

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE German Emperor has been pleased to confer the Order of the Crown, Second Class, on Professor Röntgen.

At the general meeting of members of the British Medical Association, at Carlisle, it was announced that Dr. Robert Saundby (Birmingham) had been elected president of the council for three years, in succession to Dr. Ward Cousins, who was thanked for his services. It was resolved that the annual meeting of the Association should be held at Montreal next year, in compliance with an invitation brought by a Canadian deputation who had waited upon the Council, and Professor Roddick, President of the Montreal branch, was appointed President-elect. It was arranged that the business part of the next annual meeting should be transacted in London, and only the scientific meetings held at Montreal. As the British Association will visit Toronto next year, the suggestion was made that the dates of the two meetings should be so fixed that members could attend both.

The Dublin students have held a further meeting to protest against the answer from the College of Surgeons in connection with being examined, by Miss Winnifred Jackson, who is one of the examiners of midwifery—they threaten to boycott the school. The *British Medical Journal* remarks:—"Probably there are many who share the views of the students, but laws must be carried out, and the Council declares itself to be powerless. The only person who can remove the difficulty is the lady herself, who may retire from her office rather than allow the unpleasantness to continue." We sincerely hope that Miss Winnifred Jackson, who is an excellently qualified medical woman, will not retire from the honourable position which she has won for herself by much intellectual labour. All pioneer professional women suffer insult and injustice, but we must show that our cause is just by courageously maintaining our position.

The cholera outbreak, which somewhat hampers the movements of the Nile Expedition, is characterised by the usual native prejudices against Hospital treatment and quarantine. The camp followers are a stumbling block and a confusion to the medical officers. Discipline can be enforced among the troops, but the heterogenous following which an army always attracts is most difficult to cope with. These people disregard every precaution. They consider the disease to be the work of a discriminating Allah, who strikes down whomsoever he wishes to destroy. They have also a great aversion to reporting cases of infectious disease to the authorities, as they dread being taken to the Hospital.

One case is reported where a man out at sea was suddenly seized with cholera. The man remained in the boat some distance from the shore, and refused to allow himself to be conveyed to the Hospital. It was necessary to ride out to the boat and actually chase him ashore, where a stretcher party was in waiting.

The Brook Fever Hospital, Shooters Hill.

SEVERAL hundred ladies and gentlemen, representing the London Vestries, Boards of Guardians, and other public bodies, on Friday accepted the invitation of the Metropolitan Asylums Board to inspect their new Fever Hospital at Shooters Hill. The guests were most courteously received and conducted over the Hospital in parties. The Medical Superintendent, Dr. McCombie, and the Matron, Miss Bann, and other officials doing all in their power to afford information to those present. Many of the wards and the beautiful Nurses' Home were charmingly decorated with flowers, and a delicious tea was provided, to which ample justice was done. The Hospital is admirably situated on high ground and commands an extensive view of the country towards the south and west. It is constructed to hold 500 patients, and consists of a series of two-storeyed pavilions, built in terraces on the slope of the hill and connected by roofed but open gangways. The buildings, with their appurtenances and connections, cover 21 acres, but the site contains eight additional acres which could be used for temporary purposes during severe epidemics.

WARD PAVILIONS.

There are 12 main Ward Pavilions—8 for scarlet fever and 4 for enteric fever and diphtheria—each being two storeys in height, with an open space varying from 4 to 8 feet in height under the ground floor. The general plans of the pavilions are all similar, except that, while the main wards for scarlet fever each contain 20 beds, and are 120 feet long, those for enteric fever and diphtheria each contain 12 beds and are 90 feet long. One general description of a pavilion will, therefore, apply to all. The following are the spaces allowed per bed in the several wards, all wards being 13 feet high:—

	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric and Diphtheria.
Linear wall space ...	12 ft.	15 ft.
Floor area ...	156 ft.	195 ft.
Cubic space ...	2,028 ft.	2,535 ft.

On each floor of each ward pavilion for scarlet fever are contained one main ward, one separation ward, bath room, duty room, linen store and larder, together with the w.c. turrets. There is also on the ground floor a w.c. and lavatory for the Nurses.

The main ward, which contains 20 beds, is 120 feet long, 26 feet wide, and 13 feet high. The floors are of wax-polished teak, and the walls are plastered with Keene's cement. All internal angles are rounded, and the internal faces of the window frames are flush with the face of the wall, thus avoiding internal reveals with their incidental corners and recesses. The ward windows consist of double-hung sashes to three-fourths the height, the remaining portion being a hopper-hung fanlight, hung to open inwards, with hopper cheeks going up to ceiling. These windows extend from 2 feet 6 inches above the floor to close under the ceiling, so as to give the maximum of light and air. The lower sashes are glazed with plate-glass, and the upper ones are double, glazed with sheet-glass.

The distal end of the ward, having a southern aspect, is kept free from all impediments to light and air in the nature of bath or w.c. turrets, and the necessity for escape staircases at this end has been made the

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