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**EDITORIAL.**

THE air is becoming full of scandals connected with the Nursing Departments of Hospitals, and on every side there are rumours of other revelations which are about to be made. The latest refers to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and has been brought before the public by our contemporary *Truth*. The facts which have been stated in its columns require most careful consideration. We should have preferred—if it had been possible—to have made no reference to this new matter, but to have continued our crusade against the iniquitous Nursing arrangements of the London Hospital. But the charges advanced against St. Bartholomew's are too serious to be overlooked by a Nursing Journal, and the lessons which the action of the authorities at that great institution teach are too valuable and instructive to be unnoticed in these pages.

And above and beyond all this, the mere fact that so sturdy an opponent and searcher out of abuses, as *Truth* has ever proved itself, should have taken up this subject, is a powerful argument as to the necessity, which times without number we have urged, for inquiry and reform in Hospital Nursing matters. We commenced our campaign knowing full well the opprobrium which would at first be cast upon us—clearly counting the great cost to ourselves, and yet holding that it was our bounden duty not only to Nurses, but to the sick public, that the glaring evils which exist in the London Hospital should be made known and remedied. We have for many months persistently advanced facts which were beyond refutation; and in the name of justice and humanity demanded reform. We have seemed to preach to ears that were wilfully stopped, but have been cheered by seeing the seed growing slowly and steadily—now here, now there—in provincial papers, in London clubs—until now we know that it is being discussed freely in the very lobbies of the legislative Houses of the realm. And in steadfastness and singleness of purpose we shall pursue our denunciation of the scandals at the London Hospital until every one of them has been obliterated.

The gravamen of the charge, however, against St. Bartholomew's is that its Nursing Staff has been severely suffering from inefficient attention to sanitary matters; that a very large proportion of the Nurses have been attacked by typhoid and diphtheria; and that this may be explained, our contemporary considers, by the fact that a dormitory for the Nurses has been made out of what was formerly a fever ward. That is the one and only charge—a trifle compared with the enormities proved to exist at the London Hospital. But the difference in the attitude taken

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