

OUR GRACIOUS QUEEN.

"A HELP AND A JOY."

Sometimes one wonders how our gracious Queen fulfils all the obligations of her Royal state, so much a part of our daily life has she become. As notified in the press every hour of her time appears devoted to duty, but when one gets a glimpse behind the scenes how infinitely precious are the little acts of kindness which of her own initiative she constantly performs, and how far-reaching are their results.

A few weeks ago Her Royal Highness Princess Arthur of Connaught, S. R. N., President of the Royal British Nurses' Association, paid a visit to Miss Maude MacCallum at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, where she is still being so tenderly cared for. The Princess took with her into the sick room radiant youth and charm, and together these professional colleagues talked of the work both love, and together they were photographed.

A few days later Miss MacCallum received with a wealth of lovely flowers the following very gracious and inspiring message from Her Majesty the Queen:—

Buckingham Palace.

"The Lady-in-Waiting is commanded by the Queen to write to Miss MacCallum and to tell her that Her Majesty has heard from her niece, Princess Arthur of Connaught, of Miss MacCallum's serious illness, and of her great courage and devotion in making light of it, as long as she could keep on with her work.

"The Queen sends her these few flowers with much sympathy in her pain and illness, and in admiration for her pluck and unselfishness."

Feb. 5th, 1926.

We are permitted to publish this Royal Message in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING upon the request of Miss Isabel Macdonald, Secretary of the Corporation, to whom the Lady-in-Waiting writes:—"Her Majesty certainly gives leave for the Lady-in-Waiting's letter to be reproduced in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, the Queen is so greatly pleased to hear that this letter and the flowers were a help and a joy to Miss MacCallum."

The letter and the lovely flowers, of which Miss

MacCallum is passionately fond, were, indeed, "a help and a joy," and arranged in the sick room they brought exquisite beauty to her environment and solace to her brave spirit. Here were white arum lilies, blue and white hyacinths, rose pink carnations and mauve and yellow iris, and charmingly arranged they transformed the sick room into a gay and sunny Spring garden. No wonder pain and sadness fled away before the power of queenly love and charity!

It is this sweet thoughtfulness upon the part of our Queen that has endeared her to the nation, not only as a great Queen of brilliant intellectual pre-eminence, but as a woman of infinite warmth of heart whose sympathy with grief lightens many burdens.

E. G. F.



THE QUEEN'S FLOWERS.
"A Help and a Joy."

THE QUEEN AND NURSING SERVICES.

The King has approved the appointment of the Queen as President of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, Queen Alexandra's Military Families Nursing Service, the Territorial Army Nursing Service, and Queen Alexandra's Army Nursing Board, in succession to the late Queen Alexandra.

The Queen paid a visit last month to the Royal College of St. Katherine at Poplar, which is claimed to be the oldest philanthropic foundation in the kingdom. The original college was near the Tower, but in 1914 it was removed to Poplar, and now exists for the care and preservation of infant life. Members of the Chapter and Miss

E. Herbert (the principal) received Her Majesty.

The Queen visited the record office, the observation ward, the open air nursery, the artificial sunlight department, the babies' clinic, the dental clinic, the dining room, and the staff quarters, and then at her own request went into the kitchen and laundry and talked with members of the staff on duty there. She walked along the road to the babies' clinic from the headquarter premises, and stopped to talk with many of the mothers, who gave her Majesty an enthusiastic reception.

In answer to her questions, the Queen was informed that the health visitors and trained nurses were dealing with something like 10,000 cases. There were five baby clinics, three at this centre and two outside, the observation ward had eight cots, and the clinics were attended by as many as 70 to 80 little patients per session.

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