

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



ON August 22nd, in the House of Commons, Mr. STUART asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his attention had been called to recent allegations respecting the conduct of the medical staff of the Chelsea Hospital for Women; whether it was the case that the whole staff resigned; whether, notwithstanding the report of a Committee presided over by Lord CADOGAN, all except two of the staff had been re-elected; and whether he had any power to order an inquiry into the whole proceedings; and, if so, whether he would order such an inquiry.—Mr. G. RUSSELL said: The Secretary of State has seen the allegations to which my hon. friend refers, and is fully alive to the gravity of them. I am bound, however, to tell my hon. friend that the Home Office have some private reason for believing that the allegations made in the newspapers are not correct. If my hon. friend will communicate with me privately, I will tell him what I know of the matter. In the meantime I have to announce that the Secretary of State has no power to order an inquiry, as suggested in the question.

This matter is exciting very considerable comment in both the professional and the lay press. It is much to be feared that the Committee of the Hospital have done much harm to other Hospitals, both by what they have done and what they have left undone. The *Star* is devoting a considerable amount of its space to comments and correspondence upon the matter, and demands the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the management of Hospitals.

DURING the small-pox outbreak, on several beats, in and near the Marylebone district, all the policemen were re-vaccinated. One of the students who assisted at the somewhat wholesale function, remarked "that the burglars and criminals of the neighbourhood might commit any depredations they pleased, if they were smart enough to do so when the arms had 'taken,' and were consequently in a somewhat disabled and painful condition!" Fortunately, the thieves and bad characters on these particular "beats" were not sufficiently versed in symptology to arrange their crimes to fit the dates of the policemen's helplessness.

REPORTS came from Milwaukee, U.S.A., of a serious riot among the people owing to the en-

forced isolation of patients during a recent outbreak of small-pox. The greater part of the population of Milwaukee is German, who might be expected to be too well educated and enlightened to exhibit such middle-age fanaticism.

THE Earl and Countess of WINCHILSEA having provided a temporary convalescent home for poor companions, in connection with the Children's Order of Chivalry, the building was opened last Saturday at Ewerbury, a village adjoining Haverholme Priory, his lordship's seat near Sleaford. The children will be under the care of a Nurse belonging to the Rural Nursing Association, another institution which Lady WINCHILSEA has successfully inaugurated in Lincolnshire. Several companions belonging to the East End of London are now being entertained by friends of the order around Lord WINCHILSEA'S Lincolnshire home.

It is to be hoped that the plea raised recently by a London coroner, for the establishment of free swimming baths will be acted upon. A rigorous tubbing of the working community of London, both men, women and children, would have a marvellous effect upon their health and their moral conditions. At present, the bath is a luxury for the well-to-do. It should be within the reach of the very poorest.

MRS. ELIZABETH ALLEN, of Gorse Wood, Bournemouth, who died on the 7th September, 1892, and the value of whose personal estate has been proved at £104,000, bequeathed out of the estate of her late husband £10,000 each to the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, the London Hospital, and the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest; £5,000 each to the Cancer Hospital, Brompton, and the Brompton Hospital for Consumption; £2,000 each to the Middlesex Hospital, Guy's Hospital, St. Thomas's Hospital, King's College Hospital, and the Great Northern Central Hospital; £1,000 each to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest (City Road), the West-End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, Paralysis, and Epilepsy, the Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, the National Orthopædic Hospital for the Deformed, the Royal Hospital for Incurables, St. Mark's Hospital, St. Peter's Hospital for Stone, the East London Hospital for Children and Dispensary for Women, the Hospital for Sick Children, the Victoria Hospital for Children, and the British Home for Incurables. She appoints and bequeaths the residue of the estate of her late husband and the residue of her own estate to the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, the London Hospital, Whitechapel Road, and the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)