

The Nursing Record

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

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NOTICE.—Should any difficulty arise in obtaining the "Nursing Record" through local newsagents, it is advisable to order it direct from the Publishers.

EDITORIAL.

IT affords us extreme pleasure to be able to give this week an account of the great meeting held at the Mansion House on the 17th inst., on behalf of the British Nurses' Association. Considering the virulence with which the Association has been, and still is, attacked, we are glad of the opportunity of supplying our readers with a verbatim report of the proceedings, and intend to reprint this and circulate it widely, because there may be some who, although Nurses, and presumably proud of their profession, are in the habit of reading a paper which, week by week, loses no opportunity of vilifying their only professional association, and which has promulgated falsehood after falsehood concerning its proceedings. We never notice this periodical if we can avoid it in these columns, and only do so now in con-

sequence of the number of indignant letters which we have received from our readers. To these we would reply, "You have the remedy in your own hands. If you dislike to be abused, held up to public scorn, and vilified by this newspaper, do not buy or read it, and, what is more, so far as lies in your power, persuade your friends not to do so either." Condemnation from such a quarter would, to honourable men, appear to be high praise. And on good authority we are informed that in this light the managers of the British Nurses' Association have always regarded the utterly false and malicious attacks which this periodical alone, amongst the hundreds of organs of the English Press, has made upon the Association. But the speeches which we report this week and next are the most complete refutations of the statements made by "pamphleteers and anonymous letter writers," and the most crushing and dignified reply to these which could possibly have been made.

In another part of this journal to-day we reprint a paragraph which was sent to the newspapers, with the request that it might appear upon the day of the Mansion House Meeting. We do so because we consider it but just and right that both sides of this question should be clearly stated, and because we have a few words ourselves to say upon this so-called "Memorial." It bears certain names which every one respects, in conjunction, however, with those of people whose animus against the Association is well known and its reason thoroughly understood. The latter, therefore, are beyond argument; but we would, as a matter of justice, ask the attention of the former ladies and gentlemen to the other aspects of the matter from that which has been, doubtless, told to them.

Surprise is expressed at the statement that Registration of Nurses "is in conformity with a great public want and a wide-spread professional demand." Why "surprise"? Is the statement not believed? Have honourable men and women

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