

study the best means of relieving suffering. When it is a case of nursing the sick, dressing the wounded, no one asks to what nationality they belong, but rather one admires the kind heart and hand which bring relief and comfort to suffering. Allow me, before I finish, to present to you our devoted and distinguished "Surveillantes," particularly Mme. Brochard, of St. Antoine Hospital, who, during the cholera epidemic, showed such devotion to duty that she received the Cross of the Legion of Honour, that is to say, the cross of the brave.

M. Hénaffe, Vice-President du Conseil Municipal said.—

Ladies,—I have the honour in the name of the Municipal Council, to welcome you in this Palace of the City of Paris, and I congratulate myself on the opportunity which has come to me to do so through the absence of our President, M. André Lefevre, who has been prevented from greeting, at the same time the *infirmières* of France, the nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, Germany, Italy, Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, united in this Congress. Though we are so engaged in our own work that we cannot be present at all your meetings, yet, through your programme, we are following you in all the burning questions you are discussing, we applaud all your efforts, and we are heart and soul with you in the touching work of love you are pursuing, a work requiring the most beautiful qualities. The life of a nurse can but be elevating, for it calls for a high sense of self-sacrifice.

Allow me to congratulate you in the name of Paris for seeking the means of accomplishing your beautiful work.

M. Piette, Directeur du Cabinet du Préfet de Seine, said :—

Ladies,—Monsieur le Préfet de la Seine has asked me to add his words of welcome to those of the Vice-President of the Municipal Council, for the direct, the practical way in which you have represented the Cause which has brought you here, and which is dear to his heart.

He would have been happy to thank you for the precious help which you are bringing to the Assistance Publique, quite as much by your professional knowledge as by your tact, in which there is nothing astonishing, for, ladies, you are women!

Surely, if your fingers have been light and deft for the sick and suffering, it is because the tips of those fingers could not help transmitting the feelings of your heart.

M. Mesureur, Directeur de l'Administration Générale de l'Assistance Publique, said :—

Will you allow me, as I have had the honour of presiding at the first session of the Third Inter-

national Congress of Nurses, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has asked me, to thank in her name and that of all of the ladies here present, the City of Paris, and the Municipal Council for the courteous and kind greeting which you are receiving in her Hôtel de Ville.

I think I am expressing the feelings of all of these ladies whose sense of duty has brought them from all points of the globe, in thanking this great and beautiful city of Paris, which sets an example in all generous initiative and movements, and if her municipal institutions of "Assistance" are not as beautiful as those of other nations, she has, at least, laid the foundation stone before the whole world, of social duty and regard for the solidarity of the whole human race.

We have to-day an example of the eagerness with which all of you have come from far to Paris, the cradle of this brotherhood which inspires your devotion.

Paris will thank you, through her beauty and her artistic monuments.

Paris will thank you for the delightful recollection you will leave behind you by the charm of your virtues and good example.

I am drinking, in your name, Ladies, to the City of Paris and the President of the Municipal Council.

Refreshments were then served from a buffet and M. Hénaffe lifted his glass and drank the health of those who, by their devotion, relieved the sick and suffering, and pretty compliments were exchanged before a tour of ceremony of the beautiful suite of rooms was made.

M. Hénaffe led Mme. Salvador, M. Felix Voisin, Mrs. Fenwick, and M. G. Mesureur followed with Miss Isla Stewart, supported by the nurses of many nations—the magnificent *Galleries* and *Salles des Fêtes*, the vestibules and the corridors, exquisitely decorated with paintings and sculpture, were justly admired.

The three Hon. Officers of the International Council were then invited to sign their names in the Register of Distinguished Visitors, an official honour in recognition of their profession which they greatly appreciated.

So ended the first most remarkable day of the long anticipated Paris Conference, and "just splendid" was the unanimous expression of opinion, as the hundreds of guests went their various ways.

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A very delightful luncheon on the first day of the Conference was given by Mme. Alphen Salvador at which representatives of most of the nations taking part were present. Mme. Salvador in a short speech welcomed her guests in her own charming way, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick thanked her in the name of all present for her words and hospitality. Sister Karll also briefly spoke and expressed her belief in the value of international friendships.

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