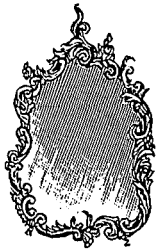


Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Chapter of the Grand Priory of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England has, with the approval of his Royal Highness the Prince of WALES, Grand Prior of the Order, selected the undermentioned as Honorary Associates of the Order in recognition of services rendered to the Order in connection with its ambulance department (the St. John Ambulance Association), and the selection has received the approval and sanction of Her Majesty the QUEEN, the Sovereign Head and Patron of the Order:—
 Honorary Associates: Fleming Mant Sandwith, M.D., Cairo; Matthew Baines, M.D., London; William John Stephens, L.R.C.P. Edin., and Henry Algernon Hodson, L.R.C.P. Edin., Brighton Centre, St John Ambulance Association; Edmund West Symes, M.D., Halifax; Henry Hammond Smith, M.R.C.S., Stourbridge; Robert John Collie, M.D., Metropolitan; William Duncan, L.R.C.P. Edin., Bristol; George Middlemiss, M.D., Darlington; Harry Pennington Hallows, M.D., Doncaster.

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 MR. DAVID R. PLUNKET, Q.C., M.P., has been elected chairman of the Committee of Management of the North-West London Hospital, Kentish-town Road.

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 THE Public Health Committee of the London County Council have decided to convene a conference of urban sanitary authorities, to be held next month at Spring Gardens, to consider whether any measures can be taken to restrict vagrants as agents in the spread of small-pox and other infectious diseases.

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 A MEETING of the subscribers, and other friends of Dr. ANDREW, was held on Thursday, June 28th, at 3 p.m., in the library of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, when Sir JAMES PAGET presented to the treasurer and governors of the Hospital the testimonial portrait of Dr. ANDREW which has been painted by the Hon. JOHN COLLIER.

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 THERE are five candidates for the three vacant seats upon the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons. Mr. REGINALD HARRISON and Mr. HOWARD MARSH, both of whom seek re-election; Mr. DAVIES-COLLEY, of Guy's Hospital; Mr. HERBERT PAGE, of St. Mary's Hospital; and Mr. JAMES HARDIE, of Manchester.

WE have just received the following letter, and have much pleasure in according it equal prominence to the original note made in this column:—

SIR,—The attention of my Committee has been drawn to a paragraph in your issue of the 12th May, reflecting on their (supposed) action with regard to the Private Nursing Branch. The Committee regret that before making such comment you did not bear in mind the explanation already given when on a previous occasion the same unjust censure was made in the NURSING RECORD. It must surely be apparent that the sum paid as salaries does not represent the total expense of the Private Nurses to the Association. You take no account of uniforms, board, lodging and laundry when in the Home; medical attendance, medicine, and care and help during illness, and the certainty of a comfortable home when out of work. All these things are provided for the Nurses, and they receive the full salary mentioned in your paper as paid to the Private Nurses at St. Bartholomew's. This year, one of the Private Nurses has been off work for six months through illness. She has been paid her full salary and helped to take a change when convalescent. So far, the Committee have not been in pocket by their Private Nursing Branch (except that sometimes, through the Nurses, donations are made to the Association); it can merely be said to have paid its way, and certainly has not contributed, as you suggest, "to defray the expenses of District Work." If at any future time it shows a profit, it will be applied to the benefit of the Nurses who are completely satisfied with the present arrangements, knowing that until now they have been entirely to their advantage. Perhaps, if instead of an ordinary fee of £1 1s. per week we received £2 2s., we might add the percentage to their salaries, but with the lower charge it is utterly impossible. I am instructed by the Committee to ask you to be so good as to insert this, as they do not wish to remain under an unmerited accusation of "sweating" their private Nurses. The delay in replying to your paragraph was caused by having to wait for the monthly meeting of the Committee.—I am, yours faithfully,

C. WILLIAMS, *Hon Sec.*

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 While we welcome with great satisfaction the statements of our correspondent, that there are no profits made out of the private Nurses, and commend this to the consideration of the Committees of similar Institutions—and while reiterating the opinion we expressed in our previous note, as to the "excellent work" performed by this very "useful Charity," we regret to be compelled to point out to our correspondent that the point of our contention was that the Middlesbro' Association classed the receipts and expenditure of its private Nurses "with that incurred and received on behalf of the district Nurses. Inasmuch as district Nursing is a charitable work, and the private Nurses' department more or less of a commercial undertaking, we contend that the two should be kept entirely separate and distinct." We are extremely glad to learn that the Middlesbro' Association does not use the earnings of its private Nurses to defray the expenses of its district Nurses' work, but so long as the said earnings go into a common fund, and at the end of the year that common fund is shown to be exhausted by the District Nursing expenses, our correspondent must admit that most people would draw the same deduction that we did, especially in

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