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ETHEL GORDON FENWICK, S.R.N.

A SHORT OUTLINE OF HER LIFE AND WORK.

HER EARLY LIFE.

On January 26th, 1857, at Spynie House, Morayshire, in glorious Scotland, a tiny baby girl first saw the light of day. She was the infant daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Davidson Manson, and in due course she was baptised and received the name of Ethel. Little did her unsuspecting parents realise the future prodigy which fate had brought to them; nor could they guess that after a strenuous life of high endeavour, many and varied travels, and works of great public benefit, their daughter would die at the ripe old age of 90 years, still mentally active, with all her faculties unimpaired, almost alone, but for one or two exceptions; away from her friends and the environment of her activities.

Blissfully unaware of what fate had in store for her, little Ethel grew up in a cultured atmosphere, where wealth and refinement abounded, surrounded by beauty, and learning to love flowers, birds and animals which flourished on her father's estate. Ethel was not quite one year old when her father died, and in due course Mrs. Manson married again, her second husband being Mr. George Storer, of Thoroton Hall, Notts. (who was a Member of Parliament), and he was thus the father whom Ethel grew to love.

Her childhood passed sweetly and gently in the old Hall, set in lovely gardens and surrounded by beautiful wooded meadowlands in the glorious Belvoir Valley. Truly this was a perfect retreat and a peaceful preparation for her future active life, for never again, after the age of twenty-one years, when she first sallied forth into the world, did she ever again enjoy such tranquil and blessed peace.

Whilst growing to lovely womanhood, young Ethel's character developed along very determined and unique

lines. She was lavishly endowed with gifts of intellect, strength of character, great and dogged courage and a spirit of passionate enterprise. She possessed great beauty, a lovely and inspiring voice, and she was an excellent speaker. Even at an early age, she nursed secret (and at that time revolutionary) ambitions. She decided quite definitely that she would be a nurse; get married, and found a family. She accomplished

all three! And so it was throughout her whole life, whatever she was determined to do was done, no matter how great the obstacles, ignoring all difficulties and never counting the cost. Thus, at an early age, she revealed the characteristics of a reformer and a leader, and in the course of time she came forth from the secluded countryside into the whirl of the great cities, and she fulfilled her destiny.

HOSPITAL NURSING.

In 1878, she definitely decided that the time had come for her to commence her training as a nurse, a decision considered "very odd" in those days, and being too young to take her general training, she entered the Children's Hospital, Nottingham, as a Paying Probationer. From there, after one year, she proceeded to Manchester Royal Infirmary, and on completion of her training she was appointed Sister of Charlotte Ward at the London Hospital.

She proved herself a very able Sister and a great disciplinarian. She later often spoke with affection of her time spent at the London Hospital. She used to recount to us that when the Committee, headed by its Chairman, toured the wards, she was always complimented on the apple-pie order of her cupboards, and on the freshness of the lovely flowers in her care. Her patients were happy, well nursed and contented. At this time she was hugging her secret ambition to become Matron of a Training School, and the opportunity was not long denied her.



ETHEL, AT THE AGE OF EIGHT YEARS.

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