

muslin does not hinder any of these purposes, it keeps the poultice together and avoids "mess," it comes away clean. When removed for renewal, have it burned *at once*. I think you will find the plan I have described good for our purpose; it is clean, convenient, and efficacious, though for my part I prefer bran or hop stupes. I told you how to prepare them in a previous paper, but of course it is necessary for an Obstetric to be able to carry out any plan that may be ordered by the accoucheur.

I have now completed all I have to tell you about the maternal portion of our work, and in my next paper we will enter upon the supremely important duties required in the second division of my subject—the infantile.

END OF PART I.

### NURSING ECHOES.

\*.\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

I AM asked to remind my readers of the Sessional Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association, which will be held to-morrow (Friday) evening, at eight o'clock, at 20, Hanover Square, when Miss Homersham will read a paper on "The Spread of Sanitary Knowledge by District Nurses." The Association is to be con-



gratulated on the excellence of the subjects always provided for discussion. The Members have still much room for improvement, however, in the employment of their opportunities. It is very unfair to throw the maintenance of the whole discussion upon the officials, who must have their hands already over full with the many works in which the Association is now engaged.

I SEE that the unhappy Hospitals' Association—which seems to be still in existence—is to hold a meeting on Wednesday to discuss the question of the Registration of Midwives. One cannot help recalling the scathing remarks of the *Lancet* upon the *fiasco* of the Association over its attempt to undertake the Registration of Nurses. No one takes much notice of its proceedings now, and

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most people imagined that it had died of inanition. Some months ago we pointed out that its accounts for 1889 showed a deficit, and in 1890 it evidently feared our further criticism, because it published no accounts at all in its annual report—a fact which needs no comment, especially as during the year it had received donations as a charitable undertaking. The cream was very carefully removed some two years ago, and then figure heads were put up as usual to imbibe the gradually diminishing amount of skimmed milk *kudos*, and to bear the discredit which always attaches to a Society which takes public money, but overlooks the necessity of publishing its accounts in its report.

BUT with reference to this coming meeting, I presume it will be taken no notice of by the opponents of the Bill. Dr. Röntoul and his colleagues have been completely successful. The Government has considered the matter, and the Lord President of the Council the other day described the measure as "an impossible Bill," while Sir Walter Foster, its strongest supporter, has written a letter to the *British Medical Journal*, stating that the Bill is dead. It is eminently characteristic and appropriate, therefore, that the Hospitals' Association should take an immediate opportunity of performing a funeral service over its remains.

FOR nine months we have been patiently and persistently drawing attention to the London Hospital scandals. Now, despite the Herculean efforts which have been made to keep the facts from the public, the truth is beginning to leak out. The latest proof of this is an excellent article on the London Hospital and its Nurses, which appears in this month's *National Review*, written with judicial impartiality. The author—at least, I presume the writer is a man—is, I imagine, keenly alive to the gross injustice and tyranny revealed by the evidence in the Blue Book. I advise all my readers who can do so, to read the article—it is well worth reading for its charming literary style. Mr. Wilkins is especially severe on the Matron's Register of Nurses. He says: "The way this book is kept is most discreditable and unbusinesslike; in fact, it appears to be a receptacle for all the ill-natured gossip throughout the establishment. Instead of terse businesslike reports, we have long-winded garrulous statements, many of which are evidently written with a malicious bias." For instance, one Nurse is

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