[Feb. 1, 1896

sex, women's industries and progress must be hindered.

Miss STEWART said she was sure the meeting was in accord with her in their feeling of indebtedness to Dr. Fenwick for his admirable address, and for the valuable opinions he had expressed. For her part, she thought that Nurses were too apt to narrow down their mental horizon, and not to enlarge their views sufficiently by taking interest in large outside and public matters. Legislation and progress could only come from a recognition on the part of the Nurses of the broader and larger interests of their profession.

The meeting closed with most cordial votes of thanks to Dr. Fenwick for his address, and to Miss Stewart as Chairman.

Tea and coffee were then served in the library, and the meeting separated.

## Hursing Echoes.

\*\*\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



THE Special General Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association was held on Tuesday afternoon, at 20, Hanover Square. The large hall was completely filled, and probably there were between three and four hundred persons present. We shall publish next week a verbatim Report of the proceedings,

which will be found of the deepest interest to all Nurses. It is not too much to say that all the arguments, all the enthusiasm, and certainly much of the sympathy of the meeting were on the side of Miss Barlow.

Three different amendments were proposed to the Resolution of the Executive Committee —all adverse to that resolution, all in sympathy with Miss Barlow, all proposed by medical men who did not know Miss Barlow, and were quite unprejudiced observers. Finally, the amendments were declared by the Chairman to be defeated, and the Resolution to be carried; and, although this ruling was challenged, the votes on either side were not counted, while the further demand, that the names of those

who voted should be taken down, was also refused. It is quite certain, however, that a very large number of those present, both medical men and Nurses, were seriously dissatisfied with the proceedings which have been taken in this case.

To the extreme astonishment of most of the members, the Resolution, which the meeting was summoned to consider-and which, as we said last week, we cannot take the legal responsibility of publishing, seeing that we are advised that its terms are distinctly defamatory—was proposed by Sir J. Russell Reynolds, and seconded by Sir William Broadbent. These two eminent gentlemen, who have never, we believe, attended any previous meeting of the Association, and who certainly have taken no active part in its work, gave the meeting to understand that they had been brought, by no means willingly, to perform the task assigned to them. Both gentlemen are held in such high esteem that we would prefer to make no comment on the manner in which they proposed and seconded the Resolution.

During the meeting the opinion was expressed and repeated, that unless harmony could be restored, in the conduct of business, the Association must fail to perform the work for which it was formed. With this sentiment we heartily agree, but such harmony can only be secured on the sure foundation of justice. For two years, the Nurses have been deprived of their just rights and privileges in their own Association, and until the business is conducted with absolute impartiality, and the Nurse members have freedom of speech conceded to them, as their undeniable right, there cannot be, and ought not to be, satisfaction felt with the government of affairs.

No one would welcome a return to the old methods of business, pursued in the Association for the first five years of its existence, with greater pleasure than ourselves. But if there is to be Peace, it must be Peace with Honour.

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