

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



"CHRISTMAS comes but once a year," and will soon be on us, with all its pleasant duties of a philanthropic, charitable, and social nature. That admirable Association, the Santa Claus Society, is early in the field, asking for help to bring brightness and cheer into many Hospitals and Institutions at Christmas time. Miss Janie Charles, one of the indefatigable Managers and Hon. Secs. of the Society, Stormont, Hampstead Lane, Highgate, N., will gladly, on application, send the 11th Annual Report of good Santa Claus, with a full account of the excellent work done in arranging for convalescent homes, admission to Hospitals, and surgical aid. 150 convalescents were sent away last year, and to increase this admirable form of charity more convalescent letters are asked for.

The Santa Claus Society also distributes gifts of all kinds at Christmas, and at other times, to both adult and child Hospital patients. Last Christmas presents were distributed to all the patients in eight wards of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Friends of the Society help on the good work by forming doll-dressing centres, and prizes are offered for the best-dressed dollies; competitions in knitting and in needlework done by invalid boys and girls, as well as in cake-making, jam-preserving, and sweet-making, are also arranged. So that talents of all and every kind may be utilised to bring, through the Santa Claus Society, a great deal of pleasure and happiness to the sick and invalided at the coming Christmas time.

The Royal Free Hospital has received the very liberal donation of £1,700 from Mr. John Bentley, late of Highbury Grange, towards paying off the debt remaining on the new front buildings and other improvements. In consideration of the generous donor one of the new wards is to be named "The John Bentley Ward."

The London School of Medicine for Women is making a new departure this Session, in having the opening address, usual on Oct. 1st, delivered at the Royal Free Hospital instead of at the School as heretofore, and in making it a social evening function, with music at 7.30 p.m. There are a large number of entries this session; the increasing appointments which may be held by medical women under the County Councils, Boards of Guardians, and Asylums Board, having the effect of offering definite encouragement to medical students of the feminine gender. The Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge is prepared to materially assist necessitous women towards the cost of their education and fees, provided they will undertake medical mission work abroad, while the London Missionary Society is seeking qualified ladies to send out to China or India.

Madame Adelina Patti recently gave a concert at Cardiff in aid of the funds of the Cardiff Infirmary.

The Concert was a great success, and it is estimated that the Infirmary will be nearly £1,000 richer through Patti's kind help.

There is a debt of £700 on the Llanelly Hospital, for the working off of which special efforts are being made.

A sum of nearly £13,000 has now been received at the central offices of the Hospital Saturday Fund, Farringdon Road, on behalf of the present year's collection. At the next quarterly meeting of the Board of Delegates the question of abolishing the annual ladies' street collections will be considered.

The Swansea Hospital will benefit to the extent of £340 by the Carnival recently held for its benefit. The Carnival was admirably arranged and the young men of the town surpassed themselves in their indefatigable efforts to help the Hospital.

Many points of medical interest were treated of during the meeting in Liverpool of the British Association, and much pleasure and gratification has been felt by medical men generally that the Presidency of the meeting was given to a member of their profession.

It is hoped that the new Mater Infirmorum Hospital in Belfast will be entirely completed by June of next year. Admirable work has been carried on since 1883 in a comparatively small building, whose motto has been "Sickness and destitution will ever be the only necessary passport to these walls." The plan of the new Hospital is excellent. The roofs are to be flat, and are to be laid out as gardens with flower beds and grass plots, on which the patients may, when convalescent, enjoy a game of bowls.

In Chicago, there is a Temple of Health which advertises largely, and apparently on the most liberal lines. After enumerating the diseases which they are able to cure, their advertisements run as follows:—"Whatever part of the world you are in, if you prefer to come to Chicago, we will contract to pay railroad and steamship fare and hotel bills while here, and make no charge if we fail to cure."

There is no meanness about this. And it is a bonus system on the most liberal scale of magnificence. You need a prescription. You step into a first-class railway carriage, book to Liverpool, take passage in deck-cabin, see the sights of New York; travel leisurely to Chicago, putting up at the leading hotel. Economy doesn't matter; the Directors of the Temple of Health will pay all expenses and, in addition, give you medical treatment on the principle "no cure, no pay." It certainly looks remarkably generous! A grand holiday for nothing. It would be interesting to know how it is done. Co-operative travel and Mr. Cook cannot compete with such lavish liberality as this.

DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
Deliciously Luscious and Fragrant.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)