

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



MR. CHAMBERLAIN will preside at a banquet which is to be held in London on May 10th in connection with the establishment of the London School of Tropical Medicine and the enlargement of the branch hospital of the Seamen's Hospital Society.

At a meeting of the Royal Meteorological Society, held last week at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Mr. Baldwin Latham, M.Inst.C.E. read a paper on "The Climatic Conditions Necessary for the Propagation and Spread of Plague." Amongst these he places pestilential emanations from polluted and waterlogged soils, and low diet. The temperature of the air is also a factor in the stoppage and spread of the disease.

Visitors to Guy's Hospital on Christmas Day noticed a handsome wreath of ivy and asparagus fern, relieved with little red blossoms, which had been hung on the statue to Dr. Guy, the founder of the hospital, which stands in the quadrangle. The trophy bore a card inscribed, Dec. 25, 1899. From a very grateful patient, Phillip Ward, Bed 28, Oct. 26 to March 1894."

At a special court of governors of the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, it was decided to "borrow the sum of £24,000 upon the most favourable terms obtainable on mortgage of the freehold hospital and the nurses' home, and to execute such mortgages or charges for carrying the same into effect." It will be remembered that the governors a short time since purchased the adjoining hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, and they are now effecting the mortgage in order to raise the greater part of the purchase money.

The London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, W.C., which has over 100 beds, admits more than 1,100 in-patients annually and registers 30,000 out-patient attendances annually, finds its necessary yearly expenditure £3,000 more than its reliable income. The excellent work done by this institution is well known, and donations and subscriptions would be well expended on it. They should be sent to Messrs. Prescott, Dimsdale and Co., 50, Cornhill, E.C., or to G. A. Cross, Secretary-Superintendent, at the hospital.

The Epsom Guardians have recently opened a Home for the nurses connected with their Infirmary, which is, in its way, ideal. Instead of building a new home as originally intended, they have purchased Bow House, an old family residence adjoining the work-house grounds, which has a large old-fashioned garden and a delightful view of the surrounding country. The house has been completely renovated, but the old-world charm has been carefully preserved. The nurses are fortunate in possessing such a charming home.

A Reuter's telegram, dated Sydney, December 25th, says:—It is reported from Noumea, that ten Kanakas have died of a disease which the doctors declare to be bubonic plague. The malady is supposed to have been introduced into the island in jute goods from Calcutta, coming via Sydney.

A Year's Charity.

NOTABLE BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS IN 1899.

Following the custom of many previous years the *Charity Record* has in the past twelve months announced from time to time the bequests left to the hospitals and other charities of the United Kingdom. Altogether our contemporary has announced legacies to such purposes amounting to £1,390,136, against £1,303,720 recorded last year, but this does not include the magnificent bequests of the Baroness de Hirsch, none of which, however, were left to English charities, except the Jewish Board of Guardians. As the records for 1898 and 1899 have been compiled on precisely the same basis each year, it would seem to show that 1899 has been rather a better year for charitable legacies than its predecessor. Appended are some of the chief bequests:—

Carleton, the Hon. Louisa Carlton.—£3,000 for London Hospitals for incurable patients, and £3,400 for other charities; total, £6,450.

Rothschild, Baron Ferdinand de.—Specific bequests of £107,000, of which £100,000 was left to the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children, London, founded in memory of his wife. His yacht was left to be sold and the proceeds divided amongst nine seamen's charities, who benefited to the extent of upwards of £20,000.

Campbell, Mr. W. G.—£6,000 to Edinburgh charities, of which £5,000 went to the Longmore Hospital for Incurables, Edinburgh.

Towell-Ellis, Mr. E. G.—Left residuary estate, subject to his wife's life interest, to be divided between St. Mary's Hospital and Gordon Boys Home, who will eventually get between £4,000 and £5,000 each.

Llewellyn, Mr. F. (London).—Directed that the residue of this estate should be applied to the poor boxes of the London Police Courts. It is estimated that £20,000 will be applicable for the purpose.

Aitchison, Mr. D. (Maidenhead).—Specific bequests amounting to £31,500.

Jephson, Mr. E. G.—£5,000 to Leeds charities.

Clarke, Dr. J. Say (Isle of Wight).—Nearly £15,000, the greater portion of which will go to the London Homœopathic Hospital.

Roberts, Mr. W. (Manchester).—Specific bequests of over £1,000 each to Manchester charities, amounting to £6,250, and a number of smaller legacies.

Solomon, Mr. I. (Cheltenham).—Left over £10,000 to Cheltenham institutions, but the will is being disputed.

Macneilledge, Miss M. A. (Liverpool).—£5,000 to Liverpool charities.

Stern, Baroness de.—£6,000 to various charities, and £60,000 left to the executors' discretion to found and endow a charitable institution.

Heathcote, Mr. F.—£10,000 to the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate.

Lean, Mr. V. S. (Bristol).—£20,000 to Muller's Orphan Homes; £1,000 each to four other institutions; and £100,000 for educational purposes.

Cadbury, Mr. R. (Birmingham).—£37,500 in specific bequests, besides legacies for religious institutions. The London Temperance Hospital will get £10,000.

Macfie, Mr. R.—£12,600, £10,000 of which is left for the trustees to apply for the relief of poor Jews.

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