

Cresolene Vaporiser

(PAGE'S) for

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Inhalation of Cresolene Vapour gives great relief, and cuts short an attack of this distressing complaint.

Allen & Hanburys'
A Castor Oil

Tasteless. Pure. Active.
Sold everywhere at 6d., 1/19 & 3/4.

Nursing ^{THE} Record.

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

No. 124.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14th, 1890.

VOL. 5.

Contents.

EDITORIAL.—THE LONDON HOSPITAL.—VI. ...	73
NOTICE TO OUR READERS	75
OBSTETRIC NURSING. BY OBSTETRICA, M.B.N.A....	75
PRACTICAL LESSONS IN ELECTRO-THERAPEUTICS. BY ARTHUR HARRIES, M.D., AND H. NEWMAN LAWRENCE, MEMBER INSTITUTION ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS	75
BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION	75
NURSING ECHOES. BY S. G.	80
WOMEN AND THEIR WORK. BY VEVA KARSLAND	83
ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	84

EDITORIAL.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL.—VI.

THE recent revelations as to the extraordinary conduct of the Committee of the London Hospital in promising to supply the public with "thoroughly-trained Nurses," and then palming off upon the sick, semi-trained Probationers, have aroused considerable indignation amongst some who have been thus duped, and very considerable astonishment amongst both lay and professional people. The language used in many of the epistles which we have received upon this subject is unfortunately too powerful and unparliamentary for its reproduction in these columns. But there are two lines of defence which have been seriously advanced, and to which therefore we may, with advantage, devote some attention. Firstly, it is urged that the Matron of the London Hospital considers Probationers "thoroughly trained" at the end of a year's work in the Wards, and, therefore, it is asked how the public are deceived by such women being sent out as Private Nurses. Secondly, it is asserted that

no one suffers, and that no one gains, from the system, and that, unless this can be proved to be the case, the system may be termed indiscreet, but can hardly be considered a fraud. We can assure our readers that we have never advanced a charge nor a statement in these columns which we have not had abundant evidence to justify, and it is upon facts much more damaging and much more important than any which have recently been made public, that we have acted in our indictment against the London Hospital.

But to take the first excuse advanced. It is a quibble which will not bear the least cross-examination. There are Hospitals in these islands—though their number is continually lessening—who certify their Nurses as efficient at the end of a year's work and training. At present they have a perfect right to do so, and if they are satisfied with an antiquated standard of Nursing experience more advanced Hospitals may wonder, but none can accuse them of deception. In one year they manufacture their type of Nurse, and if the public applies to them for their idea of a "thoroughly trained" Nurse it knows that it will obtain a woman with this limited experience. There are very nearly the same number of Hospitals in the kingdom who bind their Nurses to them for two years, that is to say, who do not certify their pupils as efficient until the end of two years' work in their wards. In their eyes and those of their public, then, a Nurse is not "thoroughly trained" until the end of her second year. Consequently when those who are satisfied with this mediocre term of training apply to these Institutions for their type of efficient Nurse, they naturally expect to receive one who has received the official recognition of a "thorough training" in the shape of the Hospital certificate. This we presume can hardly be seriously disputed, and we assert, without the least fear of contra-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)