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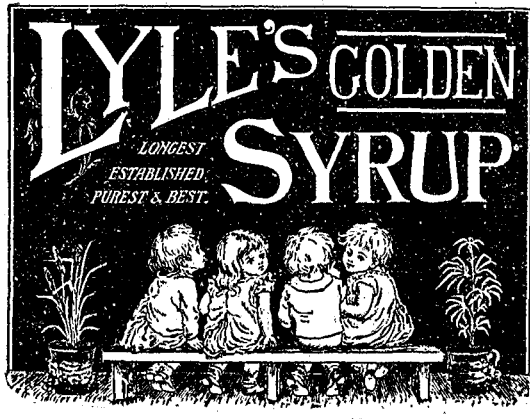
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Editorial.

THE REGISTRATION OF MIDWIVES.

ONCE more, this question is before Parliament, and there is some reason to hope that this time it will receive not only proper discussion but an effective settlement. For some ten years past, it has been before the medical profession in a more or less acute form.

Midwives claim to be independent practitioners, and quite free from all control and supervision by medical men. The latter, on their side, ridicule such a claim on the part of persons, the great majority of whom have had no training or education whatever, while the best have had a comparatively short experience in a lying-in hospital. They also argue that if ignorant midwives were licensed by the State to practise one branch of the profession of medicine, it would not only be dangerous to the poor by deluding them as to the real status and knowledge of such practitioners, but that it would also be very detrimental to the whole education and practice of medical men. It is acknowledged that the poor are at present exposed to considerable dangers at the hands of midwives, but it is not unfairly argued that it would greatly intensify and



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