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# Nursing Record.

"QUI NON PROFICIT, DEFICIT."

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## EDITORIAL.

### THE PERSECUTION OF NURSES.—III.

WE return to our consideration of the reasons advanced by the opponents of the Royal British Nurses' Association for objecting to its incorporation without the addition of the word "Limited" to its name. This, be it remembered, is the only matter before the Board of Trade, which officially knows nothing about a Register of Nurses, and has only to consider whether the conditions for incorporation laid down by the law have been fulfilled or not. We have shown the sublime absurdity therefore of advancing theoretical ideas as to the possible effects of Registration on generations yet unborn, as arguments why the Royal British Nurses'

Association should not be incorporated under that name, but as the Royal British Nurses' Association (Limited). "Reason" 3 brings in more unproved—and therefore equally irrelevant—statements, for it runs as follows:—

"That such a Register would be prejudicial to the interests of the Nurses themselves by lowering the position of the most competent, without correspondent improvement to the less capable, and would have therefore the effect of lowering the standard of Nursing generally."

How these terrible results are going to follow from the printing and publishing of a book containing a number of Nurses' names and addresses, and the character, place, and length of the Hospital training which each had received, is to our minds an unfathomable mystery. But it will appear to all unprejudiced people that the entire absence of arguments which such "reasons" as these reveal, betokens an extraordinarily weak case. And then arises the natural inquiry which we hear from all sides now—Why are these Hospitals so afraid of this Association? What evil hath it done that it should be so unreasonably opposed?

But "reason" 4 brings us something more definite than the foregoing vague generalities:—

"That the British Nurses' Association being opposed in its views by all the leading Nurse-training Schools, and not having any substantial claim to represent the great body of Nurses for the sick, is not entitled to claim the privilege which it seeks; and that a copy of these resolutions, signed by the Chairman of the meeting, be forwarded to the President of the Board of Trade."

We are informed that the wonderful jumble of a "reason" and a resolution in this last paragraph was due to the fact that there were no more speakers present at the meeting to propose the

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