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EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.

No. 708.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1901.

VOL. XXVII.

Editorial.

INTERNATIONAL UNITY ON STATE
REGISTRATION.

NOTHING has more effectively proved to us the progress of nursing organization in the United States than the contrast between its condition on our last visit in 1893 and that which now prevails. In 1893, with the exception of one small society of nurses, there was no organization of nurses in America, and legislation, *i.e.* their Registration by the State, was not in the sphere of practical politics.

To show how rapidly organization has taken place, and upon what an effective basis, it is only necessary to mention that both Superintendents and Nurses have now their National Associations, that every training school of any standing has its Society of Graduates, and also, that State Associations are now rapidly being formed for the purpose of obtaining legislation. Without doubt the most important feature of the recent International Nurses' Congress was the unanimity of every American Matron present, and of upwards of 500 trained nurse members and delegates on the question of the fundamental need for State Registration of Nurses. Nothing could have been more logical than the paper on this question presented by Mrs.

Bedford Fenwick to the Congress, nor more forcible than the quiet dignity with which Miss Isabel McIsaac, President of the Congress, and Superintendent of the largest nurse training school in the United States, proposed from the Chair the Resolution in favour of State Registration of Nurses drawn up by the Organizing Committee of the Congress.

Neither is it possible to minimize the significance of the fact that this resolution was seconded by Miss Isla Stewart, the Matron of the senior Royal Hospital in the British Empire, that it was most ably supported by Mrs. Hampton Robb, the acknowledged leader of nursing organization in the United States, by Miss Snively, the most influential and progressive Superintendent of Nurses in the Dominion of Canada, and Miss McGahey, the Lady Superintendent of Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, without doubt the most active and deeply respected Matron in Federated Australia, who not only supported the principle, and stated the action taken by Australian nurses on this question, but also spoke for Mrs. Neill in the neighbouring colony of New Zealand, whose splendid efforts to effect legislation have, we believe, at this moment been crowned with success. The forcible arguments advanced by all these

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