

## Mme. Jacques' Farewell to her Pupils.

We have received from Mme. Jacques, late Matron of the Nursing School at the Salpêtrière Hospital, Paris, a copy of her Farewell Letter to the Association of the former certificated pupils of the School. Mme. Jacques wrote as follows:—

*Madame President of the Association of Former Certificated Pupils of the Nursing School of the Assistance Publique.*

DEAR MADAM,—I have addressed a Farewell Letter to your young comrades still resident in the School of which I have the pleasure of enclosing a copy.

Mesdemoiselles and dear pupils,—I have left the

sideration of those with whom you come in contact, and who see you at your work, without discipline. That is external, that is on the surface, but there is another point which must not be neglected, and that is feeling. A nurse whose soul is hard is not a nurse at all. You may care for your patients perfectly, scientifically, but you will never truly nurse a sick person if you have not strengthened his mind at a time when ebbing courage leaves him without elasticity, tired of life.

But to accomplish this task—noble above all others—it is necessary that you should have within you a will, a force, constantly sustained and renewed. I should at this point like to recall to you the admirable lectures of M. le Professor Darlu in order that his words may be engraved on your minds, for they form a pure catechism of goodness which alone can make your consciences tranquil and happy.



MADAME JACQUES,

Late Matron of the Nursing School of the Assistance Publique, Paris.

Nursing School of the Assistance Publique to resume my profession (of midwifery) which I relinquished for a time.

From respect for tradition I do not wish to fail in addressing to you some counsels, and at the same time to express my thanks to you. That which more than anything else has produced the results which we have obtained is discipline. It is very difficult for a French girl of twenty years of age to submit to discipline, but it is nevertheless necessary for you to understand that without a strict rule, observed by all, it is impossible to have a school, you cannot have that professional worth by which you will be everywhere recognised, you cannot have the respect and con-

To conclude my thanks to you, you have given me great joy at those times when you have not shrunk from extraordinary effort in order to accomplish your work. For that I thank you with all my heart. I pursued an end. You have helped me to attain it to the extent which I desired. For that I thank you once more.

Do not, I beg you, banish from your young heads the remembrance of the excellent ethics which we have repeated together for the last time.

And I conclude by addressing to all of you the assurance of my affectionate regards.

To you, Madame, who represent the former pupils, I have something more to add. It seems to

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)