

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



H.R.H. PRINCESS LOUISE has promised to visit Crewe in August to open a three days' bazaar in connection with the Memorial Cottage Hospital, the site for which was given by the London and North Western Railway Company, and the cost of the building largely defrayed by Mr. Henry Yates Thompson, Mr. Webb, and the Heath trustees.

The Duchess of Portland, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Marchioness of Londonderry, the Countess of Warwick, Lady Aldenham, Lady Algernon Gordon-Lennox, Countess Grey, the Duchess of Marlborough, Lady Randolph Churchill, Lady Tweedmouth, Mrs. Cosmo Bonsor, Mrs. A. L. Cohen, Mrs. W. H. Grenfell, Mrs. R. M. Harvey, Mrs. Howse, and Mrs. Pye-Smith have consented to form the Reception Committee at the Guy's Hospital festival.

The report for 1895 of that excellent Institution the May Wardell Convalescent Home for Scarlet Fever at Brockley Hill, Stanmore, shows a record of very good work. During the year 247 patients were admitted. Donations and subscriptions are required to meet current expenses, and towards paying off a loan from the Bank of £600.

Considering the important nature of the work done by the Royal Orthopædic Hospital, 297, Oxford Street, and the fact that it is by no means a local charity, but draws patients from all parts of England, it should not be so badly in need of funds as the report for 1895 shows it to be. The fifty beds are always occupied, and the Hospital working always to the full extent of its resources.

The Committee of Management of the Evelina Hospital for Sick Children plead for more liberal contributions to the funds to enable them to effect the much-needed additions to the present building. The Hospital does admirable work, and is highly appreciated by the poor of the neighbourhood. There are sixty-six cots in the Hospital, and during 1895 110 children have been sent to Convalescent Homes in the country and at the seaside.

Following a custom which has become annual and of great service to the men, a large number of the Manchester Volunteer Medical Staff Corps arrived at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, during Whitsun, for a week's course of practical training in the wards, by special permission of the War Office.

On Monday, June 8th, a matinée will be given in St. George's Hall in aid of the Cheyne Walk Hospital for Incurable Children. The performance will consist of tableaux illustrative of "May Queen," and of dances and recitations.

Many cases of cholera and a high mortality continue to be reported from Cairo and other parts of Egypt.

The West London Hospital.

ON Thursday, 21st inst., the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the West London Hospital to open the Bazaar and Fête, which was organised to raise funds for the equipment of the new wing. Their Royal Highnesses, accompanied by Princess Maud and Prince Karl of Denmark, were received by Lord Rothschild, the Duchess of Devonshire and the Committee of Management, and conducted to the marquee, which was arranged in the grounds, and made capable of holding a thousand persons. After bouquets had been presented, Lord Rothschild made a short statement, saying that West London regarded it as a special favour that the Prince and Princess, with the particular claims of Guy's Hospital at the present moment, should have assisted so materially their own much younger Institution. It was one, however, that was greatly needed, as it stood amid a population of half a million, mostly poor people, for whom there was no nearer hospital accommodation than St. George's. A pathetic incident occurring during Lord Rothschild's speech was that, when reference was made to the Princess, her lady-in-waiting wrote down on a card what was said, and passed it to Her Royal Highness, so that she should not, by her inability to hear, be deprived of the pleasure of understanding the applause that followed the mention of her name.

The Princess of Wales then deputed the Prince to declare the bazaar open. This the Prince did, formally adding his thanks for the kind expressions of Lord Rothschild. Both the Princess and himself, he said, felt great satisfaction in taking part in so good and philanthropic a work. He had been a patron of the Hospital for some time, and seventeen years ago had presided at its festival dinner. He sincerely hoped that they might obtain the funds that were necessary. An ode, written by Mr. Roger Carter, and composed by Mr. Bond Andrews was sung by the Chorister's Association from the Gaiety and Lyric Theatres, and the Princess then received purses containing sums collected in aid of the Hospital to the amount of £500, presented by ladies and children prettily and quaintly dressed. The Royal party then visited the stalls of the bazaar, which were arranged in the wards. The whole arrangement of the stalls was very much like other bazaars, but more tasteful than some. Each stall was shaded by a large Chinese umbrella suspended over it, from which hung the names of the stall holders. "The Nurses' Stall" was asked for continually and surrounded always. The whole space devoted to the fête was decorated with flowers, flags lamp shades and brightly coloured fancy articles for sale. Handsomely dressed dolls—a few in uniform—were on most stalls, together with objects ornamental. Some things were distinctly useful, for example, large downy cushions taken round for sale or for raffling. Amongst the unexpected at a bazaar was a lace-trimmed surplice for a clergyman of Ritualistic views, marked at twenty guineas; this collected many observers, and, no doubt, found a purchaser. "Clothing for the poor" was announced on a placard, but this was not *en evidence*.

Variety entertainments were going on in what in more quiet times were possibly Sisters' sitting-rooms or even Nurses' bedrooms. An electrophone could be heard in one, and palmistry, albeit the lady in charge

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)