

spontaneous action of all, alike interested, to extend the principles of confederation we now enjoy, so as to unite us as a profession, strengthen our position as a body, and thus increase our sphere of usefulness.

There is a point to which I would now desire to call the attention of this Association, viz., the advisability of having thoroughly trained female nurses. In private as well as hospital practice we constantly experience a great want in this respect. In each of the large cities having extensive hospital accommodation, some system might be inaugurated by which those desirous of becoming skilled nurses might avail themselves of the facilities offered, and in course of time, supply a deficiency now generally felt in the practice of the profession. Such skilled nurses to obtain certificates of qualification and fitness for the position of honour and trust. Every town and city in the Dominion would gladly encourage the employment of such talent, and in that sphere woman would occupy her true position, as the administerer of the prescribed medicines, capable as she is of those soothing, delicate and kindly attentions, so necessary at the sick bedside, and so cheering and gratifying to the patient. Miss NIGHTINGALE has thus fully expressed her ideas:

"I think the Anglo-Saxon would be very sorry to turn woman out of his own house, or out of civil hospitals, hotels, institutions of all kinds, and substitute men-housekeepers and men-matrons. The contrast between even naval hospitals, where there are female nurses, and military hospitals, where there are none, is most striking in point of order and cleanliness."