

THE  
INTERNATIONAL

# Nursing Record.

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

No. 90.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19th, 1889.

VOL. 3.

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## — OUR ALBUM. —



MISS MIRIAM RIDLEY.

## EDITORIAL.

### REGISTRATION.

THE opponents of the Registration of Nurses, driven from one position after another as in turn their assertions have been proved to be false, or their predictions to be signally unfulfilled, are now, in their despair at finding Registration an accomplished fact, vainly attempting to raise a new outcry against it. A contemporary contains a letter from a gentleman, foretelling that Midwives will be Registered much sooner than Nurses. We carefully place aside this interesting communication, and hope in about six months' time to consider it and ask its author a few questions thereon. To-day we only recall to his memory the shrewd American dictum as to the wisdom of "not prophesying unless you know," and give him one solitary word of warning. He has worked hard and steadfastly for many years for the better government of Midwives. If the plan now proposed succeeds, it appears to us possible that the last state of that class may be worse than the first, because Midwives will be created into members of a legally organised calling, not only independent of the Medical profession, and direct competitors with the lower ranks of that profession, but probably dependent upon and altogether controlled by unprofessional authorities. It will surely not be seriously denied that such a state of affairs must be productive of the gravest troubles to Doctors, Midwives, and the general public.

But it is asserted from several quarters that Nurses are endeavouring to gain their Registration by combining with their own project one for the Registration of Midwives, because they knew that they would be unable to win their own legal recognition by the justice and necessity of their own scheme alone. To this we are in a position to give a distinct denial. For many years a little band of Midwives and Obstetric Physicians and

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