

THE NURSING RECORD AND HOSPITAL WORLD, September 17th, 1898.

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Editorial.

HOSPITAL FINANCE.

THE question of hospital finances must always possess a great, even if an indirect, importance for the nursing profession, because the education of nurses is so completely dependent upon the manner in which the Nursing Schools are maintained, that nurses must materially suffer if, by reason of their falling income, wards have to be closed. At more than one great hospital during recent years, considerable numbers of beds have been unavoidably kept empty, in consequence of the impecuniosity of the institution. Consequently, the probationers, staff nurses, and sisters, who would otherwise have been employed in attendance upon the sick in those beds, have not been required.

This fact has perhaps not been thoroughly realised by nurses, for there is a general impression amongst them that they are not concerned in any Hospital question outside the medical department. We lay stress upon the point, because it illustrates an argument which we have often employed that, if probationers desire to obtain the many advantages now afforded to them in a first-class nursing school, they must be prepared to pay for these in hard cash, as well as in hard work.

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