

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Lord Mayor will preside on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., at a public meeting to be held at the Mansion House to make known the objects of the British Red Cross Society. Lord Tweedmouth, Lord Rothschild, Sir Frederick Treves, and Lieut.-General Sir John French will be among the speakers.

The new out-patients' and special department block at St. Bartholomew's Hospital have now risen 40ft. above ground. The cost of the extension will be £120,000, and towards this amount £100,000 has already been received. But the hospital authorities have decided to build also a pathological block, in order that such diseases as consumption, diphtheria, and typhoid may be thoroughly investigated. The cost will probably be £20,000. Towards the sum already in hand for this purpose about £120 was added last week from the proceeds of an entertainment of "Ancient Dances and Music" given in the great hall of the hospital.

The Elizabethan Fair and Fête in aid of King's College Hospital, will be opened in the hall of Lincoln's Inn on May 23rd by Princess Christian in the unavoidable absence of the Duchess of Connaught. On May 24th the Lord Mayor will open the Fair, and on the 25th the United States Ambassador.

Princess Alexander of Teck was present last week at a drawing room meeting in aid of the Home for Invalid Gentlewomen, Catherine House, St. Leonards-on-Sea, held by permission of Lord and Lady Brassey at 24, Park Lane. Lord Brassey presided, and Sir Joseph Dimsdale moved a resolution, which was carried, approving of the work of Catherine House. He could not imagine, he said, a charity that more deserved the support of the charitable public than the admirable home at St. Leonards.

The Home Secretary (Mr. Gladstone), replying in the House of Commons to a question from Sir Philip Magnus (U.—London University), said that having in view the fact that an inquiry as to experiments on animals for the purposes of medical research had not been held for thirty years, it was the intention of the Government to appoint a Royal Commission to examine into the working of the Cruelty to Animals Act, 1876, in the light of present scientific knowledge.

The thirty-fifth Annual General Meeting of the Chelsea Hospital for Women was held on Tuesday last, the President, the Right Honourable the Lord Glenesk in the Chair. The Chairman said that it had for many years been a feature of the Chelsea Hospital for Women that every penny contributed to its funds went immediately to the restoration of some poor sufferer to health. Another feature was

its reception of those who might be termed the black-coated poor, and those, also, who were able to pay quite small amounts. The Hospital afforded a degree of privacy which was most valued in its class of work and unobtainable at most larger institutions.

The Duchess of Teck on Tuesday last opened a hospital in Hugh Street, Belgrave Road, for sick animals of the poor, established by Our Dumb Friends' League, a society for the encouragement of kindness to animals. The Rev. Montague Fowler, President of the League, who presided, said that the object was to give gratuitous advice and nursing to sick animals belonging to poor people. They had fitted up the hospital in the most complete manner, and were now prepared to take in any ailing creature from a canary to an elephant.

Two new ophthalmic wards, to be known as the Swan Ophthalmic Wing, have been added to the Royal Hospital, Richmond, Surrey, by the munificence of Mrs. Swan, of Teddington, in memory of her late husband, Mr. Benjamin Bousfield Swan, at a cost of £4,000, with a further sum of £2,000 for an endowment fund.

The Rev. W. Douglas Morrison, late Chaplain of Wandsworth Prison, presided at the annual meeting of the Humanitarian League, which was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Tuesday afternoon last. In his opening speech he pointed out that the Report for 1905-6 was an extremely good one, and said that the Criminal Law and Prison Reform Committee had been agitating the question of corporal punishment in the Royal Navy, with the result that a few weeks ago the Admiralty resolved to abolish the existing methods of discipline. Another important step had been taken by Mr. Haldane, the Secretary for War, in abolishing the cat and the birch in military prisons. This showed that the public mind was moving away from many of the old ideas which it used to entertain about these things, and he hoped the Humanitarian League would now press upon the Government the necessity for the abolition of flogging in English and Irish convict prisons. Another matter which needed attention was the treatment of debtors. Captain Alfred Carpenter, R.N., D.S.O., spoke on the question of naval flogging, and said that the thanks of all interested in the question were due to Mr. Swift MacNeill, K.C., and Mr. Joseph Collinson for the great services they had rendered in the matter. Mr. H. F. Luttrell, M.P., also spoke. He said he was in charge of the League's Sports Bill, to abolish the hunting of tame animals and the shooting of pigeons from traps. Sir Henry Cotton, M.P., moved the adoption of the Report, and spoke of the treatment of prisoners in India, which was seconded by Mrs H. B. Bonner.

A unique menu card for the dinner of the Keighley Medico-Chirurgical Society has been designed by the clever artist, Mr. Fred. Reynolds.

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