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SATURDAY, MARCH 6th, 1897.

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Editorial.

THE NURSING RESERVE.

T affords us great pleasure to draw the attention of our readers to the scheme which has just been sanctioned by the Secretary for War for the organisation of an Army Nursing Reserve. It is now nearly eight years since we submitted to the Medical Department of the War Office a scheme designed to meet the great need for additional nurses for military service in time of war. Our attention had then been forcibly called to the small number of nurses on the regular peace establishment; and we realised the difficulty which would arise on the outbreak of war in obtaining adequately trained and experienced nurses for such service. As the War Office took no action in the matter, in 1893 we brought the subject before the Executive Committee and then the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association; and in 1894 a scheme for the creation of an Army Nursing Reserve was sanctioned. In common with other important plans, however, the present managers of the Association have proved unable to carry the organisation of this matter to a successful issue, although,

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