

2. The list will have nothing in common with legal registers of the medical or other professions, but will simply be a list of Nurses published by the Association.

3. No Nurse whose name appears on the list will have any right to use the title of "Registered Nurse."

It is desirable to add that a comparison of the draft Charter as submitted to the Privy Council, with the Charter as granted, clearly shows that the Privy Council have recognised the evils which might directly, or indirectly, have been occasioned by the establishment of a Chartered Register as originally proposed.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.
 WESTMINSTER, K.G., Chairman Metropolitan and National Nursing Association.
 JAMES G. WAINWRIGHT, Treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital.
 HENRY BONHAM CARTER, Secretary Nightingale Fund.
 T. S. BRISTOWE, M.D., F.R.S., Consulting Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital.
 SEYMOUR J. SHARKEY, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician and Lecturer to Nurses, St. Thomas's Hospital.
 L. M. GORDON, Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital and Superintendent of Nightingale Training School.
 E. H. LUSHINGTON, Treasurer of Guy's Hospital.
 THOMAS BRYANT, F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon of Guy's Hospital.
 E. C. PERRY, M.D., Medical Superintendent Guy's Hospital.
 FLORENCE C. KNOTT BOWER, Matron Guy's Hospital.
 RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, K.C.B., Vice-Chairman Westminster Nursing Home.
 J. TROUTBECK, D.D., Treasurer Westminster Nursing Home.
 MARY E. THYNNE, Hon. Sec. Westminster Nursing Home.
 W. H. ALCHIN, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to Westminster Nursing Home and Hospital.
 THOMAS BOND, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to Westminster Nursing Home and Hospital.
 MARY J. PYNE, Matron Westminster Hospital and Nursing Home.
 JOHN J. HALE, Chairman London Hospital.
 FREDK. TREEVES, F.R.C.S., Surgeon London Hospital.
 A. ERNEST SANSOM, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician London Hospital.
 EVA C. E. LUCKES, Matron London Hospital.
 HENRY WACE, D.D., Chairman of Committee of Management King's College Hospital.
 JOHN CURNOW, M.D., F.R.C.P., Lecturer to Nursing Staff and Dean of Faculty of Medicine to King's College Hospital.
 C. AUSTIN LEIGH, Vice-Chairman, King's College Hospital.
 KATHERINE H. MONK, Matron King's College Hospital.
 JOHN B. MARTIN, Treasurer, Charing Cross Hospital.
 FREDK. WILLCOCKS, M.D., Physician and Lecturer to Nurses, Charing Cross Hospital.
 H. A. C. GORDON, Matron, Charing Cross Hospital.
 W. A. MACKINNON, K.C.B., Director Gen. Army Med. Dep.
 W. RATHBONE, M.P.
 JOHN R. LUNN, Med. Sup. and Lecturer to Nurses Marylebone Infirmary.
 ELIZABETH VINCENT, Matron Marylebone Infirmary.
 ALEX. MARSDEN, M.D., Royal Free Hospital.

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THE following letter, in reply, appeared in *The Times* on Thursday last:—

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIMES."

Sir,—We are instructed by the executive committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association to reply to the attack made upon the Association in a letter which appeared in your columns on Monday last, and to request as a favour that the reply may be inserted. We propose to deal, in the first instance, with the substance of the attack, and afterwards with the persons whose names were appended to it.

The writers of the letter to which we refer assert that they "think it right to call public attention to the important limitations which have been placed upon the powers originally sought for by the Association." They do not specify what these "limitations" are, and our reply is that there are none. The statement that "limitations" have been placed upon the powers sought for by the Association is absolutely and entirely untrue, and, as it can be disproved in five minutes by an examination of printed documents, it is untrue without any shadow of justification or excuse.

The writers go on to say that "no opposition has at any time been raised to the incorporation of the Association for the purpose of promoting such benevolent schemes for the benefit of the Nurses, as are now set forth in the Charter as the first of the objects of the Association. The opposition was directed mainly against the attempt to create a list or register which would be regarded by the public as a legally authorised register of trained Nurses." As a matter of fact, the opposition was to the grant of a charter absolutely, and the petition of the opponents set forth that "your petitioners submit that the purposes stated in the draft charter other than the maintenance of the register aforesaid, although desirable and beneficial, can be effectually accomplished by an unincorporated Association." This assertion was, of course, nonsense, on account of the difficulties which an unincorporated Association would experience in obtaining or in dealing with the necessary funds, but the authors of the letter must not now be suffered to escape from their published statements.

The letter continues "that the Charter, as granted, substitutes for the list or register of Nurses" a clause which is correctly quoted, but upon which it is implied, and almost stated, that the power granted differs from the power which was sought. We will therefore place the two in parallel columns:—

POWER SOUGHT.

The maintenance of a list or register of Nurses showing as to each Nurse registered her name and address and the name of the hospitals or other places at which she has been trained, and the length of training which she has received.

POWER GRANTED.

The maintenance and publication of a list of persons who may have applied to the corporation to have their names entered therein as Nurses, and whom the corporation may think fit to enter therein from time to time, coupled with such information about each person so entered as to the corporation may from time to time seem desirable.

It will be observed that there is here no "limitation" at all, but simply a grant in wider and more general terms than that which was asked for; and it is worthy of note that the Privy Council went out of its way to express special approval of the proposed "list" by introducing the following clause into the preliminary recitals of the Charter:—

"And, whereas it appears to us that a permanent Association formed for the purpose of maintaining a closer connexion

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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)