

scribed for the purpose of relieving the bodily ills of those whose lot has been cast in such districts, apply these funds to subsidize doctors for a few years until the districts become more densely populated? By this means the doctor would be able to eke out an existence and the people would be better served, and they, themselves, would retain their independence, as they would be required to pay for their medical attendance the same as others. Again, there are now in existence this country a number of institutions where young women are being trained practically for the special work of nursing the sick and the afflicted. Even if it is necessary to send nurses into the thinly settled districts of our Dominion, why establish an order of nurses outside of the graduates of these training schools, and practically set them up in opposition to those who have already voluntarily devoted themselves to this noble work? We have already said that we believe that doctors would be better than nurses, but if doctors are not available and nurses must be utilized, why not make use of those who have prepared themselves at our training schools, and not financially aid a special order to the injury of those who are already in the field? We believe, however, that it is not in the interest of the public that nurses should be expected to perform the duties of a doctor. Statistics will bear us out in this belief. In the case of confinement, for the management of which nurses are probably better fitted than for any other part of a doctor's work, statistics will show that the percentage of cases of septicæmia and death is much higher in those cases attended by midwives than in those attended by members of the medical profession. Why, then, further jeopardize the lives of those who bear our children? The duty of the doctor is one and the duty of the nurse is another. No one should be called upon to perform the duties of both. If, then, the establishment of this order is unnecessary, and if the carrying on of its work is impracticable and dangerous, the order is bound to prove a failure. Do we in Canada wish to have a memorial of our beloved Queen's Jubilee of such a character that it will assuredly prove a failure, and in a few years at most be a thing of the past—only remembered to be regretted. Assuredly not. Let us have something permanent.