

tion in Dublin on Saturday, 27th March. The Lecturer, Dr. Walter C. Stevenson, Visiting Surgeon to Dr. Steevens' Hospital and Orthopaedic Hospital, Dublin, spoke on "Some uses of Massage in Surgery." Miss L. V. Haughton presided. A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Miss Despard, the Examiner of I.S.T.M., Lond., which was seconded by Mrs. Weddall, and conveyed by the Lecturer to Miss Haughton. These lectures on practical subjects are very valuable and keep the members of the Association well in touch with new methods of work.

A lady trained in the Nursing School of the Tondou Hospital at Bordeaux has been appointed Matron at the Civil and Military Hospital at Philippeville, in Algeria. Feeling anxious at her taking this long journey alone, Miss Elston, the Directrice, packed hastily and went with her. The happy result has been a most interesting account of "Dix jours en Afrique," contributed to *La Garde-Malade Hospitalière* in the form of a diary.

Is it not wonderful how our work is being carried all over the world? A few years ago, as a "holiday sister" Miss Elston was toiling up and down stairs at the Nursing Home at the London Hospital, carrying clean sheets from room to room, her somewhat weary reflections attuned to the hum of traffic in the Whitechapel Road. A few years pass, and, owing to sprightly initiative, we find her the Directrice of a school of French nursing in the Midi—a school where bright and charming French girls come as pupils from as far south as the Pyrenees, and from all parts of France, and where one might imagine oneself in a well-managed English hospital. Then in a twinkling of an eye, baggage is strapped, the train boarded, and passing Beziers, Montpellier, Nîmes, and Arles, at all of which cities trained nursing is taking root, two pioneers are off to Africa *via* Marseilles. Philippeville appears, the hospital of 180 beds is found perched on a high cliff. Needless to say, it presents a fruitful field for reform. The parting of teacher and pupil comes too soon. It is an affecting one. But Miss Elston is equal to the occasion. She writes: "It went to my heart to leave her all alone to face the great and difficult task which is before her. But at such a moment silence is more eloquent than words. All I can say is, 'Courage, the flag of your training school is hoisted at Philippeville.'" The seed is planted; no doubt it will be watered with tears, but it will sprout.

The report for 1908 of the Visiting Nurses' Association of Chicago, which, under the inspiring superintendence of Miss Harriet Fulmer, has flourished exceedingly, shows an ever increasing usefulness, and the area of its work covers almost the whole of the enormous city. Its activities are manifold—tuberculosis and school nursing for the Health Department, baby tents, a weekly visit to every "nursery" in the city, attendance at large industrial works, in the out-patient departments of hospitals, and every encouragement given to preventive methods.

In her report Miss Fulmer asks: "What sort of nurses do we stand for? First, well-trained nurses, the best nurses from the best schools. After that we want a little plain, common sense, some spirit, a lot of enthusiasm, and so much pride in her own ability to do with her own hands what no one else can do or will do, that she will not let herself down, even for a moment, from her high ideals. That, as she gave in other days, kind, skilled care to the child on the boulevards, so she must give now even better care to the helpless little Jimmie, only a few blocks away. This sounds like an impossible combination—it is the combination we are bidding for and getting. The nurses desire earnestly to serve the public and the sick. The desire to make their profession the means whereby those who suffer physical ills may find alleviation. They are giving of themselves and asking no reward. On the staff to-day, both district and school nurses are imbued with a certain enthusiasm which is hard to describe, an enthusiasm which keeps many of them here, year after year, though seemingly more alluring things are offered."

Messrs. Garroulds' Nursing Saloon in Edgware Road, London, W., is becoming of world-wide notoriety, and we notice in a letter in *Kai Tiaki*, the Journal of the Nurses of New Zealand, that Nurse E. Bennett, on a recent visit to England, was taken to see this attractive saloon by a nurse friend, Miss Agnes Barclay, formerly a Sister at the Wellington Hospital, New Zealand, and now a member of the Registered Nurses' Society, London.

#### TO OUR IRISH READERS.

In response to enquiries from correspondents in Ireland, we beg to notify that the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* should be ordered through a newsagent. It can be obtained from a large number of Railway Bookstalls.

*previous page*

*next page*