

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The King has consented to become patron of Guy's Hospital. His Majesty, as Prince of Wales, has filled the office of president for some years, and has taken an active interest in the general welfare of the charity, notably in 1896, when the special appeal for re-endowment was made to the public. At a general Court of Governors, held on April 12th, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York, who had before starting for the colonies signified his willingness to accept the office, was unanimously elected president in succession to His Majesty.

The King has graciously consented to become the Patron of the Royal Hospital, Richmond, Surrey.

Queen Alexandra has graciously consented to continue her patronage to the Hospital for Women, Soho Square.

Among the honours recently bestowed by the King, in connection with the South African Campaign, the following have fallen to the profession of medicine:

To be an Ordinary Member of the Second Class or Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath: Sir William MacCormac, Bart., K.C.V.O.

To be Ordinary Members of the Third Class, or Companions of the said Most Honourable Order: Sir Thomas Naghten Fitzgerald, Knt., F.R.C.S.I.; Sir William Thomson, Knt., M.D., F.R.C.S.I.; Alfred Downing Fripp, Esq., M.B., M.V.O.; George Henry Makins, Esq., F.R.C.S.; Frederick Treves, Esq., F.R.C.S.; William Watson Cheyne, Esq., F.R.C.S.; George Lenthal Cheatle, Esq., F.R.C.S.; Kendal Franks, Esq., M.D.; John Cheine, Esq., M.D.

Sir T. Andros de la Rue, Bart., has promised to preside at a festival dinner of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, at the Hotel Metropole, on May 6th, when a special effort will be made to raise £10,000 for the purchase of a freehold site and the erection thereon of a Nurses' Home in connection with the institution.

The Clothworkers' Company have sent a donation of £250 in aid of the funds of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital.

The North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney-road, has received a donation of £100 to the Building Fund from "A. B." in connection with the festival dinner of May 21st, and also one of £100 as an Easter offering to the general funds from Mr. James C. Marshall.

Miss Mary Cannington, who died at Bristol on March 30th, was a generous supporter of local institutions during her life. Recently she gave £10,000 to the Bristol Royal Infirmary. It now transpires that she bequeathed £5,000 to the Bristol General Hospital, £1,000 each to the vicars and churchwardens of two

poor Bristol parishes, £500 to another, and £4,000 to several other Bristol charities.

We regret to learn that so useful and well managed an institution as the Royal United Hospital, Bath, should be hampered in its work for want of funds. The ordinary cost of maintaining the hospital is £7,000, while last year extra expenses increased the total to £8,369. The overdraft at the bank is now about £3,500, and this must seriously hamper the committee in their work. Surely the chief hospital of the chief city of Somersetshire should be better supported. At a meeting recently held at the Bath Guildhall, which was presided over by Mr. T. B. Silcock, the Mayor, the claims of the institution upon the public of the city and district were urged, and with a view to liquidating the large debt it was arranged that simultaneous collections should be made in all places of worship on Sunday, November 3rd. We hope the result of this meeting will be to bring to the institution a great increase of financial support.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland on Saturday evening formally opened the Richmond Surgical Hospital in Dublin. His Excellency said that a year ago, when her late Majesty was leaving Ireland, she told him that she would like to give a sum of money which she wished to be devoted to the benefit of the poor of Dublin. She asked his advice as to the disposal of the money, and when he suggested that it should be divided among the hospitals of Dublin he could never forget the energy and sympathy with which her Majesty met his suggestion. She was actuated more than any human being he ever knew by all that was high and good in the sentiments she expressed and of which she invariably acted.

The late Miss Emily Jones, of London, had bequeathed £6,000 to seven London Hospitals, but in a codicil to her will revoked the bequest "on account of my belief that such hospitals have on their staff, or among their medical men, vivisectors, or have vivisectors in their medical school, and these legacies are revoked for the reason of my abhorrence of the abominable and awful practice of vivisection, as in my opinion it degrades and makes callous all those who habitually practise it."

The Barnet Board of Guardians have been in correspondence with the grateful relative of a deceased pauper in the workhouse, who wrote expressing thanks for their "kindness to Maria and the nice comfortable coffin and funeral," and, he added, "it was a very great consolation to see poor Maria so comfortably buried." It was a Newcastle-on-Tyne undertaker who advertised, "Why live and be miserable, when you can be buried in comfort for £3 10s.?" And another current story, down in the Midlands, is the complaint of a like tradesman that "there's nothing doing in the town; it's only funerals that keep this place alive."

The Pan-American Exhibition will open on May 1st. Every important building is ready, and the installation of exhibits is proceeding with rapidity. The railway companies are arranging low rates and for the proper accommodation of passengers. The people of Buffalo have prepared in the most ample way to entertain the large number of guests.

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