

of which is the original old gate-way of the Priory of St. John.

There is one more public function to which we are invited, and that is the Church Parade on Sunday next, in St. John's Parish Church, with the members of No. 1 district, by the kind invitation of the Deputy Commissioner of the district, Colonel Lees Hall. This includes both brigade men and

nursing sisters. The nursing sisters have received invitation of a more private nature from the leading members of the brigade to visit them in their homes or clubs, and they shall carry away many pleasant memories of the kind attentions they have received during their visit to London and to St. John's Gate.

The Past and Future of the Nursing Profession

(Abstract of an address by Dr. Colquhoun, to the Trained Nurses' Association in Dunedin, July 29th, 1912)

The lecturer began by asking, "Why has nursing only become a profession for educated women in the life time of people now living?" The answer is to be found mainly in the consideration of the ideas held by the founder of European civilisation on the nature of disease, and on the position of women.

Among primitive people all diseases were supposed to be carried either by the evil influence of men or their ghosts, or by malignant spirits, who interpenetrated all human societies, or by angry gods. He referred to the permanence of these primitive conceptions and their existence in all modern nations, side by side with those of science. Belief in the Evil Eye, in demoniacal possession, in the Divine anger visiting men and nations with diseases and disaster, is common everywhere, and probably if we counted heads only, in many countries, it is still held by the majority.

The lecturer gave some details of the growth of more rational conceptions among the most highly educated Greeks of the time of Hippocrates about the fifth century B.C., and at Alexandria, during the reign of the Ptolemies from 323 B.C., to the beginning of our era. It was evident that this teaching did not touch the greater mass of the people for when with the triumph of Christianity in the east and the west in Constantinople and in Rome, the Pagan religions fell, all their schools were closed and their science was banned. The primitive ideas which held all disease to be the result of the Evil Eye or

demoniacal influence, came back in full force. The people brought, in amulets and spells, and invocations of saints, relief from those physical sufferings which the Greeks had taught could be gained through a careful observation of the human body and of the results of different methods of treatment.

The Nertorian Christians, a proscribed heretical sect carried Greek learning with them in their enforced exile into Asia. With the rise of the Mohammedan power came a singular expansion of mind among the Arab conquerors, and for many centuries European learning and science were kept alive and in many directions advanced by them. The Jews, driven out of Christian countries, or horribly maltreated, found an asylum among the Moslems. Many of them became skilled physicians and men of science and learning, and their help was sought during the dark ages by nearly every ruler in Europe.

The chaotic state of Europe after the downfall of the Roman Empire, forbade any intellectual growth. The rebirth—the renaissance—came in the fifteenth century. It began in Italy and spread quickly over the Continent. Men began to think and write. Printing spread their ideas by multiplying the number of their hearers. The arts and sciences were cultivated. Universities founded, and the forgotten learning of the Romans and Greeks began to become the common property of students.

With other forms of learning, the art of medicine began to grow and to seek its