

after which ceremony he addressed the members of the Conference as follows:—

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK AND LADIES,—

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity of expressing my cordial and heartfelt good wishes to the members of the Nursing Conference. It is a pleasure and a privilege to offer you a greeting and a welcome, as to friends visiting us who belong to one of the most beneficent callings which has ever blessed mankind. Every one who values the work of the nursing profession desires to offer homage. His Excellency went on to congratulate Miss Huxley and those who had organised the Conference on its success, and especially referred to the tableaux of the previous evening as being admirably devised and carried out. None would ever forget some of these tableaux, their beauty and their pathos, as well as their emotional elements. He especially referred to the "exquisite" picture of Miss Florence Nightingale, and said that one of Lady Aberdeen's most cherished possessions was a letter written to her by Miss Nightingale when she was organising the Victorian Order of Nurses in Canada, the value of which was now recognised throughout the Empire. It was a great disappointment to Lady Aberdeen not to be there, as she was fulfilling an engagement of long-standing and attending a Suffrage Congress in Paris. She had, however, sent him some pages out of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, which had kept him well informed as to the arrangements of the programme. He regretted that the absence of Lady Aberdeen had hindered them from exercising the amount of hospitality which they would have wished to manifest, but if any members had time that afternoon or the following one to visit the Viceregal Lodge they would be very welcome.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick said, in reply:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

May I be permitted to offer you our heartfelt thanks for your kind words, and the way in which you have received us to-day. I am sure that the members of this Conference would desire to express their regret that Lady Aberdeen's absence in Paris has coincided with the Conference Week, and to ask you to convey to her their appreciation of the interest she has taken in the proceedings.

In the name of the National Council of Trained Nurses, I again offer your Excellency our heartiest thanks for your kindness.

Those who had gathered together to listen to Lord Aberdeen's speech, then dispersed—some to return to the tea-tent; others availed themselves of the Lord Lieutenant's kind invitation to visit the Viceregal Lodge and grounds, and more took advantage of the opportunity to see the Zoological Gardens, which are not only beautiful in themselves, but the collection of animals is very fine. The management are specially noted for their lions, and two baby lions came in for a large share of admiration.

## THE BANQUET.

No Conference of Nurses would be complete without a Banquet. With the memory of unforgettable evenings in Berlin, Paris, London, Cologne, each with its distinctive feature, we may well be critical, and somewhat hard to please, but the Dublin Banquet at the Mansion House on the evening of Thursday, June 5th, when the Lord Mayor most kindly lent his private rooms, will long be remembered as having touched the high-water mark of distinction, gaiety and good fellowship, and the dinner itself was of an excellence rare to find.

Miss Huxley, President of the Irish Nurses' Association, was in the chair, supported on her right by Dr. Fitzgerald, President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, and on her left by Sir Charles Ball, Bart. Next to the President of the College of Physicians was Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. Amongst others who were present to testify to the good will existing between the interdependent professions of medicine and nursing were Sir William Smyly, Sir Robert Woods, Dr. Jellett (Master of the Rotunda), Dr. Haughton, Professor Dixon, Dr. E. Taylor, Dr. W. Taylor, Dr. E. H. Tweedy, Dr. Mason, Dr. G. P. Cope, Dr. Henry Stokes, Dr. Henry Wilson, Dr. Kathleen Lynn, Dr. T. Neill, Dr. L. G. Gunn, Dr. Farrer, Dr. J. M. Day, Dr. Doran, Dr. T. E. Gordon, Dr. Pryce Peacock, Dr. McVittie, Dr. Henry Moore, Dr. Euphan Maxwell, Dr. Davson, Dr. Barrie-Lambert, Dr. Wm. Roantree, Dr. F. C. Crawley, Dr. Stevenson, Dr. Drury, Dr. Ashe. The Matrons present included nearly every Dublin Matron, Miss Haughton of Guy's, Miss Musson (Birmingham), Miss Jolley (Liverpool), Miss Barton (London) and many others.

Throughout the evening Mr. Clarke Barry's Instrumental Quartette played most delightfully, and Dr. W. S. Haughton's songs "On Lido Waters" and "The Snowy-breasted Girl," were a rare treat. At the close of the dinner, before the toasts, beautiful flowers arrived from the Conference Hospitality Committee, for Miss Huxley a gorgeous basket of crimson carnations tied with crimson ribbon, for Mrs. Bedford Fenwick a basket of pink carnations, tied with Patrick's blue, and for Miss Carson Rae the sweetest of sweet peas and thistle. It was a graceful and charming thought, but as the donors kept their identity concealed no thanks could be offered.

The toast of the King having been duly honoured Miss Butler, Vice-President of the Irish Nurses' Association, in the happiest of speeches proposed "The Visitors," who, she said had come from far and near, and many of whom were distinguished persons and shining lights in the world of nursing. It was not only a pleasure, but a great privilege to propose this toast. She hoped that though this dinner was the first it was only the forerunner of many such pleasant gatherings. She hoped

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