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Contents.

EDITORIAL—THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.—IX...	205
THE MODERN DELILAH	207
FEVERS AND FEVER NURSING	208
NURSING ECHOES	210
A FOREST HOSPITAL IN HUNGARY	213
OUR SUPPLEMENT ENGRAVING	215
NOTES	215

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Editorial.

THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.—IX.

I quote the words of the Second Annual Report of the Association, "Having thus done all in its power to persuade others to undertake the scheme, the General Council—as it prophesied in its report last year would be the case—found itself compelled to initiate the work, single handed. It received the warm support of many of the leaders of the medical profession, and finally, in January, 1890, the first Registration Board was appointed. The necessary rules and regulations were most carefully drawn up, with legal assistance, and the Register of Nurses was opened in February." Until June 30th, of that year, was given as a "period of grace," during which, any woman who could prove that she had, for three years, been engaged in nursing the sick—whether trained in a Hospital or not—and that she was of irreproachable character, was eligible for registration. This was done in accordance with all previous precedents, and as a matter of strict justice and "prescriptive right" to all those who were then engaged in the calling; and if the Association had not taken this step, there can be no doubt that it would have deserved, and would have received, considerable censure. But it was freely prophesied that the result would be that hundreds of untrained women

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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)