

besides the mortuary. The mortuary arrangements are in advance of those of many of our London hospitals, the mortuary and post-mortem room being divided by a wide passage. The mortuary has, with money specially subscribed, been painted a warm terra cotta colour, with a wide dado of a darker shade, and where the two meet a line of stenciling forms an effective decoration. At the east end is a shelf, on which are placed a cross, candles, and flowers, while above and below this are painted texts. There is nothing costly or elaborate about the arrangement, nothing which could not easily be carried out by any other hospital, but the effect is reverent, and calculated to convey to friends of deceased patients who visit it that the remains of their relatives receive all the care which they themselves could bestow—until they leave the Infirmary.

With regard to the nursing staff, I was informed by the matron, who courteously took me round the building and gave me all the information I desired, that the nurses pay £10 a year for their training, and buy their own uniform, the Committee providing them with board, lodging, and washing. Unhappily, a certificate is given at the end of two years, and as I failed to elicit from the matron the opinion that it was desirable to raise the standard of training to that now usually required of three years, I am afraid there is no prospect at present of this being accomplished. The accommodation for the nurses is at present inconvenient and insufficient. There is some talk of building a Nurses' Home in the garden, so it may be hoped that in the near future they will be more suitably housed. They have an excellent tennis court in the garden, but in these days bicycling and swimming have established counter claims, and quite recently a nurse returned to the Infirmary with a swimming prize which she had won. Many of the nurses wear a medal, but this is not a mark of special merit, but is the badge of the Institution to which all are entitled.

There is a chapel connected with the Infirmary in which services are said daily, as well as on Sunday. On Sunday, however, they are held at times which do not clash with those at which the cathedral services take place, so that nurses who have passes are free to attend their beautiful cathedral. A greater refreshment to weary nurses than worshipping in this noble building can scarcely be imagined, and the short walk from the infirmary to the cathedral, through the quaint street and across the beautiful cathedral green, must in itself be a delight to any possessed of a mind capable of appreciating, and delighting in the presentment of so much that is artistically beautiful both in art and Nature.

M. B.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE PRINCE OF WALES has been pleased to appoint Sir William MacCormac, Bart. (president of the Royal College of Surgeons, England), and Alfred Downing Fripp (M.S. London, and F.R.C.S. England), to be surgeons in ordinary to His Royal Highness.

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At the Albert Institute, Windsor, last Saturday evening, Princess Christian distributed certificates and medallions to sixty-eight members of the Windsor branch of the St. John's Ambulance Association.

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The Royal College of Physicians, on the recommendation of the Council, have awarded the Moxon Gold Medal to Sir Samuel Wilks, the president of the College, as having specially distinguished himself by observation and research in clinical medicine, and the Baly Medal to Professor Schäfer, of University College, as having especially distinguished himself in the science of physiology.

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Few appointments made by the Queen have given more widespread satisfaction than the appointment of Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg to be Governor of the Isle of Wight, and in this capacity Her Royal Highness visited Ventnor on Saturday for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone to a new block of houses in connection with the National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. Sir Richard Webster, Q.C., received the Princess on behalf of the directors of the hospital, and introduced to her amongst others Dr. S. Coghill (the senior physician and chairman of the house committee), and Miss Busby, the matron. Dr. Sinclair Coghill read an address to the Princess, thanking Her Royal Highness for her presence, and explanatory of the objects of the institution.

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Her Royal Highness's reply was read by the Attorney-General as follows:—"I thank you most sincerely for the welcome you have accorded me on this occasion. I very much appreciate and value the kindly feeling and liberality of those who have subscribed to raise so fitting a memorial to my dear husband as will be the block of buildings, the foundation-stone of which we are assembled here to-day to lay. I think you all know the interest Prince Henry took in this hospital, fully recognising, as he did, the excellent and almost unique work it is carrying out. Had he lived, I feel sure it would have gratified him much to have seen its power of doing good, increased by the further extension of the building, a building which has already brought so much alleviation and comfort to so many who are suffering from diseases of the chest. I again thank you, and I am sure you will all bear with me in my heart-wish that the Ventnor National Hospital for Consumption may continue to prosper in the future as it has prospered in the past."

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