

"Colonial women, once they understand and respect their Superintendent, are amenable to discipline, and apt pupils. They have not the stamina of British nurses, whose power of endurance compares favourably with theirs, that of Scotchwomen being best of all."

"As to Private Nursing in Sydney, there are several homes, each with its own regulations, and having from twelve to twenty nurses, in each of which the nurses of one hospital are, as a rule, to be found banded together. They are thus isolated bodies, but so far the private nurses have not realised the value of co-operation. Many of the medical men, however, are in favour of a central bureau. As regards work, good nurses find plenty to do."

The Australasian Nurses' Association, of which Miss McGahey is Hon. Secretary, is steadily progressing. It is satisfactory to learn that in Australia medical men generally are generously disposed towards the progress of women, and that in consequence they are very much in favour of the efforts of the nurses towards professional organization. "For instance," said Miss McGahey, "I know that one medical man unconnected with our Association explained to a nurse that he thought it was to her advantage to join it." "It is an honourable Association," he said, "and we shall naturally turn to its Register to find the names of nurses there, then if your name is not upon it we shall, of course, want to know why."

"With regard to eligibility for Membership of our Association," Miss McGahey went on, "we were obliged, in justice to nurses who had received their training when a shorter standard than that at present in vogue was in force, to allow them to come in during a period of grace, but we have no side entrances now, all have to conform to the three years' standard."

"One word also as to the Prince Alfred Hospital Trained Nurses' Reunion. The word Reunion is peculiar to Australia, our students, and medical men have their Reunions, and so we thought it a good title to take for our Nurses' League. We now number about 100 members, and besides the social side which is very pleasurable, we have had some excellent papers written on professional subjects. We are hoping soon also to have a journal, not to ourselves, but containing all the news of the Prince Alfred Hospital. When I mentioned one day to Professor Anderson that the Reunion was thinking of having its own journal, he told me that he was considering the desirability of a Hospital Magazine, and offered to put a dozen or more pages at our disposal, and we propose to avail ourselves of this offer."

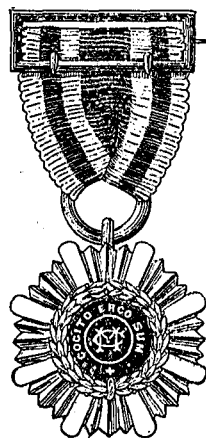
To show the high esteem in which Miss

McGahey is held by the authorities of the Prince Alfred Hospital, we may mention that the Committee presented her with a most beautifully illuminated address before her departure, assuring her of their appreciation of her work, and the high esteem in which they hold her personally. They say in part, "It is, we understand, your intention not merely to take a holiday during your absence from the State, but also as far as possible to visit hospitals both in the old and new worlds. We trust that the authorities of the various institutions you desire to visit will afford you every facility in your quest for information as to the latest methods of hospital work, and that they will extend to you their good offices. Indeed, we desire you to carry this with you as to a certain extent a testimonial from this Board, and an introduction to those in authority in the Hospitals elsewhere."

Could anything be more thoughtful or kinder? We are apt to think that manners are more polished in this country than in the Colonies, but the Committee of the Prince Alfred Hospital could give points to some Committees at home in their considerate courtesy.

Miss McGahey was also presented with a most charming illuminated address by the Committee of the Queen Victoria Memorial Fund, in appreciation of her work for this Fund, which is raising the amount to build new pavilions to the Prince Alfred Hospital, wishing her "bon voyage," and a pleasant and beneficial visit to the Old World. Altogether she had a good send off.

The Matrons' Council.



A meeting of the Matrons' Council was held at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on Thursday, August 15th, at 4 p.m. Miss Isla Stewart, President, was in the chair. The Council had the pleasure of welcoming at the meeting Miss McGahey (Hon. Member for New South Wales).

REPORT.

The Hon. Secretary then read the following report:—

Since the last meeting of the Matrons' Council little has occurred calling for comment. The Annual Conference has not been held, as it was decided to defer it until after the return of the delegates to the Inter-

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