

their organisation, so as to accept and enforce this lengthened curriculum. If the "cart be before the horse," we can only express our admiration at the successful progress of the quadruped impelled by the vehicle.

We might give at greater length further instances to prove the controlling and elevating influence which Registration has had over Medical education. Over Medical examination it has had an even greater, and more direct, effect, because the Council is empowered by law to send its Members to visit the examinations conducted by diploma-granting bodies in the United Kingdom, and should these report that the examinations are not efficiently conducted, the Council has strong discretionary powers of remonstrance with the implicated corporation.

Finally, in little more than ten years, Registration, and Registration alone has raised Dentists, as a class, immeasurably in professional position and in public estimation.

Surely we have said sufficient to prove our contention that Registration will—carefully and wisely conducted, as it is sure to be—lead to a corresponding elevation in the instruction, examination and certification of Trained Nurses throughout the length and breadth of the United Kingdom.

OBSTETRIC NURSING.

— BY OBSTETRICA, M.B.N.A. —

PART I.—MATERNAL.

CHAPTER III.—DUTIES IMMEDIATELY AFTER DELIVERY.

THE patient is lifted into bed and placed on her back, and now the binder passes into hands feminine, and is applied in a manner wholly different to anything I have described before. It is rolled up, and then placed over the patient's clothes and above the hips, and wound round and round as far as it goes (and as it is two yards long and fourteen inches wide it goes a long way), and when ended is fastened by four or five large pins, which Mrs. O'Dowd produces from the depths of her pocket. This method may be called rather "winding" than "binding," and is somewhat oppressive to the patient; it also has the grave disadvantage of being difficult to loosen if required. At this moment a somewhat shambling footstep is heard outside the bedroom; it is the woman's husband come back with the brandy, *not* the "dochter."

He is another man altogether. Evil example has worked evil with him; he has had a great deal more brandy or *something* else than is good for

him. His hat is stuck on one side of his head with an extreme military pitch, he is much too hilarious, and he takes very long pulls at a very short pipe; he seems to have forgotten all about his wife, for he never asks after her; he makes a great noise going downstairs, and we can hear him every now and then whistling lively Irish airs and knocking about generally.

The patient being now bound and put straight, the women begin a sort of "tidying up" process, and order begins to rise out of chaos. The handsome military quilt, gay with the regimental colours, worked by "Teddy" in his "soldiering" days (and only brought out on state occasions), is put over the bed, and altogether things assume a cheerful aspect. In spite of these hopeful arrangements the patient becomes weaker and more weak, brandy notwithstanding; and the silent evidence of a scarlet pool under the bed shows what is going on, though it does not seem to concern "Mrs. O'Dowd" much, and leads us to the conclusion that "the cleverest woman in the world" is not *quite* up to her work.

The patient becomes restless, asks to have the window open—she wants air! The request cannot be acceded to on any account. She wants a drink of cold water. That also is refused. "Mrs. O'Dowd" allows water *with* brandy, but on no consideration *without*. The grave condition of the patient cannot escape the notice of the most careless observer; and these poor, ignorant, helpless, terrified women give way to the wildest panic. They rush downstairs to the woman's husband. Roused from his stupor by the shouts of the women, urging him "to fly for his life to the Dochter"—the very women who not so long ago held him back—dazed with fear, scarcely knowing what he is doing, he starts with headlong speed on his errand, and arrives at the Doctor's house. The placid young gentleman in charge of the surgery naturally enough wants to know "what all the row is about," for our friend pretty nearly knocks the door in.

"It's the Dochter I'm wantin'!" he pants out, "and back I'll take him wid me."

"He is not in."

"Where is it he is?"

"Oh! I don't know."

"Teddy" seems half inclined to carry off the little mannikin in the Doctor's stead, and gives some incoherent expression to that effect.

"I should be of no use to you if you did," said the candid youth; but wishing to get rid of a troublesome visitor, he soothed him off with the assurance that he expected the Doctor in every minute, and the moment he came in he would come on to "Theobald's Rents."

"Teddy" departs, but (I am sorry to write

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