

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Prince and Princess of Wales have consented to perform the opening ceremony in connection with the new workhouse which the St. Olave's (Bermondsey) Union is erecting at Ladywell. The institution is expected to be ready about the end of July.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have consented to visit Norwich on Saturday, June 30th, when the Princess of Wales will perform the opening ceremony in connection with the new Jenny Lind Infirmary for Sick Children, which has been erected at a cost of £12,000 on a site given by the late Mr. J. J. Colman in memory of his wife. Accommodation has been provided for forty patients, and there are a number of private wards. An endowment fund of about £9,000 has been raised.

The Bishop of London last week dedicated at the Billingsgate Wharf the Hospital steam trawler *Alpha*, which has been presented to the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen by an anonymous donor—a young engineer. The trawler, which has cost £12,000, is fitted up with all the most up-to-date appliances, including the Röntgen rays. The Bishop, in an interesting address, said that the command of the sea and the grappling with the waves, was, in the first instance, not for commerce, but for food, and it was fishermen who had led to the naval supremacy. In thanking the donor of the vessel for his magnificent gift, he said that the launch would be of incalculable good in the North Seas, where the work was increasingly difficult.

It is necessary for every lifeboat to be furnished with a supply of food for the sailors who man it—this is concentrated and always on the boat for immediate use. We understand that a supply of biscuits in sealed tins is kept in each boat, and that in addition to this Messrs. Cadbury have given a supply of chocolate for each of the lifeboats belonging to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. The chocolate is packed in tins each containing rations for 15 men, these tins being made so as to bear much knocking about in the boat. They therefore have a double lid; the outer lid is easily removed and not soldered down, but is strongly made. The inner covering is hermetically sealed, but made of soft metal so that the hand can be easily pushed through it. The chocolate has already been found useful by some of the boats which put out to sea during last winter, and Messrs. Cadbury have promised to renew supplies free of cost as used.

The thirty-second annual dinner of the French Hospital was recently held at the Hotel Cecil. The French Ambassador (M. Paul Cambon) was in the chair, and other members of the Embassy were present. In proposing the toast, "The Founders and Benefactors, the Medical Staff and the Committee of Management of the Hospital, the Diplomatic Body, the

Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Corporation of the City of London," the chairman mentioned that the Republic had recently shown its appreciation of several of the medical staff of the hospital by conferring decorations upon them. He also expressed his pleasure at the presence of Sir William MacCormac.

Fresh cases of plague continue to appear at Port Said, where there have been twenty-nine cases and thirteen deaths, and at Alexandria since the first outbreak of the disease there have been five cases. At Marseilles the most thorough and severe measures are being carried out to prevent the plague from entering the port. All vessels and passengers arriving from Egyptian ports are subjected to the strictest scrutiny. The total number of plague cases now at Sydney is 235, of which seventy-nine have proved fatal. Another death from plague has occurred at Roehampton.

Yellow fever in the Amazon region is to be investigated by an expedition which the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases is sending out. Another expedition sent by the same school is studying malaria in Southern Nigeria.

A new hospital for European soldiers is to be erected at Hong-Kong.

The Indian Famine Fund in New York now amounts to over £19,000.

Disquieting rumours have recently emanated from German and Austrian hospitals, and we now read that the American Humane Association thinks it necessary to take the matter up. Complaints are made from all over the United States that appointments are held in hospitals by doctors who seem to be ambitious to experiment. The Humane Association is promoting in the Senate "a Bill for the regulation of scientific experiments upon human beings." One section of this Bill provides for an immediate inquiry into any case in which an operation is reported to have been made wantonly, and stipulates that any account in a medical or scientific journal of such an experiment shall be ground enough for an inquiry. It is thought that medical men have been tempted to go to unjustifiable lengths by the publication of accounts of "wonderful surgical feats."

Many of the New York theatre playbills contain the following notice:—"Physicians who have patients to whom they may be called suddenly, and who have heretofore remained away from the theatre for fear of being out of call in such cases, can now leave their seat numbers in the box office and be called as quickly as in their office. Ushers will deliver messages to them promptly upon receipt of same over the telephone."

Langsdorff reports thirty-two cases of erysipelas of the face and other parts of the body treated with compresses saturated in absolute alcohol, with excellent results. To prevent evaporation the compresses must be covered with some impermeable material and should be changed every fifteen minutes, until all inflammation has subsided, two or three days being generally required.

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