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AND

The Hospital World.

"QUI NON  
PROFICIT DEFICIT."

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## Editorial.

### A VALUABLE ALLY.

WE observe with great pleasure that our contemporary, the *Morning Post*, which has on several occasions shown its sympathy in regard to schemes for the efficient or better nursing of the sick, has published an article on the formation of an Imperial Nursing Reserve, in the course of which it advocates many of the points which this journal has, from time to time, urged as necessary in the efficient organization of an Army Nursing Service.

#### THE FIRST SUGGESTION OF THE RESERVE.

It is now eleven years ago since Mrs. Bedford Fenwick first drew the attention of the War Office to the need of an Army Nursing Reserve, and later (in 1894), brought the matter before the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association. In due course the suggestion was adopted, but it is deeply to be regretted that, in its formation the Reserve was so manipulated by the Medical Officers of the Association that the trained nurses who suggested its formation, and who possessed the experience necessary to evolve a practical scheme, were excluded from taking any part in its organization, with the result shown in the *Morning Post* that the present scheme is ineffective and illogical. In

1896, at the Nursing Conference held in connection with the Nursing Exhibition at St. Martin's Town Hall, the question of Army Nursing was again dealt with by Mrs. Fenwick and it was owing to her influence that the subject was accorded a prominent place in the Nursing Section of the International Congress of Women, held in London last year.

#### THE MATRONS' COUNCIL AND ARMY NURSING.

At the beginning of the present year the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland devoted some time to the consideration of the present constitution of the Army and Navy Nursing departments, with the result that a resolution was passed and forwarded to the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Secretary of State for War, petitioning these officials to receive deputations from the Matrons' Council, who would lay before them the views of the Council, as to desirable reforms in the organization of the Nursing Services in connection with the Admiralty and the War Office. The First Lord of the Admiralty at once acceded to this request and a deputation was most courteously received by Mr. Austen Chamberlain, who listened with interest to the views expressed, and received the Report read by the President on behalf of the Council. The Secretary of State for War begged to be excused from receiving the

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