

With this we greet you in the pleasure of having conferred upon us the valued diploma.

Our class hold high in value your presence; the faculty delight in this encouragement of their labours and the administration of this great charity bid you a hearty welcome."

This brilliant effort is greeted with applause.

REPORT OF THE SISTER SUPERIORESS.

A delightful report then follows from the beloved Sister Agnes, in which she gives an "account of her stewardship," of the wonderful progress of the School, which ends "with affectionate wishes for heaven's choicest blessings" for her pupils and their work.

DR. BLOOM'S REPORT.

Dr. Bloom clearly and lucidly presents his report as Chairman of the faculty of the Training School, in the course of which he states the graduates of the preceding year have responded to every demand upon their services, and the reports of them have been very gratifying. "The teaching has been thorough and systematic, and every advantage has been taken of increasing the facilities for instruction."

THE MAYOR'S OPINION.

The Mayor, in presenting the coveted certificate and medal of graduation to each successful candidate, said many lovely things about us women. Of the trained Nurse, he said: "she is the gentle creature that God has made, with her sympathies refined and her usefulness heightened by the influences of the Training School."

THE VALEDICTORY

is next delivered by Miss Emma Hartwig, another graduate, and well proves the ardour and enthusiasm which inspire our southern women in entering upon their congenial professional career, and the blessed harmony in which all work together in this truly charitable Institution for the good of mankind.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, His Excellency, Gentlemen of the Faculty, Our Beloved Directress, Dear Classmates—The hitherto field of a southern woman's scope of usefulness presented a vista of hallowed quiet graciousness that equalled only in the usefulness of its purport the ardour and chivalric court of her sterner companion.

The realisms of life have engendered necessities, and civilisation commands, that awaken not only the truth and tenderness in her nature, the secret impulse of her character, but the genius and wisdom of self-reliance.

There is no vainglory in the contention for that which is emphasised with credit to our sex, and which gives the pleasure of this occasion in which our dear friends gather in approval.

The simplicity of our profession bespeaks the merit of its office; in the quiet demeanour of duty, amidst the test of patience, perseverance and a yielding submissiveness to the varying phases of human trials that tend in concert with the medical attendant toward tiding the hovering life to a restful harbour, foreboding renewed health and infusing vigour.

That love of being sincere without the love of earning portends to an injurious disregard of conse-

quences, and the undertaking of the calling of the professional nurse cannot be tempered by the curiosity of idleness nor the fame of empty title.

We must prove to be what we are, and act with the pride of woman.

Ever loyal to those truths and sacred teachings which, by both precept and example, we have imbibed from the revered Sisterhood in faith and of which our endeared Directress is so pertinently an exemplar. Steadfast to the cause of humanity, abiding in its mercy, and testing its frailties with the pity of our nature and the high purposes of our professional achievements.

Onward thus must we tread in the moral excellence of that of which we would have every woman in the land becomingly proud.

If our student days of the two years past have assuaged the feeling of wary fear by strengthening our confidence for the good of our work, there can be naught to gainsay how well has been planned the usefulness of the life that we enter into when leaving the portals of this, our *alma mater*.

If the moral of our studies have eliminated the fallacies of the untried powers of our nature, and taught forbearance in the foibles of human weakness, the ignorance of envy, the cowardice of that which partakes not of the individual imitation, then are we possessed of that which becomes us as distinctive characters, without the need of secondary testimony, or the garb or pretension of unworthy honours.

By our acts will this be known, and in our work will come the re-enforcement of ardour, giving the happiest conclusion.

It is the triumph of principles from which are to be garnered the fruits of comfort and happiness of a well-spent professional existence, and those principles have the pith only of inspiration and that of faith, hope and charity.

The fairest and most fragrant blossom that springs from our soul germinated in the service of motherly care, protection and affectionate advice, we proffer to you, our beloved Directress, Sister Agnes, in loving thankfulness and affectionate regard.

Gentle has been the care, obedient to the exaction of discipline, in which swayed the direction of our studies, the inspiring pleasure of our home from our greatly loved Superintendent, Miss Agnes O'Donnell, for whom our affection has trained our reward of today.

And now, dear classmates, we part upon the high road of duty, where wisdom applied to practice and the essential of heroism, self-trust bounden as the purpose of living the life of nature, make the passport for our appreciation of diligence and these kindly attentions.

Give strength to your efforts for the fame of our School; uphold every trust with such womanly grace as will for ever carry the determination of the professed affection and loving endearments to-day expressed to stand on high as a beacon light in our progressive strides to success, and for woman.

Our parting is blessed by all that is good in nature, and should make happy our affections and farewell a loving adieu."

The band then strikes up the appropriate refrain, "The Directorate," and friends press forward to congratulate the graduates, and wish them happiness and success.

A SOUTHERNER.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)