

These were his last coherent words, though in his subsequent wandering speech he was heard to express the wish to be "home and free from care." Then the end came swiftly, peacefully, and the brave spirit passed away. We know that in the valley of the shadow of death stood the cross in which he trusted, the eternal emblem of Divine love, resting upon the earth, lost to sight in the heavens, a ladder by which all may pass, for, in the words of a favourite hymn of the dead President:

"There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea,
There's a kindness in his justice
Which is more than liberty.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind."

At the feet of the dead we lay our tribute of respect and homage, a homage which befits the good and great. To the living—the bereaved wife and relatives—our deepest sympathy is extended. Many messages of condolence have reached Mrs. McKinley, but none more touching than that from the widow of King Humbert, Queen Marguerite of Italy, which ended: "We are sisters in sorrow." The whole civilized world mourns with her to-day.

THE NEED OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR NURSES.

Professor Rucker, Principal of London University, who presided last week at the Congress of the British Association, held this year at Glasgow, commented, in his opening address, on the fact that the Association has, this year, for the first time a section for education, and said that the importance of this new department was emphasised in the occupation of the chair of that section by the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education, Sir John Gorst.

Education was, said Professor Rucker, passing through a transitional stage. The recent debates in Parliament, the great gifts of Mr. Carnegie, the discussion as to university organization in the North of England, the reconstitution of the University of London, the increasing importance attached to the application of knowledge, both to the investigation of nature and to the purposes of industry, were all evidence

of the growing conviction that without advance in education we could not retain our position among the nations in the world.

We nurses are feeling similarly that without better and more methodical nursing education we shall not be able to retain our position amongst our colleagues of other nations, more especially those of the United States. Notwithstanding the great advances made in the past half century in the practical care of the sick, nursing education is still in a chaotic condition. Few people will be found willing to assert that the best use is made of the training ground afforded to students of nursing by our hospitals and infirmaries, and we are still without any minimum standard or common curriculum of education. May we hope that the Principal of London University will use his influence to establish in connection with it a Chair of Nursing and so extend its benefits, and afford opportunities of systematic instruction, to the members of a profession which deserves well at the hands of all men?

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON TUBERCULOSIS.

The importance of the work entrusted to the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis cannot be over-estimated. It is the direct outcome of the opinion expressed by Dr. Koch at the recent Congress that tuberculosis in animals and man is not one and the same disease, and that infection cannot be conveyed from animals to men. Until, however, the Royal Commission issues its report, our readers will do well to note that the weight of medical opinion in this country is against the conclusion formed by Dr. Koch, and that they would be unwise to diminish the precautions hitherto observed with regard to the boiling of milk, as a means of rendering innocuous any germs of tuberculosis which it may contain. The Local Government Board holds this view so forcibly that it has issued a circular strongly advising against the relaxation of precautions. It must also be remembered that even if it be proved that milk does not convey the tubercle bacillus from animals to man it is a fruitful means of conveying the infection of scarlet fever and diphtheria. On this count, if on no other, raw milk may at any time be a source of danger, and should consequently always be boiled.

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