

MISS WOOD supported the resolution, and I see, from the account of the proceedings, used nearly the same arguments which I reported last week from her speech at another meeting. She discussed the matter, from the public point of view, showing how important Registration was, to save the sick from inefficient Nurses.

DR. GAGE BROWN said that he was glad to have heard the explanations which had been given. He thought that every Doctor would agree with the necessity which had been expressed for some better guarantee of a Nurse's capabilities than at present existed. He felt especial interest in another matter to which he hoped the Association would direct its attention, viz., to obtain for private Nurses a larger share of their earnings. He would be glad to hear if this was proposed to be done. He also wished to know how Registration by Royal Charter would prevent untrained women practising as Trained Nurses.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that the Association would not in any sense be a Trades' Union. It did not propose to interfere in the smallest degree between employers and employed, because Nursing, like Medicine, was a necessity and not a luxury, and must therefore, he held, be always a matter of free choice personally, and most unfettered contract commercially.

REGISTRATION would simply prevent anyone in future employing an untrained Nurse unknowingly, but would not hinder anyone from being nursed by inexperienced hands if he so desired it. Some very clever people had discovered, that a Royal Charter would be of no use in preventing unskilled Nurses deluding the public, inasmuch as it would give no powers of prosecuting such women, quite forgetting the common law of England, which provided, that anyone obtaining money by false pretences could be given in custody, and summarily punished if proved guilty. The Association knew very well what they wanted, and had secured the most able advice and assistance in the kingdom in drawing up the Charter, and their legal advisers told them they could obtain the fullest powers for all the purposes they desired. DR. COLLINS asked whether the Association had anything to do with the Pension Fund for Nurses. MISS WOOD explained that there was not the slightest connection of any kind between the Pension Fund and the British Nurses' Association. The latter was a professional body, composed only of professional people for purely professional objects, and to help Nurses individually. The former was a commercial undertaking, founded by four benevolent gentlemen, in the hope of assist-

ing Nurses, but managed entirely on commercial principles. The Association had often been falsely accused of opposing the Pension Fund, but had never in any way done so.

AFTER some further discussion and questions, the Resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously. DR. SCHOFIELD then proposed a vote of thanks to Lady Shrewsbury for her hospitality, and commented on the fact that wherever the scheme of the Association was explained to Medical men, better class Nurses, or the general public, it elicited universal expressions of approval. Of course it was opposed, and it strengthened the good opinion all unbiassed people entertained of Registration, to find it so virulently opposed by inferior and incompetent Nurses, or the black sheep of the profession. Of course they opposed it, for it would effectually spoil their occupation, and they knew it. (Laughter.) The vote of thanks to Lady Shrewsbury was carried by acclamation, and the meeting then concluded.

I AM not surprised to hear that the Members of the B.N.A. are entering eagerly into the spirit of the appeal which the General Council has addressed to them individually, backed up by the few stirring words from Her Royal Highness Princess Christian. As I fully expected, there seems to be an active emulation amongst them as to who can obtain the largest number of subscriptions to the funds of the Association. One young lady, I hear, has, by her earnest appeals to her former private patients, already, in one week, obtained donations or annual subscriptions to the amount of nearly sixty pounds! I hear that the list obtained by every Member is to be read out at the annual meeting at Cambridge, in July, and sincerely hope that the modest hope of the Executive Committee, that every Member would gain some donors or subscribers to the Association, will be abundantly realised. S. G.

#### RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Grandest and simplest!  
 Ringing the Bible thro' and thro',  
 First in the Old, then in the New!  
 What does it come to?  
 What does it mean?  
 But this: "Doing right!"  
 And what *more* can a man do?  
 And what *less* would suffice?  
 No talking, nor writing, resolving,  
 But simply the plain fact prolonging,  
 "Doing right!" M. H.

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