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EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.

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VOL. XVII.

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Editorial.

MIDWIVES OR NURSES.—II.

THE meeting of the Metropolitan Counties' Branch of the British Medical Association, to which we referred last week, arrived, as we ventured to anticipate would be the case, at very definite conclusions on the subject of Midwifery legislation. In the first place, the feeling was strongly expressed that a Midwifery Nurses' Bill—which, in effect, was nothing more nor less than a Bill for the Registration of Midwives—was an unjustifiable attempt to mislead the medical profession. At the commencement of the proceedings, the Chairman ruled, as the officials in summoning it had stated, that the meeting was expected to discuss the Registration of Midwives under the guise of the so-called Midwifery Nurses' Bill; and the discussion which followed sufficiently proved that the proposed measure, if it were accepted by Parliament, would concede to Midwives all that they have asked for—and rather more. The opinion is now very generally held that Midwives should not be legislated for as an independent order of practitioners, but that

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