

tected fire, the kettle from the spout of which the children are apt to drink, and the cheap paraffin lamp are probably accountable for others. It cannot be too strongly insisted upon that fires in rooms where young children are often left alone should always be protected by a guard.

The Community of the Nursing Sisters of St. John the Divine, whose object is the training and employment of Sisters and Nurses for Hospitals, private families, and the poor, is

publish, is of a Poplar patient. We could wish that all institutions which undertake midwifery among the poor followed the excellent example of the St. John's Sisters in the standard maintained. The Superior pleads in the Report for "an advance in the standard of training for midwives, whose general nursing training is not insisted upon or sufficiently provided for. St. John's nurses are not allowed to enter upon that kind of training till their three years' general training is completed, but usually this is not the case, and she sees numbers of women



AN ITALIAN MOTHER AND BAMBINO.

doing a useful work in South Kensington, Lewisham, Deptford, and Poplar. The Sister Superior, Miss A. I. Beaver, writes:—"Only those working in Poplar find out the interest and the poetry and artistic effects to be found amongst poor there. We have so many of Italian nationality, and also, I think, of all colours amongst our out-patients, including alien Jews." The picture of the Italian mother and bambino which we are kindly allowed to

passed who have not necessarily had any nursing training at all, or at most very little. Other countries far poorer, less advanced in other ways, and far less able to bear the expense involved, will not tolerate this, and insist on their midwives being properly trained. And it seems England should cease to be so far behind, and at any rate make some attempt to prevent such a retrograde state of things."

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