

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



VISCOUNT PORTMAN, Vice-President of the Middlesex Hospital, has contributed £1,000 towards the establishment of the Convalescent Home at Clacton-on-Sea.

The Council of Bedford College, London, for Women, have appointed Mr. T. M. Legge, M.D., to the Professorship of Hygiene.

The Treasurer of Guy's Hospital has received, during the past week, donations of £200 from Lord Salisbury and £300 from "Anonymous," through Messrs. Robarts, Lubbock, & Co., towards the Re-endowment Fund.

The Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, Southwark Bridge Road, is to be entirely closed for about two months from the 1st of August, in order that it may be renovated throughout and furnished with the electric light and all the most modern Hospital appliances. The land on the south side of the Hospital, purchased by the President, Baron Ferdinand Rothschild, will at the same time be cleared, and a portion of the enlargement of the building carried out.

Lady Esther Smith presented certificates to the students of the Hospital Saturday Fund division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in the City Temple Hall on Saturday afternoon. Mr. R. B. W. Acland, Chairman of the Hospital Saturday Fund, presided.

A new Country and Convalescent Home in connection with the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic is being erected at Finchley for the after-care of the epileptic, hysterical, and nervous patients treated at the National Hospital.

A curious case recently came before the Swaffham Guardians, where Dr. Thomas made application for an extra medical fee of £2 for a midwifery case in the Workhouse in which chloroform was administered. His claim was not allowed.

The widow of the late Dr. Arthur Jackson, of Sheffield, has presented £5,000 to the Sheffield School of Medicine to endow a chair of anatomy to be named after her late husband.

An inventive person has recently taken out a patent for what he has named a "surf" bath. It is made on the lines of a baby's cradle, any movement of its equilibrium causing it to rock effectually. One end curves up so as to come over the bather's head, and the other end is so curved as to prevent the water from being spilled on the floor as the bather rocks.

Two cans of water are sufficient to raise a storm—not in the teacup—but in the "surf bath," and the bather may either dream on a calm lake by keeping his bath steady, or he may enjoy the doubtful delights of life on a stormy ocean wave by vigorously swaying to and fro. In this way he can amuse himself at his ablu-

tions, and may at the same time enjoy a fair amount of hard muscular exertion.

The "Automatic Doctor" continues to increase in popularity amongst that class who likes its medicine "very cheap and very nasty." The "doctor" stands six feet high, on cast-iron feet. When a small coin is dropped into him he will give out prescriptions for the relief of most of the ills that flesh is heir to. The doctor is versatile in his ability to cure, but in order to secure his advice the patient must know what is the matter with him.

In case of a patient desiring treatment for loss of hair, he deposits his coin in a certain slot at the centre of the doctor's dome of thought. Immediately from the slot below the word "Baldness" there is thrown out a neatly-folded card, which reads:—

Tinct. cinchona	1 oz.
Vaseline	2 oz.
Witch hazel.....	3 oz.

Apply freely.

The profit to the owners of this machine does not consist so much in the coins that are dropped into the slots as in the revenue derived from the advertising of patent medicine cure-alls. You pay one penny to have handed you a card recommending "Richard Doe's Annihilator of Agony," when really you want a few drops of Jamaica ginger for your toothache.

Nurse Alice Hildred, who has been the District Nurse at Barton-upon-Humber for three years and eight months, has just left Barton, and is about to take up private nursing. Nurse Hildred, who has been much liked, takes with her the good wishes of many of the inhabitants. Several grateful patients have shown their appreciation of Nurse Hildred's services by presenting her with a very handsome travelling bag and purse. She has also had given to her a pretty painted plaque, and a morocco case, fitted with toilet requisites.

Nurse Catherine S. Marshall, late of Middlesbro', a trained and certificated Nurse, has entered upon her duties as District Nurse at Barton-upon-Humber.

The invasion of the foreigner is beginning to be felt at the Paris Faculty of Medicine. The only requirement for what is described as "equivalence" is a very cursory examination, with the aid of an interpreter, if the candidate does not speak French. This places the English, American, Egyptian, Greek, Roumanian, Spanish, or other alumnus upon a thoroughly equal footing in studies and diplomas, with the added advantage of being exempt from military service. There are 6,000 non-French medical students in Paris now, and a goodly batch of the same at Montpellier, the climate of that seat of learning tempting the southern element.

A "London Parson," writing to one of the papers, cites a case showing how ignorant the working people are of the system by which our Hospitals are maintained. He says: "I was told by one advanced Progressive lady, whose husband is a painter, and who earns first-rate wages, but who never has a spare penny for her doctor's bill, that 'it is the working-man who keeps up the Hospitals through indirect taxation.'"

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