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EDITORIAL.

IN the consideration which we have thus far bestowed upon the important question raised by Mr. WARRINGTON HAWARD, cause has been shown to warrant the judgment that in future, even more than at the present time, all women desirous of becoming professional attendants upon the sick will be obliged first to pass through a complete course of training in general Nursing, whether thereafter they devote their attention more particularly to one branch of their calling or not. Also that, while events seem to be moving in the direction of the formation of a class of specialists for Obstetric Nursing, advanced education will tend to make the great majority general practitioners for Medical and Surgical cases rather than specialists in either one or the other branch; and that it is most improbable that there will ever be formed classes of Nurses who solely undertake either day or night duty respectively. The ground then having thus far been cleared, it remains to discuss whether it is probable that there will be established special attendants on fever, on ophthalmic, on ovariectomy cases and the like; whether "there should be Nurses for adults and Nurses for

children; Nurses for Hospital work and Nurses for private practice."

In considering the first question, many of the arguments are applicable which we lately employed while debating the matter, as it related to Medical and Surgical Nurses. Because all our readers are probably aware of the frequency with which purely Medical complications occur during the progress of one of the exanthemata. We presume that, of all the fevers, the one which requires the most nursing is typhoid, and yet both in its progress and treatment it is entirely distinct from all other fevers, and much more nearly allied to such a purely Medical case as gastric ulcer. Then, again, when the nose and lung troubles which so often accompany measles, the throat dangers and the kidney mischief associated with scarlet fever, the eye and skin and brain affections caused by small-pox, are remembered, there can be no dispute that the attendant in each and every case must be no specialist either for Medical and Surgical work, if she is to render efficient aid in the treatment. The only arguments, indeed, which can be advanced in favour of fever Nursing being regarded as a speciality is upon the ground of infection.

It might be urged that for the public weal those who tend patients stricken with fever should not be permitted to take charge of ordinary cases, and that for the sake of the Nurses themselves those women only should be exposed to the danger of contagion who had, so to speak, become acclimated to it; who had either themselves suffered from every fever, or had by nursing previous cases shown themselves unsusceptible to empoisonment. This argument is doubtless weighty enough as applied to Hospital Nurses. Those working in general wards should not be deputed now and again to watch over infectious cases. But there are now-a-days few Institutions where

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