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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.

MR. HENRY C. BURDETT AGAIN.

IT will be within the memory of many of our readers—we do not say *most* of them, because the circulation of this journal is an increasing one, and does not remain stationary, as appears to be the case, from its remarks, with the *Hospital*—that some eight months ago we were obliged to call attention to the scandalous untruths promulgated by that journal, concerning a Member of the Royal British Nurses' Association. It was asserted by the editor of the Nursing Supplement in the *Hospital*, that amongst the first eight hundred Nurses who were Registered was included a Miss Johnstone, who had "decamped from Teignmouth Infirmary,

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leaving the Committee considerably in debt." The only shadow of excuse for this statement was that a Miss Johnstone was a Member of the Association. It was immediately proved that the two persons were not identical, but Mr. Henry C. Burdett, the editor of the *Hospital*, when called to task by us for the scandalous statement, shuffled the entire blame on to his assistant, whose incessant abuse of the Association is so well-known. Of course neither Mr. Burdett nor his assistant apologised or expressed their regret for the libel. They probably guessed that a Nurse, dependent on her exertions for her daily bread, would not be able to take legal proceedings to clear her character; and that the Association as an unincorporated body would be unable to move in her defence. And so, having safely libelled a defenceless woman, the matter dropped.

Now the *Hospital* has once more exhibited its persistent malice to a scheme of Registration, which its Editor strove so very hard only three years ago to initiate under his own auspices. It is amusing to observe the startling effect which the names of the influential Registration Board has evidently had upon our contemporary's reviewer. He finds himself impelled to express surprise that it includes "men of such undoubted honesty and with such a high sense of honour." Instead, however, of drawing the most natural conclusion—that honourable men do not share his views on the subject doubtless for very good reasons—he only deeply regrets that "such men" should "permit their names to stand on the opening leaf of this volume," a criticism which "such men" are not likely to feel very deeply.

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