

and asked to have them back. The Association was a success from the beginning.

Loving devotion to the service of "our masters the poor" is constantly inculcated in both Louise's conferences and letters. On one occasion, she writes: "Do you remember to say the prayer for the sick morning and evening and Benedicite and grace at meals?"

"Do you take napkins to their bedside, and see that they are always clean?" In another letter she impresses on them the loving care of their patients, asking them if they are careful to wash their hands and their feet when attending upon them. No services to the poor were too mean or degrading for her, and besides recommending them to her daughters she set them the example by practising them first herself.

Louise owned to her daughters how she envied them their service of the poor.

"I think sometimes at this hour," she wrote to a Sister working at a hospital, "that I am among you all, giving our dear masters their supper. Heavens! What happiness you have."

Monsieur Vincent exclaims about this time, "How I wish your Sisters would try and learn to read!"

Among their multifarious works of mercy, it is inspiring to note that the mentally afflicted were not overlooked.

Having devoted herself in turn to succour every corporal infirmity, nothing remained to Louise but to take charge of the unfortunate lunatics in the hospital of "*Petesi Maisons*."

Perhaps of all the good works taken up by the company, not excepting the nursing of the galley slaves, the care of lunatics was the most trying to human nature. And yet we know such was the power of St. Vincent de Paul of inspiring his daughter with his zeal for souls, and that of seeking Jesus Christ in all his members however sinful or afflicted—that the charge of the lunatics was assumed by the Sisters of Charity with the same fervour they had shown in all the other they had previously undertaken.

The testimony of one of the Sisters was:

"I remember when the servant of God sent us to work among the poor maniacs, he gave us such an exalted idea of the grace of God bestowed on us that we all felt inflamed with the desire to devote ourselves to it."

St. Vincent himself says:

"You must know He is in these poor people, bereft of their reason, just as He is in the person of the rest of the poor. It is with this belief you should wait upon them and when you visit them you should rejoice being able to say to yourselves: 'I go to these poor people to honour in them the wisdom incarnate of a God who willed to be treated as a fool or a lunatic.'"

We learn from this book also that the "Boarding out" of infants with peasant women in preference to institutional treatment was practised, though we have no space to comment further on this branch of work.

In 1656, Anne of Austria makes an appeal for Sisters to nurse the wounded soldiers. Two of their members were chosen and a very interesting charge is given them by the saintly St. Vincent. He reminded them that their mission was to "repair as far as they could injuries men had inflicted on their fellow-men and to preserve lives which men had done their utmost to destroy."

This volume is a large one and crowded with interest so that it is not possible to touch on many points. But we do advise our readers to get the book for themselves, for it cannot do otherwise than inspire them. I believe that the more thoughtful among our number cannot lay down this biography without asking rather wistfully:

"With all its advance in knowledge and skill, with all its proud distinction of status and attainment, is there not 'one thing thou lackest?' If so, what is it?"

Could the answer be—Vocation? H. H.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

The King and Queen have presented to the Royal Geographical Society miniature celestial and terrestrial globes as a memento of their Majesties' visit to the house of the society, Kensington Gore, on March 5th. The globes, which are dated 1770, are on mahogany stands and the track of Captain Cook's first voyage is shown on the terrestrial globe.

What an interesting gift! It reminded us to read carefully the inscription on the fine bronze statue facing the Mall, just within the Admiralty Arch, erected in his honour.

"Captain James Cook, R.N., F.R.S. Born 1728—Died 1772.

"Circumnavigator of the Globe—Explorer of the Pacific Ocean—he laid the foundations of the British Empire in Australia and New Zealand, Charted the Shores of Newfoundland and traversed the Ocean Gates of Canada both East and West. Unveiled by H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught on behalf of the British Empire League, 7th July, 1914."

Dominion nurses should pay him a visit of homage.

The Prince of Wales has consented to open the new Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon on April 23rd—the poet's birthday. This wonderful building has been designed by a woman architect, Miss Scott.

Lord Tyrrell, the British Ambassador, was received by President Doumer at the Elysée when he made the formal presentation of an embroidered replica of the banner of St. Joan of Arc, a gift to the French nation from British friends. The banner, which is an exact copy of the original as portrayed in contemporary documents, has been worked by British artists. It will be hung in the nave of Rheims Cathedral, probably during the ceremonies of May 8th, the anniversary of the death of the Maid.

In April or May a replica of the *Santa Maria*, the little flagship in which Christopher Columbus sailed the Atlantic and discovered the New World, built by the Spanish Government, will leave Palos, flying the Spanish flag with rampant lion by special permission.

Some forty days later, if the ocean is kind, she will touch at Santo Domingo. Then will follow a tour of the principal coast cities of South, Central, and North America, and finally a visit to the World's Fair at Chicago.

Exhaustive research before the vessel was built has made her exactly like the ship of Columbus. All the ropes and nails were hand made, the sails are the same size and quality as the original *Santa Maria's*, and in the decorations no paints were employed which were not used in the fifteenth century.

The *Santa Maria* will carry to Santo Domingo a stone from the Monastery of La Rabidam, where Columbus once stopped overnight discouraged by his quest for support for the voyage he wished to make.

The stone will be placed in the Columbus Lighthouse at Santo Domingo, which is to be built by funds contributed by various countries in the Western Hemisphere.

We often wonder had not the *Santa Maria*, that tiny caravel on which Christobal Colon (Christopher Columbus) set sail from Palos de Moquer in Spain in the year 1493, in which he covered uncharted seas and discovered America—if the International Council of Nurses would ever have been visualised and founded! We know that the magnificent World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893 was associated with his genius and it was at the World's Women's Congress Auxiliary in connection with it that we came into touch with a past generation of great women whose names will remain

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