

The Nursing Record

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

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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.

A Detailed Index—thoroughly comprehensive—for Vol. I.—which is completed with this number—will be sent by post in a few days to every Subscriber; it can also be obtained by any other bona fide applicant.

EDITORIAL.

IT is a well-established, and in many ways useful, custom, at the end of each year, to pass in review the work accomplished, the business transacted, or the events which have occurred during the past twelve months. And we propose to carry out this laudable proceeding—as many of our contemporaries in the Press are this week doing in regard to the matters chiefly interesting to their various readers.

Upon setting this task, however, before us, we find several reflections occur to our minds. First,

that this is the first occasion upon which such a retrospect of Nursing matters has been possible; and, next, that this year 1888 is perhaps, without exaggeration, the most important year in the history of English Nursing. It has never been possible to discuss events, past, present, or future, relating to Nurses, before, for the simple reason that hitherto there has never been an organ in the English Press devoted wholly and solely to their interests—in which Nurses chiefly wrote, and which Nurses chiefly read.

We did not expect, we may frankly confess, that this Journal would have obtained the rapid success it has, in so short a period as the nine months of its existence already achieved. We had not hoped to have been able to collect around us, not only such a wide circle of readers, both in this country and abroad, but such a powerful company of contributors as that with whose assistance we have been honoured. We may claim to have discovered and brought to light much latent literary talent among members of the Nursing world, and we are encouraged to believe that there are many more possessing the same capacity which we shall in future be enabled to introduce to our readers.

We need not speak of our success, for that is indisputable. We only desire to point out that, in this our first volume, we have honestly endeavoured to carry out the programme we announced in our first number—to work for the good of Nurses and for the honour and advancement of the profession of Nursing. We have—greatly to our surprise, and still more to our regret—been obliged, upon several occasions, to comment severely upon certain statements, insinuations, and attacks upon us, made by a certain Journal, to which for weeks past we have not referred, and which for distinct ethical reasons we shall in future completely ignore. We are informed that one or two of our readers would have preferred us to take this course from the commencement; but with all due deference to them, we venture to

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