

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Duchess of York will open, on July 9th, the Victorian Convalescent Home and the Princess Mary Home of Rest for Surrey Women, at Bognor.

At a recent meeting of the Senate of the University of London it was resolved that a sum of £100 be offered as the Rogers Prize, open for competition to all the members of the medical profession in Great Britain and Ireland, for an essay by any member of the medical profession in Great Britain and Ireland on the production of immunity in specific infective diseases generally and with particular reference to any one disease on which the writer of the essay has made original investigations. The essay is to be sent to the Registrar, University of London, South Kensington, on or before the 1st of June, 1901.

The Hon. Sydney Holland, the chairman, presided over the special court of the London Hospital. The annual report stated that an anonymous donor had given £22,000 for the erection of an isolation block. Mr. Edward L. Raphael have given £10,000 for the endowment of the new Jewish wards. The income for the past year amounted to £93,136, and the ordinary expenditure had increased from £69,973 to £72,629. The plans for the new out-patients' department had been finally settled, and electric light had been introduced into the institution. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, which was agreed to, said that the contributions from the working men had fallen off during the year by £700. This was owing to the abolition of subscribers' letters and to the charge of 3d. made for medicines and bandages. He thought that that was a very cruel return for all that the hospital had done for the working classes of East London. They wanted something like £60,000 a year to carry the institution on, and it was not much to ask the working classes to subscribe something under £1,000.

The authorities of the Charing Cross Hospital have begun to carry out the scheme for the enlargement and improvement of the hospital, the designs of Mr. A. Saxon Snell, architect, having been accepted. When the building, the cost of which will exceed £80,000, is completed, it will join the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital in King William Street and Chandos Street. Most of the leases of the intervening property have fallen in, and the General Court is now treating for the surrender of the remainder. A new sanitary tower and a new kitchen are now in course of erection, and a building of some historic interest is being demolished. This is the old Charing Cross Theatre, in King William Street, which was built about seventy years ago, and has been used also for some time as a dancing academy and for entertainments other than theatrical. In November, 1880, Mr. J. L. Toole took over the management of the Folly Theatre, which he reconstructed and renamed, calling it after his own name, Toole's Theatre, and here, until 1895, audiences were delighted in the region of broad farce and comedy. Of the sum required to carry out the hospital structural improvement the Council have

in hand or promised £25,000. The architectural features of the new wing will harmonize generally with the creation of Decimus Burton, which was erected in 1831.

A recent number of the *Portadown News* contains an account of the monthly meeting of the Board of Management of the Lunatic Asylum at Portadown, at which various opinions were expressed by the members as to the duties of a medical superintendent. Among such duties—in addition to the professional duties—appeared the following:—Keeping the subsidiary financial account of the institution, the care and supervision of china and crockery, the planting of potatoes, the selling of old clothes belonging to the patients, the making of mortar on the grounds, and the feeding of pigs. Evidently (says the *Lancet*) some of the committee think that the superintendent should be made a beast of burden, and a Jack-of-all-trades.

The late Mr. David Tinslie of Costerton, Mid Lothian, has left the residue of his estate to trustees, to accumulate for fifteen years, and thereafter to build, endow, and maintain with the money, a convalescent home in connection with the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. He directs that this home shall be named the "Astley-Ainslie Institution," in memory of his late nephew, Mr. John Astley-Ainslie, son of the late Mr. John Ainslie, of Huntington, East Lothian. In connection therewith he empowers his trustees to purchase ground to such an extent, in or near Edinburgh, as they may consider fit for the hospital, with garden, policies, and recreation ground around it. The residue of the estate, it is expected, will be between £200,000 and £300,000.

In the Austrian Reichsrath on Friday last, according to the *Morning Leader*, M. Daszynski introduced an interpellation on the subject of human vivisection at the Cracow Hospital. The story is that Prof. Dr. Korczynski ordered seven female patients to be injected with deadly poisonous liquids for purely experimental purposes. The poison used, it should be mentioned, is never employed for the complaints from which the women were suffering. The assistant house-surgeon, Dr. Kendzior, reminded Professor Korczynski that one of the women was already eight months enceinte, and warned him that the experiment would be terribly dangerous. The professor apparently recognized the danger, for he said that if anyone should be seriously poisoned, tannic acid should be administered as a remedy. The distinguished professor then coolly proceeded by railway to Podgorze, leaving the experiment to be carried out by a medical student named Schmidt. Within twelve hours three out of the seven women died from the effects of the experiment, and the other four barely escaped a fatal ending. Prof. Korczynski is not only a distinguished medical man, but he is also principal of the Medical School. The students are better than their principal, for by a vote of 600 against 17 they resolved to petition the Ministry of Education to dismiss Korczynski.

The *Medical Times* has issued a Hospital Sunday Supplement, warmly advocating the needs of the London Hospitals. This appeal to the charitable is timely, as we hear on all sides how greatly the war funds have affected the incomes of these noble institutions. Our London Hospitals are almost entirely dependent upon voluntary contributions and it is sad indeed that they are at present living from hand to mouth.

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