

side, by a thick layer of ordinary wool. By this means it is asserted that the meatus is saved from undue and harmful irritation, and that outside noises can be, at any rate to a large extent, prevented from disturbing sleep.

#### DIPHThERIC PARALYSIS.

THE most distressing consequence of diphtheria is undoubtedly the nerve injury which it so frequently causes. The patient appears to be recovering well from the complaint, the false membrane may have disappeared, and the throat seems to be assuming a healthy appearance, when suddenly some form of paralysis shows itself. Of these, the most important, of course, is heart failure—the patient suddenly dying. But minor degrees of heart weakness may occur after diphtheria, which may ultimately have a fatal result unless most carefully treated, and these, it is well known, may show themselves even six weeks after the patient has apparently recovered from the throat disease. Nurses should remember, therefore, that such cases require to be carefully watched even during convalescence, and the slightest sign of nerve disorder should be immediately reported to the doctor. It is by no means unusual, for example, for this to exhibit itself first by a little difficulty in swallowing, and a little delay in speaking, or thickening of the voice—as though the patient were talking through his nose—the trouble being caused by paralysis of the muscles of the palate, larynx, or cesophagus. If this goes on the patient may be choked by food entering the trachea instead of being guided by the epiglottis down the gullet. It may then become necessary to feed him through a soft rubber tube, until the paralysis passes away. Any sign of heart weakness requires the greatest care, and without direct orders from the doctor the Nurse must not permit such patients to attempt the slightest exertion. Sudden death has occurred, for example, when the patient merely attempted to sit up in bed, the weakened heart being unable to bear even that slight increase of work. Two valuable signs of impending heart failure in this, as in other diseases, are breathlessness and a tendency to vomit, and the occurrence of either of these, therefore, should always be at once reported.

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## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK will visit Halifax on July 25th to open the Halifax new Infirmary which has cost upwards of £80,000.

Queen Charlotte's Hospital was last week visited by the Duke of Cambridge, who expressed much pleasure with what he saw, and spoke of the responsible work which Nurses perform.

Princess Christian, attended by her suite, visited the India and Ceylon Exhibition on Monday afternoon for the purpose of presenting certificates to the Indians who have passed an examination in the work of the St. John Ambulance Association. The class was formed and instructed by Mr. S. Osborn, F.R.C.S. On her arrival her Royal Highness proceeded to the pavilion in the Imperial Court, the band of the Grenadier Guards playing the National Anthem. A procession was formed by the Indian artisans and performers, and to each of the successful candidates the Princess handed his certificate. Viscount Knutsford, on behalf of the Association, returned sincere thanks to Princess Christian for her interest in its welfare, and expressed the belief that those who had just received the medal of the Association would be the means of doing much good. Mr. Ardisher, on behalf of his fellow Indians, returned thanks to her Royal Highness for her kindness, and to Mr. Osborn for the pains he had taken to give them instruction.

Dr. Cheadle has become Senior Physician to St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and the vacancy in the office of Physician has been filled by the promotion of Dr. Sidney Phillips, hitherto Senior Physician in charge of out-patients.

Mr. L. Vernon Cargill has been appointed Assistant Surgeon to the Royal Eye Hospital, Southwark.

The total receipts from the concert at Queen's Hall on June 11th in aid of the Ladies' Association Endowment Fund, Great Northern Central Hospital, were just over £1,100.

It is hoped that the debt on the North Eastern Hospital for Children will be entirely cleared as a result of the Floral Fête and Bazaar.

The Bazaar at the Kensington Town Hall in aid of the Sick Children's Seaside Holiday Fund was arranged with the idea of illustrating "a child's dream of the country," the various stalls being designed to represent some of the most common objects of the country and the seaside. They include a windmill stall, a village belfry, a sailing ship, a fisherman's house, a bee-hive, a pigeon cote, a country dairy, and a stall representing a mushroom.

Mr. C. B. Bowly, the Vicar of St. John's, Clapham Rise, writing on Hospital Sunday, suggests that an effort should be made to induce congregations to lay

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