

## PRINCESS CHRISTIAN'S FUNERAL.

### CEREMONIAL AT WINDSOR.

The funeral service of the late Princess Christian took place on Friday, June 15th, at St. George's Chapel, Windsor. The King and Queen, the Princess of Wales, Princess Helena Victoria, Princess Marie Louise, and other members of the Royal Family took part in a simple and moving ceremony. The coffin, covered with the Royal Standard, on a gun carriage, was drawn by six bays of the Royal Horse Artillery, the pall-bearers walking on either hand. The coronet and insignia of her late Royal Highness were borne by equerries on cushions, the short procession passing to the music of the "Dead March" in *Saul*.

As the coffin was lifted from the gun carriage the Dean of Windsor, who awaited it at the foot of the church steps, began to read the sentences from the Order for the Burial of the Dead. Inside the Chapel the choir took its place at the head of the procession, and as it moved up the aisle, sang the hymn, "For all the Saints who from their labours rest." The service was short. The 90th Psalm was sung, and the Bishop of Oxford read the Lesson from Wisdom iii, 1-9, "The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God." Then came prayers, and a Collect and the Blessing by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The coffin was then taken to where it now reposes, in a grave in the aisle near the east end of the church—not, however, to be its final resting-place. Later it will be placed in the Royal Tomb House, which is immediately below the Albert Memorial Chapel.

The coffin was banked high for many yards with wreaths of exquisite flowers. On the coffin itself, upon the Royal Standard, lay two simple wreaths only—one all green from the Princess Christian's daughters, and one from the members of her household. Amongst the wreaths was one of great beauty sent by the members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, composed of exquisite white flowers, and a very lovely wreath of the red and white roses of York and Lancaster from the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland.

Miss Isabel Macdonald, Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association, was invited to attend the funeral at Windsor, together with the three members who nursed the Princess in her last illness—Miss Bevan, Miss Hill, and Miss Pearson.

### THE MEMORIAL SERVICE AT WESTMINSTER.

The crowded Memorial Service held at Westminster Abbey was a most impressive occasion, and was conducted by the Dean of Westminster (Bishop Ryle). The music was exquisite. In an address the Dean said he had been asked to say a few words in tribute to Her Royal Highness. Princess Christian was a good woman, whom very many loved and all honoured. She was one who from her girlhood gave herself up to the duties and discipline of nursing. Throughout her long life she was devoted to the promotion of causes whose object it was to relieve suffering, and, if possible, to recover the fallen. It was her constant ambition to use aright the position which she had inherited for her country's good. Her strong personal traits were her peace of mind and inspiration for ceaseless benevolence and her thought for others. She inherited from her mother, Queen Victoria, a noble tradition, and she upheld it worthily.

There was no cause for sorrow, but rather of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the pattern of her life, and for the example of fortitude in the time of trouble.

"One Army of the Living God,

At His command we bow.

Part of the host have crossed the flood

And part are crossing now."

A large number of nurses were prominent amongst the congregation. Miss Beadsmore Smith, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief Q.A.I.M.N.S., Dame Maud MacCarthy, R.R.C., with many Army Sisters in their distinctive uniforms; Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, National Council of Trained Nurses, and many members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, specially represented by Mrs. Campbell Thomson, Hon. Nurse Secretary; Miss Alice Cattell, Miss Liddiatt, Miss Forbes, Miss Dempster, Miss Beatrice Cutler, Miss Sadlier, and others. Miss Margaret Breay, Hon. Secretary, Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, and Miss Lord, National Union of Trained Nurses. The nurses present realised they had lost an understanding friend, whose place it would be impossible to fill, and passed out of the Abbey with an irremediable sense of bereavement.

We regret we are unable to award a prize this week. An excellent Paper was received from Miss E. Wett, Bethnal Green Hospital, which only contained 384 words. It did not, therefore, comply with the Rules, which require competition papers to contain from 500 to 650 words.

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