

# The Nursing Record

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

No. 29.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18th, 1888.

VOL. 1.

## Contents.

EDITORIAL	...	...	...	...	...	393
THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ART OF NURSING. BY						
MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK	...	...	...	...	...	395
THE BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION	...	...	...	...	...	398
NURSING ECHOES	...	...	...	...	...	402
LIBRARIES FOR THE NURSING STAFF OF HOSPITALS	...	...	...	...	...	404
HOSPITAL INTELLIGENCE	...	...	...	...	...	404
WOMEN AND THEIR WORK	...	...	...	...	...	405
'NURSING RECORD' BENEVOLENT FUND	...	...	...	...	...	405
CORRESPONDENCE	...	...	...	...	...	406
REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS	...	...	...	...	...	408
VACANT APPOINTMENTS, WANTED, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	408
COMPETITIVE PRIZE ESSAY	...	...	...	...	...	408
NOTICES	...	...	...	...	...	408

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 publish this week a letter which we have received from Mr. Snell, the well-known Ophthalmic Surgeon of Sheffield. We do not gather from it the precise ground of his objection to the present constitution of the British Nurses' Association; and it will be observed that the Hon. Secretaries of that body, to whom we submitted a copy of the letter in question, are also desirous to elicit more definite reasons. We have published this letter, though we have purposely abstained from printing a large number sent to us approving the formation, constitution, and objects of the Association, for reasons which we believe to be good and sufficient. We wish the Association all success and prosperity, and we believe that we shall ourselves better conduce to that desirable consummation by eliciting and answering any objections which may

be urged against it, than by collecting and reproducing only laudatory and sympathetic opinions.

To our minds, therefore, it speaks volumes that Mr. Bonham-Carter's pamphlet was the first and only honest criticism adverse to Registration we could find to reprint, and this letter of Mr. Snell's, the first letter at all antagonistic to the British Nurses' Association which we have yet received. In pursuance now of our desire above expressed, we propose to consider briefly the various points raised by the letter in question. For the "errors" in the account of the Meeting at Sheffield of which Mr. Snell complains, of course we are not in any way responsible, and as will be observed from Miss Wood's communication, the fault—if any—must lie with the gentleman in Sheffield who wrote the report of the meeting. But the "errors" are so trivial, that we need only mention them to show how small blame is even attributable to him. The only question ascribed to Mr. Snell was this. He is said to have asked, "whether a Trained Nurse had simply to make application to be Registered, or had she to be backed by two members of the public in any way before admission?"—surely a most practical and pertinent question, and, we may add, just such an one as from Mr. Snell's reputation we can imagine him likely to ask.

The only other paragraph in the Report in which Mr. Snell's name was mentioned comes at the end, and was as follows:—"Mr. Snell rose to propose a most cordial vote of thanks to Miss Wood, for her kindness in coming down, and in explaining so clearly to them the objects of the British Nurses' Association. He was afraid that they were a very long way off obtaining a Royal Charter; they would have to knock and knock a long time at the Privy Council before the door was opened. He was, however, in perfect sympathy with the Association, and concluded by moving a most cordial vote of thanks to Miss Wood." Now the only "error" Mr. Snell

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)