

The Nursing Record

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

No. 62.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6th, 1889.

VOL. 2.

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EDITORIAL.

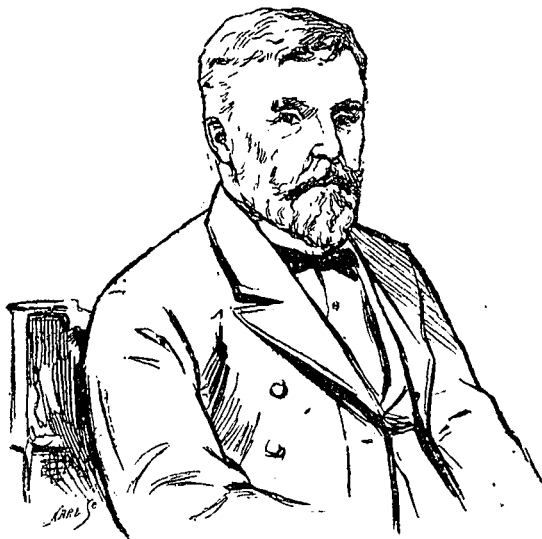
A QUESTION has been raised in these columns which has elicited most divergent expressions of opinion from our readers. It was suggested by one of our correspondents that it might be popular if the British Nurses' Association authorised some distinctive badge for its Members to wear. In reply to this, some have written expressing their approval of the idea, and entering into details as to the material, style, and even the colour most suitable, in their judgment, for such a decoration. Others, again, have most roundly denounced the scheme, and expressed the hope that it may never be adopted. So much feeling has been exhibited for and against it, however, that some impartial consideration may, perhaps, with advantage, be given to the matter.

It appears to us, we may say at once, that it would be a mistake, for many reasons, if the British Nurses' Association sanctioned this proposition. For example, the badge would be of no value unless it were constantly worn, and unless somewhat showy it would not be as conspicuous an adornment as it must be, to be effective. We have no hesitation in thinking that such an addition to Nursing uniform would be distasteful in the highest degree to many of the Committees of Hospitals; they would either then forbid their employées to wear the badge when on duty, or tolerate it, and feel a continual grievance against the Association for its innovation.

Or, again, it is well known in Nursing circles that there are one or two Hospitals in which the Matron takes distinctly antagonistic views of the Association. In such, a Nurse probably would not dare to show the token of her membership at all. In each and both cases, the badge, as an honourable sign of membership, would be not only useless, but might be distinctly prejudicial to the interests of the individual Nurse.

So far as Private Nurses are concerned—although the Institution with which they were

OUR ALBUM.



SIR SYDNEY H. WATERLOW, BART.,
Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

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