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Editorial.

MATRONS IN COUNCIL.

IT has been suggested that the proposal, which was made in these columns, last week, by Miss ISLA STEWART, should be explained at somewhat greater length, and that one or two difficulties which have occurred to the minds of correspondents should be discussed. The principle of full and free discussion upon matters of professional politics appears to be very widely approved of. Indeed, the necessity for such a course must be generally apparent, and now that the subject has been so eloquently brought before the Nursing world, it appears, to many, a matter of surprise that so simple and valuable a suggestion should not have been previously raised and acted upon.

Our readers are well aware, for example, of the unsatisfactory condition of Nursing education in this country to which Miss STEWART has specially called attention. Each Hospital has been bound by its own traditions, and has maintained or altered the curriculum of training of its Nurses in accordance with the views of its authorities for the time being, and quite uninfluenced by the educational plan in force in any other Hospital, because the absence of any generally accepted standard or system made any attempt at uniformity impracticable. Education, examination and certification are the successive steps which should lead to the portals of any profession, and the fact should be realised that, to all intents and purposes, those steps, in the case of Nursing, have not yet been laid, and that no agreement exists as to their size,

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