

our correspondents that we have always felt confident that leading medical men would, when the crisis came, strongly disapprove, and publicly express their disapproval, of the attempts which have been made by half-a-dozen members of their profession to deprive Nurses of all voice, and of their legal rights, in their own Association.

We desire, on this occasion, to restrict our remarks to the proceedings at the General Council Meetings of the 16th and 23rd insts. It is especially provided in the Charter that the General Council shall elect Honorary Officers "upon the nomination of the Executive Committee." It is provided in the Bye-laws that the Vice-Chairmen, the Treasurer, and the Honorary Secretaries shall be "Honorary Officers"; and that they shall be elected each year at the Meeting of the General Council in October. On previous occasions, Honorary Officers have been thus nominated by the Executive Committee, and elected by the General Council. But it appears that, at the Meeting of the Executive Committee, held on October 3rd, the officials omitted to bring before the meeting the question of the nomination of these officers. Indeed, it was stated at the meeting of the General Council, as reported in another column, that the Agenda paper of the Executive Committee Meeting did not contain any notice that such business would be brought forward. It is quite evident, therefore, that, by the fault of the officials, this important matter was overlooked; and, so far, the oversight is merely the latest evidence of the official mismanagement.

But, when the matter was raised at the General Council Meeting, on October 16th, a much graver fault was committed; because, although the minutes of the Executive Committee, which were referred to, contained no mention of the nomination of the Honorary Officers; and, although it was definitely asserted by Dr. Bedford Fenwick that no nomination had been made by the Executive Committee; the motion that Sir James Crichton-Browne and his colleagues should be re-elected—in defiance of the Charter—was actually sanctioned by Sir James Crichton-Browne himself—the gentleman who, in a Court of Law on the 5th inst. solemnly asseverated that he only withheld Miss Breay's Resolution from the Annual Meeting because of his burning anxiety to maintain intact the most insignificant provision of a

Bye-law. It is truly wonderful how circumstances can alter cases!

However, the Resolution re-electing Sir James Crichton-Browne was not only carried by the Meeting, but an official notice of the fact was immediately sent out to the Press. That notice averred that there were sixty-nine persons present at the Meeting on the 16th inst., and that the Resolution re-electing Sir James Crichton-Browne was carried by sixty-eight votes to one. The votes on that occasion, we are assured, were not counted at all; and we have received statements, already, from several who were then present, that they voted *against* the Resolution, and that they saw others who abstained from voting on either side. Moreover, at the very time when these notices of Sir James Crichton-Browne's re-election were being sent out to the Press, the officials were aware that Special Council and Special Executive Committee Meetings were to be summoned, in order to correct the irregularity which had been committed by the manner of the re-election. Only one conclusion is possible from such facts as these.

Months ago, we protested against the manner in which the General Council of the Association had been "packed," and pointed out the evils which might follow from a Council obliged to vote with the official clique. The Council has held its first meeting, and proved the force of our objections by committing such a glaring irregularity that a Special Meeting had to be summoned a week later to correct the mistake. Further comment is needless.

Post-Graduate Nursing Courses.

AN excellent Post-Graduate Course for Nurses is held in connection with the Woman's Hospital in New York City, which is proving of great assistance to Nurses whose gynæcological practice has been only small, or in whose Training School no provision has been made for these very necessary branches of a Nurse's education. And even for many of those who have had training in the Nursing of women's diseases it is an incalculable benefit to be enabled, if they feel themselves a little "out of date," to go through such a Post-Graduate Course, and thus not only refresh their memories, but also familiarise themselves with the latest operation methods, the newest dressings, sterilisations and "lotions" employed by different surgeons. We sincerely wish such a Post-Graduate Course for Nurses could be adopted in London.

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