

ruffian" Mr. Caine, who, he said, adopted the iconoclastic attitude of some civilians to the profession of which he, nevertheless, was proud to be a member. For himself, he was prepared to maintain, on this or any other platform, that it was never necessary, in a surgical operation of whatever magnitude, to have alcohol within easy reach. The belief in such a necessity had exploded as had that in blood-letting and other bygone practices.

Mr. Alderman Strong, J.P., who took the chair after Lord Carrington had left to fulfil another engagement, also had some kindly things to say about the nursing staff. Nursing was of very great importance in the healing art, and he had heard even medical men say that, if they had to choose between the care of a medical man and a nurse, they would take the nurse if they could not get both. He believed that the nurses of that Hospital were surpassed by none, and equalled by very few. When the present Matron, Miss Lucas, was appointed, it was felt that, after Miss Orme's long tenure of office, her position would be a difficult one. He could say, however, that, in the judgment of the Board, Miss Lucas had pre-eminently justified the appointment.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



SIR CAMERON GULL has asked the First Lord of the Treasury to state whether the Government will introduce a Bill this session to relieve hospitals from local rates. It will be remembered that Mr. Chaplin was approached the other day by an influential deputation which waited on him with reference to the subject.

The new Italian Hospital, Queen's Square, Bloomsbury, which was opened last week by the Italian Ambassador, although it will not be ready to receive in-patients until May 2nd, was originally founded in 1884 by the late Commendatore E. B. Ortelli, an Italian who was a very prosperous London tradesman, and thanks to his gifts, amounting to upwards of £23,000, the erection of the present modern hospital has been made possible. Unfortunately, this generous benefactor of the hospital did not live to see the opening of the new building, but King Humbert, of Italy, upon whose birthday the opening ceremony took place, shewed his appreciation of the generosity of the founder by writing an autograph letter to his widow, and presenting to her a beautiful gold-medal portrait of himself set in diamonds and rubies. The new building is in the style of the Italian Renaissance, and is carried out with all the modern improvements. The floors of the wards are of polished wood, and their union with the walls is effected by means of curved white tiles. The wards are bright and sunny, and in the pleasant men's ward, which is the largest, the greater number of windows overlook the square. It is a most cheery place in which to be

ill, and the sun-loving Italian can desire no better quarters. He will also have the benefit of being nursed by the sweet faced sisters of the Order of St. Vincent de Paul, who will be able to speak to him in his native tongue, as the nursing is exclusively in the hands of this sisterhood. Although established primarily for the benefit of Italians, patients of other nationalities are not refused admission, as the record of the past year, when nearly 5,000 patients received treatment, will show. This number was made up as follows: British, 2,437; Italian, 2,168; German, 193; Swiss, 73; Polish, 25; Austro-Hungarian, 17; French, 11; Russian, 10; Spanish, 8; American, 1. The Italian Hospital is dependent on the public for its up-keep. When the hospital is in working order we hope to give a fuller account of it.

On Saturday afternoon a meeting of the Metropolitan Radical Federation was held at the Newington Reform Club, for the purpose, among other matters, of considering correspondence which had passed with reference to the Federation's request that the Prince of Wales should receive a deputation to lay before him instances of alleged misappropriation of grants from his Royal Highness's Hospital Fund.

Sir Francis Knollys, in reply to the request, wrote saying he was directed by the Prince of Wales to refer them to the executive committee of the London Hospital Fund.

A letter was also read from Sir Savile Crossley, secretary of the Prince's Hospital Fund, denying that grants had been made in aid of vivisection.

The meeting decided to forward a memorial to the Prince of Wales in support of their case.

Mr. James Jeffrey, L.C.C., announced at a meeting of the Metropolitan Radical Federation, held at the Newington Reform Club on Saturday, that 1,000 working men were to be enrolled as an army of defence for the speakers and others taking part in peace meetings. We wonder where "peace" will come in!

We were unaware that the laryngoscope was discovered by Senor Manuel Garcia, the *doyen* and most famous of singing masters. His discovery is admirably described by himself. "Never being thoroughly satisfied with my own teaching, I longed to see a healthy glottis exposed in the very act of singing; but how could the mysteries of an organ so well hidden be revealed? One day in the autumn of 1854 I was strolling in the Palais Royal, preoccupied with the ever-recurring wish, when suddenly I saw the two mirrors of the laryngoscope in their respective positions, as if actually before my eyes. I went straight to Charrière, the surgical instrument maker, and, asking if he happened to possess a small mirror with a long handle, was supplied with a dentist's mirror. Returning home I placed against the uvula the little mirror (which I had heated with warm water and carefully dried), then flashing on its surface with a hand mirror a ray of sunlight I saw at once the glottis wide open before me, so fully exposed that I could see a portion of the trachea. From what I then witnessed it was easy to conclude that the theory attributing to the glottis alone the power of engendering sound was confirmed; from which it followed that the different positions taken by the larynx in front of the throat have no action whatever in the formation of sound."

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