

anniversary, 12th May, 1928. The Institute was established to perpetuate the memory of Florence Nightingale and to encourage endeavours which may serve to enlarge the merciful designs to which she dedicated her life.

"To the support of these objectives the Institute reverently invokes the guidance of Almighty God.

'Nor even shall be wanting here  
The palm, the lily and the spear,  
The symbols that of yore  
St. Philomena bore.'"

*Attest.*—The Academy of Regents of the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables of the United States of America.

PERCY W. WIEDNER, *President.*  
MISS GEORGIA BRYTON, *Director.*

"I now," said Miss Jones, "have the great honour of placing this wreath on the Tomb of Miss Nightingale, in the name of the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables of the United States of America."

The simple ceremony concluded with a few prayers said by the Vicar of Romsey, and then, on the hospitable invitation of Mrs. Plant, the visitors adjourned to the Vicarage to tea, a real English tea, at which they were seated round the table, and expected to do justice to the ample provision made for them, with which expectation they heartily complied. The guests included the Rev. L. Corban, Vicar of Romsey, besides residents in Wellow.

Much to her pleasure Miss Jones found that Mrs. Plant had advised Mr. Crosfield, of Embley Park, Miss Nightingale's Hampshire home, of her coming, and that though he and Mrs. Crosfield were away from home had given instructions that she and those accompanying her were to be allowed to see the house and grounds.

On the return journey to Romsey, therefore, the party stopped at Embley, and were shown the beautiful house and its treasures, and Miss Nightingale's own room, by the courteous butler.

Arrived at Romsey they were taken round the Abbey by the Vicar, who had preceded them, and who, in the brief space of time at their disposal, pointed out the chief points of interest in this glorious building, the pride of the countryside. Both this and Embley Park have so recently been described in this Journal that there is no need to refer to them further at the present time.

The Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables is an interesting and recent Foundation. Its Founder, Miss Georgia Bryton, was inspired to found the Institute by consideration of long family friendship with Florence Nightingale.

Miss Bessie Beavis, whose portrait, from a photograph taken in 1873, appears on this page, aunt to Miss Bryton, an intimate of Miss Nightingale from the year 1868 to the time of her death in 1910, suggested to her

niece that a memorial of some sort should be established to Miss Nightingale in the United States in recognition of the international character of her benefactions. The initial steps taken by Miss Bryton to secure this end were so successful that she was encouraged to propose a permanent organisation, to be known as the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables. All the preliminary expense has been defrayed from the private purse of the Founder, who states that she will be gratified to continue providing the necessary funds until the Institute, which was founded on May 12th, 1928, on Miss Nightingale's 108th Birthday Anniversary, is securely established. The Founder Members will therefore not be required to pay initiation fees.

The purpose of the Institute is "to bestow ribbons signifying that especial honour has been conferred on those men and women of all nations, all colours, all religious beliefs, whose devotion, genius, talents or labour may originate new and great works to the glory of Almighty God, the benefit of mankind, and the onward progress of spiritual and material improvement in every sphere of useful human endeavour."

The Founder proposes that ribbons of honour shall be awarded by the Institute annually for pre-eminent accomplishments by men and women in the groups which are enumerated in its announcements, the cost of the Grand Ribbon posthumously awarded to Florence Nightingale and two Grand Ribbons awarded in 1928 for pre-eminent services being defrayed by her.

Two Ribbons of Honour are awarded annually.

1. *The Grand Ribbon of the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables.* Cordons of scarlet silk with gold ornamentation. Awarded, (a) to the person of either sex, and any nationality, who, during the calendar year last past, shall have contributed the highest service to the Greater Glory of Almighty God, and (b) the person whose contribution of service shall be, by a Supreme Council of the

Institute, pronounced inestimably beneficial to mankind.  
2. *The Merit Ribbon of the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables.* The Merit Ribbon is identical with the Grand Ribbon, with the exception that the materials are blue instead of scarlet silk, with silver instead of gold ornamentation. The number of Merit Ribbons awarded each year are designated by the Supreme Council. The initiative for awarding the Merit Ribbon is vested exclusively in Group Councils of Award, the awards being subjects to ratification or rejection by the Supreme Council.

Incidentally it may be mentioned as a somewhat serious and extraordinary omission that Nursing is not mentioned in the various departments eligible for the award of this ribbon. Though no doubt it is covered by the statement that it may be awarded for "super-excellent accomplishment in any other sphere of constructive human endeavour" we should prefer to see it placed specifically in the forefront.

It will be realised that the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables is an interesting Foundation, capable of



MISS BESSIE BEAVIS,  
Who inspired the formation of the Florence Nightingale Institute of Honorables.

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