

THE NURSING RECORD AND HOSPITAL WORLD, August 18th, 1894.

# Apollinaris

"THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATERS."

## Nursing <sup>THE</sup> Record.

EVERY SATURDAY,  
ONE PENNY.

The Hospital World.

"QUI NON  
PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1894.

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Manufacturers to Her Majesty.

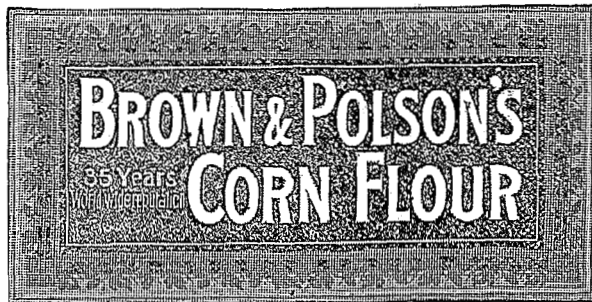
### Editorial.

#### MIDWIVES' REGISTRATION.

IN another column, our readers will find the scheme which has been propounded by the medical men forming "The Midwives' Registration Association." The views of this Journal upon the question of legislation for midwives have been frequently expressed. We hold it to be not only unnecessary, but fraught also with the gravest dangers both to the public and to midwives themselves, as we have explained at length. The Midwives' Registration Association desires that midwives should be improved or, to use the stock phrase, "mended and not ended." We have considerable ground for believing that their efforts will prove to be futile, and that by a very natural course of events this class of workers is doomed to die out, in obedience to the unalterable law of the survival of the fittest.

The Association suggests that midwives—and by this term it means "women who undertake to attend cases of natural labour without the direct supervision of a medical practitioner"—should be, at the same time, independent of medical supervision in their work, and yet that they should be under the complete control of medical men; suggestions which are mutually destructive, and which, therefore, tend not only to prove the difficulty of the work which these gentlemen have lightly taken in hand, but also to suggest very forcibly the impossibility of its fulfilment.

If these gentlemen really believed that midwives, as independent workers, were necessary, they should, logically, have followed the invariable custom, and have proceeded to advise that midwives should



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