

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE.

THE DINNER.

ORGANISED BY THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF PORTLAND.

The Dinner organized by the Duke and Duchess of Portland on behalf of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, and held at the Hotel Cecil on July 3rd, was a very successful and well-attended function. Unfortunately recent bereavement prevented the Duchess of Portland from being present to receive the guests with the Duke, but this office was charmingly discharged by the Countess of Minto—most gracious and graceful of hostesses, who also presided conjointly with the Duke of Portland at the high table, at which Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent, and Miss Lowe, Secretary, were allotted seats. A number of ladies interested in the work of the Institute ably acted as hostesses at the twenty-two tables set at right angles to it. We could have wished that some of the Superintendents who, with a number of nurses, were occupying the rôle of lookers-on in the gallery, had presided at the opposite ends of the tables, both in recognition of the great services which they are rendering to the community, and because they could, during dinner, have interested the guests in the work of the Institute in which they are engaged, in a way in which only those possessing practical experience and knowledge can do.

We throw out the suggestion to the organizers of future dinners.

The special nature of the function was evident in the menu, which included amongst its items consommé Reine Alexandra, crème Institut Victoria, selle d'agneau Florence Nightingale, and pêche Amy Hughes, a compliment no doubt appreciated by the Institute.

MESSAGE FROM QUEEN ALEXANDRA.

The loyal toasts having been honoured, the Chairman read the following telegram from Queen Alexandra, Patron of the Institute:—

Please convey to your party assembled to-night my best wishes and grateful thanks for all your kind efforts on behalf of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Nurses, whose welfare and prosperity I have so much at heart.

Proposing the toast of the evening, "Success to Our Cause," the Duke of Portland expressed his great pleasure at seeing so many old friends of the Institute present, and also in welcoming many new friends who were absolutely necessary to its welfare. Their presence, he said, testified to the importance of the work which the Institute undertakes and carries out, and to their realization of the fact that efficient nursing is absolutely necessary and essential to the sick and suffering. Whatever our sphere in life, one of the most important facts confronting us was the presence of pain, suffering, and disease, and the duty of mercy, and the alleviation of suffering among the poor took precedence over most other duties.

Queen Victoria had many titles to remembrance, and not least amongst them the large-hearted benevolence which inspired her to allot the women's Jubilee offering to a purpose calculated to do the greatest good to the community at large by the foundation of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute.

Manifold had been the blessings to the sick and suffering from that noble, generous, and unselfish action.

The duties of a nurse were concerned with most grave and serious issues, and demanded not merely high skill and a knowledge of technicalities, but tenderness and disinterestedness. This extremely philanthropic service was supplied by Queen's Nurses, and he was de-



THE COUNTESS OF MINTO.

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