

a year. Dr. Ley moved at the last Board meeting that two applicants for these posts should be invited to attend before the Board, when Mr. Whiteway asked if there was any necessity for an interview, which would entail an expenditure of £5 or £6. Dr. Ley asked the Board not to elect nurses without seeing them; they had proved the folly of this procedure on former occasions, and it had cost them more than defraying the expense of an interview. There can be no doubt of the unwisdom of electing nurses without a personal interview, and we are glad that Dr. Ley carried his point.

At a special meeting of the Glossop Town Council, on the motion of Dr. Whelan, seconded by Councillor W. Sargentson, it was decided "that criminal proceedings be instituted" against Miss Clarke, the Matron of the hospital, who had been instantly dismissed from her position of Matron at Wood's Hospital. The Chairman of the Hospital Committee (Alderman Dawson) remarked that Dr. Whelan had been a member of the Committee while the irregularities (alleged to have reference to money matters) which had led to Miss Clarke's dismissal had taken place. From all points of view it appears to us that it is well that such an accusation should be thoroughly sifted. From the Matron's, that she may have an opportunity of refuting the charges; from the Committee's, because, as they are trustees of public funds, they cannot, in our opinion, hush up a matter of this kind.

We regret to record the death of Miss Mary Alicia Ewart, one of the founders of the first Sick Nursing Institute in Manchester. Miss Ewart was also for many years an active worker on the committees of the Southern Hospital for Women, and the Royal Eye Hospital. In conjunction with her sister she took an active part in the organization of relief for the distress caused by the cotton famine, and they also opened the first sewing schools for factory girls, which were so successful, that the work was organized on a much larger scale, the Misses Ewart attending at the schools daily. Miss Ewart's name will long be held in remembrance by the people of Manchester.

Reading aloud is recommended by physicians as beneficial to persons affected with any chest complaint. The exercise is strengthening to the throat, lungs, and muscles of the chest. It is recommended that the reading be deliberate, without being allowed to drag, that the enunciation be clear, the body be held in an easy, unstrained, upright position, so that the chest will have free play, and that the breathing be natural, and as deep as possible, without undue effort.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Secretary of the British Home and Hospital for Incurables, Streat-ham, S.W., has received a donation of £1,000, from the Trustees of the Estate of the late Frederick Rothwell, Esq., to name the "Rothwell" bed in that Institution.

St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and St. George's Hospital have received donations of £150, and the London Throat Hospital one of £50, from Smith's Charity.

Bethlehem Hospital, in Lambeth, which it is suggested to remove to the country, dates only from the later years of George III. and is not, of course, the place whence "Tom of Bedlam" used in centuries gone by to issue forth to beg alms, singing "mad songs" and dressed in fantastic raiment to excite compassion. That was situate in Bishopsgate Street, and it was certainly devoted to the care of the insane as long ago as 1403. When it was taken down in the reign of Charles II., a successor was erected in Moorfields, and that has been rendered immortal by Hogarth, who placed therein the unworthy hero of "The Rake's Progress" in the final scene, which showed him an incurable maniac, fettered and dangerous, tearing himself with an insane and hideous laugh.

It is good news that the Blue Coat boys will not be compelled in future to masquerade in an obsolete costume. Children are very sensitive to anything like ridicule, and detest being made conspicuous in any way; so to turn boys out dressed in this absurd way is a downright cruelty—besides which the dress is uncomfortable and most awkward and inconvenient for any sort of healthy exercise.

Discussing the possible spread of diphtheria through the medium of the school slate, the *Sanitary Record* says every child on its entry into the school should be supplied with a suitable slate, and its name marked on it on both sides. The child would occupy the same place in the class, and always have the same slate; or, if removed to some other part of the class, carry its slate with it. Slates falling out of use from children leaving, &c., might be washed in some suitable disinfectant before being re-issued. In view, however, of the cheapness of pencil and paper, the use of slates might be discontinued.

The Mayor of Richmond, Sir J. W. Szlumper, laid the foundation-stone recently of the new Infirmary and Nurses' Home at Richmond. The building is to be erected by the local guardians at a cost of £40,000, and will contain accommodation for eighty-one males and eighty-one females. A special feature of the building, the site of which is close to Richmond Park, will be the provision which is made for the open-air treatment of consumption.

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