

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Queen sent a cheque of £250 to swell the funds of the Charing Cross Hospital Bazaar.

The Bazaar, which was opened last Wednesday at the Royal Albert Hall by Her Royal Highness, Princess Louise, was a brilliant function, and we hope that the result will be that the coffers of the institution will be largely replenished. Mr. Herbert Beerbohm Tree is to be congratulated on the success of his souvenir of the Bazaar, "Art for Love." The first 2000 copies were exhausted before the bazaar began. Forty-four distinguished painters, thirty-nine writers, and nine composers, besides the editor, have contributed to make the volume a most splendid collection, and the sale of 'his alone will no doubt result in a large addition to the Hospital Funds.

On the occasion of the opening of the new buildings of the London Hospital on Tuesday, July 18th, by Viscount Knutsford, the prizes gained by students and nursing probationers will subsequently be distributed in the library of the Medical College by Lord and Lady Knutsford.

Mr. William Bird, Chairman of the West London Hospital, Hammersmith, writes to the Press to contradict the erroneous impression that vivisection is practised at this hospital, as the consequence of this belief is that many persons are refraining from responding to the appeal for funds which are badly needed. Mr. Bird points out that only licensed persons may make experiments upon live animals in the cause of science; that the particular investigations must be specified; that the licensee must annually renew his license so long as he desires to continue his studies; that he can only pursue those studies in duly licensed places, and lastly, that the West London Hospital has not, nor ever has had, such a license. We are glad to draw attention to this disclaimer, as we believe that many people have a conscientious objection to supporting any institution where this practice is in force.

A total of about £32,500 has, so far, been announced as the result of the offertories for the Hospital Sunday Fund. Some of the largest sums received were from Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, which sent £1,375, and St. Michael's, Chester Square, £1,340.

A Garden Party in aid of the maintenance fund of the North Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, was held last week at the Cedars, Upper Clapton, the residence of Mr. Walter Johnson.

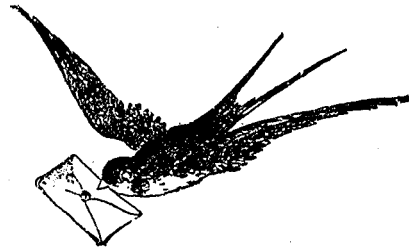
An appeal is being made at the West End for funds for the new buildings, but it is hoped that the increased cost of maintenance, which will now amount in all to £4,000 a year, may be raised locally, and the garden party was the first effort in this direction.

## Our Foreign Letter.

PLAGUE, NURSING IN INDIA.

No 5.—LIFE IN A NATIVE STATE.

(Continued from page 262.)



PLAGUE has a way of cropping up in an eccentric fashion in small hamlets round an infected centre. A few cases would occur, and these

would generally die before they were heard of, perhaps a few others followed. Then there was an end.

A report of rather a bad outbreak was brought of the Kantha, or sea-coast, where some fishermen—Mahomedans, of course—had gone, and were living in the poorest sort of temporary shelters. We collected a small search-party, going down on camels, and arrived there. I began at once searching the women and children. Several were discovered with temperatures from 100 to 103 degrees, some looking very like plague, though no buboes had then developed. But when it came to removing these suspects, the whole clan was up in arms; they would give no names, or allow the sick folk to come outside their chapras. And this, although four people had died from plague the day before, and five on this day, and we had information of five other "pucca" or bona-fide cases, they were still hiding from us. We stood in a group of these fine, excited, gesticulating men, all talking at once, trying to get in a word, to tell them it was not only for the good of the sick folk, that we wished to take them away, but also for the good of all who were left; that it was "hookham" (order), and it must be obeyed.

They replied that we might kill all the men before we should take away one sick person. Dhroo said, as we were too few to do anything by force, the people would soon be dangerous, and as neither coaxing nor threats would do with these fanatics, we had to give in, having effected nothing. I sent off a report Dr. M. at once on our return, asking what next we should do. He replied something about admiration for pluck and daring, but to do nothing further until he could come out.

The next day they sent for me from another part of the Kantha to see a sick woman, when we got there, we found an enthusiastic crowd awaiting, and preparation for tea on a large scale for them going on. My patient complained of some pain in her arm, muscular apparently. It turned out to be only a ruse to get me down there, as they had never seen an English mem-sahib before. On enquiry they declared on "God's oath" they had no plague among them, that was on another part of the coast two miles away. Then the tea was declared ready, made in the usual Mahomedan way, the tea, goat's milk, sugar candy, some raisins, spice, and water, all boiled in a large open chattie, then served up in their handle-less cups, or copper vessels. They also brought gifts of turtles, eggs, shells, and crabs. I went yet once more to the Kantha, but

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