

imperfectly to fill his place to-night, I will, in the first place, take note of the fact that has already been referred to by Miss Stewart, namely, that this Association is made up of doctors and practical nurses, and of such people only. That indeed constitutes one of the best, as well as one of the most remarkable and peculiar features of this organisation. It is composed entirely of the professional people who alone have to do with the sick, and in that respect we differ, I think, from every other Association of that kind. What is more, we, who are in authority in the Association, intend to keep it on those lines. (Applause.) I thank Miss Stewart, and you all, for the very kind way in which you have received this toast, and especially do I thank you on behalf of those members of the medical profession who are present on this occasion. To my mind it is clear that such an organization as we have would alone be able to deal with the difficulties that have to be encountered. (Hear, hear.) It is quite certain at all events that it would require many years of training for a layman to be able to approach the question of the training and management of Nurses—I mean, to approach it with any amount of success—whereas it is our work every hour of the day and every day of the year. (Hear, hear.) We who have been somewhat in the forefront of the work of establishing this Association know all that has gone on in the past five or six years. As has been said to-night, we had somewhat of a battle to fight, but we have been victorious, having been firm, resolute, and intrepid. (Applause.) One reason, I think, why we have been successful is because we have known our own minds—because we have known what we wanted, and gone the right way to get what we wanted. (Applause.) Without a doubt, we have had a battle to fight, and we have had opponents to reckon with; but if I may refer to matters certainly in no polemical spirit, I think I may say, without fear of contradiction, that at this moment we have no enemies to reckon with, because those who have hitherto openly declared themselves our enemies, and who certainly did their very best, and put out all their strength, at no small cost, to prevent our getting what we have got, turn round now and say they have all the time wished us well, have only been opposed to one or two small parts of our scheme, and that what we have got they sanction our getting. (Laughter and applause.) They say that for the future they will in fact try to aid us in further establishing ourselves. (Applause.) That is the attitude at this moment of those who, a short time ago, might have been called our opponents, and now we see that they are kind friends, very anxious to see what we are going to do next, and particularly anxious to watch over our constitution, and the arrangement of our bye-laws. They are going to watch with keen eyes to see that, in the first place, we do not increase our requirements so that they will be difficult of attainment; and, in the second place, that we do not make our requirements so low that they will not take in such persons as the Jubilee Nurses. (Laughter.) Thus we are going to be carefully watched when we make our bye-laws, and, as the Chairman of to-night has said, we are bound to gladly welcome the closest scrutiny. We ask for nothing better, for we have nothing to fear. (Applause.) We are to-day all conscious that what we have done will bear the closest and keenest scrutiny, and we all feel convinced that our cause is good, is better indeed than any persons engaged in it—much as many persons are better than their creeds—and if there are any who do not feel that I think they should not belong to this Association. (Hear, hear.) This work will commend itself to all honest, straightforward, and judicially-minded persons, and that is why I have taken a deep interest in it, and why I

have had a thorough belief in it. I still have a thorough belief in it, and, in my opinion, it as a great future before it. (Applause.) Having regard to the alliance of the work-a-day doctors, and the work-a-day Nurses, I see the promise of a career of great usefulness in this Society. I beg again to thank you for the kind way in which this toast has been received, and for the kind terms in which it has been proposed, and I can only wish that when, in due time, the jubilee of this Association comes to be celebrated—by some of us, or by some who are to come after us—it will fall to the lot of the spokesmen on that occasion to be able to say that a good work was commenced fifty years before, and that a good work had been carried on ever since. (Applause.)

Dr. GAGE-BROWN: Sir William Savory, Ladies and Gentlemen,—A worthy subject has been committed to me, and I claim your consideration and honour for my toast. I would rather it had been placed in the hands of some such one as my friend Sir James Crichton Browne, who could do thorough justice to it, but as I was brought up in the "duty school," which means "Do as you are told," I obey orders. (Laughter.) I feel very grateful that the toast should have been committed to me. I feel it an honour and a privilege to be permitted to propose the toast, of "The Honorary Officers of our Association." (Applause.) Perhaps in a meeting like this, an assembly in which so many ladies are present, I might have appropriately chosen to speak first of all of the lady who is an honorary officer of this Association; but I prefer, with your permission, to commence with that member of the official staff who has been longest connected with it; and when I mention the name of Dr. Bedford Fenwick—(applause)—I think you will agree with me that were I to associate with his name that of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, who is not an honorary officer, I should have named the founders of this Association, and it wanted spirit and strength to found such an organisation as this. (Applause.) It wanted people in their prime, with all the energy which belongs to that phase of life, to start a thing like this, I can tell you, because I have seen a great deal of the working of it; and I feel therefore that the conspicuous ability of Dr. Bedford Fenwick in all matters of detail and organization has been the great secret of our success. (Applause.) If we had not had such a man we should not have been where we are now. (Hear, hear.) His untiring energy in this cause, his persistence in everything that has had to be carried out, his ability in adopting every measure that was necessary for the success of this Association, his readiness to do everything that was wanted to push it forward, must be regarded as the means by which the result which we celebrate to-day has been accomplished, and it must be a proud day for both Dr. and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick that we are here to celebrate the gaining of a Charter at this early stage of our existence—a Charter which I expect, nay which I feel sure, will be a very great advantage to the Nursing world. (Applause.) When we felt, on the resignation of the Duke of Fife, that we should promote our medical honorary secretary to be treasurer of the Association, by way of showing him some honour for the work he had done, we placed ourselves in a new difficulty. Then came a new consideration. Where were we to get another medical honorary secretary; where was the young man of energy and spirit and interest to follow in the work of such a man who was being elevated up higher, as we thought? We looked about, and we had not long to wait, for there was a youthful spirit among us in our executive council. We found in the person of Dr. Bezly Thorne just the man to discharge the functions of this important office. (Applause.) I have no hesitation in

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