

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Her Royal Highness Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll has addressed the following letter to the editor of *Little Folks* in connection with an appeal he is making for funds in order to establish a ward of six cots in the North-Eastern Hospital for Children: "Princess Louise hopes that the young people who read *Little Folks* will try and help to get money for a few more cots in the Hackney Road Hospital for Children. All who have been lucky in getting money may be sure that it will go to help to cure the little ones from sickness and suffering, and in making their young lives brighter and happier."

Awards amounting to £17,700 were made to 167 hospitals, dispensaries, and convalescent homes, &c., by the Board of Delegates of the Metropolitan Saturday Hospital Fund. The total sum distributed exceeded that of 1899 by £686 6s. 4d., and was the second largest apportioned since 1896, when £17,778 was divided among the medical charities. The participating institutions were six less than the preceding year. The total receipts for 1900 slightly exceeded £20,000. Among the principal grants were: London Hospital, £899 13s.; Guy's £409 13s.; Charing Cross, £267 4s.; St. Thomas's, £183 2s.

The Metropolitan Asylums Board will shortly commence the building of the Southern Convalescent Fever Hospital at Carshalton. The accommodation to be provided will be for 700 patients, at an estimated cost of £204,549. The hospital for acute cases of small-pox at Joyce Green Estate, near the hospital ships, is now in course of erection for 400 patients, the amount of the contract being £222,459.

Dr. Reginald Dudfield has been appointed acting medical officer for the City of London.

Mr. Johnston, late chairman of the great Bovril Company, who died on his yacht in Cannes Harbour in November, has left £800,000.

The Salford Royal Nurses' Home, erected at a cost of over £10,000, was formally opened last week by Lady Mottram. The institution, which forms Salford's commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of the late Queen, stands at the junction of Acton Square and the Crescent. In the year 1897 Alderman Sir Richard Mottram, then the Mayor of the borough, started the movement which resulted in the establishment of the home, and the public response was of such a generous character that the entire cost of the building has now been met. The building was completed and furnished in December, 1899, and was in occupation by the nurses at Christmas of that year. Her late Majesty, in response to an application made by Sir Richard Mottram (chairman), on behalf of the committee, was graciously pleased to authorise the home being called "The Salford Royal Nurses' Home."

Miss M. Trail-Christie, M.B., has been selected for

the permanent charge of the Victoria Dufferin Hospital in Calcutta. Miss Christie is a lady possessing the highest qualifications, and was somewhat lately on plague duty in India. She has held several important posts at home, and will go out in February. The competition for the post in Calcutta was, we hear, very keen.

A great deal of feeling has been aroused in Glasgow, over the selection of plans for the rebuilding of the Royal Infirmary. The assessor, Dr. Rowand Anderson awarded the first premium to one plan, by Mr. H. E. Clifford, and the Committee voted for another.

In Mr. Clifford's plan it is interesting to note, under the heading of "Materials and Construction," that the "foundation would be concrete, and the outside walls of freestone. The principal division walls would be brick, and the remainder of fireproof 'Fram' construction. The roofs would be slated with large-size pale green slates. The central dome and sanitary turrets covered with copper. The floors would be fireproof, composed of steel girders, steel beams, and 'Fram' arch-blocks, finished on ceilings with 'Fram' boards coated with Adamantine polished plaster. The floors of wards, sanitary turrets, corridors, operating theatres, kitchen departments, and all basement would be laid with 'Terazzo' and the floors of other apartments would be laid with pitch pine flooring, nailed direct on to 'Fram' blocks. The interior of stone walls would have metal straps and expanded metal lathing, finished with Adamantine polished plaster.

The lower part of wards and corridors, and all the kitchen walls to be covered with crystalline tiles of large size (the joint of these tiles are so close no lodgment is afforded for dust), and the operating theatres to have walls and ceilings entirely covered with these tiles, so that they may be thoroughly steamed. All floors, walls, and ceilings to have corners rounded.

"*Heating and Ventilation.*—It was proposed to adopt the 'Plenum' system as perfected by Mr. William Key, and so successfully carried out by him in Paisley Infirmary. It is impossible to give an adequate representation of his methods on plans, but his system is now so perfect that, with telephonic communication from every part of the building to the engineer, the temperature and volume can be regulated to a nicety at any point. The air of the wards is changed ten times an hour during winter, and up to fourteen times an hour during warm weather. Steam boilers for air warming are placed at end of laundry block.

"*Hot Water Supply.*—The arrangements for this supply throughout the blocks are:—The utilising of steam from boilers of heating apparatus, supplying steam by pipes carried along in a duct outside of the buildings, and into copper water-heaters and hot water stock tank combined, placed in basement of each sanitary turret, from which an instant hot water supply is available at any point on the various floors.

Mr. W. J. Stillman has rather a notable paper in the current number of the *Humane Review* on "Why I Love Animals." Here is one passage:

"I do not believe in the completeness of that Christianity which can tolerate "sport" consisting in the infliction of pain on any creature for the pleasure of the sportsman, or the torturing of any of the inferior

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