

or in private, was given to the Association of refuting them. The Board of Trade, indeed, seemed to take to itself the office of a tribunal, but it failed in the important duty of giving a hearing impartially to both sides. But there is another fact to be borne in mind. According to the Act of Parliament, and the terms in which it is framed, and according to the opinion of one of its framers, this Association was in every way entitled to receive the powers for which it made application. In view of this situation, I cannot refrain from asking myself this question—Is it consistent with dignity, and the duty which this Council owes to all the Members of the Association, from the highest to the lowest, that we should tacitly resign ourselves to the position in which we have been placed? I, for one, am unable to give any answer but a decided negative to that question. Seeing, then, that the doors of the Board of Trade have been resolutely closed against us, we can but adopt the suggestion offered to us more than once by Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH. We will not go back, as you, sir, have well said. I myself hail with very great pleasure the opportunity of going before the Privy Council, since all statements made to that body will be subjected to a thorough scrutiny. I feel certain

that the more our aims and work are known the more the public will approve of them, and be ready to view with approbation any powers given us. I hope this meeting will support the motion by a unanimous vote, and I believe that the reasonableness of our cause will secure a successful issue before an impartial tribunal, (Loud applause.)

The CHAIRMAN: The meeting will be happy to receive observations from any Member. This is a critical point in the history of the Association, and we shall be glad to hear any views, whether for or against the proposal just laid before you. [After a pause]: If no one else wishes to speak, I will read the resolution, and put it to the meeting.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and with prolonged acclamation.

Dr. BEDFORD FENWICK: I am directed by Her Royal Highness to announce that this resolution having been carried by the Council, she proposes to make the necessary application for a Royal Charter for the Association, to HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN in Council, in her own name. The Association, and, indeed, the whole Nursing profession, feels a deep debt of gratitude to Her Royal Highness for her constant interest and support to this movement to secure justice to

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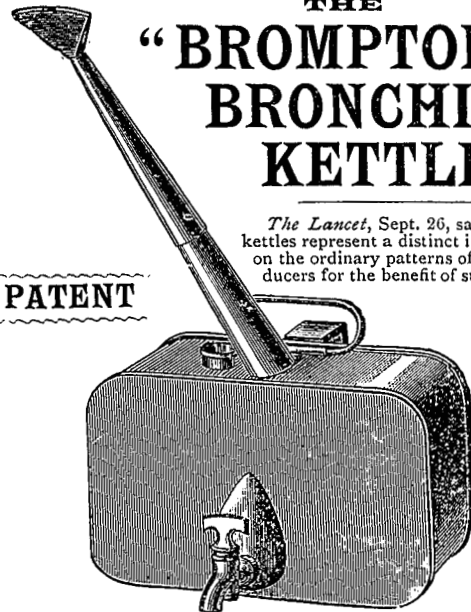
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