

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Queen in Council has granted to the Great Northern Central Hospital Letters Patent under the Great Seal incorporating the hospital by Royal Charter under the title of "The President, Vice-Presidents, and Governors of the Great Northern Central Hospital."

The Works Committee of the Metropolitan Asylums Board have recommended that the revised estimate of the proposed cost of erecting, fitting up, and furnishing a new hospital at Carshalton, to be called the Southern Hospital, be approved and accepted, and that the Local Government Board be asked to issue an order authorising the managers to expend and borrow a sum of £284,312 for the purpose. After discussion the recommendation was adopted by the Board.

Mrs. Willock has given a donation of £1,000 towards the enlargement of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road.

Mr. John Lawson Johnston, the Chairman of the great Bovril Company, died on board his steam yacht, the *White Ladye*, last week. He helped to make the company one of the most successful enterprises of the century, and took for his motto, "Honesty is the best policy," by giving to the public a thoroughly reliable article. The consumption of Bovril is now enormous.

Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, has given her patronage to the forthcoming ball to be held at the Empress Rooms, in aid of the Charing Cross Hospital.

In reference to his patriotic poem, "The Siege of Mafeking," Mr. E. Gilbert Highton, has received from Major-General Baden-Powell a letter, in which he says:—"Not only is the poem a faithful record of the siege, but its lines are of a stirring character, and are a flattering recognition of the endeavours of the defenders to do their duty."

Our readers greatly appreciate the critiques of Shakespearean plays which have appeared in our columns from time to time from Mr. Gilbert Highton's gifted pen.

Prof. Rauschburg, of Budapest, claims to have invented an apparatus capable of measuring the memory-power. He calls it a mnemometer, and has demonstrated the use of the apparatus before the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, which considers the invention well worth systematic tests.

Notice is given that the Mayor, Commonality and Citizens of the City of London, Governors of the House of the Poor commonly called St. Bartholomew's Hospital, near West Smithfield, London, of the Foundation of King Henry the Eighth, intend to apply to Parliament in the next Session for an Act for the following purposes:—To empower the Governors to

purchase by compulsion or agreement certain lands, houses and buildings situate in the parishes of St. Sepulchre Christchurch Newgate Street, St. Botolph Aldersgate and St. Bartholomew the Less all in the City of London in the County of London that is to say. (A) Certain lands houses and buildings in the said parish of St. Sepulchre abutting on Giltspur Street and lying on the East side thereof. (B) Certain lands houses and buildings in the said parish of Christchurch Newgate Street adjoining the said houses lands and buildings in the parish of St. Sepulchre on the East side thereof. (C) Certain lands houses and buildings situate in the said parish of St. Bartholomew the Less adjoining the said houses lands and buildings in the parish of Christ Church Newgate Street on the North side thereof and situate on the South side of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. (D) Certain lands houses and buildings situate in the said parish of St. Botolph Aldersgate abutting on Little Britain and lying on the West side thereof and on the South side St. Bartholomew's Hospital and adjoining the said houses lands and buildings situate in the parish of Christ Church Newgate Street on the East and North sides thereof. To authorise them to erect on lands to be acquired under the powers of the intended Act such further buildings as they may think fit to be used for the purposes of and in extension of the existing accommodation of the said Hospital. Generations of nurses will wish success to this action upon the Governors part.

The Bacillus Agnostic.

(After Longfellow—about nineteen years.)

In from his rural dominion,
Fresh from his rustic location,
Came the bacillus agnostic,
Rank disbeliever in microbes.
Talked he right bold to the doctors—
Those who believe in the ptomaines—
Thus spake Reub, sore on such folly;
"Long years ago in the country
Had we a place called a schoolhouse;
Always without ventilation,
Ever without any safeguard
'Gainst the onslaught of disease.
Never an oven for pencils,
Never a book fumigator,
Never a bit of precaution,
Other than such as the beasts have.
(Some asafetida, surely,
Eke, some small baglets of sulphur.)
Drank all we brats from one tin cup,
Aye, from one bucket we guzzled;
Some even poured back their leavings!
Sometimes a slate that was borrowed,
Bearing nine kinds of dried moisture,
Had to be cleansed before using—
Used we our tongues for the cleansing.
Yet was there none of us ailing;
Ne'er had we heard of the microbe."
Thus the bacillus agnostic,
Rank disbeliever in ptomaines,
Silence from all of the doctors.

—*Indianapolis Journal.*

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