

Nursing Record.

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Those of our subscribers who wish to notify change of address must send such notification in order that it may reach the publishers NOT LATER than the Monday morning before publishing, otherwise the change cannot be made.

EDITORIAL.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL SCANDALS.

IN our Supplement of last week we explained as many of the chief charges against the London Hospital, and at as great a length, as the limited space at our disposal permitted. We were compelled, however, to leave many important points unnoticed. This must be our excuse to many correspondents who have urged that we should have called attention to this, that, or the other abuse which appears to them individually to be specially important. We welcome their letters, because some of their facts are new to us, and because the more documentary evidence we can add to the already large mass of first-hand information on the subject, which has been steadily accumulating in our hands for the past two years, the better pleased shall we be. And once more we repeat that we verify, from independent sources, each fact given to us.

To those of our correspondents this last week

who complain that the Blue Book reveals important facts connected with other departments of the London Hospital, to which we make no allusion, our answer is very simple. The policy of this Journal from its first issue has been, in one particular, as fixed as the laws of the Medes and Persians. We have no direct concern with Hospital management, except solely in so far as it relates to the Nursing department. We have rarely even noticed medical matters, though we are well aware that this Journal would have been more perused by a certain class of Nurses had we followed the example of more than one of our contemporaries, and preached popular medicine. So we decline to touch any other section of this question than that relating to Nurses.

Our inclination as well as our conscience compelled us for many months to keep silent, hoping against hope that the Committee would awake to what was going on in the Hospital and would at once remedy the existing evils. The matter, however, was brought before the public by entirely independent people last July, and now that the scandals have been revealed we mean to spare no effort to have the necessary reforms instituted. We know that this course is for the highest benefit of the Hospital also. And we most solemnly warn the Committee that they stand on a volcano. They may pretend to disbelieve us. The charges are serious enough as they stand, but if a public inquiry is held—and unless the Governors rescue their Hospital from its present position a public inquiry is inevitable—we have no hesitation in saying that most of the members of the Committee will be astounded to hear the facts which will then be proved. They are evidently simple-minded men, for they have already repeated the most patently absurd explanations and excuses.

One of the further charges for which we were not able to find space last week is that

A NURSING DESPOTISM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED
AT THE LONDON HOSPITAL.

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