



HOSPITALS OF READING

St. Joseph's Hospital began as a result of a Typhoid epidemic of 1872. The Rev. George Bornemann, pastor of St. Paul's Catholic Church, established a hospital in a private dwelling which was soon outgrown and a new facility completed in 1885. Reading Hospital was dedicated in 1883 as an outgrowth of the Reading Dispensary, first opened in 1868. Community General Hospital was begun as a homeopathic hospital in 1888. Other hospitals operated at 4th and Walnut and at Schuylkill Ave. and West Elm.