

FEVER NURSING.

A Course of Lectures on the Nursing required in Cases of Ordinary Fever.

By **MARY HARRIS,**

Matron of the Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.

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Editorial.

MIDWIVES OR NURSES.

THE question of the training of midwives is becoming one of increasing importance. We have frequently pointed out the fact that large numbers of trained nurses are nowadays undertaking maternity work, and that the majority of the best trained midwives are undoubtedly well-trained nurses. It is also hardly open to dispute that the public would be benefited if midwives could be more thoroughly and efficiently trained than they are at present. But then comes the crucial question whether these women should be educated as midwives, or as nurses; in other words, whether the midwife in future is to be regarded as a part of the medical, or as a part of the nursing, profession.

There is a strange amount of ignorance upon this subject, which should be cleared up. Midwives, in future, must be one thing or the other; they must be either midwifery practitioners or nurses. If they are midwifery practitioners they will undertake an integral part of medical practice—a part, moreover, which Parliament in the last Medical Act determined should not be undertaken by any medical practitioner, unless he were also legally qualified in medicine and surgery.

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