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LECTURES TO NURSES

ON

ANTISEPTICS IN SURGERY.

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Editorial.

MIDWIVES' LEGISLATION.

THE deputation which was received by the Duke of Devonshire last week, on the subject of legislation for Midwives, will be interesting to nurses for various reasons. In the first place, it is noteworthy that the Duke of Devonshire appears to have considerably modified his views upon this matter during the past twelve months.

In the next place, it was significant, as we noted last week, that various nursing bodies were represented in this deputation, not by nurses or midwives, but by clergymen and doctors. Recent events in the nursing world have conclusively proved the injustice of medical men attempting to manage the business affairs of nurses, and the failure and unpopularity of such an attempt; so we are convinced that the suggestion that the entire control of midwives' education and registration should be confided to a body, solely composed of medical men, is not only bad in principle, but would prove unworkable in practice. It would be eminently unjust to midwives to have no representatives of their own class upon their governing body; and, on the face of it, if they are unfit to govern themselves, they must be unfit to be accorded the State authority and prestige of Registration.

Then again, the proposal to issue a yearly license to midwives, instead of enrolling them upon a public Register, appears to us to be

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