

most serious times in life, even until death, in seasons of solemnity and of rejoicing—of all this, the celebration of to-day, completing, as it does, a term of ten years, is to give an account.

And in all this we can only thank God, our gracious Lord, and praise His goodness, which has helped us so far. In ten years the work among the sick, in the outer stations, and in the Sisterhood has received an immense impetus. The hospital is occupied more and more; an increasing number of doctors have given it their confidence, 10,462 patients have been nursed, 5,763 great or most important operations have been performed there. The outside stations, including the summer stations, have increased to forty-seven; the Sisterhood, including the probationers, has increased its numbers from 49 to 186, and new branches of activity have been started, the institute of the candidates, of the voluntary nursing Sisters, of the district nurses, of the ladies' lecture courses, of the monthly nurses of the branch at Munich.

Something further has developed. God has so greatly blessed us that we are no longer working in this Home, for this our beautiful Bavaria alone. Our idea of the aims of the Sisterhood of the Red Cross is stretching further than that. A commission has been entrusted to us which South Germany has to carry out towards the northern half of the kingdom. Our conception of the work of a Sisterhood takes its root in the depths of the South German spirit, in its capacity for perceiving the spiritual side of the profession, and of taking life seriously. The vigorous old-established Catholic orders supply a firm foundation for these ideas, and the blessing of discipline which emanates from them is diffused through us, also through the North German Red Cross. It is on that account, and in noblest appreciation of these admirable qualities in the South German character, that Her Majesty the Empress and the Central Committee have laid upon us the honourable commission of training the future young Matrons of the German Red Cross Homes. Moreover, we have to-day the honour and the pleasure of seeing with us at this festival the *doyenne* of all the German Red Cross Matrons, the Matron of Lützerode of the Clementine House at Hanover.

The Queen of Saxony has entrusted to us the two future superintendents of the great Dresden Motherhouse, the Carola house; we had the young Matron of Elsass-Lorraine from the Motherhouse of Strasburg here. You see here the uniform of future Coburg Sisters, whom their newly-founded Motherhouse has sent here for training. The town Quedlinburg sends us its Matron, and, lastly, the daughter of the Upper Burgomaster Kirschner at Berlin has applied for admission as Bavarian Assistant-Sister, and is resident here as such.

To-day, therefore, after ten years, is not the first

time that we have found this house too small for us. During six years we have added to the building, inside and out, five times; but, in spite of that, it is to-day entirely inadequate for the extent of its usefulness. No day passes without our being obliged to refuse two, three, five private cases here in Munich and elsewhere.

In the last month alone we have been obliged to refuse to send Sisters to fifteen new stations affiliated to us. So pressing is the need for a comprehensive extension that we are gladly delighted at the fact that yesterday, in the magnificent assembly of the Women's Associations from the whole of Bavaria, an important step was taken towards the erection of a new building.

I am rejoiced, therefore, in spite of my sympathy with your discomfort, for the overcrowding and pressure which our highly-esteemed patrons, president, and delegates have had to endure has been excessive, owing to the smallness of our hall and passages.

To-day we are celebrating a festivity of the Sisters, and not a jubilee of the Hospital. It would not be becoming in me either to speak of the development of the hospital. But I must, my dear Sisters, speak to you on one subject—namely, upon what my chief thought has been during the raising of this building, of the true foundation of the growing up of the Motherhouse, and the life and fellowship of the Sisters.

This thought culminates in that which we heard in our beautiful morning service, and in what we have heard from the lips of our highly-honoured pastor. This central thought is as follows:—We Sisters of the Red Cross must be *genuine* Sisters; that is to say, women who desire to carry out the good work of the Red Cross and the difficult profession of nursing from the deepest inward convictions, women who sympathise with and take part in it as workers, and not as those who wish to be served—women who, in imitation of our Saviour, desire to live for the glory of God, for the well-being of their fellows, and for their own sanctification; women who know no higher object in life than to practise a love that serves others in unselfish self-sacrifice, who know that there is no greater happiness on earth than to forget oneself for the sake of others.

Yes; we want to be genuine sisters, sisters to our poor sick, human brothers, sisters of the helpless and neglected, and also sisters among one another, holding together in heartfelt true fellowship, which preserves a unity of purpose, standing by one another in joy and sorrow, in failure and in reconciliation.

At the head of our House regulations I have written the motto: "God made them to be of one mind in a house," and underneath are the words, "Sisters are members of the House, not persons to

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