

## Reflections.

### FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll) has consented to give her patronage to a ball to be held at the Grafton Galleries, on Wednesday, April 27th, in aid of the Army and Navy Male Nurses' Co-operation, the object of which is to find employment for time-expired men of both Services who have obtained a sound training in nursing. The honorary secretary is Miss Ethel McCaul, R.R.C., 47b, Welbeck Street, Cavendish Square, W.

An association has been formed to promote, as far as possible, the concentration of all forms of public assistance under a single authority, and to become a centre for consultation and co-operation among the promoters of Poor Law Reform. Lord George Hamilton has consented to be the President.

Mr. E. W. Morris, Secretary of the London Hospital, has just written a history of the institution, which is to be published by Mr. Arnold. Beginning with a survey of the condition of medicine and surgery in 1741, the date of the foundation of the hospital, the author describes its early days in Goodman's Fields, the move to Whitechapel, and the gradual growth in every department and activity during the last hundred and fifty years.

The treasurer of Guy's Hospital has received a donation of £1,000 from Mr. R. Nivison. The Governors earnestly appeal for further donations and annual subscriptions to provide the large difference between assured income and ordinary expenditure, as well as for £60,000 to provide for capital requirements.

With a view to forming a branch of the British Red Cross Society in the City of London a meeting of ladies and gentlemen was held at the Mansion House last week, under the presidency of the Lady Mayoress. Mr. Frank Hastings, Secretary of the Society, gave interesting details of the work of the organisation, pointing out that one hundred county branches and nearly three hundred sub-branches had been formed since 1905.

At the Annual Meeting of St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, E.C., it was unanimously agreed that the word Cancer should be added to the name of the hospital, which will in future be known as "St. Mark's Hospital for Cancer, Fistula, and other Diseases of the Rectum."

There has long been a most useful British Hospital at Neuilly, Paris, and now the new American Hospital is in working order. The hospital has been started by Americans in Paris to accommodate twenty-five poor compatriots. There are also delightful private wards for paying patients. The nursing staff is highly efficient, and those taking posts are required to stay at least six months. The salary is forty dollars a month.

A fine new hospital is to be built at Melbourne, Victoria, and the plans of the architect have been accepted.

## The After-Care Association.

At the invitation of Sir Douglas Powell, who occupied the chair, the annual meeting of the After-Care Association was held on February 16th in the large library of the Royal College of Physicians, Pall Mall, S.W.

Mr. Roxby, the Secretary, in the course of reading the report, said that during the past year over 500 cases had been helped.

Dr. Savage said that though the usefulness of the Society increased, its recognition by the public was very slow. A Lord Mayor was wanted who would be impressed by the needs of mental cripples. He emphasised the danger that lay in recurrence of insanity, but there was in a large majority of cases no need for the trouble to recur, if they could for a time be shielded from worry. They might be quite well, but still weak, and ought not prematurely to resume their ordinary life.

Sir W. Collins, M.P., said that people in this country were disposed to think that the setting up of institutions was the beginning and end. These poor people could find in this Association the priceless gift of "a heart at leisure from itself to soothe and sympathise."

Dr. Marriott Cooke, Commissioner in Lunacy, announced amidst applause that three honorary Commissioners had signified their wish to become Vice-Presidents and annual subscribers.

Sir Douglas Powell said that insane people were wonderfully sane when their special delusion could be kept in abeyance. After being discharged from asylums, if they were sent too soon into the market place of life, meeting occasions apt to arouse former delusions, these rubbed as it were on the raw, they were apt to relapse. It was necessary to shield the tender spot, so likely to become irritable.

The Bishops of Rochester and Stepney both addressed the meeting, the latter saying that he was glad to accept the invitation to be present at the meeting, that he might bear testimony to the memory of the Founder of the Association, the Rev. Henry Hawkins, and to his extraordinary influence and personal love of the insane. He urged the ladies present, when possible, to give employment as domestic servants to mental convalescents.

### MEDICAL WOMEN AND THE SUFFRAGE.

Dr. Octavia Lewin, 25, Wimpole Street, London, W., has issued invitations to a drawing room meeting on Friday, February 25th, at 3 p.m., to hear addresses on Women's Suffrage from the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, and Miss Muriel Matters, whose names as speakers should ensure a crowded attendance. Miss Thornett, F.R.C.S., will preside. Dr. Lewin is good enough to say that any trained nurses will be cordially welcome without special cards of invitation, and we hope that those who can will attend the meeting.

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