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## A PUBLIC QUESTION.

•HE surprise and indignation which has been aroused in the Nursing world by (໑ the present attempt on the part of Mr. Henry C. Burdett to interfere with our profession, is taking the form of active opposition to his scheme; and as this will probably soon attract very considerable public attention, it will be well for us briefly to consider the question as it affects both Nurses and the public. The statement issued and signed by Mr. Henry C. Burdett contained the following: "I have therefore decided to issue-with the assistance of a small committee of medical men and Matrons—a separate work to be entitled Burdett's Official Nursing Directory." It was furthermore announced that "the compilers of the Direc-tory do not believe that the time has yet arrived when a rigid conformity in curriculum and period of training can be enforced upon those who desire to place their names on a Directory of Trained Nurses. What the Directory will do is to state the facts as nearly as they can be ascertained." It is plain, therefore, in the first place, that the so-called Official Nursing Directory is projected, and will be issued, by Mr. Henry C. Burdett, and it therefore becomes of the first importance to understand what qualifications this gentleman possesses for the work which he has under-taken. He was, for a short time, a medical student at Guy's Hospital, but did not con-tinue his studies; he has been the Secretary of two provincial Hospitals, and he now is an official of the London Stock Exchange.

He is, therefore, not possessed of any pro-



