

THE Nursing Record.

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

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On and after Thursday, January 1st, the price of the "Nursing Record" will be reduced to One Penny per week; and commencing with that issue it will contain new features of interest, and although thus materially reduced in price will probably be increased in size.

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EDITORIAL.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL DEFENCE.—II.

WE noticed, last week, the Report which was presented to the Governors of the London Hospital by the House Committee "On the allegations which have been recently made against the Nursing Department," and now we must humbly confess an error. We stated, last week, that the Committee "appointed three of its number to investigate" these allegations. We have received an anonymous and violently abusive letter, to the effect that this statement of ours is an "absolute atrocious falsehood," and that if we "had taken the elementary precaution to read the Report itself we would have found that the Sub-Committee were appointed to *report*, and not to *investigate* the question at all." We take no notice, as a rule, of anonymous communications, but we are simply

seekers after the truth, and therefore we hasten to comment upon this one.

We believe we can state without fear of contradiction that we have never, in these columns, made one assertion which we could not abundantly justify by irrefutable proofs. But our choleric critic is perhaps right, and although on page 6 of the document before us the words occur, "throughout our enquiry"—which we would dare to suggest to him appears as though some kind of inquiry had taken place—still we frankly confess that the heading of the document bears out his contention strongly. Because it runs thus:—"Report of the Sub-Committee appointed on the 14th of October, to report to the House Committee on the allegations which have been recently made against the Nursing Department." If the Sub-Committee then was only appointed to "report on the allegations," not to inquire into them, and actually did nothing but report, we were giving the Committee credit to which not another single act which it has performed has entitled it—the credit forsooth of inquiring into the serious charges against its management before it reported to the public that "they were extravagant and incredible." If the Sub-Committee did not "investigate," we retract in all humility what must have appeared to the Committee to have been merely sarcasm upon our part. Still in any case our readers will remember that we pointed out last week that, at best, the inquiry must have been a very one-sided performance, seeing that one hour only, out of six weeks, was given to hearing those who had brought forward the charges.

But we pass on now to consider the Report of the Reporters *seriatim*. When we have done that, we shall call attention to the many other charges which the Reporters have carelessly—or conveniently—overlooked. And we warn the Committee of the London Hospital that the entire blame for the revelations which will in future be made, for the greater scandals which will arise, for the greater damage to the reputa-

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