

# THE Nursing Record

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## LECTURES TO NURSES

ON

## ANTISEPTICS IN SURGERY.

BY

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### Editorial.

#### MALE NURSES NEEDED.

OUR remarks on the recent death in a padded room at the London Hospital have evoked some comment, and we have definitely ascertained that the attendants who were in charge of the unfortunate man who committed suicide were in no sense trained nurses. This is not a matter for surprise, because we are well aware that it is the usual practice in all London General Hospitals to employ men without any knowledge of nursing to attend violent and delirious male patients, but we cannot, therefore, concede that this is a desirable state of things. At the same time, we quite own that in suggesting that the London Hospital should initiate the desirable and necessary reform of training male, as well as female, nurses, we were advocating a new departure, involving considerable difficulty in the matter of organization, both with regard to the housing of the nurses and the expense of training. But difficulties are not insurmountable, and there is no doubt that considerable credit will be gained by whatever hospital first deals effectively with the pressing question of providing male nurses for the sick. There can be no manner of doubt that the attendants on the sick in public institutions should be trained in the duties they have to perform. Amateur nursing is out of place in hospitals. It may be, and it is, argued that these attendants merely act as watchers, that they have no nursing to do, and that there is no need for them to be

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