

WE have often alluded to the encouragement given to graduate nurses in the States and Canada by the delightful social gatherings of the Committee, medical and nursing staffs, and their friends, at what are called The Graduating Exercises, when the class of trained nurses for the year publicly receive their certificates and diplomas.

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AN interesting ceremony was lately held somewhat on these lines at the Launceston Hospital, Tasmania, when the Chairman presented the Graduates with their prizes and certificates. The Nurse heading the list that evening had gained an average of 90 per cent. of marks, and was presented with a certificate, first-class honours, and also the hospital badge. The Chairman then congratulated the Surgeon, Superintendent, Matron and Sisters of the Hospital, upon their admirable work of training.

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THE *Court Journal*, speaking of the "Nurses of London," says that though they "have a deal of hard, arduous, and painful work to do, there are many benevolent people who look after their wants, and who succeed in giving them pleasures such as are possible in their choice of life." After referring to the £1,551 recently made at the Cafe Chantant, for the funds of the Royal British Nurses' Association, our contemporary goes on to say with regard, to nursing. "There are some among the nurses who, taking up the calling from a natural inclination for it, have no need to fear an old age of poverty and distress. But to many this calling is a means of keeping body and soul together, and though a patient might not distinguish between the two, the poor sister is bound to look forward to the time when she must do so."

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WE desire to point out that there is no calling in which the average woman is better paid than in that of nursing. Private nurses, for instance, obtain, in London, from £2 2s. od. to £3 3s. od. a week, besides board, lodging, and washing, except when they are out of cases, which is not often. A Charge Nurse in a hospital frequently receives £40 per annum, besides uniform and washing, comfortable quarters, and liberal board. She also obtains, as a rule, free medical attendance and nursing if she falls ill in the discharge of her duty. Her earnings, therefore, compare very favourably with those of other women workers, and she should certainly be able to put by for the time when she can work no longer, and be spared the indignity of being held up to the public as an object of charity.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Queen has intimated her intention to open the new wing of the National Hospital for Consumption, at Ventnor, during the stay of the Court at Osborne. The wing now in course of erection is named after the late Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the foundation stone was laid last year by Princess Henry.

The Duke and Duchess of York visited Chalfont St. Peter last week, and opened four new homes on the colony of the National Society for the employment of Epileptics.

The Duke of York, accompanied by the Duchess opened the new buildings of the Moorfields Ophthalmic Hospital in the City Road on Tuesday last.

It is estimated that Charing Cross Hospital will benefit by the Albert Hall Bazaar to the extent of nearly £15,000.

A festival Dinner in celebration of the Jubilee of the London Homœopathic Hospital was held last week at the Hotel Cecil. The Chairman of the Board of Management, Mr. J. P. Stillwell, proposed as the toast of the evening, "The London Homœopathic Hospital—its Founders and First Friends." It is satisfactory to know that during the evening, subscriptions and donations were announced to the amount of £7,000, including £1,000 from Captain Cundy, vice-chairman.

The Chemists' Exhibition was held last week in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. The show was comprehensive and educational. An interesting feature were the demonstrations by Mr. T. C. Hepworth, F.C.S., the subjects being Liquid Air with Experiments, and Photography Up-to-date, including Telephotography.

The new County Hospital at Bedford was opened last week by the Duke of Bedford. The Duke, in declaring the hospital open, said that it had been faultlessly planned by Mr. Percy Adams, and satisfied the most exacting requirements of modern science. As far as they owed the hospital to any one man, they owed it to the energy and public spirit of the President, Mr. Samuel Whitbread, as a century ago one Mr. Whitbread inaugurated the movement which resulted in the erection of the old infirmary.

The late Mr. James Weir, of Dublin, has bequeathed over £100,000 to Dublin Hospitals. The list of institutions, selected by the trustees to benefit by the bequest, include Steeven's Hospital, Meath Hospital, Dental Hospital, Richmond Hospital, City of Dublin Hospital, Coombe Hospital, Adelaide Hospital, Rotunda Hospital, Jervis Street Hospital, Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Mercer's Hospital, Drumcondra Hospital, Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Convalescent Home, National Hospital for Consumption, Cork Street Hospital, Maternity Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital, Royal Hospital for

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