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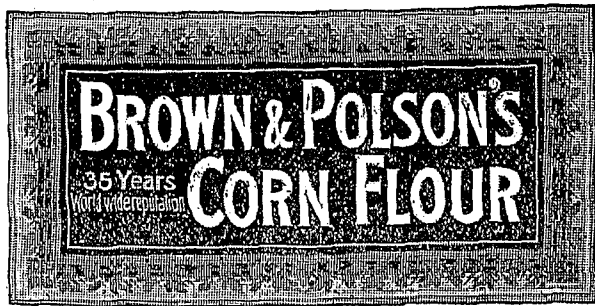
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Editorial.

THE PARISH COUNCILS' BILL—I.

THE one legislative measure of first-class importance, which was passed in the last session of Parliament, may have very considerable results upon the education of Nurses in the future. The Parish Councils' Bill, as it is popularly termed, will certainly have indirect but important consequences, so far as the management of the Poor Law Infirmaries of the Metropolis and large Provincial towns is concerned. And, in this connection, we propose to devote such consideration to the details of this statute, as other demands upon our space permit. On broad principles, it can, at once, be predicated that there is a possibility if not indeed, a strong probability, that the class from which the Guardians of the Poor have hitherto been, and are now, drawn, may be lowered by the depreciation of the necessary qualification for that office, provided in this Act. It is well known that the great barrier and obstruction to improvement in the Nursing Department of Poor Law Infirmaries, at the present day, has been the fact that no inconsiderable number of Guardians have been unable to comprehend the necessity which exists for skilled nursing in the institutions committed to their charge. This fact is, indeed, notorious, but were any further proof wanted it would be supplied by the proceedings at a recent Board of Management of a Provincial Workhouse Infirmary, at which one of the Guardians, who, we regret to observe, is a lady, expressed the opinion that Trained Nursing was quite unnecessary in such an institution, and that, therefore, it would be advisable to revert to the system of confiding the care of the sick inmates entirely to their fellow paupers. Preposterous as this view will seem to

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)