

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE St. John Ambulance Association has issued a very interesting pamphlet dealing with the valuable work carried on by the Society, and dealing specially with the powers possessed by County Councils and Evening Continuation Schools to further the work of teaching ambulance, Nursing, &c., to the community.

The Duke of York, speaking at the eighth festival banquet of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea, held at the Hotel Metropole on February 29th, said: "On Friday the Duchess and I had the pleasure of visiting the Hospital. The wards were very clean and well ventilated, the children looked bright and contented, and, as far as I was able to judge, the duties of the medical and Nursing Staffs were thoroughly performed. The Convalescent Home is, as we all know, a great assistance to the Hospital; it gives many of its little patients a thorough change of air and scene which is so essential for children after a severe illness, and thus completes the good work the Hospital has begun."

On February 29th the Prince of Wales visited Brighton to lay the foundation stone of a new department for out-patients of the Sussex County Hospital. The decorations in honour of the visit were on the most lavish and elaborate scale. Flags, huge banners and mottoes were flaunting in the streets, and crowds lined the route to the Hospital, although the weather was overcast, and some rain fell. H.R.H. was met at the station by the Duke and Duchess of Fife, who are staying at Brighton, and the royal party proceeded to the spot where the ceremony was to take place.

It was in a spacious marquee fronting the Sussex County Hospital that the Prince presently laid the corner-stone of the new and much needed out-patient department. Within the marquee were seated over a thousand friends and supporters of the institution. After the Princess Louise had received a bouquet of orchids and lilies of the valley from the hands of Miss Turnbull, white-robed choristers sang the four verses of the hymn, "Thou to whom the sick and dying." After this an address from the Corporation was read.

The Prince made a good speech, in which he advocated the claims of the Hospital on the public, and expressed the pleasure he felt that his daughter was able to take part in the ceremony. Subsequently the procession was re-formed, and proceeded to the Royal Pavilion, where the Prince lunched.

It is proposed to establish a Maternity Hospital in Dundee. The great need of such a Hospital will be recognised, since there are nearly 30,000 people in Dundee who live in one-roomed houses, and the annual birth rate is upwards of 4,000.

On February 26th the Duchess of Albany reopened the wards (which have been closed for about four months) of the East London Hospital for Children,

Medical practitioners connected with British health resorts have recently formed themselves into an association with the title of the British Balneological and Climatological Society. Sir E. Sieveking has accepted the position of honorary President, and the vice-presidents and Council include many of the physicians of eminence at the resorts most frequented by invalids. The principal object of the new Society is to encourage the theoretical and practical investigation and study of balneo-therapeutics and medical climatology, in the hope of securing for British health resorts the recognition and support which they deserve from the profession at large.

A fire occurred last week at the Eye and Ear Infirmary, St. Paul's Square, Liverpool. On the arrival of the brigade the flames were issuing from the dining-room on the first floor, and as there were several patients and Nurses in the building, whose exit by the staircase was cut off, immediate steps were taken to rescue them. Before ladders could be procured, a Nurse named Helsby appeared at an upper window in a state of frantic alarm, and, to the horror of the spectators, leaped into the street, breaking a leg and seriously injuring her spine.

There is a child at Guy's Hospital suffering from hydrophobia. He was admitted to the Hospital exhibiting all the symptoms of this disease in an aggravated form. He was brought to the Hospital by a medical practitioner and a Nurse from Bermondsey. Whilst in their company he appeared to be perfectly calm and quiet, but upon alighting from the cab, and meeting strangers at the surgery, he became instantly wild and vicious. He attempted to spring upon some of the Nurses and students in attendance, and one of the Nurses had a very narrow escape from being bitten. He was foaming at the mouth, and generally presented a pitiable and heart-rending appearance. Mr. Lucas, the surgeon in charge, endeavoured to obtain some of "Pasteur's attenuated virus," but it so happened that none could be found in London. The case is now regarded as hopeless.

The 150th annual Court of the Middlesex Hospital was held in the board-room of the Hospital yesterday, Sir Lionel M. Swinnerton Pilkington presiding. Sir Ralph Thompson, in moving the adoption of the report, pointed out that the deficiency in the annual income of the Hospital, although large, had been caused by the abnormal expenditure of £6,000 on the new operating theatre of the Hospital. The Duke and Duchess of York would attend a *fête* on July 1st to be given for the benefit of the funds of the new Convalescent Home. The report showed that the total number of patients treated during the past year in all the departments was 46,326, an increase of 5,022 over the number for the preceding year, and more than 4,000 in excess of the largest number previously recorded. The income amounted to £32,540, and the expenditure was £38,012.

A benefit *matinée* in aid of Siddons House, the proposed private Hospital for actors and actresses, is to take place on March 9th at the St. James's Theatre, which Mr. Alexander has lent for the occasion. The Duke and Duchess of York are patrons and have promised to be present.

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