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EDITORIAL NOTICE.

All Editorial communications and MSS. (not business matters) must be addressed to "The Editor," 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W., and, in order to secure notice in the current issue, must reach her not later than 10 a.m., on Tuesdays. No MSS. or drawings can be returned unless accompanied by stamps for that purpose. One side of the paper only should be written on. All Business communications to be addressed to "The Manager," 376, Strand, London, W.C.

Editorial.

THE NURSING OF ABDOMINAL OPERATIONS

A LITTLE book has recently been published which, although primarily intended for the use of medical men, would be found useful by those Nurses who are devoting themselves to the care of cases of abdominal operations.* We must, however, differ very strongly from the writer upon one point. He implies, if he does not exactly state the fact in so many words, that it would, in his opinion, be better that such cases should always be nursed by one Nurse singly and alone. He states that, if possible, "one should be chosen who has had some previous experience of abdominal surgery. In addition to having a full knowledge of her profession, she must be young and robust, quiet and quick in her movements, firm and yet kind, scrupulously clean in her person and work, and, above all, implicitly obedient to instructions." With the necessity for these requisites in the Nurse, and with the Nursing treatment which the author recommends, we are in thorough agreement. But he insists, and very rightly, that for at least five days the patient must be absolutely excluded from all her friends; in other words, she must have her Nurse incessantly with her. Then, "for the first twelve hours after the operation, the pulse and temperature must be taken every two hours, after this every four hours until the third day, and thereafter every eight hours. The Nurse must enter each particular at the time of its occurrence and

*"The After Treatment of Cases of Abdominal Section." By Christopher Martin. (Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co.)

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