

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Mr. Kearley in the House of Commons gave it as his opinion that the people of London pay the milkmen £30,000 a year for water, the adulteration of milk being so great.

An appeal for £50,000 is being made by the Royal Hospital for Children and Women, Waterloo Road, S.E., to assist in the rebuilding of the premises. An influential working ladies committee has been formed, and a member of the Royal Family has consented to preside.

Sir Walter Foster, M.P., who made a most interesting speech last week on the necessity of a stricter administration of the law with regard to burial certificates, is, we understand, meditating a Bill to put his views into practice. Sir Walter brought in a most useful Bill enforcing stricter medical supervision in case of cremation, and his opinion that the same provisions ought to apply to ordinary death certificates is shared by many members on both sides of the House, in view of certain recent revelations in poisoning cases.

It is understood that the balance to be handed to the London Hospital authorities as the proceeds of the great ball at the Albert Hall will be about £3,000.

As the result of the concert given under the patronage of the Princess of Wales, at Queen's Hall, on the 25th ult., a sum of £605 has been obtained for the Paddington Green Children's Hospital.

Miss Winifred Thorpe, M.B., London, has been appointed house surgeon at Kettering General Hospital.

At a meeting of the Sanitary Committee of the Leeds City Council it was reported that satisfactory progress was being made with the new General Infectious Diseases Hospital at Seacroft and the Small-pox Hospital at Killingbeck. Arrangements were made for a visit of the members attending the annual congress of the Sanitary Institute, to be held in Bradford on July 7th and subsequent days. A party will travel to Leeds on the 9th for the purpose of inspecting the new hospitals in course of erection, the subway in connection with the unhealthy areas scheme, and the several works and depôts controlled by the Sanitary Department.

We are glad to hear that the bazaar in aid of the new scheme for developing the work of the George Square Nursing Home for Women in Edinburgh was very successful. One day it was opened by Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D. The Rev. Dr. Wallace Williamson introduced Mrs. Scharlieb as a lady well known in the medical profession, as having a brilliant and remarkable career, and who had not only won a high personal reputation, but had done a great deal to stimulate the work of women doctors. For that work she commanded the respect and confidence of the whole community. The Nursing

Home had now been in existence for about four years and had amply justified its existence by a considerable measure of success. On behalf of his brethren he expressed high admiration for the intensely devoted work which they saw being done by eminent men and noble women in the medical profession among the poor in the city.

Mrs. Scharlieb, after expressing the pleasure it had given her to be present, said the time was when medical women were a very feeble folk, and when it needed the shrewdness and common-sense of Mrs. Anderson and some others to get the medical women through their puny babyhood and somewhat sickly childhood to be what they now were, an integral part of the body politic. They must all recognise now that, whether for good or for evil, the medical woman had come to stay. It had been said twenty-two years ago that the first medical woman who took her degree would degrade herself, and all that was pure and good and feminine in woman. Were the medical women of Edinburgh degraded? Were they not, on the contrary, helping forward the cause of Christ and the cause of the poor? With regard to the hospital in connection with which they were met, she was sure they all wished it well. What the women wanted in Edinburgh now was the opportunity for clinical work to be had at the great hospitals of that city. They also wanted individual practice: the opportunity of post-graduate work.

When she was appointed to the Royal Free Hospital, one of the twelve great hospitals in London, some of their friends said they had been indiscreet, but not only had they ventured thus far, but they had absolutely taken the plunge and appointed her physician for the diseases of women, with Dr. Ethel Vaughan as assistant in charge of the out-patients. She was told that the experiment was going to be a success. There was no doubt a large and growing class of the community who recognised that a great many women preferred to be attended by women, and more especially that women preferred the ministrations of their own sex in the troubles that were peculiar to themselves. She hoped that the people of Edinburgh would do their very best to help forward that courageous venture.

The managers of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary having finally rejected the criticisms of the Glasgow Institute of Architects regarding their rebuilding scheme, and refused the advice and assistance offered by that body, the Institute has felt it to be its duty to set the whole facts before the general public.

Mr. F. J. Snell, in his new work, "A Book of Exmoor," has amassed a great store of history and folk-lore and anecdote. He has many good stories; the following must suffice:—

"Mr. Pearse, an old doctor, in drawing out one of his bills, after enumerating and separately charging for sundry journeys, batches of powder, draughts, &c. . . . concluded with the item, 'To the great perturbation and anxiety of mind experienced during your long and painful illness, 10s. 6d.'"

We wonder what sort of charges trained nurses would be justified in making if "anxiety of mind" were a remunerable item. We should all be passing rich.

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