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THE **Nursing Record.**

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

No. 155.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19th, 1891.

VOL. 6.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Those of our subscribers who wish to notify change of address must send such notification in order that it may reach the publishers NOT LATER than the Monday morning before publishing, otherwise the change cannot be made.

EDITORIAL.

THE REGISTRATION OF MIDWIVES.

OUR readers may remember that for two consecutive weeks, recently, we devoted some consideration to this question, and arrived at the conclusion that Midwives were—as a class of women holding that distinctive title—doomed to disappear from these islands, probably within a very limited time, their place being taken by a much better educated and more efficient race of workers—Obstetric Nurses. We now take an opportunity of expressing our gratitude to the large number of medical gentlemen who have written to us on this matter, and ask them to

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accept our apologies. The mass of our correspondence on this subject has been so great that it has been impossible to reply individually to all the kind letters which we have received. We venture, however, to remind those whom we are glad to number now among our readers that in the action which we have taken, and in the criticisms which we have made upon the Midwives' Bill, we have been actuated chiefly by the desire to avert a great professional danger, as well as to prevent a piece of mischievous legislation. The principle of the Midwives' Bill was the conferment of a State recognition, and authority to practise Midwifery, upon women. The somewhat hysterical promoters of the Bill were willing to accept anything or everything provided only this principle was conceded by Parliament, and so when the first Bill was met by opposition, part of them declared that it was "utterly bad," and the rest meekly accepted the description. New clauses were drafted which, if possible, were more ridiculous and unworkable than any in the original measure. We have proved this before, and need not again demonstrate it, but merely draw attention to the indisputable fact, that this Bill would have placed ignorant and uneducated women, who had perhaps at the most had three months' experience in Midwifery, on a level as practitioners with educated medical men who, in addition perhaps to a University career, had spent at least four years in medical study. So densely oblivious were the promoters of this Bill to the absurdity of their position, that they actually attempted to make reasoning beings believe that they were seeking such legislation as this on behalf of

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