

Certain wells, connected with her, in Scotland, were credited with healing properties, and the garment in which she died was long believed by Scottish Queens to have healing powers and was worn by them during illness.

The story of the loss of Queen Margaret's Book of the Gospels, its immersion under the waters of a ford and subsequent discovery with its beautiful illuminations undamaged is one of the most famous miracles connected with the Saint. How this book survived also the River of Time, to rest at last in the Bodleian, is a miracle in the realm of literature. Queen Margaret was canonised in 1251.

MATILDA THE GOOD.

Matilda the Good (11th century), daughter of Margaret of Scotland and Malcolm Canmore, was the wife of Henry I of England, surnamed Beauclerc, by the French, as a compliment to his scholarship. She was credited with having more learning than even Beauclerc himself. She founded and endowed the Hospital of St. Giles in the Fields and was noted for her kindness to the poor; she is one of the first Queens known to have interested herself in the relief of women in childbirth. Henry I granted lands and a Charter to Rahere in order that the latter might found St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Doubtless Matilda knew Rahere, who was at one time a prominent and popular figure at court, although his hospital was founded after her death.

MATILDA OF BOULOGNE.

Matilda of Boulogne (12th century), granddaughter of Margaret of Scotland and niece of Matilda the Good, married Stephen Count of Boulogne, and they succeeded to the throne of England on the death of Henry I and "the Lady Matilda of Scotland." She was much beloved for her kindness to the poor of London. She obtained land from the Priory of Holy Trinity and built on it the Chapel and Hospital of St. Katherine's by the Tower "in pure and perpetual alms" for the souls of Baldwin and Maud, two of her children who died very young.

MARGUERITE DE PROVENCE: EPOUSE DE SAINT-LOUIS, ROI DE FRANCE.

Mlle. Chaptal has selected Marguerite de Provence (13th century), wife of Saint Louis, to be the "Royal Nurse" to represent France in the Tableau to be presented on July 11th, at the Congress of the I.C.N. She sends us the following note:—

Marguerite was the daughter of Raymond, comte de Berenger. She was born in 1218 and married Saint Louis when she was 15.

Marguerite was very kind and charitable; she thought that it is not sufficient to give this gold which costs so little to the kings, but that she ought to give *herself*. She became the head of an important Fraternity (Confrerie Hospitalière), which bore the name of "Notre-Dame." The aim of this association was to give help to the poor. The Queen, followed by a few members of the Fraternity, visited and nursed the patients in the hospitals and distributed her gifts with her own hands.

Moreover, she gave food to fourteen poor every day, waiting upon them until they had finished eating, helping to cut herself the meat and the bread of the infirm.

Marguerite de Provence had eight children, one of them died very young, and the Queen found consolation in visiting the poor.

Her children took a great part in her life, which was often troubled by important events, as this was the time of the Holy Crusades.

Saint Louis died in Egypt like a martyr in one of those crusades.

Marguerite retired to a monastery when her son Philippe was crowned King of France. She died herself on December 31st, 1245.

ELEANOR OF CASTILE, WIFE OF EDWARD I OF ENGLAND.

Eleanor of Castile (13th century) was the only daughter of Ferdinand III of Castile. She married Edward I of England and is believed to have nursed him when he was wounded by a poisoned dagger and probably she nursed in the Crusades. She was a benefactress of the oppressed and a great lover of justice; she made large grants of land to St. Katherine's Chapel and Hospital by the Tower of London. She is reputed to have been exceedingly beautiful and was possessed of great courage. Eleanor died at Herdeley near Grantham when on her way to join the King who was on an expedition to Scotland. For the thirteen days' progress of her funeral to Westminster, Edward erected at each place where the procession stopped for the night a splendid cross; of those crosses now only two remain.

SAINT ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY.

Elizabeth of Hungary (13th century), daughter of Stephen of Hungary, was the wife of Louis Langraf of Thuringia. She built many hospitals for lepers whom she constantly attended and is said to have dressed the most repulsive sores with her own hands. After the death of Louis, in the Crusades, she founded and built her hospital in Marburg, where she worked as a nurse until her death. The most famous miracle related of her is that of her roses. Passing down from her castle to carry bread to the poor, she was met by her husband riding with his courtiers. He asked her to show him what she carried under her cloak. Confused at being discovered in her work of mercy, she pressed her mantle more closely around her, but Louis, drawing it aside, discovered to his courtiers red roses of unearthly beauty where the loaves had been. Elizabeth was the first in Germany to enter the Third Order of St. Francis. She was canonised on Whitsunday, 1235.

PHILIPPA OF HAINAULT.

Philippa of Hainault (14th century), daughter of Count William of Hainault, was the wife of Edward III and the mother of the Black Prince. She granted a very important Charter with wide powers to the Chapel and Hospital of St. Katherine's by the Tower. She might be regarded as the first official foundress of district nursing for, under her Charter, she so enlarged the scope of St. Katherine's as to include within its functions the nursing of the sick in their own homes by the brothers and sisters connected with the foundation. Her principal donations during life were to St. Katherine's. She founded a Chantry there, and gave to the hospital large grants of lands. She was the first lady in England to wear the robes of the Order of the Garter as revived by Edward III from the days of Coeur de Lion.

SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11th, Miss Macdonald was the guest of the Scottish Nurses' Association at the Scottish Nurses' Club where a luncheon was given in her honour. The table was beautifully decorated with flowers in pale green and yellow shades which produced a most delicate and lovely effect, in harmony with the white cloth and the dainty sponges and jellies that were decorative as well as delicious. The menu cards were in original designs and did credit to the Occupational Therapy Department of the Royal Mental Hospital. They were painted by patients attending this. At the place of each guest was placed a small bouquet of snowdrops. The luncheon was a very cheerful affair and Miss Macdonald expressed the pleasure it gave to the Council of the British College of Nurses that the Scottish Nurses' Association should have shown its good will and friendship by entertaining so hospitably one of its representatives visiting Scotland.

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