

and pass; "the Old Man paints in the shadows and the Maiden lights with glory the summits of Nursing History that they may ray down inspiration to the centuries." Under the brush of the Maiden there passed the great procession of Royal Nurses, commencing with Helena, the first Christian Empress, who built hospices on the road to Jerusalem, and, it is believed, the first Christian hospital in the Holy City. Next came Queen Margaret's landing in her Northern Kingdom and the incident of the changing of her loaves into beautiful woodland flowers, symbolic of how she "planted her flowers of charity and learning" in "the Kingdom of the Lion." The wedding of the Lady Matilda of Scotland to Henry Beauclerc served as a lighter motif, and after her there came Matilda of Boulogne, her sorrow transmuted to consolation for the suffering. Scenes from the life of the Princess Elizabeth of Hungary commenced with the minnesinger's announcement to the assembled nobles, and other pictures followed of the Holy Elizabeth, whose life entered so profoundly into the spiritual and cultural progress of Europe. Next was indicated to us a gorgeous scene in France wherein, said the speaker, King Louis set before his people the place which the care of the sick held in his conception of Rulership, and this led up to references to his Queen, Marguerite of Provence, and the Fraternity she founded to visit the poor and to nurse the sick in the hospitals. Eleanor of Castile, England's great Crusading Queen, came next and then Philippa of Hainault with her Charter giving the first official direction towards the foundation of District Nursing; a ray of child psychology was indicated, too, for "her art of fine and classic pageantry" was, said the orator, "a light for the childhood of the Black Prince."

The Oration concluded as follows:—"They came, these great Queens, to the weaving of Nursing History, and generations, as they come and pass away, they look upon this and they say: Behold, 'Kings' Daughters are among thy honourable women!'"

#### The Procession of Saintly Queens.

At the conclusion of the Oration the Royal Nurses passed in stately procession across the stage in the following order, their magnificent apparel, crowns and jewels flashing in the light, each in her turn receiving the ovation from the audience which was her due.

1. *Third Century.* SAINT HELENA, Empress and mother of Constantine the Great.—Made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem when eighty years of age to discover the true Cross. In Jerusalem she built a Church and Hospital, and Hospices on the road to the Holy City.

*Represented by Miss A. M. BUSHBY.*

2. *Eleventh Century.* SAINT MARGARET, Queen of Scotland and wife of Malcolm Canmore.—"The Pearl of Scotland." Built leper houses and hospices for pilgrims and the sick and cared for the orphans and the poor. She was a reformer of Church and Court, a patroness of learning and the Arts and famed for her unworl'dliness.

*Represented by Miss GLADYS STEPHENSON.*

3. *Twelfth Century.* MATILDA OF SCOTLAND, surnamed "The Good," Queen of England and wife of Henry I. (Beauclerc).—Founded the Hospital of St. Giles. During the reign of Henry I. the Order of St. John of Jerusalem rose to great importance and a branch for ladies was founded. Henry granted a Charter and lands in Westmythfelde for the foundation of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

*Represented by Miss K. M. LATHAM, R.R.C.*

4. MATILDA OF BOULOGNE, Queen of England and wife of Stephen Count of Boulogne.—Much beloved for her

goodness to the poor in London. She founded the Chapel and Hospital of St. Katherine's by the Tower in memory of two children, Baldwin and Maude, who died very young.

*Represented by Miss E. J. HASWELL.*

5. *Thirteenth Century.* SAINT ELIZABETH, Princess of Thuringia.—"The Holy Elizabeth." Founded the Hospital at Marburg and many hospitals for lepers. She imitated St. Francis of Assisi in caring for the sick and was the first in Central Europe to join his Third Order. She was canonised in 1235.

*Represented by Miss D. K. GRAHAM.*

6. MARGUERITE OF PROVENCE, Queen of France and wife of Saint Louis.—Nursed in the Crusades and later became head of the Confrérie Hospitalière de Notre Dame. Through this Foundation she had an important influence on the care of the sick.

*Represented by Mlle. ACKERMAN.*

7. ELEANOR OF CASTILE, Queen of England and wife of Edward I.—She is said to have sucked his wound when he was injured by a poisoned dagger. She was a great lover of justice and a patroness of the poor. She made large grants of land to St. Katherine's Chapel and Hospital by the Tower. At her death Edward raised thirteen beautiful crosses to her memory.

*Represented by Miss L. G. DUFF GRANT.*

8. *Fourteenth Century.* PHILIPPA OF HAINAULT, Queen of England, wife of Edward III. and mother of the Black Prince.—She granted a Charter to St. Katherine's and founded a Chantry there, extending its functions to include the care of the sick poor in their own homes. She was therefore the first official foundress of District Nursing. She was the first lady to wear the robes of the Order of the Garter as revived by Edward III.

*Represented by Mrs. CHRISTIAN BEDFORD FENWICK.*

#### THE PASSING OF A GOLDEN HOUR.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick then rose to announce the termination of this marvellous Pageant, which she described as truly historic and a magnificent inspiration.

The inspiration of Saintly Queens amongst women, the example of gracious and humble pioneers of modern nursing, the thousands of ardent and progressive workers united in the International Council of Nurses for the fine purpose of helping man to attain higher standards of health and happiness, would remain for ever a golden hour to be treasured in the memory of those present.

Amidst congratulations, bouquets and music, the enthusiastic gathering dispersed.

Special thanks are due to Mlle. de Joannis for the stage arrangements made for the presentation of the Historic Royal Nurses, and to Miss A. Stewart Bryson for the care and dispatch of their magnificent and costly apparel.

#### NEW IDEAS FOR CONSIDERATION.

We shall have more to report on the work and teaching of the Congress in following issues of this Journal, which brought to the notice of the Nursing World so wide a range of experience and new ideas for consideration. The fact that upwards of 100 papers and questions were presented and debated in the various meetings, and many public addresses and speeches delivered from the platform in six days, will give some idea of the fertility of the officials and delegates taking part in the Conference.

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