

light and the nearly full moon looking in approvingly on the birthday party. Spanish musicians came down from the balconies above, giving soft music, Spanish songs accompanied by the violin and guitar. At the long speaker's table, sat the president and representatives of the districts, each guarded by a Spanish 'boy' at the back of her chair, and which she took home. The beauty and calm sank into the soul of everyone; there was no need to talk—just fill one's being with restfulness. Miss Williamson presided in her inimitable way, using as her gavel a tambourine. This being a birthday occasion, and presents in order, she first presented the future director of headquarters, by way of a birthday present. Then came birthday greetings from each district to the mother organisation (symbolized in the president) in different forms, prose and verse, some accompanied by flowers or candy, while all districts combined in presenting two beautiful coloured pictures of the Mission Inn. Every one lingered long at table, loth to break the spell, yet there was still something more awaiting in the music room—a playlet to be given by the Community Players of Riverside—an exquisite little piece of acting which just filled the time before saying good-night and good-bye."

In the new Philadelphia General Hospital, U.S.A., there has just been unveiled a tablet in honour of Miss S. Lillian Clayton, Directress of Nurses, which is believed to be unique in the annals of nursing. *The American Journal of Nursing* relates that in graceful phrase, on lasting bronze, the graduate nurses who have been associated with Miss Clayton during her period of service in the hospital have recorded their appreciation.

The tablet bears the following words:—

In order that the memory of a sacrificing life, unflinching devotion to duty, abiding compassion and tender care of the sick, benevolence and sympathy with all, may remain green in the memory of us all and of those who follow us, we, the Graduate Nursing Staff of the Philadelphia General Hospital, present this tablet to the City of Philadelphia, in honour of our Directress of Nurses, Miss S. Lillian Clayton.

Dr. Joseph C. Doane, Medical Director and Superintendent of the Hospital, speaking at the unveiling said:—

"When one looks at a life of this sort, one wonders at the motive that underlies it. During the past fifteen years I have wondered what was the magnetism that made it possible, day in and day out, year in and year out, for her to do a service so forgetful of self, to carry on without any visible evidence of what made it so, and I think I know the answer. I think I know why a life like that has been lived, and I think it is this: I think her goal, by day and by night, has been the individual patient and forgetfulness of herself. I think that has been the keynote of this person concerning whom we are talking to-day. I have seen her lead the sick pupil nurse by the hand into eternity, as she would lead her on duty in the ward, and I have seen that devotion to duty which one seldom sees in an individual. And I am glad to stand here to-day, my friends, and bear witness to these things I am telling you—the high principles of Education, fearless facing of difficulties, because these principles are right."

Miss Margaret Dunlop, representing the State Board of

Nurses Examiners, paid glowing tribute to Miss Clayton's influence in the local League of Nursing Education, and to the other nursing organisations, including the American Nurses' Association, with its more than 70,000 members, of which Miss Clayton is President, Miss Dunlop said:—

"We are asking women who have full-time jobs to do something that is another full-time job. When one realises that Miss Clayton as President of the State Board of Examiners has for over five years gone every month to that State Board meeting, and for the last three has risen at 4.30 in the morning and taken a five o'clock train for Harrisburg, working until the 9.28 train, and reaching Philadelphia General at ten minutes to one, it is not an eight-hour day. It is a labour of love."

The tablet and the speeches with which it was inaugurated are a fine tribute to a fine leader.

### THE MARY CURETON MEMORIAL FUND.



MISS M. N. CURETON.

A few friends, some known and some unknown to the late Miss M. N. Cureton, have expressed the wish that there should be a permanent memorial of her and Deaconess Katherine Beynon who together founded the Addenbrooke's Missionary Guild, Cambridge, in 1889.

It is proposed to start a fund for the Endowment of a bed in St. Stephen's Hospital, Delhi, India, where

two beds have for some years been supported by this Guild, which now numbers nearly two hundred members.

Miss Cureton took a keen interest in the Guild and spent much time and thought in working for it till the end of her life.

It is also intended to fix a plate on her photograph which is in the Nurses' Sitting Room at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

The whole cost would amount to something approaching £400. Donations, large and small, may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, the Rev. E. A. Ostrehan, Roxburgh, Trumpington Road, Cambridge; or to either of the Hon. Secretaries—Miss Chase, 13, Madingley Road, Cambridge, and Miss Francis, Longstanton, Cambs.

Miss Cureton, who was well known, and beloved, in the nursing world, was first Sister and then Lady Superintendent of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, from 1883—1901, and under her direction the standard of training of nurses attained a very high reputation. She was also one of the pioneers of nursing organisation, and was an early member of the British Nurses' Association, and one of the signatories to the Incorporation Clause of its Royal Charter. She was a Member and Vice-President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Society for the State Registration of Nurses, and a Foundation Member (Councillor) of the International Council of Nurses, to which she donated annually from the first a bound copy of *THE NURSING RECORD*, now *THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*.

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