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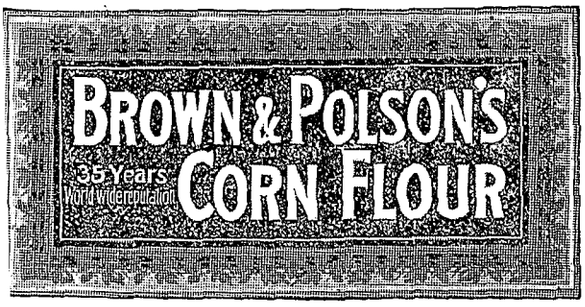

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Editorial.

WORKHOUSE NURSING.—II.

A NATURAL corollary to, and sequence of, the appointment of a trained Nurse as Matron of the Workhouse, responsible to the medical officer and to the Board of Guardians, but independent, so far as domestic management goes, of the control of the Master, would be that the sick wards of the Workhouse should be completely separated from the rest of the building in which they are contained, and be devoted entirely to the care of the sick. In many Institutions, we are informed that it is still the habit to look upon sickness as a fault, rather than as a misfortune, of the inmates, and to subject them to the discomforts of treatment in the general dormitories. In the next place, it would become essential that there should be a regular staff of Nurses to attend upon the patients, and, as a natural result of the institution of such a staff as this, that Probationers should be admitted to learn the routine duties of Nursing, exactly as they are now admitted into Nurse Training Schools, and that the Nursing of the patients by the other paupers should be at once and altogether abolished. It may be urged against these proposals that there exists, at present, a very great difficulty in persuading those who desire to undertake Nursing as a profession to enter the Workhouse Infirmaries, even of the first class, in order to obtain therein their

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