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## Editorial.

THE LEAGUE OF MERCY.

IS Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. last week, inaugurated a new movement under this title, the object of which is "to promote the welfare and further the objects of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London; and in every way, but especially by encouraging personal service on the part of large numbers of persons, to further the interests and to promote the adequate maintenance of hospitals and other institutions for the relief of sickness and suffering, and especially those institutions which are supported by voluntary contributions."

It must have occasioned the most sincere regret to everyone to observe the want of success hitherto achieved by the Prince's Hospital Fund, and it is very generally deplored throughout the Hospital world that His Royal Highness should have had such inefficient advisers upon this matter. The Hospital Fund has, so far, not only failed to attain its object. but it has undoubtedly, and to a very considerable extent, injured many of the smaller, but still excellent, London hospitals. The public The public were certainly led to believe that the fund would materially assist the ninety or more hospitals in the Metropolitan area; and, in consequence of that belief, many of the smaller institutions have received lessened support. But the Fund has, to the general surprise of those acquainted with the facts, distributed about five-eighths of its annual income amongst a dozen of the largest Hospitals.

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