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## Editorial.

### LEGISLATION FOR NURSES.

THE importance of the Conference which is to take place, next week, between the Parliamentary Bills' Committee of the British Medical Association and the representatives of Nursing bodies, can hardly be overestimated. We shall not of course attempt to anticipate the discussion which may occur, or the decision at which this Conference may arrive; but it will be well that Nurses should clearly understand the reasons for its convention and the significance of the fact to their profession.

It will, perhaps, be known to few that in 1889, when the British Nurses' Association suggested that the authorities of Nursing Institutions throughout the country might attend a Conference in order to express their views concerning the necessity for, and the details of, the Registration of Nurses, only six Hospitals appointed delegates for this purpose. The great majority of even those Institutions which were favourable to the system declined to take any official part in a scheme which at that time appeared to most people to be purely visionary. Indeed, one of the greatest of living authorities on Nursing matters expressed her conviction that in

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