

for Derby and Derbyshire Band of Hope Union :—

*John Wills, President.
J. W. Avery, Secretary.
Ll. M. Cooke, Agent.
(Presented by the Bishop of Southwell.)*

THE following Address was presented to the Queen on the occasion of Her Majesty laying the foundation stone of the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, at Derby, on the 21st inst. :—

The President and Governors of the Derbyshire General Infirmary.

To the QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty.
May it please Your Majesty,

WE, the President and Governors of the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, beg to approach Your Gracious Majesty with feelings of profound respect on this the occasion of Your Majesty's first state visit to our ancient borough of Derby. We tender to Your Majesty our heartfelt gratitude for having consented to honour us with Your presence, and to mark with Your illustrious sanction the important formality of laying the foundation stone of a new and much-needed General Infirmary in our midst. For more than half a century the beneficent work of administering to the relief of the sick and injured artizans and poor of the thickly-populated district embraced within the borough and county has been successfully carried on within the walls of our Infirmary, but circumstances beyond the control of those responsible for the proper administration of the charity have cast upon them the immediate and arduous duty of providing an effectual remedy for admitted evils in the existing buildings.

After mature deliberation, and with the advice and assistance of experts in infirmary construction, the Governing Body came to the decision that they had no alternative but to sanction the removal of the old structure and to undertake the substitution of an entirely new building, on an enlarged scale, and with means and appliances more in accordance with the requirements of modern sanitary and medical science.

We whose privilege and happiness it is to number ourselves amongst Your Majesty's loyal subjects in this the very centre of the United Kingdom, are deeply conscious of the distinction conferred upon us by Your Majesty's presence on such an auspicious occasion ; and we entertain a strong conviction that the countenance given to the good work in which we are engaged, will not only be a great encouragement to us, but that

it will exercise an all-potent influence in enabling us to carry it to a complete and successful issue.

With the heartfelt prayer that Your Majesty may long be spared to preside over the destinies of this nation, and a renewed expression of our grateful feelings for the signal service rendered to the Borough and County of Derby on this occasion by Your Majesty.

We have the honour to be,

Your Majesty's loyal, dutiful, and obedient subjects and servants,

(Signed) *T. W. Evans, President.*

Derby, May 21, 1891.

(Presented by Lord Scarsdale.)

To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following most gracious Answer :—

"IT is with sincere pleasure that I receive your Address and lay the foundation stone of the new building which you propose to erect.

"I earnestly hope that this undertaking, in which I take a deep and personal interest, may effectively contribute to the relief of human suffering, and to the help of those whose career of honourable labour has been interrupted by accident or by sickness.

"I am glad to testify by My presence here to-day My appreciation of the generous efforts that have been made on behalf of this noble charity."

Derby, May 21, 1891.

THE Queen was this day pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood on Alfred Seale Haslam, Esq., of North Lees and West Bank, in the county of Derby, Mayor of Derby, Liveryman and Citizen of London.

Foreign Office, May 25, 1891.

IT is hereby notified, that on the 22nd instant General Andrés Avelino Cáceres presented, through Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, his Credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Peru.

Foreign Office, May 23, 1891.

THE Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. G. S. Hamel as Netherland Consul-General at Hong Kong.

War Office, May 26, 1891.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross upon the undermentioned Officer of Her Majesty's Army, whose claim has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for the conspicuous bravery displayed by him during the recent operations in Manipur, Assam, commencing on 27th March, 1891, as recorded against his name :—

Corps.	Name.	Act of Courage for which recommended.
Indian Staff Corps	Lieutenant Charles James William Grant	For the conspicuous bravery and devotion to his country displayed by him in having, upon hearing on the 27th March, 1891, of the disaster at Manipur, at once volunteered to attempt the relief of the British Captives, with 80 Native Soldiers, and having advanced with the greatest intrepidity, captured Thobal, near Manipur, and held it against a large force of the enemy. Lieutenant Grant inspired his men with equal heroism, by an ever-present example of personal daring and resource.