## Last Words for 1899.

THE past year is one in which many events of importance have taken place in the nursing world; indeed, until our readers read the summary of events, which we publish in this issue, we doubt if many of them will have realized how momentous a year this has been to the nursing Although progress at times seems profession. slow, yet things are in reality moving on rapidly. They would move even more quickly if all took their share in endeavouring to obtain the reforms which so many desire: In the past, work for the general good, both of the profession, and the public, has been largely left in the hands of a few energetic and earnest workers. But it is a mistake to work the willing horse to death. What is needed is that each one who desires professional progress and organization should take her share in obtaining it; for we may be certain that reforms for any class of women will not be won without a most bitter and determined struggle. We ask all readers of the NURSING RECORD, therefore, in the ensuing year, to help, and, as one means of doing so, to try to gain for us one new sub-

scriber, in order that the views which the RECORD advocates may be promulgated; and, further, to do their part in actively working for the ends which the NURSING RECORD is endeavouring to obtaina system of uniform education and public examin-ation, and the legal status and registration of graduate nurses, for the protection of the sick public, and as a matter of justice to the nurses themselves.

Nurses have exceptional opportunities for explaining to the public the necessity for Registration, and when once the public realize how vitally their interests are affected by this question, they will not be slow to appreciate the necessity for legislation. We wish to impress upon all supporters of the NURSING RECORD, and its policy, therefore, that there is urgent need for their co-operation and work in this matter. In the hope that the coming year may be even more notable than the past one, and that the end of 1900 may, through the united efforts of nurses and the public, see the Registration of Nurses within an appreciable distance, we say good-bye to our readers for 1899, and we look forward with hope to the beginning of another year, which holds in its grasp all the possibilities of the unknown.



STANLEY SMITH, Secretary.

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