

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Princess of Wales has been graciously pleased to forward to the Secretary of the British Home and Hospital for Incurables at Streatham, the sum of £6 10s. 6d., being a further portion of part proceeds of the sale of Canon Fleming's sermon "Recognition in Eternity," published by Messrs. Skeffington and Son.

An important British Congress on Tuberculosis is to be held in the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, from Monday, 22nd July to Friday, 26th July. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has consented to open the Congress, at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, July 22nd. Every British Colony and Dependency is invited to participate by sending delegates, and the governments of countries throughout the world are invited to send representative men of science, and others, who will be the distinguished guests of the Congress.

Profound international interest has been aroused in the question of tuberculosis, and the object of the Congress is to exchange the information and experience gained throughout the world as to the methods available for eradicating the disease.

The accounts of the Hospitals Saturday Fund are now closed for last year. The total receipts were £20,222, as against £20,002 in 1899. This result is gratifying, considering the large sums that have been collected for other objects during the year. Not only have the supporters of the fund contributed their full share to these objects, but the machinery of the fund has been largely used for collections in the business firms of London.

Lady Mexborough has left £2,000 to the Cheyne Hospital for Sick children, and to the London Homœopathic Hospital and Nursing Institution, Great Ormond Street, the ultimate residue of her estate.

A compliment has been paid by the War Office to the Princess of Wales by deciding to name after Her Royal Highness the large new military hospital that is to be erected on Portsdown Hill, near Portsmouth.

The new Alexandra Hospital will replace the military hospitals of Portsmouth, and will be a second Netley.

The amount collected for the Royal Hospital, Richmond, during 1900 in boxes deposited at hotel bars and shop counters, workshops, and clubs in the district, is announced to be £1,147.

Nearly 5,000 different collections of Bovril newspaper advertisements were sent in the competition for the prizes recently offered by that firm.

The winner of the £10 prize is J. B. S. Watson, M.A., Chaplain of H.M. Prison at Maidstone. Mr. Watson is a well-known author, who makes a hobby in his spare time of competitions, devoting the

proceeds largely to philanthropic purposes. His collection totalled to 1,365 cuttings.

The Spectaclemakers Company has issued a list of certified opticians in the United Kingdom and the Colonies holding the diploma of efficiency from the company. It is hoped by this means to protect the public, as far as possible, against the incompetent. The list will be sent free on application to the clerk, Colonel T. Davies Sewell, Guildhall.

The United States Government Medical Commission at Havana has discovered that yellow fever germs are not ordinary bacteria but animal parasites. Like the parasites of malaria, those of yellow fever are believed to occur originally in mosquitos, and the disease is spread by these insects. The Medical Commission, while scarcely hoping to prevent a yellow fever outbreak next summer, believes it will be kept within narrower limits than ever before.

"Grip" has got hold of New York, which means that in a week or two London will be laid low with this irrepressible plague.

Mr. Arthur Mackenzie Wilkinson, M.D., of Melbourne, son of the Rev. H. J. Wilkinson, Chaplain of the Victorian Forces, Australia, has been appointed by the Government of Victoria, Physician-in-Extraordinary to H.R.H. the Duke of York during his stay in Melbourne.

The Case of Miss Rogers, R.B.N.A.

It is now ten weeks ago since Miss M. Rogers received the invitation to resign, and six weeks since the East Preston Board of Guardians gave her a month's notice of dismissal. This action was taken by the Board in face of a communication from the Local Government Board that the Guardians must first ask the sanction to dismiss. Acting upon the advice of her solicitor, Miss Rogers continued her duties as Superintendent Nurse, and has sent in her reply to the reports of the Nursing Committee upon which they based their action. We learn that one of these reports was founded on statements made by an under and un-certificated nurse and is dated June 3rd, 1900. Yet a copy was not furnished to Miss Rogers until it was sent from the Local Government Board a fortnight since. It is not improbable that when this report is made public, as it should be, our trained readers will grasp the fact that the Guardians have committed a grave breach of discipline, and also of justice, in acting upon an *ex parte* statement of a junior officer without giving Miss Rogers the right of reply. At their last meeting the Board passed a resolution suspending Miss Rogers, and this in spite of the fact that the matter is under the consideration of the Local Government Board, which has not yet decided whether it will assent to the dismissal of Miss Rogers or hold an enquiry. We learn that the legal advisers of Miss Rogers have promptly placed the action of the Guardians before the Local Government Board, and their answer will be awaited with much interest.

It appears to us that the East Preston Board of Guardians have acted with great lack of discretion and justice all through this affair, and have thereby placed themselves in a very untenable position.

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