

The subjects will be discussed in the following order:—

- MAY.
- I. Woman's Progress.
 - II. The Public Press.
 - III. Medicine and Surgery.
- JUNE.
- IV. Temperance.
 - V. Moral and Social Reform (which includes Nursing).
 - VI. Commerce and Finance.
- JULY:
- VII. Music.
 - VIII. Literature.
 - IX. Education.
- AUGUST.
- X. Engineering.
 - XI. Art, Architecture, &c.
 - XII. Government, Law Reform, Political Science, &c.
 - XIII. General Department.
 - XIV. Science and Philosophy.
- SEPTEMBER.
- XV. Labour.
 - XVI. Religion, Missions, and Church Societies.
- OCTOBER.
- XVII. Sunday Rest.
 - XVIII. Public Health.
 - XIX. Agriculture.

It has been decided that Nursing comes within the scope of the Moral and Social Reform Congress, which under division N. includes "Hospitals, Hospital Service, general, special, maternity, children's and contagious; ambulance service; and training schools for nurses, &c."

We owe to the kindness of Mrs. Charles Henrotin, the talented head of the women's branch of the Congress Auxiliary, and to Mrs. Flower the Chairman of the Woman's Branch of the Moral and Social Reform Department, the inauguration of the first international conference which will be held concerning our profession. It has been arranged that Dr. John S. Billings of Washington is to be the Chairman of the Hospital Section, and that Miss Isabel Hampton, the greatly respected Superintendent of Nursing at the Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore, shall be the Chairwoman of the Nursing Section. I have had the honour of being requested by Mrs. Fowler and Miss Hampton to organise the British Section, and with the help of the Sub-Committee on Nursing, in connection with the Royal Commission, I have already received offers of more papers than, I fear, there will be time to read and discuss. Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, our President, is to con-

tribute a paper on the work of the Royal British Nurses' Association. Miss Isla Stewart one on the "Organisation of a Nurse Training School." Miss de Pledge takes "Nursing in Poor Law Infirmaries." Mrs. Ormiston Chant "Private Nursing." We hope to have a valuable paper on "District Nursing" from Miss Peter, Inspector of Nurses to Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses. "Home Hospitals" is my own subject. "Volunteer Nurses in times of War and Epidemics" will find an able exponent in Miss Annesley Kenealy; and Miss Kate Marsden and others are anxious and willing to contribute. We must bear in mind that the two great factors of modern civilisation are co-operation and centralisation. The greatest proof of this truth to us nurses is the fact of this forthcoming Nursing Congress. The value of one person's mind, or one person's work is steadily diminishing; it is the associate mind, the many hearts beating as one, that now move the world, and this is becoming so well understood by women that they are rapidly learning what can be accomplished in economic, social, and intellectual life by the power of union, which alone means strength. And such a gathering as this congress must be a tremendous power for good in our special work, which will spread all over the world.

Women have achieved much during the past forty years of the world's history, and they are rapidly adapting themselves to new avenues of employment and boldly entering the new paths of knowledge; and not alone in England, in America, and on the Continent. Even from Turkey and the Orient come to us voices on the breeze, inarticulate it is true, but expressing the "divine discontent" which is the forerunner of freedom, of equality and of fraternity.

Society is awaking to the truth that no one nation has spoken the last words of wisdom, and national prejudices are disappearing. The willingness to learn one of another is ever on the increase. In these international conferences we shall learn each others' needs and necessities; participate by sympathy in the victories which have been won, and aid by our words of encouragement the battles yet to be fought. These congresses will be especially valuable to women, for they have to adjust themselves to an entirely new point of view as regards their political, social, economic, and spiritual life.

And now for a few words on our practical exhibits. When first I was invited to represent Nursing on the Ladies' Committee in connection with the British Royal Commission, I was told that it was quite impossible to exhibit our Art in a

The "NURSING RECORD" has a Larger Sale than any other Journal devoted solely to Nursing Work.

The NURSING RECORD" has a Larger Sale than any other Journal devoted solely to Nursing Work.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)