

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



**THE NOBEL PRIZES.**—The Nobel Peace prize, of the value of £7,830, has been awarded to Mr. William Randall Cremer, M.P., for his work on behalf of international arbitration. The winners of the four additional prizes are:—For Physics: Professor Henry Becquerel, of Paris, divided with M. and Madame Curie, of Paris. For Chemistry: Professor Arrhenius, of Stockholm. For Medicine: Professor Finsen, of Copenhagen. For Literature: M. Björnstjerne Björnson of Christiania.

**AN INTERNATIONAL CONSUMPTION CONGRESS.**—A highly-important scientific congress has been arranged to take place at Copenhagen during the coming summer. In 1901 a great International Association to deal with tuberculosis was founded, Professor Brouardel being nominated president, and all the European countries supporting the Association being represented by from two to ten delegates, in proportion to their population. This International Committee, the most representative gathering of the scientific men of the world who are now fighting against consumption, will assemble in May, 1904, at Copenhagen. The Danish capital has been chosen, no doubt, on account of the earnest way in which it is organising sanatoria throughout the country in connection with this great work.

**STARVED TO DEATH IN LONDON.**—There has just been issued a Parliamentary White Paper giving a return of all deaths in the County of London in 1902 upon which a coroner's jury has returned a verdict of "death from starvation" or "death accelerated by privation." This return gives the number as 34 during the period.

**AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.**—Having made an agreement on January 18th, 1897, to pay £120,000 towards rebuilding University College Hospital, and the agreement having been cancelled, Sir John Maple authorised his executors to complete the rebuilding at a cost not exceeding £200,000.

**A UNIQUE HOSPITAL.**—The only Chinese hospital with Chinese doctors, Chinese medicine, Chinese nurses, and Chinese patients is situated on the border of Chinatown, San Francisco. According to a United States contemporary, it is a large two-storeyed building, only recently erected. Up to the opening of this building, a Chinese, unless afflicted with leprosy, in which case he was sent to the pest-house, was not admitted to the public hospitals. A subscription was set on foot among the rich Chinese merchants, and reached a total of 30,000 dols., and it is the income derived from this sum which supports the present Chinese hospital. There is a daily clinic held in the institution, which has forty beds, and there is a resident staff consisting of one white physician and surgeon. The Chinese department is in the charge of a Chinese doctor. As many as 400 cases were treated in a month, with only fifteen deaths.

## The Hospital of St. John, Bruges.

By Miss L. L. Dock.

If any nurse wishes to see an ancient and historical nursing order exactly as it was in the Middle Ages still at work in an institution of venerable antiquity, where beautiful architecture, quaint old buildings, and a most charming old-time garden form the setting for hospital wards of fairly modern type, let her not fail under any circumstances to go to Bruges and visit the Hospital of St. John, under the care of the Augustinian Order of Catholic Sisters, where the sweet side of religious nursing may be seen. It is a most fascinating old place, hidden away from the world behind high stone walls and the partly ruined remains of old church buildings, carved gateways, and stone corridors. Inside to the left is the oldest part of the buildings—over 700 years they have been standing—once the hospital, but now serving as the cloisters, where the sisters live. This ancient part is composed of long, slightly curving corridors two stories high; on one side the corridor looks upon the gardens and on the other it opens into small rooms. Spotless cleanliness, bare-board floors, and fresh, soft-tinted plaster characterise the place now—whether it was so 700 years ago one cannot tell. This part is separated by a large garden space from the central buildings, which contain the famous art treasures which are the property of the old hospital, and beyond this again is still more garden before one comes to the new hospital buildings, which were erected some fifty years ago.

These are on the pavilion plan, opening on a connecting corridor which traverses three sides of a large square; the fourth side, also corridor, connects with the sisters' quarters and gives access to the outer gateway. This square is simply one lavish bower of green. Trees, grass, flowers, and vines make the place look like a dream, and it is used for the recreation of the patients, who reach it from the corridor.

Outside the wards are large vegetable and fruit gardens, grape-vines, and flower beds, reaching finally to the old stone wall which surrounds the whole place. A lovelier spot in summer could hardly be imagined.

The wards are ten in number, and hold twenty-four beds each. They were bare and plain, but very clean, the ventilation good, and the air fresh, although the beds were very close together. The beds and small tables were of wood, clumsy and plain, and the bedspreads were of dark-coloured calico, while each bed had its set of rods and of old-fashioned dark calico bed-curtains. Modern science had exacted enough plumbing and drainage to make everything quite satisfactory from the working standpoint (and they showed us all their closets and corners), although homely and plain.

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