

I HAVE just seen a rough specimen copy of the first volume of the "*Nursing Record* Series of Text Books and Manuals," which the publishers hope to have ready in about a fortnight. The title is, as I have already mentioned, "Lectures to Nurses on Antiseptics in Surgery, by E. Stanmore Bishop, F.R.C.S.," and I believe that it will command a ready sale and be greatly appreciated. "Mr. Editor" has had the designing, the selection of paper, type, illustrations, binding, and what not, and the results so far are highly satisfactory.

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THE fifteenth quarterly letter to the Mary Adelaide Nurses is very interesting reading. It is signed Cecily Susan Montague, and well worth perusal, being the record of the writer's experiences and impressions of Hospital and Nursing work in India during her absence from England last winter, and the following, I regret to say, on account of want of space, is the only excerpt from it I can give.

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"It sounds strange to English ears to hear of a Hospital where there are no ventilating arrangements, because all the doors and windows are open; no heating apparatus for the Wards, because the sun almost always shines; and, above all, no beef tea in the dietary, as the faintest suspicion that any food made from the flesh of the cow—a sacred animal in India—was offered them, would drive every patient far away from the presence of Doctors and Nurses polluted by such sacrilege."

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THE meeting of the General Council of the British Nurses' Association, held last Friday, was, as I expected from the advertised agenda, very interesting. Mr. Pick, the well-known Surgeon to St. George's Hospital, took the chair. I hear that he is Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee, and has assisted the Association very largely in that capacity. Certainly the meeting was the most animated of any I have hitherto attended. The members expressed their opinions without reserve, and at the same time Mr. Pick quietly prevented any digression from the subject under discussion. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Dr. Bedford Fenwick read the report of the Executive Committee, whose recommendations as to the election of Professors Humphry and Latham as Vice-Presidents, and of Dr. Griffiths and Miss Hughes as Members of the Executive Committee, were unanimously agreed to.

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THEN a long discussion ensued upon the proposals of the Executive Committee with regard to the Registration of Nurses and Midwives, and

these were one by one proposed, seconded, and carried. I suppose Mr. Editor will in an early number give a full report of the meeting, and so I need not refer here to these at further length. Then the question of the admission of Members after the end of this year was raised, and after some discussion it was resolved that the present regulations should remain in force until March, 1890, by which time the Committee thought it would be in a position to propose final rules upon this matter. It was reported that the present system worked very well. Every candidate's application, it seems, is considered by the Executive Committee, who, I hear, are steadily raising the standard which Nurses and Midwives must reach to be elected as Members. This is only what has often been prophesied; but it will doubtless be a great disappointment to many to find themselves rejected when they have been imagining they had only to apply in order to obtain Membership.

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THE next matter was the question of the Winter Conversazione. It was pointed out that the number of Members has more than doubled since last October, and that, therefore, it would be impossible to find a place large enough to accommodate every Member, and that the entertainment must be on a larger scale altogether than it was last year. After considerable discussion the Executive Committee were requested to carry out the conversazione as appeared best to its judgment, and allot as many free tickets as the accommodation allowed to Members in the order in which they applied for them. So that first come first served is to be the rule; and I presume the same regulation will apply to the visitors' tickets. Every one who was present at the splendid gathering last December will be anxious to be at this year's conversazione, and take their friends also. It is, doubtless, needless to advise my readers to apply soon.

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A GREAT many Nurses write me from country Hospitals asking for information as to "good, but cheap" lodgings to which they could go when visiting London. They always want this, by-the-bye, "near Oxford Street," and sorrowfully I have had to assume that their requirements could not be satisfied. Now, however—I daresay as one of the practical outcomes of the B.N.A. and its avowed intention of establishing a Central Home for its Members as soon as funds allow—Miss Wood has, I learn, opened on her own account a "Nurses' Hostel" at 27, Percy Street, Tottenham Court Road. As the following are the charges and simple regulations of the establishment, Nurses may congratulate themselves that one great desideratum has been

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