

ment with large window space) adjoin the wards. At the top of the hospital are the nurses' bedrooms all fresh and neat; they, like the other parts of the hospital, are painted each year. The artistic spirit in Finland is very strong and it was just delightful to see how what must have once appeared the most unpromising part of the building had been made to look most charming. The bedrooms were so dainty and bright and the sitting room most attractive, while the vista from the windows was just wonderful. The nurses are delighted with their domain here on the roof of their hospital.

The hospital stands high in the town and is so constructed that there is plenty of open space about, a very valuable asset, particularly where surgical cases are concerned. The grounds are well kept and in them we came across the most attractive part of the hospital, a row of open air shelters where the babies are in bed. Most winsome youngsters these young hopefuls of Finland, and very ready to be introduced to the visitors and to make friends with a smile and an exhibition of kissing their toes, or by a good lusty howl to secure the retirement of the invaders if they judged this to be expedient.

In the hospital "the grey ladies" of the Congress had become "white ladies," and very striking they looked in their spotless dresses, aprons, caps, and white stockings and shoes.

ART IN SCANDINAVIA.

"THE PLEASURES OF MEMORY."

Those who know that the writer of this article has only paid flying visits to the beautiful cities named below will assuredly call the title one of presumption!

She admits the justice of the impeachment, but offers a twofold excuse. (1) That great genius and thinker, the poet Pope, in his "Essay on Man," in speaking of certain essential characteristics, adds:—"And these, mixed with Art, and to due bounds confined, *make and maintain the balance of the mind.*" (The italics are mine.) (2) An appreciative reference to Scandinavian Art will, I hope, be regarded as a tribute of respect to our Sister Nurses—natives of those Countries—who showed us so much kindness during our short stay, and will prove to them that the British Nurses are not alone interested in the blood and muscle side of their profession, but "whatsoever things are lovely" make their appeal to them. My chief aim must naturally be to maintain the balance of the (my) mind by indulging in a little descriptive Art.

Suomi—Helinski.*

The Finnish nation has proved herself strong enough to liberate herself from the domination of Russia through the war of Liberty in 1918, and in consequence thereof is now making rapid progress as an Independent State. We have long known that education in Finland is very advanced, centred in a famous University. Science and the Arts are flourishing, there is a technical High School, a School of Art, several Art Galleries, a School of Music (we have had delightful demonstrations of the musical genius of the Finnish people). There are several museums, and other educational Institutions. The Athenæum—which I visited twice—is the largest Art Gallery in Finland. There is some very fine statuary by Runeberg, Aaltonen (whose bust expressing fear, is very remarkable) and Stigell, who sculptured the famous group "The Shipwrecked," which stands in a prominent position in the city. Some fine landscapes are by Lindholm, Holmberg, and Uotila. Perhaps the most

beautiful picture in the Gallery, from the point of view of the exquisite detail and delicacy of its Art, is by Francken, representing the interior of a picture gallery, with people visiting; every picture on the wall of the picture is like a miniature.

There were others by the old masters, Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli, and Masaccio. A statue to the famous patriotic poet of Finland (Runeberg) has been erected in "The Avenue." He wrote the National Anthem, *Vari Land*. (I do not know whether he is identical with the sculptor of that name.)

Stockholm.

Our fleeting visit to this great city was shorter—as in Copenhagen—than that to Helsingfors by several days, but, being a "picker-up of learning's crumbs" I picked up a few. Nature has been the architect of this beautiful city, and given it its singular charm. Its many waterways, and the fact that it is built—like the Italian city—on several islands, explain the name given to it, of the "Venice of the North." The "Old Town" or "City between the Bridges" founded by Berger Jarl, on one island has spread far beyond it. One can form some idea of its attractiveness, when one realizes that there are thirteen large and small islands within the city boundaries, although the greater parts of Stockholm is on the mainland. The great archipelago of thousands of islands stretches far however beyond the city, right away to the Baltic. (Helsingfors is likewise made beautiful by similar island scenery.)

Old Stockholm would generally be considered the most interesting part of the city, on account of its antiquity, but the buildings and lay-out of the modern city are grand and imposing. The great Royal Palace stands on an island of the Old Town. To my mind, the most beautiful building that I saw, is the Riddarhuset (Palace of the Nobility). Indeed, it is said to be architecturally the finest building in Stockholm, of the 17th century.

Near by, on another island, stands the Riddarholmsskyrkan (the island Church of the Riddar or Nobility). It has a history that goes back to 1280, when it was originally erected in connection with the Franciscan Monastery. This is Stockholm's Cathedral. It is a kind of Valhalla, serving as a burial place for the Swedish Kings.

It is an interesting coincidence that the "World Conference on Christian Life and Work" opened here on August 10th with a sermon by the Bishop of Winchester.

The waterways, and many islands, and—in the modern parts—the parks and gardens and broad streets, impart a charming sense of space and variety. On another island stands the imposing Riksdag Building, or House of Parliament. Among statues of note, I must not forget to mention that of the world famous botanist Linnæus, which stands in another fine park, the Humlegården. The new City Hall briefly referred to in our last issue has a beautiful position on the shore of the lake Mälaren; it was only completed in 1923. It is a miracle of modern building art. It baffles description from my poor pen—but just a word or two about it.

The representative character of this wonderful Stadhus, standing as it does, for the social welfare, happiness, and health of the people, commands our respect. We were conducted over it by two of our kind Sister Nurses, who acted as our English speaking guides. The "Civic or outer Court," which leads, by a low flight of steps to the "Blue Hall" which is covered in, so named from the blue tint of the marble with which it is paved; the stately porticoes, marble stairs, frescoes, and other decoration, of the numerous official chambers, are wonderful. The Golden Chamber is remarkable as being the most important hall of Assembly, used for receptions and popular festivals. The walls are entirely covered with mosaics on a gold ground.

* Suomi is the Finnish name for Finland; Helinski is the Finnish name for Helsingfors.

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