

conversation reported to have taken place between a Nursing Sister and a wounded soldier. Our readers can judge of its likelihood for themselves.

Sister Eugenia came up to Lawson's bed and looked at him.

"You don't seem quite comfortable," she said. "What do you complain of? Ankle very painful?"

"Yes rather," said the poor fellow.

"I am afraid, Lawson, you must submit to amputation," said Sister Eugenia. "It's sharp and short, and puts things right."

"Couldn't stand it; it would kill me. I couldn't go back home with only a stump instead of a leg. I couldn't do it, and I won't."

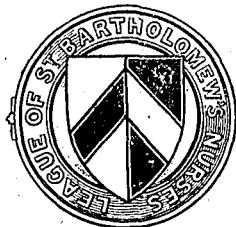
"Well we'll see what the doctor says," replied Sister Eugenia.

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LASTLY, we may observe it is rather early days for a wedding between a man who has won the V.C. and a nurse who has gained the R.R.C. for services rendered during the siege of Ladysmith. Coming events may have cast their shadows before, but, so far, her Majesty the Queen has not bestowed the Royal Red Cross upon any nurse for services in the present campaign.

The League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

THE Social Gathering of St. Bartholomew's Nurses, which was held in the Nurses' Home on Tuesday afternoon, was a huge success. Miss



Isla Stewart, the President, smiling with happiness, extended to nearly 200 members of the League a most genial welcome, and a bright family party, bubbling over with kindness and goodwill, was the result.

"Bart's" knows how to do itself well, and fragrant tea and coffee, and most seductive cakes and "cookies" were dispensed by the resident members with most pressing hospitality. The arched sitting-rooms were gaily though discreetly lighted, and in the soft and rosy light one exchanged glances with bright eyes, and recognised friendly faces known for twenty years, which appeared just as young and blooming as ever. Hospital life *must* be very happy, or more wrinkles would be the result.

After tea, there was charming music. Mrs. Howard Marsh, Vice-President, a skilled musician, accompanied with great taste songs given by Sister Luke (Miss Musson) and Nurse March; and the rendering of Braga's Serenata—in which Miss Musson sang, Mrs. Marsh accompanied on the piano, and Nurse May

Cooper played exquisitely the violin obligato—was a musical treat.

In the course of the afternoon the President addressed the members in a short speech. Miss Stewart said that the Executive Committee of the League had been invited to consider the important question of representation at the forthcoming International Congress of Nurses, to be held in Buffalo, U.S.A., in September, 1901. The Committee had realised the importance of sending a Delegate to this gathering of nurses, which was convened by the leading nurses in America, the Committee being composed of the Hon. Officers of both the National Associations of Nurses in the United States, the Society of Superintendents of Training Schools, and the Associated Alumnæ.

The most important detail to be considered was that of finance, as the expenses of a Delegate would amount to between fifty and sixty pounds. Seven guarantors had at once come forward in the Executive and guaranteed £5 each; it was hoped that others would do likewise, and that, by subscribing 2s. 6d. each, the whole sum would ultimately be subscribed by the members, as the President felt sure the members of the League were imbued with that public spirit which would prompt them to desire official representation at the Nursing Congress and Exhibition. The method of electing the Delegate would be arranged later on.

It is satisfactory to report that the President was able to announce, before we said "good-bye," that the whole sum had been guaranteed, and, as she gaily remarked, "I could have got the money twice over"

Amongst the members present, Miss Lucy Harrison, wearing her honours modestly—the Royal Red Cross, and the "Bart's" Gold Medal—received quite an ovation; and we noted many other medallists and "prizemen," amongst them Miss Smedley (St. George's), Mrs. Lancelot Andrews, Miss Bristow (Gordon House), Miss Waind (late Sister Stanley), Mrs. Dyll (*née* Cross), Mrs. Howard Marsh (*née* Dalrymple-Hay), Miss Agnes Megginson, and Mrs. Turnbull (*née* Freeman).

Miss Mollett was up from Southampton, Miss Saw from St. Leonards, Miss Todd from Bourne-mouth, and many others from far and wide. The Winter Gathering was, indeed, most representative. Sisters and nurses in their charming uniform, trim and speckless, circulating genially around formed a picture of what trained nurses should be, bright, happy, sensible women, head, heart, and hand evidently united in doing fine and soul satisfying work in a world none too kind to the poor and suffering.

We had a very sweet and happy time.

E. G. F.

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