

future years caught their first inspiration from the courage, zeal and devotion of Isla Stewart.

Yours faithfully,

MARY A. SNIVELY, *President.*

MESSAGE FROM MR. ANDRÉ MESUREUR.

Administrateur de l'École des Infirmières de l'Assistance Publique à Paris.

The loss of a noble-hearted woman is not only felt by those who surrounded her and by her country-women, it is also felt even in foreign lands, especially when she happens to be such a woman as the one we mourn to-day, whose untiring activity had such happy results. This is not to be wondered at since, thanks to the International Council of Nurses and the Congress of Nurses, friendly relations have been established among the nurses of all countries, they speak different languages, but they are submitted to the same professional duties, they are daily urged on in the progress of their work by the same ideal.

Miss Isla Stewart, who had been the soul of so many organisations for the progress of her profession in her own country, had at once felt what help she could tender to those nurses of a neighbouring country who were only waiting to stretch forth fraternal hands to the London Nurses, and nowhere has her loss been more deeply felt than in France, in Paris. In the large building of the School for Nurses, at the Salpêtrière, numerous are the nurses who remember with emotion the hearty welcome which they met with at St. Bartholomew's. The English sky was grey, and those young girls coming from sunny France, felt cold, and were at a loss with their slight knowledge of the English language, but Miss Isla Stewart was there, and her keen and kindly glance and her encouraging smile soon made them forget that they were in a foreign land.

It was a duty for the Assistance Publique of Paris to take part in this manifestation to celebrate a name honoured above all, and the two Monitrices of the School of the Salpêtrière, who have come this evening to join their school companions, will discharge a debt of gratitude to one who instigated this affectionate intercourse between the School of the Salpêtrière and that of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, a connection that we shall be most happy to see continued. The French Republic sent as a token of gratitude the Medal of Honour of the Assistance Publique to Miss Isla Stewart as a mark of affection from the young French generation for this illustrious Matron who has honoured her profession and humanity; it is also the profession itself that we wish solemnly to salute because all those rallied round the name of Miss Isla Stewart understand the "grandeur" of Nursing, and we are most happy to take part in this evening's ceremony, as we attach a particular importance to the connection between the Parisian Nurses and the London Nurses, and it greatly encourages us to see that this connection, begun thanks to Miss Isla Stewart, is harmoniously continued. ANDRÉ MESUREUR.

Dr. Anna Hamilton, Hon. Vice-President of the International Council for France, writes from Bordeaux, and deeply regrets she cannot be present; she hopes the Oration will be a great success, and that the memory of Miss Isla Stewart will be duly honoured as it deserves to be.

Mlle. Clémence, the General Superintendent of the Nursing School at the Salpêtrière Hospital at Paris, writes that she is greatly disappointed that she is unable to attend, as she would wish to express in person her sympathy, and join in our sentiments of veneration for Miss Isla Stewart, and commends her representatives, Mlle. Gosselin and Mlle. Bordet, who as pupils at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, knew Miss Isla Stewart personally, and highly appreciated her remarkable qualities. Mme. Alphen Salvador, from Paris, also sends a kind letter of regret, and amongst many others Lady Wyatt-Truscott writes:—

"I much regret that a previous engagement prevents my being present this evening. I am glad, however, that I have this opportunity of expressing my sympathy with the object of the gathering.

"During my husband's Mayoralty, 1908-09, the Territorial Nursing Service for the City and County of London was formed, and the Executive Committee had the valuable co-operation and practical help of the late Miss Isla Stewart. Her natural ability for organisation was at the service of this committee during its inception and establishment, and she spared no pains to contribute to its success.

"It is our great loss that she has so early passed away."

THE ORATION.

ISLA STEWART, HER LIFE AND HER INFLUENCE ON THE NURSING PROFESSION.

Mrs. Fenwick then introduced Miss Cox-Davies, and invited her to deliver the first Isla-Stewart Oration. She said:—Miss Cox-Davies needs no introduction to this meeting. She is a distinguished pupil of the late Miss Isla Stewart, and a Gold Medallist of her school; she has succeeded Miss Stewart in two important positions, twice having been elected President of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, and she has also been appointed Principal Matron of No. 1 General Hospital of the Territorial Force of the City and County of London.

Upon rising Miss Cox-Davies was received with acclamation.

The Oration was subdivided into the following parts:—Introductory: Part I, Biographical sketch; Part II, The different periods of

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