

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Her Majesty the Queen has graciously consented to become patroness of St. Mary's Hospital for Sick Children, Plaistow.

Sir John Aird, M.P., Mayor of Paddington, has received a letter from Mr. Ryan, secretary of St. Mary's Hospital, announcing that the hospital has succeeded in raising the sum of £25,000 required to secure the Zunz bequest of £25,000, and that the Clarence wing fund has now a potential balance of £50,000.

In his address to medical men at the Birmingham University on "Medical Reform," Mr. Victor Horsley one of the Direct Representative candidates for a seat on the General Medical Council, made a slashing attack on the methods of that august Corporation, the Mother of Parliaments, and on the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. He looked to the British Medical Association for professional salvation—and rightly, as this Association alone is founded on the suffrage of the medical graduate. We have been crying in the wilderness for years in reference to nursing organization, and have pointed out that there is no hope for women upon any other basis, and we think we can claim that until the "physician has cured himself" he should not be empowered to treat nursing ailments,

The *Verdens Gang* says that the committee to determine the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize maintains silence with regard to the winner. It may, however, be regarded as certain that the prize will be awarded to the Swiss physician Dr. Henry Dumant, for ever to be held in honour as the founder of the Red Cross Society. It is stated that Dr. Dumant's name was proposed by thirty-seven authorities. Next to Dr. Dumant, M. Frederic Passy, the French friend of peace, is said to have received the most votes.

The *Lancet* says: "The cane should never be used as the ordinary instrument of school punishment. A cane may possibly bring about irreparable damage, and caning on the hands is the most senseless and cruel form of punishment imaginable. The birch is the best implement of punishment for small boys. Firstly, it hurts; secondly, if applied in reason it does no harm."

Why "small" boys? Because they are unable to defend themselves. No, corporal punishment must go; in punishing the young it is brutalising. We have watched its results, and know the demoniacal passion which it provokes. The demoralization of the lash has bred more murderers than have come within the hangman's noose. You cannot trash incarnate sin out of humanity; you only batter it in.

Dr. Rixey, the physician of the late President McKinley, in his official report to the Surgeon-General, ascribes Mr. McKinley's death to gangrene of both walls of the stomach, and of the pancreas, consequent on the bullet wound.

Travel Notes.

JOTTINGS BY A MEMBER OF THE MATRONS' COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 304.)

I left our party in the train en route from Montreal to Toronto. It was raining, but none the less, it was very hot, and the black conductor of the car, who walks up and down the Pulman and "bosses" the place, had a great objection to opening a window, even a tiny chink. When he had been finally cajoled into doing so, the reason was obvious, clouds of fine, black grit blew in upon us, for the coal they burn is apparently very soft, and the engine smoked like an English iron-clad during a coal strike. This was not peculiar to the Canadian railways, but extended to the other side. The cars are comfortable, with rotating arm chairs and plenty of space, but the usual mistake is made of upholstering in velvet, or was where we travelled. The dining cars are well found, but it did not seem possible to obtain a little light or cold refreshment served anywhere but in the dining-car itself. That seemed a pity, as everyone had consequently to wait their turn to crowd into the dining-car, which became intolerably hot and stuffy, and eat their way through a table d'hôte lunch.

We started at nine in the morning and arrived at half-past four in the afternoon, travelling by the celebrated Grand Trunk line, which runs all along the St. Lawrence and the great Ontario lake, of which we had, most of the time, a good view. As some of our fellow-passengers were also amusing and interesting to watch, the time did not seem long. At Toronto we were met and royally entertained. It was good to find someone else making themselves responsible for our checks—oh, those checks!—and our luggage, and generally looking after us. Mrs. F. went to stay at the Hospital, Miss C. and I to the Queen's Hotel. In the evening we all went to a delightful dinner-party given by the Lady Superintendent of the Toronto General Hospital. Many and many an English Matron might envy her her charming rooms, ante-room, sitting room, bedroom, and such a nice dining room, all en suite, just at the entrance to the wing given over to the Nurses' quarters. Her office is in the main building. We had such a pleasant evening. Several members of the staff and some ladies were present, and we heard all sorts of Canadian news and Canadian views, and learnt, not for the first time, what good Englishmen Canadians are.

Toronto, to a casual visitor, is not unlike Montreal, with the French element left out; it is a pretty town, very flat, lying right on the lake, avenues of trees planted along most of the streets,

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