

The Hospital World.

A RECORD OF HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTION NEWS AND WORK.

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Editorial.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL SCANDALS.

OUR attention has been drawn, by several correspondents, to the fact, that, in various newspapers, the charges brought by the *Pall Mall Gazette* against the London Hospital have been discussed as though they applied to every similar Institution. Of course, nothing could be more totally unfair, but at the same time it is very natural. We have previously expressed the opinion, founded upon reliable information, that the financial difficulties under which most Hospitals have, for the last few years, laboured, was largely due to the loss of public confidence induced by the constant scandals in connection with the London Hospital, combined with the extremely suspicious manner in which these have been hitherto hushed up.

How correct our judgment was, has since been amply proved, and the serious fact of the great fall in the receipts on last Hospital Sunday should convince the most incredulous that there is ground for serious alarm in the present state of affairs. It is ridiculous to pretend that public charity is drying up—the £65,000 given to the Victoria Relief Fund demonstrates that. Hospitals are essential to the welfare of the sick poor, and we, therefore, urge that all who are interested in them should face the gravity of the present crisis. Our contemporaries who, in mistaken kindness, kept the truth about the London Hospital out of their columns, have simply caused irreparable harm to hundreds of most deserving Institutions because the public have naturally believed that the truth was considered to be too bad to be told, and that all Hospitals were tarred with the London Hospital brush. The *Pall Mall Gazette* is now exposing the truth, and the best service our contemporaries can render to the Hospital world is to echo its demand for a full and public inquiry and the institution of the necessary reforms as speedily as possible at the London Hospital.

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