

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Committee of the Maternity Charity and District Nurses' Home, Plaistow, E., have received a donation of 25 guineas from the King towards the general funds of the charity.

Princess Henry of Battenberg has consented to open the patients' sale of work at the British Home and Hospital for Incurables, Streatham, on November 19th. The proceeds of this sale are distributed among the patients, which secures a little pocket-money for the following 12 months, and enables them to buy personal necessities.

The Duchess of Albany has consented to receive purses in aid of the Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, Westminster, on the occasion of the opening ceremony on November 20th.

As a result of the three days' "Fayre," held at the Public Baths, Camberwell, in aid of the new King's College Hospital, some £2,000 profit will have been made when all the ticket-money has been sent in.

Sir Herbert Maxwell has been appointed Chairman of the Council of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption, in the place of the late Sir William Broadbent, and Dr. C. Theodore Williams has been elected Vice-Chairman.

The appeal of the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, for funds to effect a much-needed extension, has, up to the present, resulted in the raising of £20,000 out of the £30,000 required. It is particularly desired to raise the other £10,000 before the end of the year, as otherwise certain conditional offers, amounting to £12,000, will lapse. A festival dinner on behalf of the extension fund will be held on November 20 at the Ritz Hotel, Lord Cawdor presiding.

Mrs. Benyon, wife of the Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, recently opened the Children's Wing of the Newbury District Hospital. The undertaking has been warmly advocated by the Mayor of Newbury.

An Indian Bazaar will be opened on behalf of the Lady Margaret Fruitarian Hospital, Bromley, Kent, on November 15th and 16th, at the Hospital, Bromley. It will be opened on the 15th by the Lady Margaret Campbell, at 3 p.m., and on the 16th by Miss Mabel Chappel. The bazaar is for the purpose of raising funds to build a Children's Ward. As the Hospital Council refuse to go into debt they will not commence until the money is assured. All gifts, donations, and subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Florence Colborne, hon. secretary, or to the Right Hon. Lord Llangattock, hon. treasurer.

"How We Struck Oil."

Not the oil that gladdens the heart of man by making him a millionaire, but the humble, oft-despised castor oil.

It was while staying at a farm house in North Wales that we learned the wonderful virtues of castor oil, and ill would it become us to keep those virtues hidden from the world. As preventive and cure, within and without, it has no rival in that little back-water of life's river.

A few days after our arrival at the farm one of our party went out alone to do a little exploring, while the rest of us went to the village in the interests of the commissariat department. On our return we found our friend in the kitchen, the centre of an admiring and awestruck group. He had had an adventure. Climbing on a rocky bank for a piece of heather that looked especially lovely (after the manner of heather that grows in steep and difficult places) he had missed his footing and fallen into the road beneath, where he had lain for a little while, stunned, in danger of prowling motor-cars.

Bruises and scratches were all forgotten as he held forth on the humour of his adventure, and told how, after he had come round and was sitting by the roadside to collect his thoughts and count his bones lest any should be missing, a good woman came along and sympathised with him, and having nothing else, offered him a peppermint by way of comfort.

We rescued the hero from his admirers, installed him in an easy-chair, and proposed to apply "first aid."

"Oh, no! It is all right, thank you," he said. "They have bandaged me up, and Mrs. Lloyd put castor oil on all the scratches—she says it's first rate."

Presently came a gentle tap at the door, and our little landlady entered.

"Please, miss, do you think the gentleman would take a dose of castor oil?"

"No; I am quite sure he would not. Why?"

"It is a splendid thing to take after a fall. Yes, indeed, miss. It takes the fright out of you. It was a big doctor told my mother years ago—a very clever doctor he was."

We learned afterward that the same "doctor" had ordered the skin of a black cat to be applied to the chest for the cure of asthma; and we felt that we had missed much in having entered the world too late to see this wonderful practitioner.

Seeing that to do otherwise would grievously offend, we accepted the large bottle of

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