

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE PRINCE OF WALES, accompanied by the Princess of Wales and Princess Victoria, opened the Charing-Cross Hospital Convalescent Home at Limpsfield, Surrey, on Saturday, July 11th, at twelve noon. Mr. Passmore Edwards, entirely at his own cost, has provided this charming home which accommodates 20 male, 20 female, ten children, and eight paying patients.

The Duke of York has presented a large framed portrait of himself, in the uniform of a British naval captain, to the Missions to Seamen Institute for the port of London, in Poplar, where it is now hung side by side with portraits of the Prince and Princess of Wales, given by their Royal Highnesses in connection with the opening of the institution by them two years ago.

Mr. Henry Harben, J.P., has sent £500 to the Hampstead Hospital, Parliament Hill Road, which is doing a very useful work in the north-western district, but is greatly in need of funds.

Before final arrangements are made for the Exhibition proposed to be held next year in Newcastle-on-Tyne, in aid of the Infirmary, a guarantee fund of £10,000 is asked for.

The Victoria Hospital for Children at Chelsea intends, in June, 1897, to hold a Grand Imperial Fête and Fancy Fair to commemorate the 60th year of the Queen's reign. Some recognition of this kind would be expected from the only Hospital in London which bears the name of the Queen. The fête will be on the same lines and under the same management as the Silver Fête held in July, 1888, in commemoration of the Silver Wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales, whereby the Hospital benefited to the extent of over £4,500. No effort will be spared to make the forthcoming fête as popular and as great a success as the Silver.

The Tottenham Hospital has received a gift of £1,000 from Mrs. Morley, widow of the late Mr. John Morley, who in his lifetime interested himself greatly in the Institution.

A munificent gift of £2,000 has been received by the Missions to Seamen for the erection of an Institute, with a church overhead, for the sole use of sailors and fishermen of all creeds at Lowestoft. A suitable site had already been purchased near the fish docks, but there seemed no immediate prospect of funds being found for the new building. Sir Arthur Blomfield & Sons, the architects of the Missions to Seamen Institute at Poplar, are preparing plans for a building, the cost of which, it is hoped, may be kept within the sum of £2,000.

A charming Fête was held last week at Rosherville in aid of the funds of the Gravesend Hospital. In the evening the grounds were illuminated extensively, and there was a firework display by Messrs. Brock. The Mayoress of Gravesend (Mrs. T. Layborn) formally opened the fancy fair, and then there was a procession of children illustrating, in pretty costumes, familiar nursery stories, and headed by the band and boys of the *Shufesbury* training ship. Entertainments were numerous. The ship boys danced hornpipes and gave gymnastic displays; amateur theatricals were also given in the Bijou Theatre. By nightfall 15,000 persons had passed the gates, and tremendous demands were made upon the amusements and also on the refreshment department. The fête was the most successful ever held at Gravesend, and it is believed the Hospital funds will be greatly benefited.

A new departure in the admission of friends to patients has been made by the Managers of the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, who have for some time had under consideration the matter of the visitation of the patients by their friends, and, in order to meet a difficulty which has arisen in dealing with a number of objectionable persons who present themselves for admission on visiting days, to see their friends in the wards—persons whom the patients in many cases would rather not see—the Managers have caused cards to be prepared and sent to those persons known to the patients, and from whom alone they would desire to receive visits. The Managers have every cause to be satisfied with the arrangement, which has worked exceedingly well, and has been the means of excluding questionable characters from the building.

Patients in Hospital frequently need to be "saved from their friends," and this appears to be an excellent way of protecting them and the ward from the visits of objectionable persons who come out of curiosity, and not from any friendly desire to help and comfort the sick.

The Bradford District Nurses' Home is an Institution that deserves replenishing with Nurses and with funds. Founded for some twelve months, consisting of six Nurses, their field of operation covers so much ground that only one Nurse is available for the Bradford centre, with its population of 27,000 persons. These and other facts claiming the attention of the general public were pointed out at the meeting met last week to support the Institution. This work done amongst the poor, one is glad to hear, is quite unsectarian in character.

We learn that a Committee has been appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to go into the question of the requirements of the Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta, and to submit proposals for establishing a thoroughly good and suitable Hospital to meet the wants of the European community of this city—both the poorer non-paying class as well as the well-to-do who readily pay for proper accommodation and comforts. This looks like real business, and will be good news to a large section of the European population in Bengal.

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