

liberal manner. He told Flo that he would give her an income of £500 a year, and implied that he would bring Mrs. Nightingale to consent to her acceptance of a post; he suggested, however, that Flo had better write to him about these matters at the Athenæum Club; it was no good increasing the commotion at home."

Florence begged Madame Mohl to support her by writing to her mother, "in order," as she gleefully said, "that I may come, when I arrive, not with my tail between my legs, but gracefully curved round me, in the old way in which Perugino's devil wears it, in folds round the waist."

But No. 1, Upper Harley Street could not hold Florence Nightingale for long. There was no opportunity there for training nurses. King's College Hospital was being reorganised and a Superintendent of Nurses was wanted. Who better for the post than Florence Nightingale?

"Rumours began to reach Embley. Mrs. Nightingale and Parthe forgot their worry over what Flo had already done in their anxiety as to what she might do next. Mrs. Nightingale, in the midst of her distress and anxiety, was moved and a little awed by the progress of her 'dear child.'"

In the meantime Florence Nightingale went, on August 31st, 1854, to the Middlesex Hospital to take the superintendence of cholera patients from the Soho district, for whom wards had been emptied to receive. Mrs. Nightingale might indeed have been anxious then, but Miss Nightingale expressed the opinion that "cholera is not infectious from person to person."

Then came the clear Call to which she had been faithful during so many years of preparation.

On October 21st, 1854, Florence Nightingale started for Scutari.

Before we proceed to review Part II of this absorbing book let us gather up our impressions of Florence Nightingale, now the public servant, who thenceforward carried on her work in the full glare of publicity, while all the world wondered.

Unswerving and strong of purpose, animated with intense feeling, capable of immense affection, sensitive and ardent, craving sympathy and understanding from her "dear people," impetuous and vehement, "too violent, too explosive" at times, her father thought, yet a great lover of music which at one time she thought the key to life, merry and humorous, a mystic and visionary, yet intensely practical, and of clear judgment, with a passion alike for Roman Catholic nuns and Protestant Deaconesses, she stands out before us, an instrument as of finely tempered steel, a lonely figure facing eastward to obey her Call and fulfil her Destiny.

Every nurse should read this book. Is it too much to hope that most nurses will desire to possess it? It is the most satisfying presentation of the character and work of Florence Nightingale yet given to the world.

M. B.

(To be concluded.)

#### NURSING PSYCHOLOGICAL PATIENTS.

We have received from the publishers, Messrs. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., Museum Street, W.C., a copy of "Nursing Psychological Patients," by Mary Chadwick, S.R.N., F.B.C.N. Its interest is exceptional inasmuch as Dr. David Forsyth, Senior Physician at Charing Cross Hospital, tells us in his Foreword, "it comes first in the field in bringing the signal advances in recent medical psychology under the special notice of the nursing profession."

It is dedicated by the author "to the Nursing Staff of the University College Hospital, London," where these lectures were first given in April and May, 1928, and to all others interested in this important subject. We shall hope to refer to it again.

#### THE BRITISH EMPIRE CANCER CAMPAIGN.

A hopeful note characterised the proceedings at the recent annual general meeting of the British Empire Cancer Campaign which was held in the Moses Room of the House of Lords, and at which Lord Reading, Chairman of the Grand Council, presided.

The annual report stated that more was known about cancer to-day than was known 12 months ago, and the hope of achieving ultimate victory over it was consequently more securely founded. Thanks to the campaign, cancer research has been stimulated in every civilised country, with the result that there is now being conducted throughout the whole world the most formidable attack on a disease of which history holds record.

The President, the Duke of York, wrote from Paris: "How long will it be before this complex and baffling problem is solved none of us can foretell, but of this there is no question—that there has been built up upon a sure foundation this brotherhood of scientific effort to combat the scourge of cancer, which affects not only our Empire, but the whole world. It is an organisation which has the fullest confidence of both the scientific world and the British public. We always pride ourselves upon the fact that the British Empire has always held the leadership in medical and scientific work, and we earnestly pray that the workers of this Campaign may successfully overcome this grievous form of suffering which affects all humanity."

"The intensity of effort must of necessity impose a heavy strain upon the finances of this Campaign, but there should be no lack of financial support by a generous public to a cause such as this. The work of the Campaign is carried out as a happy combination of great scientific effort aided by a business-like efficiency in dealing with its funds and organisation, and I strongly commend to every one to assist in every way. May victory come soon—indeed, very soon—to this war of humanity upon a fell disease."

#### VERSES.

##### Gratitude

Is there no mintage to requite  
The service of a loyal nurse,  
Save that the money grub deems right,  
And pinches from a paltry purse?

Is there no sense of gratitude  
Beyond the stipulated price—  
The mercenary attitude  
That is well-nigh akin to vice?

Thank God! there is a grander sense—  
Unstinted mintage of the heart;  
A truer sense of recompense  
That knows no mercenary part.

A. W. LOUNDEN (in the "American Journal of Nursing").

#### A WORD FOR THE MONTH.

"It is time to be kind, it is time to be sweet. To be scattering roses for somebody's feet."

#### COMING EVENTS.

September 19th.—British College of Nurses: Monthly Meeting, 39, Portland Place. 2.15 p.m.

September 29th.—British College of Nurses: Monthly Meeting of Tutorial Group. Subject: "The Feeding of Patients." 8 p.m.

October 26th.—British College of Nurses: Fourth Annual Dinner. History of Nursing. Café Monico, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.

We regret we have been unable to award a prize for our competition this month, no paper of sufficient merit having been received.

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