

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Queen has sent a special donation of 100 guineas to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge as a mark of her interest in the general work of the society. The Queen is the society's patron, and in 1844 gave a donation of a like amount to its funds.

The Duchess of York has forwarded to the Lord Mayor a sum of £5, contributed to the Duchess of Teck Memorial by the girls and boys of the King Edward Mission Ragged Schools, in which the Princess Mary took a great interest. Among other donors to the Mansion House Fund are the following:—Sir Arthur Sullivan, £5; Mr. Frank and Lady Eva Dugdale, £10; Mr. W. H. Foster, £5; the Earl of Lichfield, £5; Mr. Henry Shaw, £5; Mrs. M. A. Smith, £5; Mr. Charles Scarisbrick, £5; the Earl and Countess of Dundonald, £10; and Lord Rowton, £10. Only about £500 more is now required to complete the permanent endowment fund of the Home of Rest for Poor Women, at Bognor, which is the form of memorial decided upon.

The Queen Regent of Spain visits daily, in the most unostentatious manner, the soldiers and marines who have been brought home sick and wounded from Cuba. Her Majesty has ordered the convalescents to be conveyed in the royal carriages to the Casa del Casa Campo in the royal park, and has placed at their disposal the range of royal dairies, with daily supplies of fresh milk.

Her Majesty is also paying from her privy purse for pure food best adapted to the condition of the patients.

These poor fellows presented a most piteous spectacle when they were disembarked. They had hardly clothing to cover them, and their feet were bare. At this sight the indignation of the crowd was most violent, and they massed in front of the vessel, and hurled stones for the space of half an hour, with the result that the glass of many of the portholes was broken, and the steamer eventually had to be moored at some distance from the quay. The soldiers and officers who have returned since the capitulation of Santiago, all extol the kindness of the American troops after the surrender.

A peculiarly mournful interest is said to attach to the will of the late Empress of Austria, which was only completed less than three months ago. It bears the date of June 29th, 1898, and the preamble opens with the remarkable sentence, "One never knows what may happen."

It is pretty well known that the Empress possessed a very large fortune and income in her own right, but it is not very generally known that Her Majesty's collection of jewels was not only unique, but in many respects considered to be one of the finest in Europe. A large proportion of the collection, to the value, it is

stated, of over £600,000 is to be realised, and the proceeds are to be applied to various religious and charitable purposes. There are several special jewels, which are to descend as heirlooms in the Imperial family. Among these is the Golden Rose, presented to the Empress by Pope Pius the Ninth. The Queen Regent of Spain has been the recipient of a similar distinction "for virtue" from Leo XIII.

The Committee of the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund have issued a new set of four stamps, each having a distinct design, with a face value of 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s., respectively. The work of production has been undertaken by Messrs. De la Rue and Company. They were issued on Tuesday last by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, and Company, Limited, and are obtainable through booksellers, stationers, news-agents and chemists. We hope there will be a large demand for this new issue. At the same time, it seems somewhat humiliating that our Hospitals should be dependent for support upon the sale of stamps.

The Scientific Commission, appointed jointly by the Colonial Office and the Royal Society, to investigate the mode of dissemination of malaria with a view to devising means of preventing the terrible mortality which now takes place among Europeans resident in tropical and sub-tropical climates, has now been nominated. It will consist of Dr. C. W. Daniels, of the Colonial Medical Service, British Guiana; Dr. J. W. W. Stephens, formerly Lawrence Student in Pathology and Bacteriology at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Dr. R. S. Christophers, of University College, Liverpool.

Drs. Stephens and Christophers at first proceed to Rome, where they will spend some time in studying malaria. Subsequently the Commissioners will meet together at Blantyre, British Central Africa.

The dinner to be given to Dr. Virchow, on the occasion of his visit to London, promises to be a brilliant affair. The distinguished founder of cellular pathology is coming here for the purpose of delivering the Huxley Lecture, in connection with Charing Cross Hospital, on October 3rd, at St. Martin's Town Hall. The banquet will take place at the Whitehall Rooms two days later. Lord Lister will be in the chair, and he will be supported by Sir Samuel Wilks, Sir William MacCormac, Sir William Broadbent, Sir John Williams, the heads of the Navy and Army medical services, and by other distinguished medical men, including Mr. Ward Cousins, the president-elect of the British Medical Association.

We always believe in the genuineness of the convictions of those who are willing to pay in support of them, and on these lines the late Mr. George Richard Jesse, founder, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Society for the Abolition of Vivisection, who died last June, at the age of 78, must be held to have a very real interest in the cause which he expounded. Mr. Jesse has directed that the sum of £10,000 shall be invested in certain railway securities, and the income therefrom applied to the Society for the Abolition of Vivisection, provided that within twelve months the Society establish an office within half a mile of Piccadilly or Charing Cross, and appoint as secretary some one

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