

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as Grand Prior of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, has sanctioned a "Café Concert" being held on May 8th, probably at the Grafton Galleries, in aid of the British Ophthalmic Hospital at Jerusalem, belonging to the Order. The Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal Family are among the patronesses.

Dr. Thomas Barlow, M.D., has been appointed, under the Royal Sign Manual, bearing date the 10th inst., to fill a vacancy in the body of the University of London Commissioners, caused by the resignation of Sir William Roberts, M.D.

The Dowager Queen of Holland has decided to transform the Royal castle at Gueldern into a sanatorium for poor consumptives.

At the annual meeting at Calcutta in connection with the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, the Report of the Central Committee for the year 1898 was read. It stated that during the previous five years a steady and encouraging advance had been made, many new Hospitals had been erected, and the number of patients treated, including purdah women, had steadily increased. The Committee recognised that it was true to a certain extent that the real object of the Fund, the provision of female medical aid to the women in the the Zenanas, had not yet been effected owing to the deeply-rooted native prejudices and suspicion, but from special inquiries which had been made, the Committee felt fully justified in maintaining that steady progress was being made in the direction of carrying relief into the Zenanas. Lady Curzon is taking the deepest interest in the Association, of which she is Lady President, and through the medium of the Report of the Committee, her Excellency states that she will use her best endeavours to forward the interests of the Fund throughout India.

In deference to a strong agitation on the part of the members of various working men's hospital societies in East London, the committee of the City of London Chest Hospital, Victoria Park, have decided to remove from the in-patients' letters a number of printed questions as to recipients' private means, etc. The decision has given great satisfaction throughout the East End, especially as it has been proved that cases of imposition are very rare—only three per cent.

The Earl of Hardwicke presided at the annual meeting of Governors of Queen Charlotte's Hospital recently. The report stated that during the year 1,112 patients had been attended in the Hospital, and 1,070 at their own homes. The expenditure had amounted to £4,123 11s. 11d., and the ordinary income to £3,501 17s. 1d. The Prince of Wales's Fund had

made a grant of £300 to the Hospital, and £50 to the Convalescent Home. The enlargement of the Hospital was nearing completion, and the new Nurses' Home would be opened about Midsummer. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, made an urgent appeal for contributions towards the £7,000 still needed for the work of the Hospital and the new Nurses' Home.

Liverpool's project for the foundation of a school for the practical study of tropical diseases is making gratifying progress. A ward in the Southern Hospital is now at the disposal of the committee, with chemical laboratories and accommodation for patients. Other facilities are in active preparation, and the services of a competent demonstrator have been secured, with the early prospect of adding those of an experienced lecturer. Although the co-operation is solicited of the various countries which have Consular representation here, it is satisfactory to know that the promoters of this beneficent movement have been enabled to make a practical beginning without awaiting the responses from abroad.

Glasgow charities will benefit to the extent of upwards of £50,000 by the will of Mr James Orr, of Harvieston Castle, N.B., and Blythswood, Glasgow.

Following the example of the Hague and Berlin, a provisional committee has been formed in Brussels for the purpose of collecting information with regard to the "white slave trade," and also to send delegates, with reports, to an International Congress to be held in London in June.

We have received the thirty-fourth annual report of the trustees of the Boston City Hospital, a most interesting publication. Progress has been made in many departments, notably in the pathological department where there are now ten persons employed in connection with this special work. In the mortuary the system of caring for the dead by artificial refrigeration has been established, and has proved highly satisfactory.

The Senior Surgeon to this hospital, Dr. David W. Cheever, has presented the hospital with an additional 1,000 dollars, to the 2,000 already given by him, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of a pocket case of surgical instruments, to be presented to each house-surgeon when his service has expired.

The total mortality for the past week in Bombay City was 2,312, a decrease of 119. The deaths recorded as due to plague were 1,064, but the actual number was probably 1,700. The exodus is diminishing. A week ago the natives were leaving at the rate of 2,000 to 3,000 a day, but the advent of warm weather, permitting sleeping out of doors, has checked this. A continued decline of the epidemic is confidently expected.

Major J. Evans, professor of pathology in the Calcutta Medical College, has died from the plague. He is believed to have contracted the disease while engaged upon the post-mortem examination of a plague patient.

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