

As far as it goes, this is very satisfactory, but in our opinion no one person, and that not a trained nurse, should have power to recommend the awarding or withholding of a nurse's certificate after three years' practical work. We hope the Guardians will see their way before another examination takes place to associate with Dr. Perkins a highly qualified matron, past or present, to examine in practical nursing, and help judge the technical handiwork of the nurses.

The Report of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chicago is always a most interesting publication, and that for 1912 is well up to the standard. Firstly, it contains the charming picture here reproduced of "Americans in the making"; and, secondly, it is characterized throughout by a breadth of view, and a keen appreciation of far larger responsibilities than the alleviation of suffering and the nursing of the sick, important as these are.

The President, Mrs. Aldis, in her admirable address delivered at the Annual Meeting on January 10th, 1913, remarked: "It has been said, 'The nation which best cares for its children and its aged is the most highly civilized.' The children for the future of the race; the aged for the sake of humanity. The care of the helpless aged, the infirm, the unfit, is admittedly an enormously heavy burden upon

society, but one to which we are, as a community, committed."

Nevertheless, only 15 per cent. of the cases of the Association were purely palliative, and some remarks of Rabbi Leo Franklin are quoted, in which he said: "It is easy to state how many visits the nurse makes in the course of the year, how many patients she sees, but who can tell to what degree she has re-

awakened the dormant self-respect of an afflicted family, or aroused a dulled ambition, or shamed the mother for her slovenliness, or roused a drunken father to a sense of duty to his wife and children? It is a fine thing that she goes into the filthy home, and makes it not only habitable, but inviting; but it is a finer thing that by her influence, not only upon the patient, but upon the place and all who dwell in it, she leaves an inspiration to be something a little more and something a little better than



AMERICANS IN THE MAKING.

they have been." Surely fine work to achieve.

Mrs. Aldis further stated that no applicant is accepted for appointment on the staff—and it numbers 62—"who is not a graduate registered nurse, entitled to the legal use of the letters R.N. after her name. It is a matter of pride that the requirements for State Registration of Nurses in Illinois is higher than in any other State, except New York."

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