

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



NEWCASTLE is to have an Exhibition in 1897, by which it is hoped to raise £10,000 in aid of a new Infirmary. Mr. H. Engel, who is well known in Newcastle for the successful way in which he has engineered several Exhibitions there, is to be the promoter of this, which is already receiving very hearty support.

The Chairman of the Council of Management of the Royal Chest Hospital, City Road, has sent a donation of 300 guineas towards the fund being raised in connection with the festival dinner to be held at the Hôtel Métropole on the 26th of May.

The 64th Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Carlisle on Tuesday Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, July 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st, 1896.

The Museum held in connection with the British Medical Association Meeting, will comprise exhibits of foods, drugs, antiseptic dressings, &c. There will also be sanitary and ambulance appliances and surgical instruments.

The National Society for Aid to Sick and Wounded in War are sending on Saturday two Surgeons to South Africa to be placed at the disposal of Earl Grey, Administrator of Rhodesia, for service in connection with the troubles in Matabeleland.

Dr. John J. Sykes, Medical Officer of Health to St. Pancras, read a most interesting and important paper last week at the Sanitary Institute on the Factory and Workshop Acts.

The new temporary wing of the Miller Hospital and Royal Kent Dispensary in the Greenwich Road was opened on Saturday, in the presence of a large assembly. The Chairman (Sir Stuart Knill) pointed out that the institution was established in 1783 as the Kent Dispensary for the parishes of Rotherhithe, Camberwell, Deptford, Woolwich, Lewisham and Greenwich. In 1837 the Duke of Wellington presided at the festival dinner, and Queen Victoria in the same year granted her Royal patronage.

At this Hospital last year 16,050 cases were treated, but it is chiefly for the accommodation of out-patients of whom fifty to sixty are treated daily that the new premises are necessary. The new wing, for which funds are badly needed, will have to be built before the end of the next three years; meanwhile, the temporary erection has proved to be imperatively necessary for the treatment of out-patients. The building was opened by Mr. Passmore Edwards.

A curious story comes from St. Thomas's Hospital. On Saturday night a man suffering from small-pox, in company with a friend, travelled by a tramcar from his house at Lavender Hill to St. Thomas's Hospital.

On arrival at that Institution the patient was examined, and the house surgeon pronounced the case a serious one. Information was at once forwarded to the small-pox Hospital at New Cross, with a request for an ambulance to be sent for the patient's removal, but before its arrival it was found the man had escaped out of a window, and he is still at large.

A case of small-pox exported from Gloucester by a navy, is reported from Lutterworth, Leicestershire.

Again from Gloucester a large number of fresh cases of small-pox are reported, including a good many from the "slums," which, curiously enough, seem hitherto to have been remarkably free from infection.

An urgent appeal is being made on behalf of the Davos Invalids' Home towards purchasing the house and furniture which has hitherto been generously lent. The home is the only English institution in the High Alps where consumptive patients, who cannot afford to pay the heavy cost of living in hotels, are received. Its usefulness and success in the past have been great, and no less than 50 per cent. of the patients have returned fit for their ordinary occupations. Mrs. Asquith and Mrs. Symes Thompson, with others, are very much interested in the Home.

Mr. Frome Talfourd has recently presented the London Temperance Hospital, in Hampstead Road, with a donation of £50, as a thank-offering for having attained his fifty-sixth year as a total abstainer. Mr. Talfourd is in his eighty-ninth year.

A fund for building and endowing an Anti-Vivisection Hospital has now been definitely started.

The division of the Russian Red Cross Society which is on its way to Abyssinia to tend the wounded in the Abyssinian Army has been instructed to proceed to the French colony of Jibutil. The section which was to have gone to Massowah, comprising Colonel Maximoff, a number of Sisters of Mercy, and some Nurses, is to return to Russia.

An interesting report on the tsetse fly, by Surgeon-Major Bruce, who has undertaken an investigation into the ravages caused by that insect in South Africa has been issued. Dr. Bruce finds that the disease produced by the bite of the tsetse does not affect wild, but only domesticated animals, especially horses; also that it is not due to any inherent venom in the fly itself, but to the communication of certain flagellated germs from other diseased animals. In this respect, and in the character of the hæmatozoa transmitted, it strongly resembles the disease known in India as "horse-surra." Also arsenic, which in the case of the latter ailment is a powerful remedy, can be no less beneficially used on animals infected by the tsetse fly.

The British Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, established some 32 years since, is being removed to more convenient premises at No. 29, Euston Road. During its existence it has relieved over 123,000 patients. The Hospital has had a considerable amount expended recently on improvements and sanitation. Some paying patients are to be received.

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