

## Our Foreign Letter.

### REPORT OF THE TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES,

*For the Year ending October 1st, 1900.*

To the Chairman and Board of Trustees.

Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is my privilege to present the nineteenth Annual Report of the School for Nurses connected with this Hospital. During the past year a total of 650 applications have been received; 25 of these have been accepted and enrolled as pupils, 8 have been removed from the roll. There are 8 probationers and 59 pupil nurses in the school, and these, together with 7 graduate nurses in charge of departments, constitute the nursing staff on duty in the hospital. Our graduates number in all 317, 223 of whom are still actively engaged in nursing in either private families or in institutions.

The following have received appointments during the year. In our own Hospital—Miss Gladstone, Miss Burkholder, Miss Bastedo and Miss Shaw.

In the same capacity in Dr. Morris' Sanatorium, Ala., Misses Roebuck, Hand and Snell, and in Dr. Brown's Sanitarium in the same city, Lillian Craig and Isabel Moodie. Mary Hyde and Jean Wallace have gone to similar positions in the new Hospital erected by the Lake Superior Power Co., at Michipicoten, Mich.

Elizabeth McKenzie, Dwight, Ill.; Annie I. Brown, St. Luke's, New York City; Annie Bolton, Sanitarium, 43rd St., New York City; K. Underhill, Matron, Home for Incurable Children, Toronto; Margaret Watson, Hillcrest Convalescent Home, Toronto; Gertrude Osbourne, Night Supt. Samaritan Hospital, Troy, N.Y.; Jean Holmes, Asst. Supt. Marion Simms Sanatorium, Chicago, Ill.; Kate McTavish, Assist. Supt. General Hospital, Vancouver, B.C.; Annie Coleman, Supt. Saginaw Hospital, Mich.; Maud Crawford, Supt. Private Hospital, Dawson City; Mary Allen, China Inland Mission, China, and Henrietta McKim will leave in a short time to take charge of the Julfa Hospital, Julfa, Persia.

In addition to this there have been numerous applications for nurses to fill positions which could not be met.

The annual meeting of our school Alumnae Association organized five years ago, was characterized this year by a new departure in the shape of a most successful luncheon, held in the Temple Building on October 16th, forty-two members being present. Such an Association, though necessarily hampered through causes attendant upon the life a nurse leads, serves to keep our graduates in touch with each other and with the School.

We are deeply grateful to record that Miss Margaret McIntosh, Class 1889, who for many years laboured successfully as missionary nurse in Honan, China, after weeks of great hardship, suffering, and peril, though robbed of every earthly possession, and broken in health, arrived in Canada in safety in September last.

With deepest sorrow we remember one, who, had her life been spared, would have been numbered among the class of 1900. Miss Agnes Balfour, entered as pupil nurse in September, 1897, and remained until January, 1898, when she became a victim of pulmonary tuberculosis. In April of this year her life-work ended, but those who were so fortunate as to know her, will long remember her faithful, conscientious work, her fine intellectual ability, and earnest Christian character. "Our loss is truly her gain."

When Canada decided to give a practical demonstration of sympathy and loyalty to the mother country

during the recent South African War, a large number of our nurses signified their desire to be sent to the front, but though we were not fortunate in securing representation, our sympathy and loyalty as a school, found expression in various gifts sent out by the Red Cross Society. It was a great satisfaction to hear that one of these gifts, a silver-plated bandage roller, was used by Lady Roberts and her daughters, in the Bloemfontein Hospital, in making bandages for those who suffered in order to uphold British freedom.

Our work, this year, as a School has consisted of the usual lectures and classes, together with a very excellent course in practical cooking, and also demonstration lessons, in which nurses have taught in the presence of the Superintendent of the School. The lecturers have been:—Drs. R. A. Reeve, G. A. Peters, R. Rudolf, H. Bruce, A. J. Gordon, H. MacMurchy, A. H. Wright, A. Primrose, G. Wishart, T. F. McMahan, Crawford Scadding, A. McPhedran, Allan Baines, F. N. G. Starr, H. Parsons and C. L. Starr.

The examiners:—Drs. A. H. Wright, R. B. Nevitt and Allan Baines. The authorities are deeply sensible of their obligation to their medical friends who year after year give such practical evidence of their interest in the educational welfare of the school. Indeed, it is a cause for congratulation that whatever else fails, the sympathy and support of our Visiting Staff is ever assured.

Among the important changes of the year may be mentioned, the removal of the Lady Superintendent's rooms from the Hospital to the Nurses' residence. It is hoped that this change may prove a bond of union, alike helpful, to superintendent and nurses. In looking over the report of this school for the year 1898, I find these words, "A nurses' residence should be designed and furnished, not only for health, but for comfort, an essential doubly important in the case of those whose daily duties are of so arduous and depressing a character. It should be spacious, and, on the principle that refined surroundings tend to produce refinement, beautiful as well, in order that it may perform its part as an educator."

Such a residence as I then described, we, as a school, rejoice in to-night. This is a "Red Letter Year" in the history of the Toronto General Hospital Training School for Nurses.

No generous friend came forward to build this residence, as we had fondly hoped, but the responsibility was assumed by our Board of Trust, and I am sure they with us rejoice to-night. But as a school, let us not forget that added advantages mean always increased responsibility. Living as we do amidst such surroundings, we ought, in the future, to be a greater power for good, not only in the community in which we live, but also in the world.

The 500 dols. so generously donated by the late Mrs. Frances French Davenport, Iowa, in 1897, has been expended in furnishing the hall and library in the new residence, but the 100 dols. presented by Dr. Crawford Cunningham, of London, England, is still in the bank awaiting the arrival of the delayed book-case, both medical and secular.

Before concluding this report, the authorities desire to avail themselves of this opportunity to express gratitude to all who have contributed by word, or deed, to the pleasure, comfort, growth, or encouragement of the school.

(Signed.) MARY AGNES SNIVELY,  
Superintendent Training School.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)