

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



SIR JOHN BLUNDELL MAPLE is the munificent donor of £120,000 with which to rebuild University College Hospital, which is acknowledged to be one of the leading institutions for scientific research, and is therefore doubly deserving of public support.

The Chairman of the London Hospital, the Hon. Sydney Holland, would like some such philanthropist to bestow a like sum towards the maintenance of the great East End charity. We have no doubt his appeal will meet with a generous response. Millionaires don't all write cheques at once!

The fourth annual meeting of the Hostel of St. Luke was held recently under the presidency of the Bishop of Winchester. The object of the Hostel is to afford medical and nursing treatment to such clergy as are in need of it and cannot afford efficient attention in their own homes. Dr. Belcher stated that "the large proportion of cases taken into the Hostel were cases which required very critical surgical operations, with all the appliances and all the skill of modern surgery." A very large number of the patients received had left the Hostel entirely cured. Lord Victor Seymour said that "the main difficulty of the committee lay, not in securing support for the Hostel, but in letting the clergy know that such a hostel existed."

The annual report of the Queen Charlotte's Hospital states that 1,151 patients have been delivered in the hospital during the past year, and 1,122 at their own homes. There is a deficit of £724 on the year, to meet which an urgent appeal is issued. The appeal in aid of the fund for the extension and improvement of the hospital and for building a new Nurses' Home has produced nearly £4,000, but £8,000 is still needed. The Queen, the patron of the charity, has graciously expressed her approval of the scheme, and has sent a donation of £50 in aid of it. The project also has the approval and support of the Princess of Wales, and the Duchess of York, the vice-patrons, and of the Duke of Cambridge.

The foundation stone of a new hospital at Aldershot for the wives and children of soldiers was laid on Monday by the Duchess of Connaught. The hospital will contain 11 wards, and have accommodation for 45 beds. It is situated close to the Cambridge Hospital.

Mr. James Stables, J.P., has generously announced to the treasurer of the Leeds Infirmary, his intention to present £5,000 to the institution, for the purpose of erecting a new supplementary Home for Nurses, on land recently acquired for that purpose. It is intended to erect a building for the accommodation of fifty nurses. The donor has also kindly

assented to the request that the building may be called the "James Stables Home for Nurses."

The Governors of the Sussex County Hospital have for many years been struggling to place and to keep this old-fashioned building in line with modern requirements. The funds for maintenance are now at a very low ebb; in fact, the account was, on December 31st, 1896, overdrawn at the banker's to the amount of nearly £2,000; while £15,000 are still required to complete the various additions and improvements proposed and partly carried out. Now that noble efforts are being made to free the London hospitals from debt, it is the opinion of the Governors that Sussex should embrace the opportunity to adapt and efficiently equip its own noble county hospital, so that it may be in a position to properly minister to the sick and suffering under the most improved conditions and methods.

Eighty-two thousand pounds has now been received towards the £100,000 required to rebuild the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle. We hope the whole amount will be shortly forthcoming.

The Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, has issued its report of work for 1896. The statistics published by this excellent institution show a satisfactory increase of work, and decrease of expenditure. The tables given, showing the nature of the cases admitted and of the operations performed, are evidence that much good work is done. An interesting feature of the work done by this hospital is that the members of a Ladies' Auxiliary Association visit the wards, distribute clothing, and receive the monthly reports of the work done by the Dispensary Sisters.

We regret to notice that Sister Katherine has, through ill-health, been compelled to resign her position as Dispensary Sister. Sister Katherine has worked devotedly in this connection for the last ten years, and leaves with the respect and affection of all with whom she came in contact.

The twentieth ordinary general meeting of the Sanitas Company, Limited, the well-known disinfectant manufacturers, was held on February 24th. A final dividend was declared, bringing up the total distribution for last year to 13¾ per cent. The managing director (Mr. C. T. Kingzett, F.I.C., F.C.S.) reported the addition of a number of new articles to the list of the company's products, including soluble pellets of a number of well-known antiseptics, such as permanganate of potash, carbolic acid and peroxide of hydrogen. By dissolving one or more of these pellets (small tubes of which can be carried in the waistcoat pocket) in half a pint or so of water, a useful antiseptic for the use of surgeons and others can be very readily prepared on the instant. Another new disinfectant has been introduced by Mr. Kingzett, for which the trade mark, "Okol," has been coined, and the report of Dr. S. Rideal, who has made a thorough examination of its germicidal properties, supports the claim of the Sanitas Company that this preparation—which, by the way, is non-poisonous—is one of the most powerful disinfectants yet introduced. It is a milk-like liquid, which readily mixes with water in all proportions.

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