

The Ladies' Association of the Prince of Wales' General Hospital, Tottenham, are holding their Annual Garden Fete in the grounds of the Hospital on Thursday, June 7th, in aid of the Princess Louise Convalescent Home, Nazeing, and Samaritan Funds. The Lady Mayoress of London performs the Opening Ceremony at 3 p.m., and at 3.30 p.m. purses of 5s. or more collected by the children will be presented by them. Tickets of entrance to the Fete are 6d. each.

Princess Beatrice received, in aid of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, the sum of £375 and a large number of gifts in kind, at the first Pound Day arranged by members of the guild of the Hospital.

The Infanta Beatrice of Spain will attend the annual meeting of the Ladies' Association of Queen Charlotte's Hospital, which is being held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 14, at Seaford House, kindly lent by Lady Howard de Walden.

Field-Marshal the Duke of Connaught will take the chair at the King's College Hospital Festival dinner, which will take place at the Savoy Hotel on July 17th.

The Duchess of York has accepted the invitation of the Scottish Women's Hospitals Association of the Royal Free Hospital to become the first president. The association aims at providing for the endowment of the women's beds in Queen Mary's wards of the Royal Free Hospital.

Lord Knutsford's well-timed broadcast appeal for the London Hospital, had an immediate response to the amount of £4,190, but, of course, he wants more money and more nurses. Now that the London provides a three years' term of training, and has clinical material for teaching purposes second to none, and will no doubt adopt the "prescribed training" provided for in the Nurses' Registration Act, when the present invertebrate Council sums up courage to enforce it, young women really wishful to qualify as professional nurses should apply to the Matron, London Hospital, London, E. London Hospital nurses have shown their sense in registering in considerable numbers, and can now write S.R.N. after their names—a distinction which will in time be highly valued and of considerable economic value to them.

Major Ely Bannister Soane, of the East India United Service Club, has bequeathed £3,000 to St. Dunstan's Hostel. We are glad to note this fine work for those "who have lost the light" is receiving much support from sympathetic people. If everyone who values the marvellous beauty of this world would only put aside a shilling a year for those shut off from a sight of its glories, many joys might be substituted to lessen their loss.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

LADY JEM.

This book, which writes of the period of the Great Plague, is a departure from Miss Syrett's usual style. It is not an historical novel, but introduces into the story Mr. Samuel Pepys and his pretty wife, and amusing incidents of the former's *amours* are related. But the chief interest centres around Lady Jem and her affairs of the heart, which, true to tradition, refuse to run smoothly until quite the close of the book.

The suitor selected by her parents is young Philip Cartaret, but her own choice had already fallen on the dissolute Sir Harry, she being too young and ignorant to know him for what he was, and yielding to his persuasions to keep the matter of his attentions a secret from her parents.

It was on May Day that Cartaret was to visit Mr. Pepys, who had the love affair in hand by order of the young man's father, who acted, as was customary in those times, without much concern for the wishes of the persons most intimately concerned.

Nine out of ten of the fashionable gallants accepted the parental choice as part of the unquestioned order of things. But Philip was the tenth, and was in no mind to wed the lady unless she appealed to his fancy, and so far on this May Day she was a stranger to him.

A pretty picture is drawn of the Strand on the last May Day of Old London. Nearly every house had leafy branches fastened above its doors, or garlands of cowslips hanging from its massive knocker. At some distance eastward, where now rises the spire of St. Mary-le-Strand, Philip caught sight of the green boughs surmounting the Maypole, itself concealed by a crowd of 'prentices and other working folk in their holiday clothes. With wreaths of bluebells drooping from the handles of their empty pails, the girls, in their short, full skirts and frilled caps, came leaping up the path.

Philip enjoyed his short journey down the Thames, and gave an impatient sigh when it was over. He had unthinkingly enjoyed the warmth of the sunshine, the sparkle and ripple of the stream, the fresh green of the gardens and the sight of the orchards. He presently found himself at Mr. Pepys' house, where he was to arrange the (so far) distasteful details of his betrothal.

He was a little stunned by the volubility of his greeting, and with a quick glance took in the personality of his host.

"A man of medium height, with a full, fleshy, slightly sensual face, he conveyed an impression of such cheerful friendliness that Philip involuntarily smiled when confronted with the beaming countenance of his new acquaintance. Despite its shrewdness, its look of absolute common-sense, it was in some ways engagingly frank and child-like.

Mr. Pepys' levity with the fair sex was a source

* By Netta Syrett. (Hutchinson.)

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