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In Loving Memory.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE COLLEGE OF
NURSES.
A STATUE OF THE LADY WITH THE LAMP.

Various suggestions have been made for the erection of some permanent national memorial to Miss Florence Nightingale. It appears to us, therefore, to be advisable that the Nursing profession, which to a large extent she created, and in connection with which she will be for ever remembered, should express its views with regard to some suitable commemoration of her commanding personality and genius.

There should be two distinct memorials to this very noble Lady. One should perpetuate to all time the memory of her glorious services to humanity; the other should indicate to posterity the profound reverence and affection felt for her by the trained nurses of the present day. It would, therefore, be right that the expense of founding the former memorial should be borne by the public at large; while the cost of the latter should be provided by the subscriptions of the Trained Nurses of the British Empire.

It must never be forgotten that Miss Nightingale by her writings, as well as by her practical work in the Crimea, and by her subsequent establishment of the Training School for Nurses at St. Thomas' Hospital, was the creator of modern trained nursing. She placed the education and work of the Nurse, for the first time, on a scientific basis. It may fairly be argued, therefore, that the most logical national memorial to her memory should be the establishment of a College of Nurses, which would develop and extend the system she founded, beyond the ordinary hospital training which has hitherto been the limit

of professional education, and thus provide for Nurses the same advanced and systematic professional teaching which a University provides for the general scholar. Such a College would certainly fill several gaps which at present exist in the Nursing curriculum. It could, for example, institute a preliminary examination in general educational subjects, and thus save individual Hospitals the necessity of testing the general knowledge of their applicants for training—a condition which, in too many instances, is now taken on trust. Such a College could, moreover, provide instruction in the preliminary scientific courses and practical nursing technique which the smaller hospitals at present are unable to give to their pupils; and certainly it could organise a system of post-graduate education which no hospital at present affords, but which, in the future, must undoubtedly be obtainable by those who desire to qualify themselves as hospital Matrons and Superintendents of a Nursing School, or of new branches of social reform and preventive nursing as required by progressive sociological conditions.

But such a College of Nurses as we have long advocated would require at least £50,000 for its establishment and proper endowment, and as it is an educational scheme of such vast possibilities for the benefit of the whole community, only the public at large can undertake its foundation.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that the first Isla Stewart Scholar has been compelled to go to New York in order to obtain the full post-graduate instruction in hospital and nursing school administration considered desirable, and for which there are no facilities at present in Europe.

The other suggestion which we would advance, is that the Nurses of the British

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