

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Lady Constance Hatch will hold a Christmas Sale of cakes, sweets, &c., at the Royal Ear Hospital, Dean Street, Soho, W., on Saturday, December 14th, from 2.30 to 6 p.m. The sale is in aid of the Hospital, where specially good work is being done for the relief of those distressing diseases of the ear and throat, which often incapacitate the industrious poor from obtaining employment. When enquiring last year into the after-care of out-patients in the throat hospitals and clinics where operations are performed, we learned with what good care the patients were attended by the nursing staff under medical direction at the Royal Ear Hospital. We hope a very lucrative sale may result on the 14th inst.

A communication has been received from the head office of one of the principal London banks that a client has offered the sum of £5,000 to the Royal Free Hospital, provided that an additional sum of £15,000 is subscribed or promised towards the building fund of the new extension before March 4th, 1913. An appeal was recently issued for £50,000 needed to build and equip the new out-patient department and hospital extension, and it is proposed that the work shall begin at once. The nurse training school, under the direction of Miss Cox-Davies, is making continual progress.

It has come to the knowledge of the House Committee of the London Hospital that the founder and first surgeon of the hospital, John Harrison, was buried in the churchyard of St. Paul's, Deptford. There is no memorial in the church or churchyard stating that John Harrison was buried there. By the rector's consent the Committee have arranged to put up at their personal cost, a tablet bearing the following inscription:—

"In memory of John Harrison, founder and first surgeon of the London Hospital, who died in 1753 and was buried in this churchyard. His body lies here. His work continues at the hospital."

Princess Louise, accompanied by the Duke of Argyll, visited Southend last week to open a new wing of the hospital, erected at a cost of £4130. The royal party, was met at the railway station by the mayor and corporation, who presented an address. At the hospital the Princess spoke individually to the patients and gave much pleasure by presenting each with a spray of lilies-of-the-valley. Her Royal Highness afterwards unveiled a tablet bearing the inscription: "This sitting-room and additional nurses' quarters were built through efforts of the ladies' working party, and opened by H.R.H. Princess Louise, December 4th."

Lady Audley Neeld recently laid the foundation stone of a cottage hospital of twelve beds, at Hendon, which is to be erected as a memorial to the late King Edward VII. The site is in Park Road, the land being the gift of Lieut.-Colonel Sir Audley Neeld. Mr. James Barber has acted as chairman of the committee. The cost of the building is about £2,200, the whole of which has practically been found, whilst substantial promises have been made towards the maintenance fund.

The Annual Meeting of the Penal Reform League, which aims at interesting the public in the right treatment of criminals, in promoting effective measures for their cure and rehabilitation, and for the prevention of crime, will hold its annual Meeting at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Friday, December 13th, at 8 p.m. Sir John Macdonell will preside.

We firmly believe that trained nurses have a great duty to perform in a wise scheme of prison reform, and want to see a woman of parts who is a highly trained nurse the next Matron of Holloway. So far no one has found time to work at our suggestion for an Elizabeth Fry League of Nurses.

The Annual Conference of the National Association for the Feeble-minded will be held in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, London, on December 13th, on "Legislation for the Feeble-minded," W. H. Dickinson, Esq., M.P., presiding. The Conference will be opened by the Lord Mayor at 10.45 a.m. Subject of the Morning Session, "The Administrative Question." Speakers, J. W. Hills, Esq., M.P., T. B. Hyslop, Esq., M.D., G. Stewart, Esq., M.P., Sir William Chance, Bart. Subjects of the Afternoon Session, 2.4 p.m., "The Position of the Feeble-minded under the Government Bill." Speakers, H. Corner, Esq., M.D., Leslie F. Scott, Esq., K.C., M.P., Mrs. Hume Pinsent.

AWARD UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

A case of interest to nurses in connection with the Workmen's Compensation Act has recently been heard in the Liverpool County Court, in which his Honour, Judge Thomas, delivered judgment last week. The application was Miss Elise Beresford Knox, a hospital nurse who claimed compensation from the Bootle Borough Hospital. Her case was that she pricked a finger of her right hand while padding a splint, and later in the day dressed a septic wound. Septic inflammation followed, necessitating an operation, the finger became permanently stiff, and she could not use two of the other fingers of that hand. For the hospital it was contended that the connection between the prick and the poisoning was not proved. The Judge gave his judgment in favour of the nurse, awarding her 9s. a week from May to August, and 2s. 6d. afterwards during partial incapacity. He granted a stay on the usual conditions.

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