

trained women when skilled Nursing is necessary. And yet here we have the strange anomaly of a Liberal Duke—a man universally respected as chivalrous, honourable, and open-minded—being persuaded to publicly oppose Nurses in their endeavours to gain Registration for themselves and their fellow-workers, while he absolutely takes a prominent part in enforcing exactly the same system, when it is demanded for exactly the same reasons by Plumbers. We can only believe that he has been not only entirely misled and misinformed, but is even entirely ignorant of the real facts of the case. Perhaps he is unaware that nearly three thousand Trained Nurses—one quarter of the whole number at work in the United Kingdom—have in two years joined the British Nurses' Association, for the primary, express purpose of obtaining Registration; that hundreds of the leaders of the medical profession are—if not also members—at least in active sympathy with them in the movement; that the medical press of the country, and this, the Nursing Journal, are most strongly supporting the scheme. Perhaps he is unaware that the opposition to Registration chiefly springs from an official of the Stock Exchange, who attempted himself to start a Register of Nurses, and from a medical man, who little more than two years ago wrote a paper in strenuous support of his scheme. If the Duke of Westminster is not aware of these significant facts, we commend them to his consideration, and cannot doubt as to the effect they will have upon his judgment and future action in this matter.

But to return to our argument. The journalists, be it noted then, have, without the shadow of a shade of opposition, been granted this power of enforcing a system of Registration of all the members of their calling, and they are pledged to revise and publish their Register.

Passing on to the next section (H), we find that it relates to "the formation of a library or libraries for the use of members of the Institute." Once more we may recall the fact that the Nurses' Association has already taken this step, and that a library of works of reference is now being formed at the offices of the Association, which, from all accounts, will be equally valuable and valued.

(I) provides for "the encouragement, establishment or development of a professional journal for journalists." In other words, it is proposed that the Institute should either adopt as its own official organ some Journal already in existence, or establish a new paper for that purpose. The first course for many reasons would probably be best, especially on the score of economy. The British Nurses' Association of course fails in this particular, as it not only has no periodical of its

own, but, so far as we are aware, has taken on steps to adopt any existing journal as its official organ. We cannot but think that the Association would very greatly enhance its usefulness to its members, and even its own popularity and strength, if it could gain a paper devoted to its own interests in either one or other of these ways. Indeed, we cannot believe that the Association can ever be perfectly successful in binding its members together, scattered as they are all over the world, without some such means of intercommunication, such as an official journal would afford. We have, as our readers know, consistently supported the Association with all our power, and defended it frequently from the many attacks which have been made upon it. But we are necessarily so ignorant of the proceedings and proposals of the Association, that we are unable to give a tithe of the assistance which would be possible were we in constant official touch with it. And consequently sometimes it has been courteously intimated to us that we have misinterpreted its views, while at other times we were well aware that our efforts of support were seriously hampered. We venture to commend these remarks to the attention of the managers of the Association, and would, to emphasize them, remind them how completely the prosperity of the British Medical Association has been bound up with, and in fact has risen with, the prosperity of the great monument of Mr. Ernest Hart's literary genius, *The British Medical Journal*.

OBSTETRIC NURSING.

— BY OBSTETRICA, M.B.N.A. —

PART I.—MATERNAL.

CHAPTER VI.—LACTATION (DUTIES DURING).

(Continued from page 172.)

BEFORE entering upon the duties of this critical period of convalescence, we will just glance at the phenomena upon which lactation depends and co-exists.

The mammary symptoms of gestation are almost coeval with conception, and follow as it were the various developments of the uterus during the whole of pregnancy, and for some time after delivery. About mid-period, when the enlarging uterus is ascending into the abdomen, the mammary signs become more marked, effecting alterations in the breasts, the nipples, and the areolæ. With respect to enlargement of the former, I may remark, *en passant*, that it may be due to other changes in the uterus besides pregnancy, for when that organ becomes abnormally increased in size,

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