

position, cannot be greatly under the influence of public opinion.

This consideration affords a further and potent reason against the existence of the supposed analogy between the Nursing and the Medical profession.

As to the allegation that a legal Register, or so-called legal Status, is essential in order to afford to Nurses the advantages of an acknowledged "profession," it may be observed that the position which Nurses have already gained has been due to their own efforts in taking advantage of the opportunities afforded to them, and to the just appreciation with which the public and the Medical profession have regarded the results attained. Have these causes come to a standstill? Is there any reasonable ground for supposing that any legislative sanction would raise or improve their position? There is yet very much to be done before the acknowledged defects and inequalities which are still to be found in the training and education of Nurses shall have been removed; but progress and improvement are to be looked for from the same sources as heretofore—voluntary effort and public opinion.

It is not necessary for my argument to touch upon the claim to which reference is made at the beginning of this paper as having been put forth from the Doctors' point of view, that the Register should be controlled by the Medical profession. I will only remark that such a contention would seem to be based on the same erroneous view of the subject as that which treats the case of Nurses as analogous to that of Medical Students.

In conclusion, I would add that even should the foregoing remarks not have convinced those who are in favour of the establishment of a public Register, yet they may, at any rate, have the effect of leading to the conclusion that the time is not yet ripe for any such measure.

FURTHER APPRECIATION.—The *Nursing Record*, which has reached its eighteenth number, has now been enlarged to twenty-four pages. As its title implies, it is published in the interests of those engaged in Nursing the sick, and it certainly appears to fulfil its mission admirably. As yet the editor has not yielded to the temptation to indulge in the discussion of topics which properly belong to medical journalism. The publication appears to have all the elements of success in it.—*The Hospital Gazette*.

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MEMORABILIA.

BY MISS ANNIE BLISSETT.

IT is very satisfactory to note that when Miss Manson retired from Hospital life, to enter upon that which was certainly the primary object of woman's creation, she did not secede from the Hospital world; she is missed from the domain where she ruled so wisely and so well, but her addresses and annotations prove that her enthusiasm is not waning, nor her sympathy less cordial, than when she advised and encouraged her own Nurses to fulfil, well and worthily, the noble life-work they had chosen; and may it be long ere the exigencies of society compel Mrs. Bedford Fenwick to appear less frequently amongst us.

But I do not wish to infer that because marriage was the primary object of the creation of woman, it is by any means the primary object of woman, or the only condition in which she can be a true help-mate for man; there is never a time when men and women are associated in work, or even commerce, when our influence does not make its mark, for good or evil. It was said once of a little child, "We are always better when she is with us"; would it not be well with us if men were always better for our presence? We are raising the standard of Nursing, let us raise the standard of womanhood, too; let us so rule our lives that the thoughts emanating from them, and from which our conversation flows, become so ennobling, that men will be better, and truer to the old legends of chivalry than they often prove in these modern days; and for which they are less to be condemned than the women, from whom they learn that rapid compliments, and inane jesting, are not an insult to their womanhood, and to their intelligence; the Nurses' Association will be fructiferous indeed, if its members resolve, one and all, to be true help-mates, morally as well as physically, to the men with whom their profession associates them, and take their part in rendering Hospitals schools of morals, as well as medicine; to send the male patients out, better husbands, brothers, and citizens, for the influence of the Nurse, who scorns not to handle their most loathsome disease, but who scorns the moral degradation of a lie; and to show the medical fraternity that a woman, often gently born, and tenderly reared, may soil her hands with menial labour, yet be no less refined; may see sights and hear sounds that have been asserted demoralising, and yet look on—as look she must—gravely and sadly, with as pure a heart as though she had never left her mother's side. For innocence is often only ignorance, and may be latent evil, but a woman

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