

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Secretary of the British Home for Incurables has received a donation of £5 14s. 11d. from Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, Patroness of the Charity, being a further sum derived from the sale of Canon Fleming's sermon, "Recognition in Eternity," making a total of £702 5s. 11d. The Secretary has also received the sum of £1000 from "A Lady" for a bed in the Home, to be known as the "James and Eliza Woodall" bed, and to which she has nominated James Rickards from the list of candidates.

The Lord Mayor, president of the Metropolitan Hospital, has consented to take the chair at the festival dinner to be held on Monday, April 18th next, at the Whitehall Rooms.

A meeting of the council of the Hospital Sunday Fund was held on the 14th inst. at the Mansion House. The Earl of Stamford presided. On the motion of the Hon. Sydney Holland, seconded by the Right Hon. W. Lidderdale, the committee of distribution for the year was constituted as follows:—The Lord Mayor, M.P., Sir Sydney Waterlow, Sir Savile Crossley, Sir Stuart Knill, Mr. Robert Grey, Captain Cundy, Mr. Herman Hoskier, Mr. F. H. Norman, Mr. Alfred Willett, and Dr. Sedgwick Saunders. The General Purposes Committee was re-appointed, and it was arranged that the special committee for surgical appliance orders and hospital letters should consist of any two members of the council, acting with the secretary. Sir E. Hay Currie and Mr. Richard B. Martin, M.P., who have been honorary secretaries since the institution of the fund in 1873, were reappointed, as was Mr. H. N. Custance, the secretary, who has held office for a similar period. Messrs. W. H. Pannell and Co. were chosen as auditors of the fund.

The *Star* has recently drawn attention to the statements made by Mr. Sidney Trist, the Secretary of the Anti-Vivisection Society, who gave a detailed account of an experiment made upon a patient at St. Thomas's Hospital, verifying his statements by quotations from the official account of the case, published in the *Journal of Physiology*. We can only say that if such experiments are possible in London Hospitals, the sooner we have a Central Hospital Board which is able to afford a guarantee to the public that these things do not take place, the better.

The Worshipful Company of Gunmakers have sent £10, and the Worshipful Company of Farriers have sent £5 5s., to the London Hospital Maintenance Fund.

Under the will of Mr. William Andrew Guésdon the following sums have been distributed to charities:—England, £260,500; Scotland, £38,000; Wales, £19,000. Nothing appears to have been left to Ireland, but £28,000 has been reserved for Tasmanian charities.

Dr. Donald Hood, of 43, Green Street, Park Lane, has been selected by Lord Salisbury to succeed the late Dr. Wadham as examining physician to the Queen's foreign and home service messengers.

The Baroness Hirsch has purchased Tudor House, Hampstead Heath, a very valuable freehold residence, for the purposes of a convalescent home.

Dr. Beverley, who has acted as surgeon to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital for the past five-and-twenty years, has retired with the rank of consulting surgeon. Dr. Beverley's large-minded views as to the duty of his retirement, to which he gave expression at the quarterly meeting of the Board of Management, will, we are sure, commend themselves to our readers.

"For sixteen years he was assistant-surgeon to the Hospital, and during that lengthy period of probation he made up his mind that he would never stand in the way of the promotion of the junior members of the staff when they became, by experience and practice, qualified for the higher positions in the Hospital. He was of opinion that hospital appointments should not be held so long as they have been hitherto, and he had ventured to act on that principle. The surgical work of the Hospital was very different now from what it used to be ten or twelve years ago. The operations performed had increased nearly a hundredfold, and many of them were of such severity that in the days of his assistant surgeoncy they were hardly dreamed of or considered justifiable owing to the mortality which attended their performance. Now they were of frequent occurrence, with such successful results as to make recovery almost a certainty. For these and other important new departures in surgery the Hospital was largely indebted to the junior staff. Hence, it became the duty of those who, like himself, had served the Hospital for a long series of years, to make way for others who were equally, if not better, qualified to carry on the surgical work of the Hospital on principles the strict fulfilment of which was necessary to its success. He hoped his remarks would be received in the spirit in which they were rendered. He had made them because many of his friends, both lay and professional, had expressed some surprise that he should have relinquished his work at the Hospital, even at the end of twenty-five years. He trusted that as consulting surgeon he would still be able to take an active part in everything which concerned the hospital."

It was also reported by the Chairman at the same meeting that a gift of one hundred and fifty-six guineas had been received from Sir Alfred and Lady Jane Jorrell, for the improvement of the operating theatre.

The best means of effecting the necessary improvements in the structure of the Manchester Royal Infirmary, in order to bring it up to the standard of modern requirements, have for some time been under the consideration of a special committee of members of the Corporation of Manchester and trustees of the Royal Infirmary. The various suggestions have been made: to rebuild the infirmary, to make extensive structural alterations, to remove it to a less central but more salubrious locality. All these suggestions have been fully discussed by the committee, which now recommends: "that the present building be retained

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)