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Editorial.

THE LORDS' COMMITTEE ON HOSPITALS.

THE long-expected Report of the Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed, in 1890, to inquire into the administration of public Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Metropolis, was issued last week. It is a most remarkable—and, so far as Nurses are concerned, will prove to be an historical—document. We shall, therefore, during the next few weeks devote what attention we can spare from other matters to a careful consideration of the facts and conclusions which are therein set forth.

To begin with, we must remind our readers of the history of the Committee. For some years past, there has been an increasing lack of confidence, and even dissatisfaction, in public and professional circles concerning the management of our Hospitals, which culminated in an agitation for inquiry. This, greatly promoted by the Charity Organisation Committee, resulted in the appointment, by the House of Lords, of a Select Committee for that purpose. In taking this step, it was clearly realised that this Committee must exercise great caution—that Hospitals were absolutely dependent upon private subscriptions for their existence, and that irreparable injury might easily be caused to the whole of the Hospital world, by inconvenient disclosures. It was therefore predicted, at once, that upon any revelations which might be made the Committee would leave the public to form its own conclu-

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