerous and brilliant assemblage of the first people in the city," was one of the earliest places of public out-door amusement in the Irish metropolis.

The hospital was now completed from the design of Mr. Cassels, and formed one of the greatest architectural ornaments of our city; and we may here remark, that Dr. Mosse was not only the founder, but that the building was carried on under his immediate superintendence, and all the details of the expenditure passed through his hands: several of the audited accounts of which now lie before us. The following correspondence shews Dr. Mosse to have been possessed of a most cultivated and refined taste, and, as we already stated, to have paid no small attention to the arts.

"Hitherto no mention hath been made," says Mr. Higgins, "of the chapel in the hospital, which the Doctor intended should excel anything of that size in Europe, which, had he lived a little longer, it certainly would have done, the decorations of stucco figures and other beautiful ornaments being finished at a great expense by the ingenious Mr. Cramillion, and the pews made of the best mahogany. The Doctor intended to have the large place in the centre, and the four shields in the ceiling, painted, and the stucco cornices and mouldings round the shields, as well as the iron scroll-work round the gallery, gilt. And here it may afford satisfaction to give some account of the intended paintings in the ceiling. Mr. Cipriani, a painter, then in London, was applied to for this purpose, and a plan of the chapel, with the shields to be painted, was transmitted to him by the Doctor; and several letters passed between them on that occasion, which are looked upon as curious, and are therefore given *verbatim*.

" DOCTOR MOSSE TO MR. CIPRIANI.

" " *Dublin, August 1, 1758.*

" " SIR,—Agreeable to Mr. R—y's desire, you will receive with this a plan of the ceiling of the chapel in the Lying-in Hospital.

The room is eighty-six feet square and thirty feet high. The centre of the ceiling is prepared for painting in oil colours. The subject at present thought of is the Nativity of our Saviour; and those for the shields, such as Abraham offering up his son Isaac; Pharaoh's daughter taking Moses out of the bulrushes, &c. &c. You will observe that the ceiling is now properly plastered for painting thereon, prepared in a fit manner by the gentleman who executed the rest of the work. However, I am entirely of Mr. R—y's opinion, that the best and surest way will be for you to come over to Dublin and view the place. Then we can fix the price and subjects much easier; and if we should not then agree, you shall be paid all reasonable charges for your time and trouble that Mr. R—y shall approve of.'

“ MR. CIPRIANI TO DR. MOSSE.

“ ‘ London, October 4, 1758.

“ ‘ SIR,—You will excuse my not answering sooner your's of the first of August; the country and business have taken up so much of my time that I could not do it sooner. By the measure and description you were pleased to send me of the place to be painted in the hospital, I see that something fine may be done. These, therefore, are my demands: I shall, if you will agree to it, make a finished sketch, or, as we call it in the Italian, *un modells finits* of the whole; that is, a picture of a small size, that will give you an idea, and a very full idea, of the grand picture to be made according to your wishes. Whether my sketch is approved of or not, I will have forty guineas for it. If you should approve of it, we shall then treat about the sum that I shall expect for my coming to Dublin and painting the thing according to my sketch; and then you will give me leave to be so explicit as to tell you, with honest freedom, that I shall insist upon having the money to be agreed upon insured here in London. Was I a great and rich man I should not be so scrupulous; but as I must live by my pencil, I must make sure of my merchandize, and sell it in a clear, mercantile manner. I forewarn you, likewise, that I will have no superintendent to my work, and will not be under the least control.

“ ‘ You, Sir, and whoever is concerned in this affair, must prepare yourselves to be satisfied that I shall strive to do my best, and be content that an honest artist will do his utmost to gain fame and the good-will of his employers. This winter, then, if you agree to it, I shall make the sketch, and after having been paid for it, one-half before I begin, and the other half when I shall be done, I shall send it to you; and in case it give satisfaction, and the sum be agreed upon for the whole work, I shall set out next spring for Ireland to do it.

“ ‘ Whether we agree or not, I am very much obliged to you for the good opinion you seem to entertain of my abilities, and am, with the greatest regard,' &c.

“ DR. MOSSE TO MR. CIPRIANI.

“ ‘Dublin, October 20, 1758.

“ ‘SIR,—I received your’s of the 4th instant, and am satisfied to give you forty guineas for the sketch you mentioned, twenty guineas of which shall be immediately lodged with Messrs. Colley and Nixon, in Little St. Helen’s, Bishopsgate-street, to be paid to you on beginning the picture, and the remaining twenty guineas to be paid by the same gentlemen on your delivering the picture to them completely finished.’^(a)

“ ‘The device for the centre is to be the Nativity of our Saviour, and the devices for the four shields shall be sent to you in a week or ten days; and all those devices I would have painted into one piece.

“ ‘The bearer, Signor Riccardelli, can describe the ceiling of the chapel in a plainer manner than can be done by letter, and can also tell you that there are no windows but on one side of the chapel, which are south-east, where the altar is to be placed. As this chapel is intended only for Protestant worship, I would have the painting entirely free from any superstitious or Popish representation. The sooner you finish the sketch the better it will answer the intended purpose. I send by Signor Riccardelli another draught of the moulding round the centre or grand piece, and also of the mouldings round the shields. I am, &c..’

“ MR. CIPRIANI TO DR. MOSSE.

“ ‘London, November 12, 1758.

“ ‘SIR,—Signor Riccardelli, in delivering me your’s of the 20th of October, has been so good as to give me a very clear and distinct idea of the situation and light of the chapel; and in consequence of your and his instructions, I hope I shall make such a sketch as to give satisfaction. I was much pleased in hearing from him that you understand what we call in Italian ‘*il sotto in su*,’ or, as I think you call it in English, ‘the foreshortened painting.’ It is always a great encouragement to an artist to have to do with people that have a clear conception of the powers of his art. Signor Riccardelli hinted to me that you appear a little surprised at my fair and open expressions in my last; and yet I hope my picturesque freedom was favourably construed, considering that I am a foreigner, that I have some business, in London, and that I cannot venture into a new country without being morally certain of succeeding.

“ ‘I shall immediately set about the sketch, and be assured that my utmost skill and diligence shall be bestowed upon it. The sooner you send me the other devices the better; though, in my opinion, the middle and grand one would do better in a sketch by itself. Nevertheless, I shall comprise them all five in one, and take

(a) This sketch was finished, and after the Doctor’s death his executors, for the honour or his memory, wrote to Mr. Cipriani for it, and offered to pay the remaining twenty guineas; but the painter did not choose to part with it.

these additional pains to remove all objections. I beg you will consider me as being, with the greatest esteem, &c.

“P.S.—I forgot almost to tell you that you shall have no other Popery in the picture than the Nativity of our Saviour; and, as I am pretty sure that the Pope shall never set foot in Ireland, so you may be confident that my picture will never contribute to the enlargement of His Holiness’s jurisdiction.”

“MR. CIPRIANI TO DR. MOSSE.

“*London, November 20, 1758.*

“SIR,—I forgot to tell you in my former that Signor Riccardelli has apprized me of what you told him, that you were not yet entirely resolved in regard of the main subject, and whether it should be the Nativity of our Saviour or His Ascension. My inclination tends rather to the Nativity, as more susceptible of poetical images, at least in my opinion; yet the subject is to please you and the beholders, rather than the painter. Therefore, please do me the honour to acquaint me with your final determination, that I may go about it in good earnest. Meanwhile I shall go on drawing thoughts fit for either subject, and shall be very impatient to have them fixed by the knowledge of your pleasure.”

“DR. MOSSE TO MR. CIPRIANI.

“*Dublin, December 2, 1758.*

“SIR,—I received both your letters of the 12th and 20th of November, and have considered the subjects, and think that the following devices will be very proper for the chapel of the Lying-in Hospital:

“As you approve of the Nativity of our Lord for the centre, I am well pleased it should be the subject. In the second chapter of St. Luke’s Gospel you behold a multitude of the heavenly host, appearing amid the gloom of night to poor affrighted shepherds, proclaiming the happy birth of the great Redeemer of mankind; and in the second chapter of St. Matthew’s Gospel a star leadeth the wise men to the place of our Lord’s nativity. They behold him in his mother’s arms; in raptures they adore him, and present gifts, &c. May not the star leading the wise men have a fine effect? Their prostration also before the babe? If you should happen to alter your opinion, and choose the Ascension instead of the Nativity, you will find it described in the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, and I leave it to your choice which of these two subjects to make use of.

“And for the four shields: First, in the tenth chapter of St. Mark we behold little children crowding about our Lord, some attempting to walk, others in their mothers’ arms, the disciples rebuking those that brought them, our Lord ordering them to be permitted to come to him, expressing his great love for them

in the most endearing manner, taking them up in his arms, embracing them, blessing them. All these figures are most strong and striking. Second: Look into the twenty-first chapter of Genesis, fifteenth and sixteenth verses, Hagar weeping over her expiring child, and calling upon God for relief; God sendeth his angel, &c. Are not these striking figures? Remark that God sendeth help to the mother and child, both forlorn and disconsolate, wearied with their journey through the inhospitable wilderness of Beersheba. Remark further, that she cannot bear to see the child die. May she not be represented with her hands lifted up to heaven, taking the last look at her beloved? Third; In the first chapter of Exodus we read of Pharaoh's barbarous purpose of putting an end to the whole Hebrew race (verse 15). The King of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, and said: 'When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools, if it be a son then shall ye kill him, but if it be a daughter then shall she live. But the midwives feared God, and did not as the King of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men-children alive. And the King of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and saved the men-children alive? May not Pharaoh be represented rising from his throne, his hands raised up, his eyes furious, and his whole visage overspread with rage; the affrighted women bending before him pleading their excuse. This story seems to afford full scope for the genius of a painter to exercise itself. Fourth; In the second chapter of Exodus you behold Pharaoh's daughter at the bank of a river, looking with eyes of tenderness, surprize, and compassion, upon Moses, a beautiful infant, weeping in the ark. May she not be further represented as affording immediate succour, agreeing with a nurse who happens to be the child's mother, and will not the astonished, delighted mother make a beautiful part of the picture? Although I have here mentioned four devices which I think would be proper for the shields, yet if you should find any of them, in your judgment, not convenient for the size or compass of those shields, or should think of any other subject more proper, or which you think would have a better effect, be pleased to let me hear from you, that we may endeavour to please each other. I am, &c., &c.'

"The Doctor," continues the manuscript, "had bespoke an organ for the chapel, which was not finished in his life-time, but hath since been received, and being thought too large and too loud for the size of the chapel, hath been erected in the new music room, or large Rotundo. He had also bespoke a chiming clock and a ring of small bells for the steeple of the Hospital, but some ladies who lived in the neighbourhood insisted that neither bells nor clock should be fixed there, as they might disturb them on mornings; which he (though with great reluctance) complied with. He also intended to fit out an observatory in the steeple, and had provided a telescope for it; but the telescope, through some mistake in landing it, was seized by a revenue officer, and afterwards sold by auc-

tion at the Custom House while the Doctor was absent in England, and that part of the steeple remains still unfinished.

"While the chapel was finishing with all possible expedition, the Doctor applied to the late Rev. Dr. Lawson, and requested him to preach the first sermon therein, which he readily agreed to, and wrote a sermon for that purpose, which he privately lent to the Doctor, who had a copy made of it, and returned the original at the time appointed. This copy being found amongst the Doctor's papers after his death, hath been published by his executors, and by that means escaped the fate which all the sermons of that great preacher met with, being burned by directions of his last will. As some persons, to this day, object to this hospital as being an encouragement to idleness and to vice, and as being too grand in the building, the sermon above-mentioned answers these objections in the following manner:

"But may not this institution, after all, be an encouragement to idleness? Women bred to work, finding here unbought, unearned provision, will cease from labour. Surely they must be very bad, and would be idle at any rate, whom the prospect of an aid so limited and transitory can make idle. Say, rather, the industrious will be induced by this comfortable help in their greatest exigencies, to redouble their industry, will work more cheerfully, and return to labour with better health. Well, but is not this institution an encouragement to vice and licentious manners? Is vice indeed so provident? Doth it foresee with such deliberation, and is it deterred by future difficulties and dangers? Surely not; it braves the greatest every day. At least the good wrought here is certain, the evil, if any, doubtful; besides, all due care is taken to prevent such supposed abuse. The admitted, their state, character, circumstances, are inquired into, and proper testimonials demanded; or if, after all deserving objects that offer have been taken care of, an unworthy should by stealth slide in, would not piety, would not humanity forgive? At worst, one sinless soul is preserved, the unoffending infant. Well, but, granting all this, why such grandeur? To relieve these poor objects 'tis right, but why in a palace? You will agree that such building should be large for convenience, strong for lasting, neat and warm for health. Now, allow fully for these conditions; ornament occasions a much less additional expense than is imagined; neither is it useless; it gives pleasure to a beneficent mind to behold the seat of the bounty clean, fair, even elegant; it draws attention and inquiry to a scheme so reasonable and beneficent. Virtue should be beautiful as well as beneficial."

The hospital now being open for the reception of patients, its character and that of its founder established beyond the reach of calumny, the Government of the country in some degree pledged to its support, and many individuals of the highest rank and greatest influence interested in its prosperity, Dr. Mosse may well have surveyed the result of his labours with complacency, and have contemplated spending the remainder of his life less laboriously,

though not less usefully, in extending the benefits of this great work to the poor, and in training up a body of well-educated, intelligent practitioners, to spread throughout the country the benefits received at his hands. We say, he might not unreasonably have anticipated this, but such was not his appointed lot; it pleased God to spare his life, just to witness the perfect success of his exertions in the establishment of the hospital, but no more.

“Having greatly impaired his health by intense study and application of mind, by his close attention to the business of the hospital, by constantly superintending the building, and by several fatiguing journeys to London, to forward his schemes, he did not long enjoy the pleasure arising from the success of his labours, for he grew so ill in the beginning of the winter of 1758, that he was obliged for the most part to confine himself to his chamber. Several physicians attended him, but, finding all their endeavours ineffectual, they advised him to return into the country. On this occasion Alderman Peter Barre made him the kind offer of his house at Cullenswood (about a mile from town), which the Doctor readily accepted; and there, on the 16th of February following, he departed this life in the 47th year of his age, and was interred at Donnybrook^(a), leaving the new hospital a monument to posterity of his surprising perseverance, diligence, and ingenuity, and indeed one of the most superb architectural ornaments of the great and elegant city of Dublin. He left but two children.”

Thus died this great and good man, in the prime of life and usefulness, possessing great energy and high benevolence of character, which he so employed as to have conferred immeasurable benefit upon his own and subsequent generations. His eulogy is to be found in his acts. Without fortune, without influence, without patronage, without precedent, he conceived the project of affording relief to a certain class of the community, and with extraordinary energy, prudence, and perseverance, by never relaxing, never despairing, he carried it into execution, at an expense of character, station, and pecuniary independence. By the earnestness of his benevolence he interested persons of all classes, and finally secured for his good work the patronage of Government, and the protection of the throne. For this one great object, of providing an asylum and a refuge for woman in her greatest hour of trial, he lived,—for this he may be said to have died,—died poor as to wealth, but rich in the blessings of the needy, and of those who were ready to perish.

The following extract from the Doctor's Will provides that the object for which he sacrificed so much during his lifetime should be secured to the poor after his death. “Whereas William Naper, Esq., did, by indenture bearing date the 15th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1748, demise and grant all that lot or piece of ground on the north side of Great Britain-street, described at large in such indenture and the maps thereto annexed, unto me, my heirs and as-

(a) We have made diligent but unsuccessful search for the tomb of Mosse at Donnybrook.

signs, during the lives in such indenture named, with a covenant of renewal for ever, at the yearly rent of £70 sterling, after the first two years of said demise; and by a deed bearing date the first day of January, 1749, and endorsed upon the said indenture of lease, I have declared that the said indenture of lease, and the ground thereby demised, were taken by me in trust for the hospital for poor distressed lying-in women; and I did thereby covenant with the trustees or persons in such endorsed deed named, to make and execute such further grant and conveyance of the said premises as should be thought necessary for assuring the same to the use and benefit of the said hospital, as in and by said indenture of lease, and the said deed, endorsed thereupon more fully appears.

“And it hath pleased Almighty God to bless my intention and endeavour so far, that, notwithstanding the many difficulties I have struggled with, I have lived to see an hospital for the said charitable use built upon the said ground, and now almost completed; His Majesty’s most gracious charter obtained, erecting a corporation by the name of ‘The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Relief of poor Lying-in Women in Dublin;’ and the said charity and hospital encouraged and supported by the benefactions of many well-disposed persons, but, above all, by the Honourable House of Commons of this kingdom, in their several votes and addresses in favour of the same.

“I think it my duty, in the first place, with regard to worldly affairs, to confirm, as far as in me lies, my said declaration of trust; and I do hereby, for me, my heirs, and assigns, grant, confirm, give, and devise all the said lot or piece of ground, with the said indenture of lease, and all benefit of the covenant for renewal, and all and singular the premises demised and granted by the said indenture, together with all buildings and improvements whatsoever erected or made thereupon, and all my right, title, or interest of, in, or to the same, subject, however, to the rent, covenants, or reservations on the tenants or lessees’ part, in the said indenture contained, to be paid, done, or performed, to the Right Honourable James Earl of Kildare, and the Right Honourable Sir Arthur Grove, Lord Viscount Sudley, of Castle Grove, and their heirs for ever, to the only use and behoof of the said corporation or body politic, and their successors for ever.”

Immediately after Dr. Mosse’s death, the Governors held several meetings for the purpose of investigating into the state of the hospital, and the works then carrying on; and finding themselves in debt, and several parts of the building unfinished, they petitioned the House of Commons, in November, 1759, for a further grant of money, and also recommended to the consideration of Parliament the Doctor’s family. This petition was accompanied by one from Mrs. Jane Mosse, the Doctor’s widow; and in consequence of a favourable report from the Committee of Inquiry, the House was pleased to grant £3000 to the hospital, and £1000 to Mrs. Mosse, for the use of herself and her children.

Similar petitions were presented in November, 1761, and November, 1763, and grants were made, to the amount of £4000 to the hospital, and £1500 to Mrs. Mosse.

Soon after this last grant the Governors undertook the erection of the Rotundo, which is 100 feet in diameter, and capable of accommodating upwards of 2000 persons; and having expended thereupon £1800, they again petitioned Parliament for aid, as upwards of £2000 more were required to complete it. In reply to this petition the House gave an additional grant of £2000.

It may not be uninteresting to insert here a debtor and creditor account between Dr. Mosse and the public, which is given in the manuscript memoir, with the following observations:

“From what has been said it may give some satisfaction to consider how far the public are obliged or indebted to Dr. Mosse on account of this hospital. This can only be shewn in a general way, leaving every reader at liberty to criticise, alter, or object to the form, to the whole, or a part, as he shall think proper. But the following sketch is submitted to the impartial and the candid.

THE PUBLIC TO DR. MOSSE

<i>Dr.</i>	£	<i>Cr.</i>	£
To fitting up, furnishing, and maintaining twelve years, the hospital in George's-lane (printed statement)	3913	By two Parliamentary Grants in Sessions 1755-7, £6000 each, net, deducting fees,	11,640
To laying out and making the garden in Great Britain-street, building coffee-room, orchestra, &c., finding wood, iron work, globes, &c.,	4000	By ten years' profits of the garden,	4000
To value of said garden (now capable of producing, at least, £500 per annum),	10,000	By lottery schemes, about	9595
To building and furnishing the new hospital as it stood at his death, by a gross calculation of skilful persons,	25,000	By several benefactions, about	2108
To maintenance of said hospital from its opening until his death, about	800	By Parliamentary Grant to himself in 1757, net,	1940
To his attendance, labour, and trouble for fifteen years,	5000	By cash from Governors of hospital to his executors,	1000
	48,713	By Parliamentary Grants to his widow and children 1759, 1761, and 1762, £2500, net	2425
			82,708
		Balance due by the public which, at least, deserves gratitude to his memory,	16,005
			48,713

“N.B.—It is submitted to the consideration of the public whether credit should be given in the above sketch for the first £6000 obtained from Parliament by the Doctor's own unwearied industry and application (being net £5820), or for the money raised by his own schemes, being £9595, making together £15,415, which being added to the said balance of £16,005, would make the balance due by the public £31,420, without considering his many journeys, troubles, and anxieties, which few men, if any, in this age would have undergone without some view of profit(a).”

(a) Thus ends the memoir of Mr. Higgins, from which we have derived most

But, though the good thus effected be great and unparalleled in these kingdoms, we think it inferior in point of value to the benefit conferred upon the profession, and, through it, upon the public in general, by the extensive opportunities of observation and experience afforded to both masters and students. It is to be regretted that no regular registry of the pupils who attended this institution was preserved until the days of the late Dr. Clarke. Were such in existence, it would now be a pleasing task to state the exact numbers, of the many thousand students, from the different countries of the British isles, and from the Continent, who have profited by this splendid establishment. The majority of the students attend for six months, but many for a much longer period, and six are accommodated with apartments in the hospital: all receiving practical instruction, at the bed-side and in the lecture room, from the master and his assistants.

From among these pupils, fifty-six assistants have been elected, two at a time, for a period of three years, having during that period the supervision of the hospital in turn, under the superintendence of the master, and enjoying opportunities of performing the more serious operations under his eye.

From among the assistants, fourteen masters have been appointed, each for a period of seven years, having during that time the undivided management and responsibility of the patients.

Dr. Mosse's successor in the mastership was the celebrated Sir Fielding Ould.

If now we recollect that for some years past more than 2000 females have been delivered annually in the hospital, we shall see that a man who has successively been pupil, assistant, and master, must have had such experience as falls to the lot of no other obstetrician in the empire. We may safely assert that nearly all the correct practical knowledge of midwifery, diffused through this country, has had its origin in the benevolent enterprize of Dr. Mosse.

As a school of midwifery we are proud to claim for it an unrivalled superiority, not only in the British isles, but (and we speak advisedly, having visited all the others of note upon the Conti-

of the previous information. Since the foregoing sheets were put to press we have received the following notices of this gentleman from the minute books of the hospital. Benjamin Higgins was ordered (as clerk) to prepare a report of the tradesmen's bills on the 15th of October, 1759; appointed register 2nd May, 1760; Nov. 1st, 1771, petitions to be excused from attendance at concerts on account of his health; received at this time an additional salary of £20 per annum; appointed deputy treasurer in 1790; again, in 1796, a memorial was presented to the Lord Lieutenant in behalf of the widow of Benjamin Higgins. On the 14th May, 1796, "The Board, taking into consideration the faithful services of B. Higgins, who has since the foundation of this charity been a diligent and unwearied supporter of the same for forty years and upwards, and having considered the narrow circumstances of his widow, Resolved, that in case the funds of this institution shall exceed its annual expenditure, the annual sum of £30 sterling be paid to the widow of the said Benjamin Higgins." "Resolved, that this Board will place a tombstone in the churchyard of Donnybrook, over the grave of the said Benjamin Higgins, as a lasting testimony of their regret at his loss, and of their grateful sense of his unremitting zeal for this institution."

ment) in Europe also. The writings of Ould, Jebb, Clarke, Labatt, Collins, and Kennedy, who have been successively masters of this hospital, and of Douglass, Murphy, and others, who have been assistants, evidence the amount of information which it affords. Dr. Collins, in his truly practical and honest report of his seven years' mastership, has set an example which we sincerely hope to see imitated; and we trust our present master and his assistants will shortly give us the result of their experience.

There are some subjects connected with the Lying-in Hospital on which we would, in all good friendship, make a few observations. It has been now nearly ninety years in existence in Britain-street. There have been upwards of 155,000 deliveries, and with all this, no public obstetric museum has yet been created in this hospital. It is true that individual masters have, for the benefit of their pupils, made collections; but these are their private property, either to be removed from the institution, or disposed of to the incoming masters, on the occasion of a change of officers. Look at the splendid collection which Dr. Montgomery^(a), from his own private resources, almost, we may say, with his own hands, has created for the benefit of his lectures at the School of Physic; and why should not the Lying-in Hospital, with its ample means and most extensive resources, be supplied with this most necessary appliance to any school of practical medical science.

There is a library within the walls of the hospital, but it also is private property^(b). Again, there are, as in every well-regulated hospital, accurate notes taken of all, or at least of most of the cases of interest, and we know that a volume of most important *material* is thus collected by each of the masters and their assistants, but this is private property. Why not, as in other hospitals, provide a proper clinical clerk to note, and proper books to preserve this valuable information, reserving to the medical officers, for the time being, the right of making use of it?

From 1757 to the beginning of the present year, the number of patients admitted has been 159,625; sent out undelivered, 7015; delivered in hospital 152,395; of 154,630 children, the sexes being in the proportion of about twelve males to eleven females. The number of women having twins, or more, has been one in sixty; having three or four children, about 1 in 5000 (there was only one instance of four at a birth); children still-born, about one to seventeen; mortality of mothers, one in eighty-nine; children dying in the hospital, one in twenty-one.

(a) This Museum of Dr. Montgomery's contains about 700 preparations. It is his own private property, but the College of Physicians have provided a room for it at their Hall in Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital. In our last biography, p. 292, this circumstance of the Museum being the Doctor's private property was inadvertently, and most unintentionally omitted.

(b) We have just learned that the Commissioners for Inquiry into the State of the Public Charities of Dublin have recommended the purchase of both these by the Government.

Neither our time nor space permit us to enter into the history of the Dublin Lying-in Hospital subsequent to the time of Mosse; we may mention, however, that as it now stands, it contains 140 beds, of which number fifteen are appropriated to chronic diseases. Subsequent to the building of the Rotundo, in 1765, the hospital was in a great measure supported by means of the income derived from it, and the subscriptions of the Governors. The average receipts of the Gardens, Rotundo, and public Assembly-rooms, from 1789 to 1796, amounted to four thousand pounds per annum; but after this period this income became greatly diminished. A large portion of the produce of the entertainments, amounting to about £1000 yearly, arose from Sunday evening promenades; but in 1796, representations having been made to the Governors, that these entertainments were prejudicial to religion and morality, they were relinquished. During the year 1798, and for some years afterwards, the public rooms were occupied as a barrack by the Government, during which time the supplies arising from entertainments were greatly diminished; and the tax on sedan chairs^(a), which the Governor were empowered to levy by an Act of 25 Geo. III.—and which for many years made a very considerable item in the resources of the institution, amounting in 1798 to £547,—having gradually diminished every year, in 1803 the British Parliament granted £2619, and from that period large annual grants were made up to the year 1835, when the Government reduced this source of income to £1000 a year. In 1790 debentures were issued for a loan of £11,000 to complete the Rotundo rooms, the interest of which has ever since been paid at 4 per cent., Irish; and this £400 a year is still a heavy drag upon the resources of the institution.

(a) During the period when this tax was levied, the hospital published "A List of the Proprietors of Licenses for Sedan Chairs," &c., together with "A Scheme for Card Assemblies," &c. From one of these curious little books now lying before us, and in which are likewise given the coats of arms of all the benefactors of the institution (some of which armorial bearings are still preserved in the wards of the institution), we learn that there were 257 *private* sedan chairs in Dublin in 1787, belonging, besides the ordinary resident gentry, to one Duke, one Duchess, twelve Earls, sixteen Countesses, eleven Viscounts, nine Viscountesses, thirty-seven titled Ladies, one Archbishop, three Bishops, five Lords, ten Baronets, forty-two Honourables, male and female, &c.



Bartholinus Magnus

Dublin. Hodges & Smith

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