

The Nursing Record

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

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EDITORIAL.

WE have discussed, down to minute details, the effects which the legal Registration of Trained Nurses must produce for the public, for medical men, for the calling of Nursing, and upon Nurses themselves. The more we consider the matter, the more convinced do we become that our conclusions are irrefutable, and correct in every particular.

We have had, moreover, the great satisfaction of learning that the careful logical consideration we have devoted to the subject, in these columns, has attracted much attention, not only in the medical and nursing world, but among unprofessional people as well, and has resulted in securing support, to the scheme, from many who had previously either held antagonistic views, or had steadfastly refused

their assistance, because they were unable to understand its pressing importance.

Before we leave this part of the subject, we have only one word to say to a certain few who, from one reason or another, are still expressing open animosity to the idea of Registration. They do so upon grounds so exquisitely vague, that we are quite unable to understand them; their only argument being, that Registration will do harm to Nurses and Nursing, because Nurses are not medical men. Not a figment of proof, beyond this remarkable dictum, is given in confirmation of their belief. As we frankly, fully, and at once grant that Nurses are *not* medical men, we come back precisely to where we were. We have proved that Registration is absolutely essential, and must be beneficial, to the community at large. Three or four ladies and gentlemen, without attempting to confute our arguments, simply say they will oppose Registration by every means in their power. We leave the question with one gentle word of warning to these: "Whether you choose to credit it or not, ladies and gentlemen, the sick among the middle and upper classes are suffering, unnecessarily, every hour. Their return to health is retarded, and their very lives are endangered, because many women are now pretending to nurse them who have learnt little or nothing of the simplest rudiments of nursing knowledge. However careless you may be, of how much other people's husbands, wives, and children suffer from this ignorance, the medical profession have for long seen the danger, and now that an opportunity is afforded them of moving in the matter, from the highest ranks to the lower, its members are coming forward to support the demand for some security against inefficient Nursing. Whether you choose to assist or oppose it, ladies and gentlemen, is not of the smallest consequence now—with one trivial exception—because the public is being awakened to the importance to itself and its sick ones, of this matter. Aye! and shall be more and more aroused if we have power to do so. The trivial consequence to which we allude, ladies and gentlemen, is merely the deep disrepute into which *you* will fall for

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