

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



**A NELLIE FARRER BED.**—The Treasurer of Guy's Hospital has received from Mr. Edward C. Silverthorne, the surviving trustee of the Nellie Farrer benefit, £1,000 to endow a bed in that institution. This endowment is in accordance with the wish of the late Miss Nellie Farrer. The bed will bear her name, and will be available under the rules of the hospital for members of the theatrical profession recommended for admission by a director of the Gaiety Theatre.

**REGIUS PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE.**—The King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Dr. William Osler, D.Sc., F.R.S., to be Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Oxford, in succession to Sir John Burdon-Sanderson, Bart.

**AN IMPOSTOR.**—Mr. Hayes, the Secretary of the East London Hospital for Children, Shadwell, writes:—"It has recently come to my knowledge that a 'lady' representing herself as authorised to collect subscriptions for this hospital has thereby defrauded certain persons of various sums of money. In order to protect the public, both from this 'lady' and other impostors of the same kind, I take the earliest opportunity to state that the East London Hospital for Children does not employ canvassers or agents, either male or female, to collect subscriptions." We hope this 'lady' may be detained by anyone from whom she solicits subscriptions. So heartless a fraud deserves to be severely dealt with.

**A WINDFALL FOR LONDON CHARITIES.**—Many of the London hospitals benefit under the will of the late Mr. Thomas Whiffin, of West Hill, Putney, who left a fortune of over £300,000.

**GIFT TO THE NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL.**—The North-Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, has received a donation of £105 from the Merchant Taylors Company in consideration of the recent enlargement of the institution, which now has 114 beds in use.

**A NEW EPILEPTIC COLONY.**—It is expected that the David Lewis Manchester Colony for Sane Epileptics, near Alderley Edge, will be opened early in September. The buildings and grounds are nearly completed, and before long the first patients will be received. The colony marks a new and important step in the treatment of epilepsy in this country. For those whose health permits, daily occupation on the land has been found most beneficial in colonies abroad, and this plan will be adopted. Experience of the colony system shows that a certain proportion of epileptics are cured, and a larger number are so improved that they can be sent home and are often able to earn something towards their own support.

**THE HOP-PICKING MISSION.**—The Hop-Picking Mission, which is doing useful work among the pickers who annually migrate, to the number of some 38,000, to the hop fields of Kent, is once more active on behalf of this section of the community, and is

appealing for funds to help on its good work. The objects of the Society are the extension of women's work, nursing, clubs, coffee-stalls, &c., collecting and distributing literature, promoting consultations amongst the workers, and generally fostering mission and social work among the immigrant pickers. The "Little Hoppers' Hospital" at Watlington takes charge of the most serious cases of illness. Last year the patients included one with rheumatic fever, two young children with pneumonia, one case of heart failure and dropsy, one of bad burns, and other less serious cases. One infant died two days after admission. The services of those who take part in this good work are voluntary, and offers of help will be welcomed by the Committee, of which the Rev. Francis G. Oliphant, Rector of Teston, is Hon. Secretary.

**THE ROYAL ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL, RHYL.**—The Duke of Westminster has subscribed £1,000 towards the fund being raised for paying off the building debt on the Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl. The new Alexandra Hospital is excellently situated, and, with its broad verandahs, on which patients lie all day and some sleep out all night, is an ideal institution for the treatment of tuberculous cases, of which many are sent to it. We hope the debt on the building will before long be completely defrayed.

**JAPANESE METHODS OF TREATMENT.**—Mr. J. Gordon Smith, the war correspondent of the *Morning Post*, in an interesting article, writes:—"My experiences have impressed me with the fact that the Japanese army surgeons are demonstrating to the satisfaction of medical men sent here by various nations to study their methods of dealing with the sick and wounded that more men recover from wounds when operations are not performed than otherwise. On the wounded of the armies of Japan now in the field the surgeons are making operations in very few cases; in no case do they operate until the second day, and then only as a matter of extreme urgency. In the main, the wounds of those shot in the field are dressed antiseptically by the surgeons at the front, and the dressings are not removed until such time as the soldiers are brought to a hospital where there are perfect arrangements for the treatment of the wounded. Even then there are few operations. I met Surgeon-Major L. L. Seaman, late surgeon of the 1st United States Volunteer Engineers, at the Sekijuji-sha Byoin. He was much impressed by the success of the Japanese treatment. 'After what I have seen,' he told me, as we left the hospital to get into our jinrikishas, 'I should hesitate to operate in a single case at the front. From what I have seen so far, I most heartily endorse the Japanese system, and feel that the Japanese surgeons will again prove to the medical men of the world that manipulation and probing of such wounds on the field, except in the rarest instances, is surgical malpractice. The principle of leaving the wound alone is the best, and the "first aid" dressing the best thing that can be used. It is far better to bandage the wound properly and avoid infection than to risk that danger by an operation under such conditions as prevail in the field. The Japanese are ever apt pupils, and they are following well the examples set by Lister and Pasteur, to whom military surgery owes its greatest debt. It was those famous doctors who simplified its labours and taught the great lesson of non-interference.'"

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