

public institutions. But good which is done under the compulsion of "must" can never have the moral worth of good which is done under the obligation of "ought." The performance of a public duty is a thing far finer, far more uplifting, when it is freely offered. To remove from the walls of our hospitals the old familiar words, "Supported by voluntary contributions," would be an act of moral retreat on the part of a great and wealthy City.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Lord Mayor, presiding over a Mansion House meeting on Monday in support of the London hospitals and medical charities, stated that the offertory at St. Paul's Cathedral on Sunday amounted to £4,300.

The Hospital Sunday Fund is anxious to raise the fund this year to a record one, and get £100,000.

At a special performance given on Monday at His Majesty's Theatre in aid of the funds of Guy's Hospital, Mr. Tree, in a short speech, announced that the sum taken for seats amounted to £2,100, and that the expenses were *nil*.

The fever returns issued on Saturday by the Metropolitan Asylums Board showed that there remained under treatment 2,623 patients. These were made up of 1,763 scarlet fever cases, 810 diphtheria cases, and 50 enteric. On Saturday there remained under treatment 73 small-pox patients.

At the quarterly meeting of Governors of the London Hospital it was announced that in response to the quinquennial appeal £134,550 has been received in cash and promises.

By the will of Mr. Thomas Best, of Holly Lodge, Edgbaston, Birmingham, whose funeral took place recently, local charities benefit to the extent of £100,000.

Princess Louise, Duchess of Fife, will accompany the Duke of Fife on July 1st, when, as Lord Lieutenant of the County of London, he will inaugurate the epileptic colony which has been established by the London County Council at Epsom.

The Earl of Derby, President of the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest at Brompton, has contributed the sum of £1,000 in aid of the funds of the country branch of the hospital now being erected at Heatherside, near Frimley, for the open-air treatment of the malady.

Sir Henry Burdett opines in his Annual that to effect the necessary improvements at "Bart's" "a young and energetic man acting as Treasurer is required. Poor Sir Trevor Lawrence! he must indeed feel crushed; no doubt he will resign at once and thus make room for another Hospital Star. We hear one of the most brilliant is quite ready to accept a mandate to twinkle in that particular firmament!

It has been suggested that mental sufferers and the great London Mental Hospitals shall participate in the Hospital Funds to which the public subscribe. This appears reasonable.

The Board of Management of the Manchester Royal Infirmary are pressing forward the necessary work of rebuilding, and several members have spent their Whitsuntide holiday in visiting the principal hospitals of the United Kingdom in order to determine certain points on which there is a difference of opinion.

A painful impression has been made by the death of Dr. Sachs, a young Viennese physician, who had gone to the Bacteriological Institute in Berlin for the study of bubonic plague. Dr. Sachs accidentally infected himself while injecting some plague virus into a gnat, and after three days succumbed to the disease. The police and sanitary authorities are adopting the most stringent regulations to prevent the further spread of the disease. The medical department of the Ministry of Public Worship and Instruction has prohibited for the present all further experiments with plague virus.

A laboratory for the investigation of cancer has been opened in Berlin. The new building has been erected at the expense of the Government in the grounds of the Charité—justly termed the central workshop of medical science in Prussia. It consists of admirably-established chambers for microscopic and chemical investigations, and provides hospital accommodation for ten male and ten female patients.

The following proceedings, though picturesque, are so eminently un-British that we fear the good nuns of the Little Company of Mary will not obtain much support for the British Hospital in Rome from the mother-country:—

"The Holy Father recently received a deputation of the Ladies' Committee which is working for the foundation of a British Hospital in Rome, to be managed by the English Nursing Sisters.

"The ladies brought with them the first stone of the building to be blessed by his Holiness. It was a small marble slab with the following inscriptions engraved on it: 'Tu es Petrus et super hanc petram aedificabo ecclesiam meam,' and in Italian: 'The first stone of the British Hospital, blessed by his Holiness Leo XIII, on the occasion of his Jubilee, May, 1903.' Lady Herbert of Lea, speaking for the deputation, said to the Holy Father: 'This is the first stone of the British Hospital, in which the Duke of Norfolk takes the greatest interest.' His Holiness laid both hands, in blessing, on the marble, and said: 'May God prosper this work and bless it.' The members of the deputation then approached the Pontiff in turn and received his blessing. This first stone will be laid by the Cardinal Vicar probably on the Feast of Corpus Christi."

A beautiful site has been acquired for the hospital, which commands a distant view of the Alban Hills, and is at present an orchard. About £10,000 is required to build the hospital after accepted plans.

As a result of investigations, Professor Koch reports that the cattle disease in Rhodesia is neither redwater nor Texas fever, but a disease known to be prevalent on the East Coast.

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