

**TALKS TO NURSES:
THE ETHICS
OF NURSING**

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Talks to nurses: the ethics of nursing by Henry S. Spalding

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HENRY S. SPALDING

**TALKS TO NURSES:
THE ETHICS
OF NURSING**

TALKS TO NURSES

THE ETHICS OF NURSING

BY

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TALKS TO NURSES

CHAPTER I

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

WHEN you began the study of geography you did not prove the existence of certain rivers, mountains and cities. You had not seen the Congo or the Amazon, and yet you studied about these rivers; you had not crossed the Rocky Mountains, the Andes, or the Alps, and yet you talked about them and described them; you had not visited Paris, Rome, or Constantinople, and yet they seemed as real to you as your own native town or city. Were you foolish when you believed in the reality of these rivers, mountains and cities, although you had never seen them? No, you were not foolish. You took the testimony of others who had seen them; for human testimony, under the proper conditions, can give us certainty, not only in regard to things of the present but also of the past. Again, when you studied algebra you took certain things for granted. You did not prove that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line, or that the whole