

## A FRIVOLOUS FAIR AND A SERIOUS EXHIBITION.

The Exhibition and Fair that was held at the Grafton Galleries recently in aid of the Surgical Requisites Association, 17, Mulberry Walk, Chelsea, was to all appearances an unqualified success.

The Exhibition was opened on November 20th by Sir Francis Treherne, K.C.M.G., who spoke with enthusiasm of the talented ladies who had made such a splendid contribution to the needs of their country. Their work was described at some length in a former article in this Journal. The function was entitled as "A Frivolous Fair and a Serious Exhibition." The serious exhibition consisted of samples of the wonderful inventive genius and the extraordinarily clever workmanship of the men and women who have given the best of their talent, brain and fingers, to elaborate existing instruments, and invent new devices for the surgical relief of our wounded and disabled men. The "frivolous Fair" was what its name implies, and the proceeds were for the funds of the Surgical Requisites Association.

On the same day the Fair was opened by H.R.H. Princess Patricia of Connaught, whose charming personality won all hearts. Major Rowntree's two little children presented her with a papier-mâché bowl made of the same material as the splints in the Exhibition. Madame Blanche Marchesi sang the National Anthem in French.

On the Wednesday the Fair was opened by H.R.H. Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, and in the afternoon Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by Princess Mary, honoured the Fair by her presence. A guard of honour composed of members of Q.M.N.G. were drawn up to line the passage through which Her Majesty passed to inspect the Fair.

In the Exhibition, the "Balkan" bed, invented by Mr. Williams, was an object of general interest, and is a very ingenious contrivance. By means of an independent erection over the bed, fitted with runners, slings and pulley attachments, the patient can easily be shifted or shift himself and his injured limb with the minimum amount of

pain into the most comfortable position. It is also fitted with a girth mattress and winding gear, which enables the back of the patient to be attended to from underneath. Mrs. Sannyer Atkin has greatly improved many splints, which we have no space to describe.

The "Magic Glove," the invention of Miss Hallé, the sculptor, for contracted hands, has given marvellous results. It is an arrangement—with elastic to extend the fingers at the back, and pulleys in the front—which enables the patient to extend and flex his fingers by their action until the natural use gradually returns.

The light and waterproof papier-mâché splints were a great feature of the exhibition, and the radiographs can be taken through the substance.



By courtesy of]

[The Ladies' Field.

SPLINT FOR EXCISED KNEE, CAST FOR INDIVIDUAL CASE.

The Fair was well furnished and most attractively got up. All kinds of fancy and useful articles were displayed—lace, jewellery, curios, pictures and many other things too numerous to mention.

There was an oyster bar, a stall for game and poultry, one for vegetables, and another for cakes. An auction was held for the sale of autographs, among which was one of the late Lord Kitchener, and one of Venezelos.

Auctions, raffles, palmistry were going on in various parts of the hall, and the delightful band kept everyone "merry and bright."

It is to be hoped that the frivolous section brought in a substantial balance to the serious exhibition.

The surgical appliances shown there are not only proofs of long-continued self-sacrifice and steady

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)