

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Lord Lamington on Tuesday laid the foundation-stone of the new European Hospital at Poona, the gift of Mr. Jacob Sassoon in commemoration of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to India. The laying of the stone was made the occasion of a brilliant function.

The foundation stone of the first sanatorium built by the National Association for Erecting Sanatoria for Workers suffering from Tuberculosis was laid by Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein on the outskirts of Benenden on Saturday. The buildings will stand on a hillside, 230 ft. above sea level. The distinguishing feature of the association's scheme is that the cost of maintenance of the institutions will be defrayed by the working classes through their various organisations.

The directors of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Sick Children have just issued an appeal for £20,000 to provide a convalescent Home. It is pointed out that the Sick Children's Hospital, which has done so much good work in the treatment of poor, suffering children, not only from the Edinburgh district, but from Scotland generally, has long felt the want of a convalescent home in the country, to which children might be sent for a short period to confirm their recovery before returning to their own homes. An opportune occasion has, in the opinion of the directors, arisen for undertaking the scheme. By the beneficence of the late Miss Mary Jane Meikleham the hospital will acquire, as part of the residue of her estate, the house and grounds at Muirfield at Gullane, and it is proposed, if the necessary funds are obtained, to establish a convalescent home there. The locality is an eminently suitable one. It is near the sea, healthy, and conveniently accessible from Edinburgh, while the ground, sheltered as it is by the trees on the north, east, and west, and with a sunny exposure to the south, forms a site for a home for convalescent patients which it is believed could not easily be surpassed. The existing house, which is small, is being temporarily used for a few convalescent children; but it is intended to establish a home suitable for the needs of the hospital, and it is estimated that to do so, and to provide even a partial endowment, a sum of at least £20,000 will be required. For that sum the directors earnestly appeal to the public.

The Leicester Infirmary has of late years rapidly taken a place in the front rank of provincial hospitals. Of recent years £52,000 has been spent on the institution, and yet it does not in size meet the requirements of the sick at its gates, seventy cases often being on the waiting list for admission. A contract has therefore just been accepted for a new surgical wing, and the architect has also been instructed to prepare plans for the erection of an

isolation hospital, so that unhealthy wounds may be treated apart. £26,000 is needed for these improvements and £11,500 is already in hand.

Mr. Frank Bailey, of Tilgate, Crawley, and Mark Lane, City, merchant, left estate valued at £155,426.

After handsome legacies to relatives and friends he left the residue of his estate to his wife for life, with remainder as she may appoint, and in default of such appointment he bequeathed certain of his property, estimated to be worth £80,000, to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.

## Petroleum as a Plague Disinfectant.

[Bombay, Wednesday.—Dr. Turner, Officer of Health for Bombay, has successfully demonstrated the extraordinary efficacy of crude petroleum as a plague disinfectant. It is believed that his experiments will materially advance the prospects of extirpating the plague.—Reuter.]

When you're strolling in the country and inhaling of an air

Which is fragrant with the perfume of the rose—  
Should the vile stench of some motor, as it shoots past,  
make you swear,

You must never once attempt to hold your nose,  
For the evil smell that's wafted on the summer air  
sublime

Is with disinfecting properties surcharged  
That will help you to avoid both Bubonic and Typhoid,  
To inhale it with a diaphragm enlarged.

If you want a germ-killer that is sure—  
Something cheap that will effect a perfect  
cure—

Just inhale the petrol gases

Of some motor as it passes,

For their stench could disinfect a common  
sewer.

—G. M. S. in the *Edinburgh Dispatch*.

## Midwifery Matters.

The Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association have issued a report of their suggested amendments of the rules of the Central Midwives' Board. One of the most important alterations is that no person shall be admitted to an examination unless she produces evidence satisfactory to the Central Midwives' Board that she has attended during not less than three months a course of instruction recognised by the Central Midwives' Board. The course of instruction shall be given in accordance with the conditions prescribed by the Central Midwives' Board, and must include personal attendance on not less than twenty cases of labour and the care of mother and child during ten days following labour.

This regulation would do much to improve the standard of knowledge required, but would shut out much private tuition and teaching in the district.

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