

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Prince of Wales presided at Marlborough House, at the second annual Meeting of the Hospital Fund for London, which bears the name of his Royal Highness.

The Prince of Wales, having moved the adoption of the report and accounts, thanked the council and officials for their services, and hoped they would continue in office for the current year.

Lord Rothschild, in moving a vote of thanks to the Prince of Wales for presiding, said his Royal Highness had not only the thanks of the council, but the thanks of the whole metropolis for the great good he had done for the hospitals and the citizens of London generally.

The Prince of Wales in reply said: "My duties are very easy and light ones, but I cannot say how indebted I am to all of you for the support you have given me. I know you are as anxious as I am that this fund should be a lasting one, and that as years go on the public may see that not only is it a scheme started to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee, but that it will be of lasting benefit to the people of the Metropolis."

There is some rumour of a League of Mercy being formed with orders and titles and other follies, in order presumably, to bribe the snobocracy to work in support of raising money for the Prince's Hospital Fund, and to affect a philanthropic interest in our hospitals, which the meagre subscriptions to the Fund during the past year, distinctly demonstrate they do not possess. We hope nothing so undignified will be permitted by the Committee of the Fund, no fictitious filip can be of lasting use, and unless given without a twaddling *quid pro quo*, donations had better not be given at all.

The Duke and Duchess of York visited Portsmouth on Monday last, and opened the new wards of the Royal Portsmouth Hospital, which have been built at a cost of £16,000, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. In declaring the wards open, the Duke named them the "Victoria," the "Duchess of York," the "Albert," and the "Connaught." Their Royal Highnesses, after inspecting the hospital, took tea with the Matron, and returned to Admiralty House, where they were the guests of Admiral and Lady Seymour.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of York recently drove from town to the Royal Cambridge Asylum for Soldiers' Widows at Norbiton, Kingston-on-Thames, and, following the annual custom of the late Duchess of Teck, distributed gifts to the inmates, and visited all those who were too ill or too infirm to leave their wards.

A bazaar in aid of St. Mary's Hospital, to be opened by the Duchess of York, will be held at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, on May 30th and 31st.

The treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital has received a donation of £1,000 from "G.R." for the endowment of a surgical bed, "In Memoriam," being the fourth bed endowed by this generous benefactor.

Dr. James Taylor, M.D., F.R.C.P., Assistant Physician to the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, and Physician to the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, has been appointed Physician to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields.

The North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, has received a further donation of £210 from the Hackney Society in Aid of the Children's Hospital, per Mr. Charles Steel, chairman.

The excess of expenditure over income at the Middlesex Hospital for the past year was stated at the quarterly general court of Governors, held last week, to be £14,495. Authority was given for the sale of £9,000 stock to meet current expenses.

The National Association for the prevention of Consumption and other forms of tuberculosis has this week issued its first leaflet, which has been circulated to all the members. This is on the lines laid down at the meeting held in December at Marlborough House, and presided over by the Prince of Wales. The speech of His Royal Highness on the subject, together with those of Lord Salisbury, Lord Rosebery, and of medical men, are also published by the Association this week. The interesting visit of the Prince to the Sanatorium at Folkestone is described, and important information on the prevention of the terrible disease is given.

Princess Henry of Battenberg has consented to open the new hospital buildings erected at Beckenham to commemorate her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. The ceremony will take place on May 16th.

The Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, has received a generous donation of £2,500 from Mr. T. H. Rose, of the firm of Messrs. Elliston and Cavill, in that city.

We record with great regret the death of Dr. Charles Joseph Arkle, F.R.C.P., at the early age of thirty-seven. The name of Dr. Arkle will be familiar to our readers in connection with the examinations of nurses at the Lewisham Infirmary, in which he assisted and took the keenest interest.

M. Syngros, the "Greek Cæsus," recently deceased, has left £1,000,000 sterling to public institutions. Two hospitals will receive £150,000 each, and £75,000 has been left to the Greek Government for the improvement of National Schools and Prisons.

The plague is officially declared to have broken out at Jiddah.

An interesting hospital is one which has been established at Chicago by Mr. C. A. Cross, for birds. Mr. Cross comes of a stock which is devoted to birds, and he has turned his attention to the sick amongst them. His wife shares his enthusiasm, and Mr. Cross attributes much of his success to her able assistance. His reputation as a bird doctor is so wide-spread that birds are now sent to him from all over the country. They fully recognise their doctor as a friend, and submit readily to treatment at his hands.

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