roots in many others is to know the joy of wholeness, and that those born of one family cannot feel foreigners to one another. night I could almost wish that, instead of being a teacher, I belonged to those white-capped women whose caps glow with a light which has never been reflected from the starred epaulettes of any general. I am thankful also that nurses by all this struggle, in which Miss Isla Stewart bore so brave a part, have raised nursing from the low plane of drudgery, which characterises unskilled labour, to the high plane of skilled service, and I desire to see trained nursing recognised as such by the State, and trained nurses rewarded with honour and recognition.

Votes of Thanks.

Miss E. M. Musson, President of the General Hospital Birmingham Nurses' League, in a few words proposed a warm vote of thanks to the speakers, to her friend, Miss Cox-Davies, for her interesting and sympathetic address; to Miss Damer for coming to represent the nurses of the United States, with whom Miss Stewart was always in such strong sympathy; and particularly to Mrs. May Wright Sewall-nothing, she thought, would have gratified Miss Isla Stewart more than Mrs. Sewall's fine speech on international unity.

The vote of thanks was seconded by Miss M. Peyton Jones, of the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, Australia, who said that Miss Stewart's name was a household word in Australia, both because throughout the Continent her "Practical Nursing" was the textbook adopted in the nursing schools for pupils in their second year of training, and also because Australian nurses, who had visited London, had brought back word of her noble

character.

Miss Cox-Davies, in returning thanks for herself and the speakers, said that she considered it a great pleasure and honour to be invited to give the first Oration, and she was sure that all present greatly appreciated the presence of Miss Damer as representing the nurses of the United States. She did not think anything, could she know it, would give Miss Stewart more pleasure than that her great friend Mrs. Bedford Fenwick should preside over this gathering, and that she should be supported by Mrs. May Wright Sewall, for whom she always had such warm regard and admiration.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIR.

Miss H. Pearse, President of the School Nurses' League, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chair, also spoke of the strong friendship existing between the late Miss Isla Stewart and the Chairman of the evening, and Miss B. Cutler, Hon. Secretary of the National Council, in seconding, spoke of herself as one of Mrs. Fenwick's probationers, and said how much she owed to her throughout her nursing career.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE LORD MAYOR AND CORPORATION.

The Chairman, in expressing her appreciation of the whole Ceremony, said:—I thank you for this kind vote of thanks. I have presided with deep gratification at the first Isla Stewart Oration in this historic Council Chamber of the Guildhall of the City of London.

This glorious old City never had a finer citizen than Isla Stewart.

In this Chamber the Freedom of the City was bestowed upon Miss Florence Nightingale it is fitting, therefore, that one of her most illustrious pupils, if not the most illustrious pupil of the Nightingale School, should receive her crown of laurels—a crown not of leaves, but of love—in this place.

We owe it to the kindness and courtesy of the Lord Mayor and Corporation that we have been permitted to assemble here this evening, and I would ask you to pass a hearty vote of thanks to them by acclamation before we part. Ladies, the motion is a Vote of Thanks to the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London, with which expression of gratitude we will terminate the Meeting.

MARGARET BREAY.

THE ORATION IN PAMPHLET FORM.

The Oration will be published in pamphlet form at an early date, so that those who were unable to be present may read it in full. We know this will give pleasure to many Nurses all over the world.

CONGRATULATIONS.

The many friends made by Mrs. W. H. Klosz, R.N., while in this country, will wish to congratulate her on the birth of a little daughter at Galesbury, U.S.A., on November 12th. Mr. Klosz, who at his wife's special desire sent this news to the JOURNAL, on the following day, writes "both of them are doing very well."

We are informed that Miss May Hamilton, whose appointment as Assistant Matron at Edinburgh District Asylum we recently reported, worked in connection with St. Patrick's Nurses' Home, Dublin, for some time, but, as she was not a Queen's Nurse, she was not a member of the staff. previous page next page