

own case, and I might say I salute Major Barnett and, metaphorically, I take off my hat to him.—(Applause)—and assure him, in my own name and yours, that he will henceforth be remembered as the nurses' very good friend. (Applause.)

MISS HULME: I have very great pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to Major Barnett for his kind services. I feel sure the nurses will agree with me when I say he will go down to posterity with the title "Defender of the Nurses' Charter and Gallant Champion of their Rights and Liberties."

The vote was carried by acclamation.

#### MAJOR BARNETT, M.P., RETURNS THANKS

MAJOR BARNETT, M.P.: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Councillor Beatrice Kent, ladies and gentlemen, I really have already contributed my share this afternoon, and I am being thanked when the thanks ought to have gone to another quarter. I hope we have not come to the end of the votes of thanks, for the real thanks ought to go to your Chairman, who has so splendidly fought the battle of nurses' registration through good report and evil report, not only for the last 17 years, but for 13 years before that—if she is old enough to have carried it on so long. (Laughter.) This matter has proceeded in stages. When, in 1908, we were successful in getting the Bill through the House of Lords, it was a great step, that one of the Houses of Parliament approved the Bill. But the House of Commons is a more difficult proposition: it is more difficult to get a Bill through there, I think, and it was so even in those days. Although that Bill was read under the Ten-minutes' Rule, just before the war, it was only the First Reading, and I think it was a very great advance when, on March 26th last, we got our Bill read a second time in the House of Commons, because the House of Commons does assert itself, even against other branches of the Legislature. I think the criticism to which our Bill was subjected in the House of Commons—which directly represents the people—is another evidence of the zeal, sometimes the mistaken zeal, which representatives of the people insist on showing. I regard it as a great honour and privilege to have been associated with this great reform. I had all the luck of the ballot: I do not think it was anything very much to my credit that, having promised our President, and Councillor Beatrice Kent, that if I were successful in the ballot I would put down the Nurses Registration Bill, I carried out my promise. All I can pretend to have done is simply to have kept my promise, to have thus been a humble instrument of bringing about this reform. It was long overdue. The effort has been continued seventeen years, and if it had not been for the splendid courage of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, some of you must still have been feeling that "hope deferred which maketh the heart sick." You have now got your Act, and I think it is a good one, and I know Dr. Addison intends to make it a success. The Nursing Profession is now established on a firm basis for all time in this

country. I thank Councillor Kent very much for all the kind things she said about me. I do not deserve half of them, and I thank you, ladies, for the kind way in which you have received them. (Loud applause.)

I desire in this connection to record the very great service in this matter of a colleague, Sir Samuel Scott, the Member for Marylebone, who was in charge of the Nurses Registration Bill before I was fortunate enough to get a place in the ballot. He gave me the very kindest assistance in carrying the Bill through Committee, and I should be sorry for you ladies to think I failed to recognise and acknowledge those fine services. (Applause.)

#### THANKS TO ABSENT FRIENDS.

THE CHAIRMAN: I now call upon Miss Heather Bigg to propose an inclusive vote of thanks to several of our most helpful friends: Lord Amptill, who is Chairman of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, and has been our consistent friend for many years and got our Bill through the House of Lords in 1908, and who did a great deal last Session to enlighten noble Lords on the fallacies of a rival proposition. We also wish to thank Lord Sandhurst, who presented the Bill in the House of Lords for the Government last Session. And do not let us forget our very kind and good friend Dr. Chapple. He had no luck in the ballot, but he was very pertinacious, and a very good friend to us for the four years he had charge of our Bill. We desire also to place on record our gratitude to Major Sir Samuel Scott, M.P. I am sorry we do not seem to be able to name many women who have come forward to help us. I am a strong woman's woman, but I am bound to say that those who are not professional women have with very few exceptions, stood aside markedly with regard to this great reform. The support we have had from the medical profession, we know very well, has come from the men. But there is one name I must mention—that of Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, the President of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, who has shown a very intelligent interest in this nursing question. I think we owe her a sincere vote of thanks. She is an exceedingly brilliant woman, and her support was of great value to us. Then there is the British Medical Association—(Hear, hear)—which has greatly assisted us. I call upon Miss Heather Bigg to propose the vote of thanks.

MISS M. HEATHER BIGG proposed and Miss F. B. KINGSFORD seconded the votes of thanks to Lord Amptill, Lord Sandhurst, Major Chapple, Major Sir Samuel Scott, Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon, and the British Medical Association, which were agreed to with applause.

#### VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN AND THE HON. SECRETARY:

A very warm vote of thanks to the Chairman, which, she said in her reply, must include Miss M. Breay, without whose help the work credited

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