

slack times, sickness, and other unforeseen difficulties arise. Some nurses are trying the plan in connection with Miss MacDonnell's Home in Lower Leeson Street, under the happiest auspices, but such nurses must be kept constantly employed to make it pay.

PORTOBELLO HOUSE HOME HOSPITAL.

Dublin has of late years been provided with many private hospitals of varying quality, but one of these institutions which reaches a high standard of excellence is Portobello House, which is under the genial direction of Miss Hampson, formerly Lady Superintendent of the Rotunda Hospital. Portobello House was formerly an hotel, and is very picturesquely situated close to the bridge of that name and near the canal, a delightfully breezy position, from the windows of which fine views and grand sunsets are to be seen.

The house, which is much more spacious and roomy than an ordinary residence, has been admirably adapted to its present purpose, with operating theatre and sterilising rooms complete, and its beds are in constant demand by the patients of many of the leading medical men in Dublin.

I had no opportunity of kissing the Blarney Stone, so words fail me in which to express thanks to all those who, with Miss Huxley, combined to make my few days in Dublin delightful, and of which I shall ever retain most pleasant memories. For the nonce, farewell to the Emerald Isle and its captivating community, and here is to our next merry meeting.

E. G. F.

The Progress of State Registration.

A meeting of the small Committee for considering the question of promoting State Registration of Nurses in Scotland was held on Monday, the 9th inst., at 29, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh. Miss E. S. Haldane was in the chair; Dr. Joseph Bell, Miss Wade, and Miss Sandford were present, also Miss Butter and Miss Guthrie Wright, members of the Queen Victoria Institute for Nurses, and Miss Marr, Matron of the Longmore Hospital, who were all elected members of the Committee. The following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting, after a long discussion, approves of the principle of State Registration of Nurses, and of the appointment of a Council with branch Councils." Dr. Gibson, Miss Thomson, of Chalmers' Hospital, Miss King, Matron of the Royal Scottish Nursing Association, and Miss Burleigh, of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, were unavoidably absent.

Hearty congratulations to the qualified nurses of the State of Maryland, U.S.A. This week's American mail conveys the gratifying news that the Bill promoted by the State Association of Nurses has

been passed by both Houses without amendment, and has received the signature of the Executive. Thus Maryland is ranged with four sister States in having granted legal status to nurses. Miss Georgia Nevins, the President of the State Association, has thrown wonderful energy into the work, and well deserves this splendid reward.

The nurses in the States of Illinois, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Ohio, Iowa, Indiana, and California have all now organised State Associations working for State Registration.

Dr. Thompson recently asked the President of the Local Government Board in the House of Commons if he would consent to appoint a small Select Committee to consider the advisability of the State Registration of Nurses. Mr. Long replied that the subject of nursing generally was not within the province of his department, which was only concerned with it as respected nursing in Poor Law institutions. He was not in a position to give the consent asked for in the question.

The Lewisham Infirmary Committee recommended, at their last meeting, that in the constitution of the Council proposed in the Bill submitted to Parliament for the State Registration of Trained Nurses care be taken that Boards of Guardians having training-schools for nurses be properly represented upon it. This was agreed to, and it was decided to ask Major Coates, M.P. for Lewisham, to watch the Bill.

Registrationitis is simply raging in the professional Press. The *Nurses' Journal* opens with an excellent editorial, quite in the style of its palmy days. Long may it remain in a like frame of mind! The nurse-members are proving their genuine interest in State Registration by subscribing a substantial sum to further professional reform, and, if they give the "anti" hon. officers to understand that there must be no more hanky-panky on this question, we foresee good work to be accomplished by a repentant R.B.N.A. Miss Christina Forrest criticises effectively the anti-Registration manifesto.

In the *London Hospital Journal* Mr. Holland leads off with a signed article; in Editorial and Notes space is devoted to the same end, namely, bewailing the outrage to the community at large that trained nurses should have the temerity to think for themselves concerning their own affairs, and trotting out all the imaginary evils which will inevitably overtake us if, like the enlightened nurses of other countries—and every professional man in this—we evolve order out of chaos and are registered by the State.

Miss Eva C. E. Lückes, Matron of the London Hospital, has an article on the State Registration of Nurses in this month's *Nineteenth Century and*

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)