

**TRAINING SCHOOLS  
FOR NURSES IN  
SMALL CITIES**

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Training schools for nurses in small cities by A. Worcester

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**A. WORCESTER**

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# Training Schools for Nurses in Small Cities

BY

A. WORCESTER, A.M., M.D.

FELLOW OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY, MEMBER OF THE  
OBSTETRICAL SOCIETY OF BOSTON, PHYSICIAN TO THE  
WALTHAM HOSPITAL

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## PREFACE.

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Since the first publication of the second paper of this series, many questions have been addressed to the author by those who are desirous of establishing Training Schools. The reprints of that paper having been exhausted, it has been more than ever impossible by letter-writing to supply the sought for information.

In deciding to republish the paper, it has seemed well to publish with it a more complete history of the Waltham Training School than was originally given, and also a paper upon the same subject, but more in direct reply to the questions that have been asked.

WALTHAM, May 1, 1888.

A. W.

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## PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION.

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The first three parts of this book were published under the title of "A New Way of Training Nurses"\* in 1888. The propositions therein advanced have since received continually increasing proof of their utility, as may be seen in the fourth paper of this series.

WALTHAM, May 1, 1893.

A. W.

\*Cupples & Hurd, Boston.

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## HOW TO START A NURSES' TRAINING SCHOOL.

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In every community, and especially in small towns, no little difficulty attends the inauguration of any enterprise. No exception to this rule will be made in favor of a scheme to train nurses. The conservatives will try to throw cold water upon it by asking in great alarm what would become of Widow Smith and Spinster Green, who, as it is, can barely earn their bread, now that the city nurses are employed in so many of the wealthiest families. And with the next breath they will ask who in town would be willing to employ young, ignorant nurses.

There is no denying that an innovation is contemplated. The public has learned to respect physicians who do not profess to know everything, but not to respect the same trait in nurses. The old style nurse was not an unmixed blessing, and one of her most serious faults was that she never would confess to ignorance of anything. She had always "seen a worse case"; and, to prove it, she was too ready to rehearse all its horrors. But she was a great worker. Up at daylight, after no matter how broken a night, she would have the patient's washing out on the line before breakfast; by dinner time it would all be ironed; and by supper time half the family mending would be done. Any offer of a substitute watcher by day or night would be scornfully refused, although the patient at midnight might have to be fairly strong in lung power to wake up the good old nurse. Not until after one full generation has outlived the last of the old-style nurses will their type be forgotten. Until then the modern nurse, who openly admits that