

Cresolene Vaporiser
 (PAGE'S) for
WHOOPING COUGH.
 Inhalation of Cresolene Vapour gives great relief, and cuts short an attack of this distressing complaint.

Allen & Hanburys'
A Castor Oil
 Tasteless. Pure. Active.
 Sold everywhere at 6d., 1/19 & 3/.

Nursing ^{THE} Record.

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

No. 115. THURSDAY, JUNE 12th, 1890. VOL. 4.

Contents.

EDITORIAL.—A FALSE ACCUSATION	277
OBSTETRIC NURSING. BY OBSTETRICA, M.B.N.A....	278
PRACTICAL LESSONS IN ELECTRO-THERAPEUTICS. BY ARTHUR HARRIES, M.D., AND H. NEWMAN LAWRENCE, MEMBER INSTITUTION ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS	279
SPECIALISM FOR NURSES	281
TERMS USED IN NURSING, THEIR ORIGIN AND MEANING	282
NURSING ECHOES. BY S. G.	285
WOMEN AND THEIR WORK. BY VEVA KARSLAND	286
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	287

EDITORIAL.

A FALSE ACCUSATION.

IT may be confidently affirmed that from the first issue of this journal we have steadfastly supported the British Nurses' Association. We have fully recognised the difficulties against which the Association has had to contend, and so far as we have been able to do so we have defended it against the attacks which have been made upon it. No one can, therefore, accuse us of being in the slightest measure unfriendly to it; and what we now propose to say is dictated solely by a desire for its future welfare. We cannot believe that its Executive Committee are aware of the widespread feeling amongst Nurses concerning the attacks which week by week have been, and are being, made by a contemporary upon the Association and all its works; and we are even inclined to think that the very fact that these attacks are made may be unknown to the managers of the Association, because from several sources we have learnt that these ladies and gentlemen never see the paper in question. We have always doubted the wisdom of this attitude of ignoring open enmity, and now take leave to express our

reasons for the scepticism. The great majority of Nurses cannot afford to purchase better class lay or professional papers, and, therefore, they are unable in their busy lives to learn what opinion the Medical profession and the public hold of the British Nurses' Association. This body, on the other hand, has no official organ of its own, and, therefore, possesses no means of informing its members in particular, and the Nursing profession in general, of its proceedings and its prospects, nor of confuting any false statements which may be made concerning these matters.

Such a condition of affairs must always be a source of weakness to any Association, as we have frequently pointed out in these columns; and, in the case of the B.N.A., the fact of its powerlessness to protect itself has undoubtedly emboldened its assailants to again and again attack it. But the great body of Nurses do not yet understand the great objects for which the Association is so bravely and wisely contending. They only learn once a year, by means of an Annual Report, what it is doing. They do not know that the *Hospital* newspaper was entirely started, and is chiefly owned and chiefly edited by Mr. Henry C. Burdett, who, less than three years ago, was himself endeavouring to open a Register of Nurses. Nurses do not know that many of the leaders of their own and of the Medical profession, repudiating the ridiculous idea of Nurses being registered under such auspices, formed the British Nurses' Association to carry out this and other objects. Of course the Association has succeeded, because it attracted to itself at once a large number of the educated Nurses, who preferred to be organised under professional control to being registered, like domestic servants, by any outsider who craved for notoriety.

But it is well that Nurses should be made aware of these significant facts, because it at once ex-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)