

leading Medical men and Hospital Matrons. I hear that Mr. Editor has a verbatim report of the proceedings, and need therefore only tell how impressive a sight was the great hall, filled by at least eight hundred people, and how warmly the eloquent speeches of Mr. Savory, Sir Crichton Browne and Mr. Brudenell Carter were received. It shows conclusively how successful the Association is, that the three foremost orators in the Medical profession are included amongst its Members, and came forward together to support its views and demolish the criticism of its opponents.

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SIR CRICHTON BROWNE, who quietly pulverised Dr. Sansom's and Miss Lückes's statements against the Association, was frequently interrupted during the process by laughter and applause. No secret was made of the considerable opposition to which the Association had been subjected, but one speaker after another considered that this antagonism was the best possible proof of its success. If anything, indeed, were wanting to prove this, the list of the speakers was quite sufficient to do so. To find the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and the past and present Presidents of the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, the Senior Physician to Guy's Hospital, and the Editor of the *Lancet*, combining to support the aims and objects of the Association, is the most crushing reply possible to the "pamphleteers and anonymous letter writers" who have attacked it.

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So all the sound and fury which literally signifieth nothing has been wasted on thin air, for there is nothing to oppose. But, then, the Mansion House Meeting is heard of, and the editors of London papers are besought to allow a "Memorial" against the Association to appear on the same day. A few do so, with the natural result that far more attention is attracted to the proceedings than would otherwise have been the case. And then these proceedings demolish at once the chief contention of the "Memorial"—that the Association is not in harmony with the wishes of the Medical and Nursing world.

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BUT because the Charter was not discussed, say these ingenuous people, there was "nothing done." They are quite alone in this belief. The reporters and leader writers of every paper in the kingdom think that a good deal of business was done. The real state and objects of the Association have been clearly defined and understood, and the accounts of them are now being carried to the most distant parts of the civilised world. I strongly suspect that the managers of the Association are very well satisfied with what was done, and so will every

friend of the Association be. Now comes the annual meeting of Members at Cambridge, and then the first session of the British Nurses' Association will be finished. Looking back, what an unbroken record of success upon success the last nine months has been!

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BUT now I must remind all Nurses and Midwives that the Nurses' and Midwives' Registers are to be soon opened. So all who desire to have their names enrolled should write without delay to Miss Wood, 8, Oxford Circus Avenue, Oxford Street, London, asking for particulars and forms of application, and enclosing always a stamped and addressed envelope for a reply. I hear that only until the end of this year will Nurses be registered who have not received a Training School Certificate, but that these five months will be a "period of grace," as it is termed, during which Nurses of high character and professional merit, even if not certificated, will be eligible for Registration. My readers should clearly understand that it has always been the rule to make admission to a professional Register more and more difficult as time goes on, so that the sooner everyone becomes registered the better for herself.

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SOME, I know, say they will wait until the Royal Charter has been gained. But they must remember that all that the Charter can do will be to give increased prestige to the Register, which will then be already formed, and in public use. It will not make Registered Nurses any more skilled than now. But it almost certainly will increase the expenses of the Registration Board, and therefore increase the fees which Nurses will then have to pay upon Registration. In every way, therefore, the sooner a Nurse can be registered, the better for herself.

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I AM very glad to hear that Miss Close has been appointed the Matron of the Royal Infirmary at Newcastle. She has seen a great deal of Nursing work in London and the provinces, and in active service in Egypt. She is a distinguished *Diplômée* of the Obstretical Society, and for some years has filled the post of Matron of the Kensington Infirmary, with great credit to herself and much advantage to the Institution. She will, I doubt not, be very popular at Newcastle, and I wish her heartily all success and happiness in her new work.

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LADIES who have had some some training as Nurses are greatly needed by the Invalided Children's Aid Association to help in the society's work among the seriously invalided and crippled

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