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EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.

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PROFICIT DEFICIT."

No. 717.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1901.

VOL. XXVII.

Editorial.

GREAT EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

IT is our usual custom in our last issue of each year to publish a summary of its chief events. This year however, it appears to us that it will be of more value to give the Report which we drew up with considerable care, for presentation at the Meeting of the International Council of Nurses in America, on the present condition of Nursing Education and Organization in Great Britain and Ireland. Of the events in the nursing world in 1901, the celebration by trained nurses of the new century by the organization of an International Congress of Nurses is unquestionably the greatest, firstly, because it was of world wide, not only of national, importance, and secondly because it was bound to have most important and far reaching effects. One of these is, the evident feeling after greater unity amongst graduate nurses, the conviction that personal differences and prejudices must be sunk for the general good, and that it is only by the exercise of a liberal spirit amongst the various cliques of nurses that our greatest professional progress will be obtained. The Congress has proved that in consultation we are all at one on broad princi-

ples, we all recognize the need for the organization and self government of our profession, and that it is "the duty of the nursing profession of every country to work for suitable legislative enactment regulating the education of nurses, and protecting the interests of the public, by securing state examination and public registration."

But, in no case will a legislature listen to a divided profession, and the lesson of the Congress, therefore, to British nurses is that sinking minor differences they must band themselves together in a united body for the attainment of professional ends, realising that so long as divisions can be fostered and maintained amongst them, those who wish to obstruct progress and to hinder their professional welfare, hold the cards. If once British nurses, in a broad and liberal spirit, band themselves together, they will speedily attain the status, and professional reforms which, in the interests both of themselves and the public, it is necessary should be granted to them.

The great event of the year, in the nursing world in this country, has been the Report issued by the Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for War to consider the re-

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