

able address. Speaking of the medical and nursing schools, of the medical and nursing professions as a corporate work he said that in the last twenty-five years the treatment of the sick had completely changed, and though medical men still disagreed on several points, at the same time there was a great revolution and a new era for medicine and surgery, which was certainly based on knowledge and science. That nursing should be efficient it was necessary that women of education should be taught and trained in their work on an approved system, and that there should be a recognised and organised standard, a sentiment which was greeted with loud applause.

Mr. Haldane remarked that the British people thought little of abstract principles. There was very little method in their proceedings, but for bringing about great results by the concentration of energy just where it was needed they yielded to none. Speaking of the great advance of medical and surgical science he said that the standards of a generation ago were no longer useful. In the same way it was far more difficult now than formerly to deal with a community of men. Unless legislators and administrators had clear principles and ends in their minds they could make no advance. They would do well to take a lesson from the science of medicine, which taught that health was absolutely dependent on an understanding of the principles of life. Perhaps the British people more than any other needed science, because their energies were so great that they had a greater capacity for going wrong.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Haldane by Lord Stanley, seconded by Mr. E. Hurry Fenwick, who after a few preliminary remarks about the hospital, medical school, and students, said that he felt he hardly dared mention the names of the nurses, as Mr. Holland looked upon them as his particular property. The nurses were *his* nurses. The Sisters were *his* Sisters. The Matron was *his* Matron. Peels of laughter and loud clapping followed each sentence, Mr. Holland trying to look unconscious, whilst the nursing staff blushed becomingly. The vote was heartily accorded, the students giving three cheers and singing "For he's a jolly good fellow."

Mr. Haldane said in reply, that his presence there was not quite disinterested. When he looked at the nurses present the word "mobilisation" came to his lips, and the hospital seemed likely to be a tower of strength to the Army if—which Heaven forbid!—a moment of national emergency arose.

Upon the termination of the meeting, we left

the fine library and passed through the handsome, well-furnished building into the garden, where on a beautiful green lawn a band played and very dainty refreshments were served, the bright-faced nurses making charming hostesses at tea-time and in conducting the guests over the Hospital and Nurses' Home.

The new Nurses' Home is a beautiful building connected with the other two Homes by a bridge. It is capable of containing some two hundred nurses. Every nurse has a separate bedroom, beautifully furnished. Wide passages, good bathrooms, sitting rooms, and a lift make a very complete establishment, and perhaps most valued of all is an apparatus placed here and there from which boiling water can be drawn for making a cup of tea instantaneously. The large wards of the hospital were equally luxurious, and most bright they looked with flowers. The patients appeared the picture of contentment and comfort, and spoke most highly of the kindness of the nurses—for who is kinder and more efficient than the English hospital nurse?

All the operating theatres are arranged in a row on one floor, a practical arrangement, when one understands that one big sterilising room might thus serve all, and that a "theatre supervisor" was in charge of the whole department, especially as a lift conveys the patients from their wards.

I had seen the London Hospital twelve years previously; then it was a big barren barn, now it is a palace, and much of the merit for this metamorphosis is undoubtedly due to its charming, though erring Chairman. I say erring with regret when I realise that a man so generous to the sick, and so fatherly to "my nurses" has got limitations where the personal liberty of the woman is concerned. The Maker of the Modern London should be the champion of the elevation of nursing into a recognised profession organised and controlled by the State, and not the chief opponent of so much we nurses hold dear. What is just for brother Medicine is also just for sister Nursing if they are to develop in a corporate capacity as foreseen by Mr. Haldane, a man of luminous mentality.

EDLA R. WORTABET.

### More Nurses for India.

Press and public continue cordially to support the Countess of Minto's fund for the organisation of a trained British nursing society for the European community in India. Over 30,000 rupees have already been received from Europeans.

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