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Editorial.

NURSES’ BICYCLES.

DURING the last year or two, we have frequently received letters, both from nurses and the public, concerning the question of private nurses taking their bicycles with them, when sent to patients. It has been urged that it is essential for nurses to obtain fresh air and exercise, if possible, every day, in order to keep their health and strength always available for the service of their patient. And it is, furthermore, contended that by means of a bicycle it is possible for the nurse to obtain more easily, and with greater advantage, the necessary exercise.

For these arguments there is, of course, much to be said. But, on the other hand, we have deemed it but right to point out to our correspondents that the nurse’s first duty is to her patient, rather than to herself; and that, above all things, it is incumbent upon a private nurse to cause no inconvenience or annoyance in the houses to which she is sent. It is, for example, a well-known fact that, in most households, the serious illness of one of the family causes more or less disorganization and much extra work. The advent of a nurse, invaluable as her services may be to

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