

Piccadilly, on Monday, May 2nd, under Royal and other distinguished patronage. Particulars may be obtained of the hon. secretary, Miss Bianconi, 22, Russell Square.

The twenty-second annual meeting of the Metropolitan Nursing Association was held last week at Grosvenor House, Mr. Bonham Carter, Vice-Chairman, presiding. The report showed that twenty-nine probationers had been admitted during the year, and sixteen had completed their training as district nurses, in connection with the Jubilee Institute. The balance-sheet showed a small amount in hand. A vote of thanks to the Duke of Westminster for permitting the meeting to be held at Grosvenor House brought the proceedings to a close.

The Annual General Meeting of the West London Hospital, was held in the Board Room of that institution last week. The Report stated that His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., presided at the Festival Dinner last year, and the result of his Grace's appeal was £2653 15s. 3d., a record amount of profit, in spite of the fact that it was the Diamond Jubilee Year. It was further stated that the Board received with satisfaction, not wholly unmixed with anxiety as to its future effect upon the prospects of the Hospital, the announcement of the intention of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Patron of the Hospital, to inaugurate a fund for permanently benefiting the hospitals of London in commemoration of Her Majesty's long reign, welcoming, failing a better system, the announcement that in the first year, reliance would be placed upon the Distribution Committee of the Hospital Sunday Fund. The Board subsequently learnt with astonishment that the Council of the Fund had, contrary to the original scheme of His Royal Highness, in effect decided that the expression "Hospitals of London" meant those hospitals having more than one hundred beds in constant daily occupation. The West London Hospital only being able to show a daily average somewhat exceeding ninety-one beds, was therefore, deprived of the share of the Fund, which might justly be expected to be awarded to it. It had however, received the sum of £525 from the Fund raised by the sale of Jubilee Commemoration Stamps.

The authorities of Middlesbrough have decided to prosecute a resident for attempting to conceal a case of small-pox. The tradespeople are suffering severely owing to the continuance of the scourge.

Several well authenticated cases of plague have occurred in Jiddah, a port on the Red Sea.

The American Navy Department is including in its war preparations a new passenger steamer of 6200 tons, which has been taken over and equipped as a hospital ship. She will accompany Admiral Sicard's Squadron, flying the Red Cross of Geneva, and claim the same neutrality the Convention gives to ambulances and hospitals on shore.

The annual meeting of the East End Mothers' Home was held on Tuesday last, at No. 9, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W., by the kind permission of Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. John H. D. Ryder. A more charming place for a

meeting it would be difficult to imagine. The large double drawing room was filled with rows of chairs for the occasion, and the Chairman (Lord Knutsford) and speakers were accommodated on a raised step in the deep window at the far end of the room. Framed as they were in a setting of curtains of rich gold brocade, which gave place almost imperceptibly to the same harmonious tints on the walls, which in their turn carried the eye up to a richly decorated ceiling, the sombre dress of the nineteenth century gentlemen struck, if we may be permitted to say so, the one discordant note. It would have seemed more fitting that the gorgeous colours, and rich embroideries which form so conspicuous a feature in Eastern ceremonial, should have been worn by the dignitaries enshrined in the golden draperies.

The report shewed that 237 in-patients had been admitted, and 241 out-patients attended during the past year. Fifteen pupils had obtained the L.O.S. certificate, and it was satisfactory that the bank loan of £1200 had been reduced to £1060. It was essential, however, to obtain more accommodation, and for this and the further reduction of the bank loan more funds were required.

The Earl of Leicester, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, who gave £2000 towards the £10,000 required for the erection of a new hospital for sick children at Norwich, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, and to take the place of the institution that was founded by Jenny Lind some fifty years ago, and named after the famous singer, has promised another £1000 towards the endowment fund. The Governors have resolved to commence building operations forthwith, subscriptions to the amount of nearly £10,000 having already been received or promised. Mr. J. J. Colman, who gave the site (valued at £1100) for the new hospital, has expressed his intention of purchasing the site of the old one and presenting it to the citizens of Norwich as a children's playground.

It transpires that the representative of the *Times* at Pekin, whose telegrams have created such a sensation, is a medical man, Dr. G. E. Morrison; though a Colonial by birth, he is a Morayshire man.

The pseudo-medical publication edited by Sir Henry Burdett is most prolific in its insults to gentlemen in general practice. His latest attack is tantamount to an accusation of "wholesale fraud," as the *Star* says, "for the sake of a paltry fee." Sir Henry Burdett states:—"Public vaccination has been done under inspection and under the stimulation of rewards for good work, while private vaccination has never been inspected, and so far as reward is concerned *the public, the great employer, has paid for what it wanted—namely, just as much 'vaccination' as would enable the practitioner to sign the certificate.* Private vaccination has, in fact, been used to a large extent, not as a protection from small-pox, but as a *protection from prosecution*, and, under such circumstances, it is unfair to compare it with that done by public vaccinators." We think Dr. Solomon Smith, who assists Sir Henry in his self-assumed censorship in matters medical, might with advantage give somewhat more liberal scope to the use of the editorial blue pencil.

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