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EDITORIAL.

THE SUBLIMITY OF SWEATING.

AS our readers will have observed from the correspondence which has taken place in our columns, much indignation is felt at the figures revealed in the accounts of the London Hospital for 1890, with reference to the receipts from the Private Nursing Institution. We propose, therefore, briefly to consider the statements made, concerning the receipts and expenditure during the past year in connection with the Nursing Department of the London Hospital.

In the first place, we have been unable to discover in the pages of this last annual report, any signs of the balance-sheet of the Private Nursing Institution. It will perhaps be remembered by

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some of our readers that considerable stress was naturally laid upon this matter, by the Select Committee of the House of Lords when inquiring into the management of the London Hospital last July. It was discovered by a keen cross-examination of the Secretary, that the London Hospital deliberately deceived its subscribers by placing the *net profits* of the Private Nursing Department, without a word of explanation, amongst the gross receipts from other sources. So, whereas, in other matters, the accounts show what are the expenses in each department, the disbursements of the Private Nursing Institution are kept concealed. It will be well to refer to the precise words of some of the questions and answers on this subject: "(8,488). Where are the accounts of the expenses of the Private Nursing Institution; are they in this balance-sheet?—No, they are not stated in the balance-sheet. (8,489). But how do you know that that is all net profit?—We get out a balance-sheet in March of each year on the working of that Private Nursing Institution; and a special minute of the Committee was passed a few weeks ago, ordering me as secretary to prepare this balance-sheet each year, coinciding with this ordinary balance-sheet of the Hospital, so that it shall terminate yearly on the 31st of December. (8,490). But would it not be simpler if you put down here in your expenditure the expenses of your Private Nursing Institution, so that we might see what the real net profit was?" To this quietly sarcastic query the witness made one of the ridiculous replies which have caused so much amusement to readers of the Blue Book. He said: "That would be a

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