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Whitehall, October 25, 1897.

THE following Address was presented by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge as President of the Religious, Royal, and Ancient Foundation of Christ's Hospital, on behalf of the Council of Almoners and Governors, to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on the occasion when, as representing Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness laid the Foundation Stone of the New Schools at Horsham, on Saturday, the 23rd October, 1897:—

AS President of the Religious, Royal, and Ancient Foundation of Christ's Hospital, and on behalf of the Council of Almoners and the Governors, it is my privilege to offer to Your Royal Highness a hearty welcome on this auspicious occasion.

With so many calls on Your Royal Highness' time in this eventful year of Her Majesty's Glorious Reign, we are sensible of the great honour conferred on us by Your Royal Highness' presence.

As Your Royal Highness is well aware Christ's Hospital was founded in 1553 by the "Saintly King Edward the Sixth." Although approaching his end, the youthful Sovereign took the liveliest interest in the completion of the arrangements for its foundation; and besides assigning it a site in the City of London he, with his own hand, inserted in the Charter power to take lands in mortmain, a power which has enabled the munificence of subsequent benefactors to provide for nearly three and a half centuries for the nurture and education of children.

His Majesty King George the Fourth most graciously assented to lay the foundation stone of the Great Hall in Newgate-street, but being prevented from attending in person, was represented on the occasion by his brother, His Royal Highness Frederick Duke of York.

In welcoming Your Highness this day, as the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty, it is my pleasure to recall the fact that Your Royal Highness has been associated with this Royal Foundation for 53 years as a Governor, and that your Royal Highness' brothers, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and the Duke of Connaught, are also Governors.

Her Most Gracious Majesty, our present beloved Queen, Herself a Governor of the House, has not only visited the Hospital, but, like Her illustrious predecessors, has on many occasions graciously received the boys of the Royal Mahe-

matical Foundation of King Charles the Second, whose Charter She has extended.

Under such auspices we trust that Christ's Hospital will continue to enjoy the Royal favour so long and graciously bestowed upon it; and that in its new home, as in the past, it will ever teach its sons to value the glorious inheritance as citizens of a free country, and to labour for the extension of Christ's Kingdom, and for the welfare of the Throne, and of Her Majesty's Dominions and Subjects throughout the world.

I have now the honour to ask your Royal Highness to be good enough to lay the Foundation Stone of the new buildings.

To which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on behalf of Her Majesty, gave the following most gracious Answer:—

"Your Royal Highness and Gentlemen,

"It is a great pleasure to me to be present as the representative of Her Majesty to receive your loyal Address, and to inaugurate the New Schools of Christ's Hospital.

"Her Majesty is deeply interested in every Foundation, within Her realm, which has for its object the Christian Education of the Young; and Christ's Hospital, which was founded by one of Her predecessors, and of which the Queen and all of Her three sons are Governors, while your Royal Highness is its President, has special claims on Her affection.

"The expansion of the ancient foundation under the new scheme, of which the Institution commenced to-day is one of its chief fruits, has engaged Her Majesty's thoughts, and will always be attended with Her liveliest good wishes.

"I cannot but believe that the transfer of the Boarding School from the venerable but somewhat confined buildings in the City to this spacious and beautiful country site will have the best possible effect on the health, well-being, and progress of the scholars.

"And I trust that the tradition of the old school will be continued and will flourish in its new surroundings, and that young men will be trained within these walls who will rival the many whose fame in learning, piety, or action is among the most precious possessions of the Hospital.

"I thank Your Royal Highness for the welcome you have given me, and I shall gladly lay Your expressions of loyalty and affection before Her Majesty."