

late years taken place in the education and status of Nurses is wholly attributable, are, almost without exception, unrepresented in the British Nurses' Association, and are opposed to its Registration scheme."

mentary upon the general statement; while it is an important fact that the most strenuous opposition to the Association has proceeded from Training Schools which are content with a shorter period of education than that which the Registration Board thinks it necessary to require.

In April, 1892, the General Practitioners' Alliance held a special Meeting to consider the Draft Charter which had been published in this and other Journals, and after careful consideration, the following Resolution was carried unanimously, and with much applause. "That this Meeting of the General Practitioners' Alliance considers that the Registration of Trained Nurses is a measure which is calculated to protect the sick against untrustworthy Nurses, and will be of much advantage to medical men by affording them ready and reliable information as to the training and experience which Nurses have received. This Meeting, therefore, believes that it would be for the public welfare that the Royal British Nurses' Association should be incorporated by Royal Charter, and requests the President of the Alliance to forward a copy of the Resolution to the Lord President of the Privy Council."

#### THE BRITISH BABY.

IN last week's *Truth* there is a not unreasonable growl on the score of the perambulator nuisance, although we are glad to note that the growler does not revive the barbarous suggestion made a few years ago, that the British Baby and his Nurse should have to go through the streets among the carts and carriages in the road, instead of along the pavement. There is no need to take any more serious steps in the matter than to inculcate all round the valuable doctrine of each one endeavouring in life to be as little of a hindrance and nuisance to his neighbour as possible; and for mothers who send out their darlings in perambulators to inculcate care and kindness on the part of the propeller of the "pram" in getting out of people's way. But be it remembered that the pavement belongs quite as much to the baby in his carriage, as the road does to the foot-passengers who cross it. Doubtless the cab and omnibus drivers think it very unfair that their course should be so often impeded by the pedestrian; but magistrates have over and over again pointed out to careless drivers, that the road is as much for the passenger on foot, as the one on wheels. And it is so with the pavement, which belongs as much to the

nurse and children out for a walk, as to the fashionable woman out for shopping, the busy business man, or the idle stroller. If the baby cannot walk, it is a very trifling matter that his carriage takes up the width of two children side by side. Nevertheless, however patient one's toleration of the carriage and its occupant, it is an act of thoughtless impertinence for two nurse-maids to proceed side by side down a busy pavement, and especially so when they pause to look in at shop windows, and continue their onward course with their heads turned sideways to gaze on some article of finery, instead of looking in front to see where they are going. Also the grievance is considerably aggravated by the modern doll's perambulator. Surely the little girls who wheel these might be taught to walk behind, or in front of the real "pram" in going through frequented streets. It is merely a question of stupid bad manners, and not one of "public rights," as the growler in *Truth* avers. But then, perhaps, he was joking; and to do him justice, he has reason on his side in protesting against doll's carriages in the streets, for many of them are nearly as large as the real thing. Apart from all this, it is very unwise to let children be hampered by anything that requires their constant attention to it. Once now and again may not hurt, but the habitual pushing of a doll's "pram" is very fatiguing to a small child, and limits and cramps its action in walking. Besides it tends to render the little folks unobservant, to concentrate their attention on something belonging by right to house-life. A child ought to be free to move as it likes, and look about it when it is out for an airing; and any toys that are taken out of doors should be such as promote movement, and the use of the voice, such as balls, hoops, etc. But it was too bad if, as *Truth* avers, two nurse-maids were going along Sloane Street, side by side, wheeling British babies, and flanked each side by little girls pushing, the one a doll's four-wheeler, and the other a doll's mail-cart, and such a thing should be promptly stopped.

#### WOMEN AGAIN!

Mr. Theodore Dodd has been writing a very sensible letter on the necessity for publicity in the administration of the workhouse system; and with all the ugly stories that keep cropping up of mis-adventures to sick paupers; bad food; harsh treatment, such as delicate old men subjected to the labour test, and dying under the trial; consumptive men turned out of bed at four in the morning, to sit by open windows in a cold and draughty ward; it is not by one moment premature. He also says "I have looked at the report on page 146 (of the Local Government Board), for the district comprising the Metropolis. It only consists of two pages, and does not even mention St. Giles' Workhouse, and is a strong contrast to Miss Mason's report on boarded-out children which occupies eighteen pages." He remarks that it would be a very good plan to have a woman inspector to look after the sick and aged. Of course it would. But Women Guardians can do a great deal in that way.

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