

Smithfield, Englishmen worship according to their conscience on the very site of his palace, in spite of all his endeavours to uproot the hated faith?

The Matron, Miss Dalton, was trained at King's College Hospital, under Miss Monk, of whom she speaks with gratitude and affection. In 1903 she moved on to the Royal Free Hospital, and, as Ward Sister, Sister House-keeper, and for the last three years as Assistant Matron, she has had most valuable experience to qualify her for the post of Matron at the Victoria Park Hospital, to which she was appointed some months ago. Anyone who notes her grip of the work as she goes about the hospital will realize that she has availed herself of it to the utmost.

Last week Sir Carl Meyer presided at the Fishmongers' Hall at the Festival Dinner of the institution, when the sum of £2,540 was collected.

We are indebted to the Secretary of the hospital for our illustration.

M. B.

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Considerable progress has been made with the arrangements for the Christmas Pantomime Ball in aid of University College Hospital, which is to be held in the Albert Hall on December 4th. It is to be a very splendid affair.

It is announced that Mrs. James Taylor, of Chester, and her family, are defraying the expense of the new operating theatre, which forms an important part of the extension now being carried out at the Chester General Infirmary. The Theatre will be dedicated to the memory of the late Mr. James Taylor, F.R.C.S., who for forty years was connected with the Infirmary. The late Mr. Charles Jones has bequeathed £1,000 to the Infirmary, and towards the £40,000 required for renovation and extension nearly £29,000 has been subscribed.

Mr. Edward Graham Wood, of Manchester and Salford, has presented a cheque for £1,000 to endow a bed at St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Manchester. Mr. Wood has helped to raise £50,000 for the same hospital, and this is the fourth bed which he has endowed in the district.

The King has been pleased to approve of the Albert Medal of the Second Class being conferred upon Mr. Arthur Hanson, of Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., in recognition of his gallantry in saving life in the Yangtze Gorges on November 13th, 1911.

"THE ORGANIZER."

Who is the anonymous "Organizer" of the Annual Nursing and Midwifery Conference who has addressed the following communication to many ladies holding responsible professional positions. Several matrons consider they have a right to know before any reply can be expected.

Dear Madam,—For this Conference, which is held annually in London, we have a splendidly representative committee, but we are anxious that the special sections, such as Mental, District, Private, &c., should be of equal importance with the general hospital section, and we hope that you will allow us to add your name to the Committee, on which we have already those of several Matrons and Superintendents in these various branches.

This will not entail any definite work, but if you are not too busy we should be grateful for any suggestions as to subjects and speakers.

Yours faithfully,

THE ORGANIZER.

May we observe that the imperial "we" of the anonymous writer of this epistle need not be taken too seriously, as we learn that the lady who addresses the Nursing Profession with the royal prerogative is the lay editor of a pseudo-nursing journal. The question to be answered is, "Does the Nursing Profession in this country desire to be 'organised' and exploited for press purposes by a newspaper woman, or does it not?" Those who approve of anonymous manipulation will gratefully accede to the request, and those who do not will place the communication on the fireback, the proper place for letters from those who dare not sign their names. Perhaps a few words of criticism in this connection may be permissible.

A TRADE EXHIBITION.

A few years ago some business men realised that there was money to be made through a so-called Nursing Exhibition, that in organising a Trade Exhibition of goods and appliances used in medical treatment, and by nurses and midwives, a handsome profit might be made from charges for exhibitors' stalls, if a sufficient number of nurses and midwives attended the show. This was quite a justifiable bit of business. For several years this trade exhibit was held in London, when it was found it might pall unless the visitors were interested by other means. Why should they not listen to their own charming voices? Quite nice. Thus a Conference was called into existence to discuss professional questions, and just here the danger to the profession became apparent, and just here the Exhibition Committee took a false step.

Whilst assuring the profession generally that the Conference was controlled by a professional committee—indeed, in the prospectus sent out the organising, advisory, and consultative committees were composed of professional persons the Exhibition Committee last year very unwisely permitted the practical organisation of the Conference

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