

THE NURSING RECORD AND HOSPITAL WORLD, September 21st, 1895.

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Editorial.

ST. OLAVE'S INFIRMARY.

CERTAIN proceedings of the Board of Guardians of St. Olave's, which have recently been reported in the daily press, reveal a condition of affairs which must be most detrimental to the maintenance of discipline in the infirmary and to the welfare of the sick poor who are treated in its wards. At the same time, the proceedings in question will, in the judgment of most unbiassed observers, reflect but little credit upon the gentlemen who are at present the Guardians of the Poor of the parish.

In another column, we quote a report of a recent meeting of these gentlemen, and we have instituted independent inquiries into the matter. We learn that during the last five years the present Matron has endeavoured to bring about improvements in the management of the Infirmary, which, reading between the lines of the present quarrel, appear to have been most necessary, and probably have been most difficult to obtain. By her exertions, a system of Probationer Nurses has been established—in other words, the system of training Nurses, which all the best-managed workhouse Infirmaries now possess, was instituted at St. Olave's. The Guardians, however, do not appear to be aware of the elementary fact that the success of such a Nursing School and the consequent improvement in the care of the patients can only be secured by giving full authority over her female subordin-

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