

A plea was brought forward, not only for further monetary support, but also for gifts in kind, all baby-clothes, old linen and sheeting, and bottles for the dispensaries being most gratefully received.

Mrs. Pearsall-Smith then brought the meeting to a close by requesting all present to do their utmost to spread the knowledge of the much-needed work which the Hospital is doing, and by wishing it long-continued success.

ON THE TURKISH FRONTIER.

Now that the attention of the civilised world is being concentrated upon the strained relations between Greece and Turkey, and the probabilities of war are being widely discussed, it is interesting to learn what are the conditions and equipment of the Turkish hospitals, and what resources in the way of hospital accommodation are at their disposal in the event of war. From an interesting article contributed by Mr. G. W. Steevens to the *Daily Mail*, it appears that the Turkish Military Hospital at Salonica is admirably equipped and managed.

The exterior of the hospital is yellow-plastered and green-shuttered; it is very long, and two-storied. We are told that "in front of it is a garden, with shady trees and flower-beds. Pansies and stocks are blossoming there at this moment." On entering the hospital a clock, with an English inscription, may be noticed. It is to the effect that the clock was "given by the Admiralty, in recognition of the kindness and skill displayed in curing petty officers and seamen of small-pox."

We quote at length Mr. Steevens' description of the hospital:—

"I am not an authority on hospitals, and if I were nobody wants to hear more of them than can reasonably be helped. But I think almost any Englishman, who only knew of the Turkish Empire by hearsay, would have been astonished and disabused if he had seen what I saw. The floors, the ceilings, the sheets and the mattresses were spotlessly clean. The case-sheet hung duly at every bed-head, with due particulars of the disease and the remedies to be applied. The pharmacy appeared provided with every drug of merit, the names written in Turkish and French on each drawer. The smell of iodoform could not have been improved upon in the most enlightened West. The operating tables were speckless; the germs were being duly baked out of the aprons and operating apparatus in a kind of oven. Across a court are a couple of wards for convalescents; further off the wing reserved for the isolation of infectious maladies. In the court itself were rows on rows of trestles—a sight of some significance, for the accommodation has been brought up to a thousand beds to receive the casualties of possible war.

And again:—

"This hospital, wherein many operations and cases, hazardous even in the West, have been most success-

fully undertaken, is entirely the work of Turks. So, at least, I understand, and in this country when anything is not the work of Turks—other than massacres—somebody is generally at hand to say so. Of course, one eminent surgeon does not make a civilisation, nor one excellent hospital a benevolent despotism. I daresay that this is the best hospital in the empire; certainly there could hardly be a better. But if this hospital does not prove much, it does prove that the Turk is not the incapable savage that British fancy delights to paint him. He may not have attained much as yet, but he is here demonstrated not incapable of attainment. But who knows? Who wants to know? You have heard, no doubt, that there are bad roads in Macedonia, but have you heard that there is a good hospital in Salonica? Of course you had not. It is nobody's interest to tell you—except, perhaps, the Turk's. And, of course, you wouldn't believe a man like him."

After reading this description one's ideas of the "incapable savage," in some of his phases at all events, undergo considerable revision and modification.

We observe that no mention is made of the nursing staff. It would be interesting to hear if the nurses are Turkish women, and if the nursing of the hospital is on a par with the high standard attained in the medical department.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD-ROOM MIRROR.



IT is believed that the sale of the special stamps will add £50,000 to the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund.

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The City Guardians do not seem to enjoy the process of seeing themselves as others see them, and the reflection which appears in the glass uncompromisingly held up by Mr. Lobb, is anything but pleasing to them. At a recent meeting we learn from *London* "they howled themselves hoarse at Mr. Lobb; they attacked *London*; they generally behaved in such a disgraceful manner as to suggest that they had just left a committee dinner, and wanted more." Since last week the Inland Revenue Department has entered the lists. The following letter has been received by Mr. Lobb:—

Inland Revenue Offices.

SIR,—An allegation has been made against certain officials of the City of London Union for selling exciseable articles without a licence, and your name has been given as a witness. May I inquire if you will give evidence, and also if you will make an appointment to meet me?

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) FRED ELLIS,

Acting Supervisor.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)