

Mr. J. D. HARRIES seconded the vote of thanks, and considered that the matter of Registration ought to be proceeded with at once. One had only to look in the various papers to see the many advertisements holding out their inducements to people to engage Nurses from all parts, many of whom were not duly qualified to act as such. No doubt the system advocated by Miss Wood would do a great deal to deter people from entering into the duties of public Nurses who were not competent to do so, and also would ensure the public against them. He had much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said that, in answer to Mr. Eddowes, he wished to state from Miss Wood that the British Nurses' Association were quite willing to include Midwives within the scope of their work. Referring to Miss Wood's address, the Chairman said it was most important that Nurses should always bear in mind that their duties were entirely distinct from those of the Medical profession—they had simply to obey orders, and carry out their instructions loyally during the absence of a Doctor in any case. If they would do that, Registration, if obtained, would be a distinct advantage to the general public, to the Doctors, and to the Nurses. (Applause.) It would be a protection to the public, for they would know through it when they had what they required—a really good Trained Nurse; it would be a protection to the Doctors, for they would know that when they are absent from their patients they left someone who was capable of taking charge of the case under their supervision, and who would not try to deal with the case herself. He hoped many of their Nurses would join the Association, and would derive much benefit by so doing.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution before the meeting, and the vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

Miss WOOD, in returning thanks, said that with regard to the question of Midwives, there had been a bill before Parliament for dealing with it for many years. Perhaps the Irish question was in the way of it being dealt with. (Laughter.) The Obstetrical Society ought to take the matter up, but if they did not do so, and thought that it was better left in the hands of the British Nurses' Association, they were quite ready to undertake it, and obtain, if possible, Legal Registration for Midwives.

AS OTHERS SEE US.—The *Nursing Record* is a valuable helper, and appears to be making real progress. It is very nicely got up, and has been enlarged to twenty-four pages weekly.—*Queen.*

THE PENSION FUND FOR NURSES.

WE have been requested, as the representative organ of the Nursing world, to publish the following correspondence. It speaks for itself, and we cannot wonder at the "indignation it has caused in Nursing and general circles in Leeds." Our correspondent adds—"North country Nurses are much obliged to you for your sensible notes and articles about this Fund. We are too canny to subscribe to a Fund which proposes to take more than is necessary in order to give us something back. We all argue that, if whoever is working this Fund was really anxious to help Nurses, he would have first found out how to do it. No Nurse who is poor enough to want help in sickness or old age, is rich enough to join this Fund. Why does not someone tell Lord Rothschild and the other three generous founders of the Fund this simple fact?"

To the Editor of "The Yorkshire Post."

Sir,—In your issue of the 3rd inst., I noticed a paragraph in which it was stated that Mr. James Harrison, of Liverpool and Dornden, had given £5,000, and Mr. H. Tate and Mr. W. Rathbone £1,000, towards jointly founding a fund for the payment of pensions to Nurses of the Liverpool Training School and the founding of a Home for the Nurses of the Royal Infirmary.

I think that the first portion of this paragraph is worthy of imitation by the people of Leeds and Yorkshire generally with respect to the Sisters and Nurses of the Leeds General Infirmary. This Institution really dispenses its benefits to every part of Yorkshire, as well as other counties.

Would it be asking too much of the public—and in particular of those persons who are more favoured with this world's goods—to form a fund adequate to grant pensions to Sisters or Nurses who have served a long period of years at the above Institution, say, from sixteen to twenty years? It seems to me that after such a term of service in a public Hospital they are worthy of some consideration. When a person has served so long she is physically unfitted for other work, very few being able to bear the strain for a period of twenty years.

If it would not be encroaching too much on the valuable space in your paper, I should like to hear what others may think about the founding of such a Fund.—
Yours sincerely,
AN OLD PATIENT.

Leeds, January 4, 1889.

To the Editor of "The Yorkshire Post."

Sir,—My attention has been drawn to your issue of the 5th inst., in which appears a letter from "An Old Patient," suggesting that the people of Leeds and Yorkshire might follow the example recently set by those gentlemen who subscribed so liberally towards founding a fund for paying pensions to the Nurses of the Liverpool Training School. Will you allow me to point out to your correspondent that such a fund is in existence in the shape of a "National Pension Fund

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)