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Nursing ^{THE} Record.

EVERY SATURDAY,
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The Hospital World.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

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Contents.

NURSE OR MIDWIFE	97
BLESSED BIDEFORD	98
AN UNUSUAL CASE OF HYSTERECTOMY	99
MATRONS IN COUNCIL	...	...	...	...	101
NURSING ECHOES	...	...	...	...	101
MEDICAL MATTERS	...	...	...	...	104
REFLECTIONS	...	...	...	...	105
OUR COUNTRY LETTER	...	...	...	...	106
OUTSIDE THE GATES	...	...	...	...	107
SCIENCE NOTES	...	...	...	...	108
NOTES ON ART	...	...	...	...	109
A BOOK OF THE WEEK	...	...	...	...	109
REVIEWS	...	...	...	...	110
INVENTIONS, PREPARATIONS, &c.	...	...	...	...	110
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	...	...	...	...	111
COMMENTS AND REPLIES	...	...	...	...	112

Editorial.

NURSE OR MIDWIFE.

IT is clearly necessary that we should, on behalf of the Nursing profession, call attention to the serious discredit which is at present caused to all real Nurses by the mistake into which many of our contemporaries, and the public generally, have fallen, of considering and describing as a "Nurse" any woman who chooses to give herself that designation or to attire herself in a nursing uniform. And in view of the proposed legislation for midwives and the extreme probability that the ignorant and inefficient women who would be recognised under such an Act would be considered by the public to be Nurses, a serious protest becomes all the more necessary. Within the last few days, the public press has contained long accounts, and even in the House of Commons a question has been asked, concerning a "Nurse," who was really only a Midwife. This woman has been committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter, and it was stated in evidence against her that "receiving notice to cease attending cases in consequence of being infected with puerperal fever, she visited three cases, in each of which the patient took the fever and died." The woman in question appears to have practised as a midwife, and only as a midwife. Her name does not appear upon the Register of Trained Nurses, and so far as we can ascertain, there is no evidence that she has ever been trained as a Nurse. Yet, both by our contemporaries, and also in the House of Commons, she was termed "a Nurse," and thus most undeserved discredit has been cast upon the members of our profession. If all the mischief which uneducated midwives accomplish is, in the future, to be ascribed to trained Nurses, as

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)