

1. The founding and maintenance of schemes for the benefit of Nurses in the practice of their profession, and in times of adversity and old age.

2. The maintenance of an office or offices for supplying information to persons seeking for Nurses, and for persons seeking employment as Nurses.

3. The maintenance and publication of a list of persons who may have applied to the Corporation to have their names entered therein as Nurses, and whom the Corporation may think fit to enter therein from time to time, coupled with such information about each person so entered as to the Corporation may from time to time seem desirable.

4. The promotion of conferences, public meetings and lectures in connection with the general work of the Corporation.

5. The doing of anything incidental or conducive to carrying into effect the foregoing purposes.

It will be seen that the Association has only been given power to deal with *nurses*, and in issuing a list of *certificated midwives* it exceeded its legal rights. It is even presumable that the Association is not empowered to include certificated midwives on its general Roll of Nurses, much less to place them in a separate list. But the present futile attempt (we suppose to bring themselves within the lines of the Charter) to alter the fact that the London Obstetrical Society's certificate justifies those who gain and pay for it to act as midwives, but not as *midwifery nurses*, is as absurd as it is feeble. And we consider that any member of the Association who holds a certificate describing her as "a skilled midwife and competent to attend cases of natural labour," as the L.O.S. diploma asserts, has a very strong case in a Court of Law, against the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association, which has placed her name in a "list of qualified midwives," in some instances without her consent, if it states that she is only a *midwifery nurse*, and is, in consequence, *not* competent to attend cases of natural labour.

The London Obstetrical Society cannot surely sit down under this rap over the knuckles administered by the Royal British Nurses' Association in conjunction with the Medical Defence Union; and as Dr. Percival White and other medical men are members of both the former societies, it will be interesting to observe what course they will take.

The present position of both societies is as ridiculous as it is questionable. The nurses listed have the remedy in their own hands, if they have the courage to act; otherwise, between two medical factions they will be crushed out as usual.

The American Nursing World.

Miss Damer writes that rooms have been secured from September 14th for members of the International Council of Nurses at the beautiful Castle Inn, "a long fronted, stately mansion, bosomed in trees, and jealous of its historic past." It is situated in Niagara Square, and just opposite the Women's Union Buildings, where the Congress meetings are to be held.

The Castle Inn has what few hostleries possess—historical associations of great interest. The south-east corner was the home of President Millard Fillmore; and one can yet see the bay-window and arm-chair where each morning he sat while reading the paper. Wherever possible, as in the old drawing-room, the great mirrors and varicous works of art are left as they were in Mr. Fillmore's day, and from the head of the staircase a marble bust of the dead President looks down at the passer-by.

The arrangements for the International Nurses Congress are progressing apace, and the following ladies have already accepted honorary positions on the Congress programme:—

Honorary President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the International Council of Nurses; Honorary Vice-President, representing England, Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, Councillor International Council of Nurses; Honorary Vice-President, representing Scotland, Mrs. Strong, Matron Royal Infirmary, Glasgow; Honorary Vice-President, representing Ireland, Miss M. Huxley, Matron Sir Patrick Daw's Hospital, Dublin, President The Dublin Nurses' Club, Councillor International Council of Nurses.

Honorary Vice-President, representing Wales, Miss E. A. M. Wilson, Matron Cardiff Infirmary.

Honorary Vice-President, representing the Commonwealth of Australia, Miss S. B. McGahey, Matron Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, Councillor and Hon. Vice-President International Council of Nurses.

Honorary Vice-President, representing Germany, Fraulein Victoria Gervinus, Matron and Superintendent of Nurses, Victoria House, Berlin.

Honorary Vice-President, representing Italy, Miss Grace Baxter, Superintendent of Nurses, Ospedale Clinico, Naples.

Referring to a report in its last issue of the reception of a deputation of the Matrons' Council at the War Office, the Editor of the *American Journal of Nursing* remarks:—

"We congratulate the 'British Matrons' upon their courageous and womanly invasion of the War

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