

MR. WILLIAM LEMPRIERE.

We deeply regret to announce the death in August, 1933, at the age of 76, of Mr. William Lempriere, one of our members, who spent a lifetime in the service of Christ's Hospital, retiring as Deputy Clerk in 1920.

The son of the Rev. D. M. Lempriere, rector of Jersey, and sometime Vice-Dean, Mr. Lempriere entered Christ's Hospital in 1866. He left in December, 1872, and joined the staff in the Counting House of the Foundation in January, 1873, serving both Mr. Franks and Mr. Limmer. Altogether he saw 47 years' service, and during the period had a great deal to do in connection with the removal of Christ's Hospital from the City to Horsham. He was responsible for much of the research in connection with the scheme of the Charity Commissioners in 1888-89, and with the preparation of the necessary evidence. An interesting literary work was the transcription of John Howes's manuscript of 1582, the earliest history of the foundation of the Hospitals of Christ, Bridewell, and St. Thomas. It was published in 1904, with an introduction and extensive notes by Mr. Lempriere. For six years Mr. Lempriere was the Secretary of the Benevolent Society of Blues, having previously been a Director. He was also at one time the Treasurer of the Association of Blues (Christ's Hospital Mission), and a Past Master of Christ's Hospital Lodge.

In talking with a friend over the old days at Hertford, then the Boys' Preparatory School, he said:—"There was no one to organise or teach games at Hertford; no sleeping-out vacation was given at Easter, and few visits from friends were allowed. The rare occasions when, under the care of porter or beadle, we went out

for a walk in the country, I always hailed; and my red-letter day was an afternoon visit to the Governor of Hertford Gaol, who, being acquainted with my father, entertained me and showed me over the gaol, including the prisoners on the treadmill. Our diet was not liberal. How pleased we were when Yorkshire, the only pudding in our dietary, was introduced! Yet neither at Hertford nor in London did I have reason to complain of too little food. Much depended on the nurse or matron of the ward you were in. At Hertford our nurse (in 3's), a lady with a mighty arm, would not allow us to leave an atom of food—even of the greatly disliked soup. In London, Mrs. Packer, of 7's (whom we considered the best ward matron), sent to the kitchen almost daily for additional meat; whereas in 2's, to which I was translated as monitor, the matron could rarely be induced to ask for more, and would carve a boy a slice of nothing but fat or 'gag,' abhorred by the Blues of Charles Lamb's days."

During his retirement Mr. Lempriere devoted himself to work connected with the old foundation. He wrote an excellent history of the Girls' School, compiled a list of Worthies of Christ's Hospital, and was, at the time of his death, writing a history of the Counting House.