

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Queen has made the following appointments:—Sir Richard Douglas Powell, Bart., M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician Extraordinary, to be one of Her Majesty's Physicians in Ordinary. Mr. James E. Pollock, M.D., F.R.C.P., and Mr. Thomas Barlow, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to the Household, as Her Majesty's Physicians Extraordinary.

The Duke of York has consented to preside at the festival dinner of the Royal Blind Pension Society, to take place at the Hotel Metropole on March 13th.

The Queen of Spain, through her Court Chamberlain, has sent to the Countess de Casa Valencia an expression of her thanks for the contribution of £1,200, the proceeds of a bazaar organised by the Countess in London, in aid of the Spanish sick and wounded and widows and orphans of the late war.

The military headquarters and the Herald's College of Arms have designed a badge for the newly-formed Royal Army Medical Corps, which now comprises all ranks of the old Army Hospital Corps and the Medical Staff Corps.

A donation of £3,000 has been contributed anonymously to the North London Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest.

London has blossomed out into *The Municipal Journal and London* and covers a much wider area of interest than in the past, we wish it all success—there is ample room for such a journal. May we draw the attention of the Editor to "Muddy Marylebone." If the disgraceful neglect of street cleansing in this district continues "rationals" will be our only resource.

MISS SARAH GRAY has been elected Assistant Surgeon at the Women's Hospital, Nottingham, in place of Dr. Thompson who has resigned. There were four other candidates. Miss Gray has been in private practice in Nottingham for nine years.

Mrs. Goldthorp bequeathed £100 to the vicar of the Leeds parish church for charitable purposes, and £10 to the South Lambeth Dispensary.

Mr. William Cadge, a well-known Norwich surgeon, has given £10,000 to the endowment fund of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, making £20,000 given by this gentleman in recent years.

At a recent meeting of the subscribers to the Liverpool Ladies' Charity and Lying-in Hospital, a charity which was founded to provide "poor married women of good character—with the assistance of trained midwives during their confinements, and when requisite of surgeon accoucheurs," an important alteration was made in the Constitution. It was moved and carried "that single women, in exceptional circumstances, who, after careful investigation by the ladies' committee are found to be deserving objects of charity, shall be

eligible for admission into the hospital for their first confinement."

We do not for a moment wish to deny the desirability of affording aid to this class of person, but we do not think that it is justifiable to divert funds, subscribed with a definite object, to any other purpose however laudable. The obvious course before those who desire to help women of this description is to raise funds to endow a ward which could then be maintained for their special benefit. As the case at present stands the unmarried women will inevitably deprive a certain number of married women, for whom the Home has been endowed, to the extent of about £8,000, of the benefits of the Charity, a proceeding which does not commend itself as either business-like or just.

Lady Willox, wife of Sir John Willox, M.P. for the Everton division of Liverpool, and Mr. W. P. Hartley, have each given £7,500 towards completing a sanatorium for consumptives at West Kirby. The conditions attached to these gifts are that further efforts be made to provide a maintenance fund, and that the advice of Sir William Broadbent and Sir Douglas Galton be taken on the proposed plans. The donors in their letter announcing the gift say that they are anxious that the measures for dealing with a disease so fatal in Liverpool should be worthy of the city, and up to date with recent discoveries and improvements. Feeling their obligations to the Prince of Wales, and the leaders of the medical profession for the support given to the rational treatment of consumption by the Marlborough House movement, they are of opinion that Liverpool should now do its part to apply practically the principles then laid down.

The Victoria Nurses Home, in connection with the Bradford Royal Infirmary, was opened by Mrs. Boyd Carpenter, wife of the Bishop of Ripon on Saturday last.

One distinct fact demonstrated in "Prisons and Prisoners," the Rev. J. W. Horsley's most interesting book, is the increase of humane feeling in persons generally. This book should be read by all those interested in the question of how to minimize crime.

Mr. Horsley has prepared a historic synopsis, in which he shows the gradual surcease of prison and legal abuses, an extract from which will prove our contention:—

1577—Black Assize at Oxford. All in Court died within 40 hours from gaol fever, including the Judge and Sheriff. 1596—Banishment from the Kingdom provided in Act as punishment for rogues and vagrants. 1619—Transportation to America begun. 1717—Transportation regularly introduced by Act of Parliament. 1730—At Taunton Lent Assize some hundreds, including the Judge and Sheriff, died of gaol fever. 1751—Prison taps abolished. 1772—Prisoners refusing to plead treated as guilty, and pressing abolished. 1773—Act enabling Chaplains to be appointed. 1774—Act for abolishing gaoler's fees. 1775—Transportation to America ceased. 1777—John Howard's "State of the Prisons" published. 1783—Last execution at Tyburn, first at Newgate. 1787—Transportation to Botany Bay begun. 1789—Last woman burned, after being hung at the Old Bailey, for passing bad coin. 1810—Romilly's Act for abolishing hanging for stealing calico from bleaching grounds. 1814—Appointment

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