NURSING ETHICS: FOR HOSPITAL AND PRIVATE USE

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Nursing Ethics: For Hospital and Private Use by Isabel Hampton Robb

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ISABEL HAMPTON ROBB

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FOR HOSPITAL AND PRIVATE USE.

BY

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All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them .- Matthew vii, 12.

"Oh may I join the choir invisible Of those immortal dead who live again In minds made better by their presence-live In pulses stirred to generosity, In deeds of daring rectitude, in scorn For miserable aims that end with self, . In thoughts sublime that pierce the night-like stars. And with their mild persistence urge men's search . To vaster issues. . . . May I reach That purest heaven, be to other souls The cup of strength in some great agony, Enkindle generous ardour, feed pure love, Beget the smiles that have no cruelty-Be the sweet presence of a good diffused, And in diffusion ever more intense. So shall I join the choir invisible, Whose music is the gladness of the world." GEORGE ELIOT.

I am under obligations to Dr. F. R. Smith, of Baltimore, for a careful revision of the mateurcript and for preparing the index.

1. H. R.

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NURSING ETHICS.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory Chapter.

If it were possible to bring together, from North, South, East and West all the trained nurses of the present time to be reviewed and to have judgment passed upon them, we should have before us a body not of conscripts but of volunteers, each of whom occupies her position in the ranks of her own free will and accord. At first no doubt we should be impressed with the magnitude of their numbers, and with the general good effect presented by their forces. But when we came to concentrate our attention upon each regiment, as it were, and upon each individual in that regiment, we should be struck with some not altogether pleasant incongruities. We should notice a certain lack of harmony in methods of drill, in deportment, in discipline, in uniform and in other minor details. As a body they do not always move in step; they are sometimes out of line, and some are inclined to straggle. We then glance at the officers for an explanation, but we find that they too are not always in harmony, though perhaps more so than are those in