

The Nursing Record

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NOTICE.—Should any difficulty arise in obtaining the "Nursing Record" through local news-agents, it is advisable to order it direct from the Publishers.

EDITORIAL.

WE have discussed the subject of Registration in many aspects. We have found it to be our duty to criticise adversely the opinion expressed upon the matter by a certain small Committee. To our remarks, and to those of the *Lancet*—doubtless for wise and sufficient reasons—no answer has been made; and as the Association which appointed this Committee to investigate the question, publicly announced that it had adopted the conclusions at which it had arrived, and had relinquished, therefore, its own previous endeavours to persuade Nurses to register themselves, we refrained from further comment upon its proceedings.

A fortnight ago, however, the journal which was first issued by this Association reprinted a pamphlet, written by Mr. Bonham-Carter, upon

"The Desirability of Establishing one General Register for Nurses." This had previously been widely circulated; it is eminently characteristic, therefore, of our contemporary that, in a leading article in its latest issue, it states that Mr. Bonham-Carter "discussed last week in our columns the question," as though, forsooth, it were an "original communication." From the first, our contemporary has created no little amusement by this ignorance of journalistic truthfulness, for it was wont to transfer bodily, and without any explanation, to its pages, speeches made by the Duke of This, or Lord That, at public meetings, as though they were annotations primarily contributed to its "columns."

With reference, however, to this pamphlet, we had fully determined, so soon as the pressure upon our space would permit us to do so, to reprint it in full for the benefit of our readers. We fear, however, that it may be three or four weeks before we shall be able to fulfil this, our intention, and, at the same time, to criticise it in detail. We shall reproduce it, simply because it appears to us to be just, reasonable, and right, that, in a matter of such great moment, everyone who has a right to be heard, should have the widest opportunity of enunciating his views.

And Mr. Bonham-Carter, who is well known for his work for many years as Honorary Secretary to the Nightingale Fund, most undeniably does deserve such audience. At the same time we feel constrained at once to say that, in our humble judgment, not only has Mr. Bonham-Carter completely failed to grasp the situation, but also that we shall be able to conclusively prove, to all unprejudiced minds, from his own words, that a General Register for Nurses *is* desirable, and, moreover, urgently called for. We will not discuss the pamphlet further, however, at present, till we are enabled to print it at the same time for our readers' consideration.

We return to the leading article upon the subject in our contemporary's last number. We are

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