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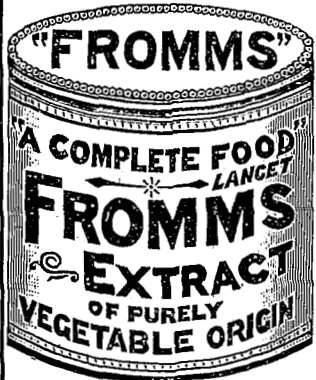
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Editorial.

SPECIAL TRAINING.

IT is a matter of considerable encouragement to us, and to all who are interested in the progress of nursing education, to observe the many indications which, from time to time, appear in the press, of the increasing intelligence and interest taken by the public in nursing matters. Only ten years ago, it is no exaggeration to say, there was profound and general ignorance upon the subject of nursing qualifications; and this was not confined only to those by whom nurses' services were employed, but was common also amongst doctors, and even amongst nurses. The absolute diversity in the methods of training pursued by the various training schools, and the absence of any recognised standard of education, naturally made the term, "a trained nurse," vague to all, and even meaningless to the initiated.

It was, therefore, a great advantage when the three years' standard became more or less generally accepted as the definite term necessary for a nurse's training; and it is a proof both of the absence of any other qualification and of the manner in which the fact has permeated into the public mind, that it is now ordinarily referred to, by writers in the press, and even by the present day novelist, as the hall mark of the "professional nurse." Upon this, we hope, firmly founded basis, the necessary superstructure is now being slowly erected; and, prominent in this, some clear definition of the

Contents.

EDITORIAL...	21
ANNOTATIONS ...	22
MEDICAL MATTERS ...	23
NURSING POLITICS ...	24
APPOINTMENTS ...	25
SKETCHES ...	25
THE NURSING CONFERENCE ...	26
NURSING ECHOES ...	31
REFLECTIONS ...	34
PROFESSIONAL REVIEW ...	35
FOREIGN LETTER ...	36
OUTSIDE THE GATES ...	37
AN INTERESTING HOBBY ...	37
A BOOK OF THE WEEK... ..	38
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	38
WHAT TO READ	38
COMING EVENTS	38
COMMENTS AND REPLIES	40

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)