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Editorial.

A DIVIDED HOUSE.

RECENT events have convinced many—who previously doubted—of the grave dangers which at present threaten the Nursing Profession. Everyday experience illustrates the truth of the Biblical proverb, that a house divided against itself cannot stand; and that is the condition to which the profession will be reduced if its leaders fail either to realise the gravity of the crisis, or to take prompt measures to avert the threatened evils. For four years we have been explaining and exposing the methods which were being adopted by a small but active body of medical men to depreciate and destroy the influence of Hospital Matrons in the nursing world. Until lately, many considered that such an attempt was incredible; but the truth has been slowly forced upon their minds, and they now deeply regret the passive inactivity which has permitted matters to reach the present pass. To briefly recapitulate the arguments we have used, we would once more point out that it is essential to the proper management of public hospitals that the Matron or Superintendent of Nurses should have full authority, subject only to the control of the committee of management, over the nursing

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