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**Editorial.**

**THE NURSE FRAUD.**

**REMEDY.—STATE REGISTRATION.**

TO those behind the scenes as we are in the journalistic world, it is a well-known fact that superhuman efforts have been made during the past four years to keep the question of the Nurse Fraud and its inevitable remedy—State Registration of the trained and certificated nurse—out of the daily press. Every now and again an unwary editor, prompted by common sense, stumbles on to this corrosive canker in the body politic; he attacks it boldly; justice rejoices; and then, apparently without rhyme or reason, he drops it like searing cinder.

The question of fraudulent nursing was touched upon in several issues of the *Daily Mail* last week, and it actually got so far as to insert the opinion of a correspondent that State Registration was the only corrective for the existing scandalous condition of affairs. The *Mail* also

made the astounding statement that "Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Sir Henry Burdett advocate the registration of qualified nurses"—a statement which Sir Henry the wily wire puller of the "antis" has not yet had the courage to publicly deny. Then, no doubt the usual anti-registration tactics were brought to bear upon the paper in question *sub-rosa*, and the exclusion of correspondence in favour of this measure of justice to the public, and sudden silence on the whole important question, has followed in the usual course.

From a sense of duty—perhaps not unmixed with mischief—we carefully follow up these ingenious outbursts with a letter, to satisfy ourselves that this question of nursing reform, so vitally important to the public, and the sick of all classes, does not receive fair play in the press, and to accumulate evidence that, whenever it crops up, it is promptly gagged. We are quite convinced of this fact now, and learn that one powerful argument used is that State Registration of Nurses is distasteful to a Person in

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