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Contents.

EDITORIAL.—AN INCORPORATED PROFESSION.—III.	181
OBSTETRIC NURSING. BY OBSTETRICA, M.B.N.A....	182
PRACTICAL LESSONS IN ELECTRO-THERAPEUTICS. BY ARTHUR HARRIES, M.D., AND H. NEWMAN LAWRENCE, MEMBER INSTITUTION ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS	184
PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION.—XVI. BY EMILY LOUISA SYMONDS	185
NURSING ECHOES. BY S. G.	187
WOMEN AND THEIR WORK. BY VEVA KARSLAND	190
"NURSING RECORD" BENEVOLENT FUND	192
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	192

EDITORIAL.

AN INCORPORATED PROFESSION.—III.

CONTINUING the subject which we have been discussing in this column for the past two weeks, we may remind our readers that we have proved that in every section of the Charter granted to the Institute of Journalists which we have thus far considered, we have been able conclusively to prove two things:—Firstly, that in every particular the powers granted are precisely identical, not only with those which are to be sought for on behalf of the British Nurses' Association, but in several instances even authorise schemes which the Association has already carried into practical effect for its members. Secondly, that inasmuch as the Privy Council has granted these powers to one profession, it is most improbable that it would decline to endow another calling with similar privileges.

But we have not, it will be remembered, exhausted the provisions of the journalists' Charter, nor completed the comparison, therefore, which we have commenced to draw. Returning then to Section G, in addition to the schemes—to which we alluded last week—for promoting

personal and friendly meetings of members and conferences for the discussion of professional matters, we find that other very important proposals are also included under the same heading. Because we read that authority is given "for the compilation, constant revision and publication of lists and registers of journalists, and of records of events and proceedings of interest to journalists." In other words, here is exactly the same system of Registration shadowed forth for the members of the Fourth Estate of the realm, the adoption of which we have unceasingly and steadfastly supported in the case of Nurses from the very first issue of this Journal. Apparently, therefore, it is not considered rank and red revolution for professional writers to ask for their names to be enrolled upon a common Register. We have not heard of the three tailors of Tooley Street and their lady friend meeting together to protest against the iniquity of this proposal; nor have the mighty four pervaded the daily press of the United Kingdom, under a number of assumed titles and fictitious initials, in imitation of the trumpets of the ancient Israelites. All these little wiles, stratagems, and menaces are, it seems, reserved for women, who are imagined to be defenceless—Nurses to wit. Because of course every one is well aware how the attempt upon their part to purge their profession of ignorant, bad, and criminal women; to protect the public from the hundreds of such women now at work calling themselves Nurses; to gain the means already given by law to other professions of distinguishing the skilled members of the calling from impostors who would usurp their title; to institute, in short, a Register of Trained Nurses, and remove from that Register the names of women who disgraced their vocation—has been met and opposed.

We do not presume that any man or woman of sound mind, throughout the length and breadth of the British Empire, would assert that it is one iota as important for the healthy to be provided with trained journalists as it is for the sick to secure

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)