

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE'S CHURCH.

The visit of the members of the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses, to East Wellow, Hants, on July 16th last—on a pilgrimage of homage to the grave of Florence Nightingale—deeply impressed nurses from the five continents, and the visit to St. Margaret's, the twelfth-century church where Florence Nightingale worshipped, was indeed too short for those deeply interested in this little House of God, the earliest mention of which is to be found in the will of King Alfred, who bequeathed it to his daughter Ethelfreda, the lady of the Mercians.

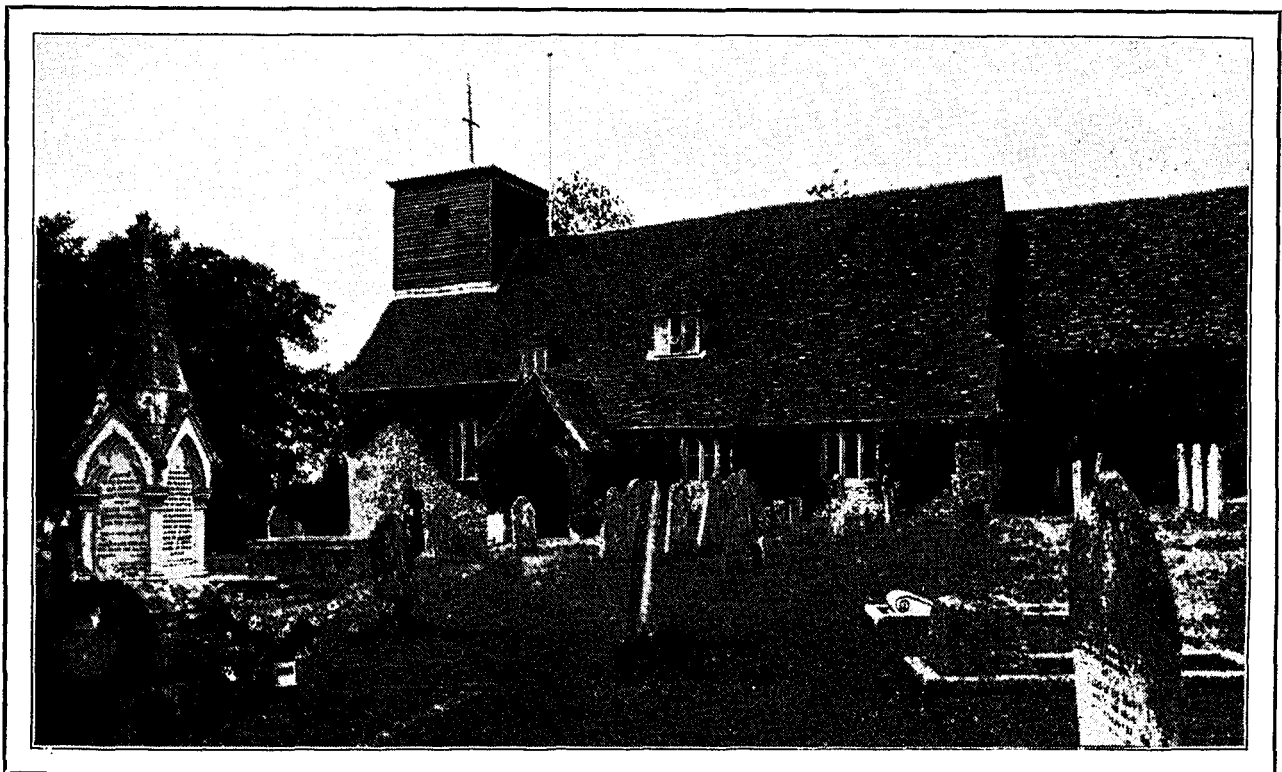
The "international" pilgrims were moved to sit in the chancel pew formerly used by the Nightingale

who was so deeply interested in the restoration of "Miss Nightingale's Church." Later Miss With wrote Mr. Crosfield:

"Dear Mr. Crosfield,—

"Members of the International Council of Nurses, who had the privilege of a visit to the grave of Florence Nightingale on Friday, July 16th, have begged me to forward to you, as Treasurer of the Wellow Church Restoration Fund, the small amount of £11 6s. in memory of Florence Nightingale, and in appreciation of the very kind way in which we were received at East Wellow and at Embley Park."

Miss Natsuye Inouye, proxy for the President of the Nurses' Association of the Japanese Empire, also wrote Mr. Crosfield, as follows:



WHERE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE WORSHIPPED.
ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, EAST WELLOW, HANTS.

family, and to see an interesting memento of Florence Nightingale which stands in a window. It is a framed text, "It is I: be not afraid," which hung in her bedroom in Park Lane until her death. Beside it stands a little cross made of bullets picked up in the Crimea. Indeed, this little church may be regarded as a national memorial to one whose memory will never fade, for every year it is an object of pilgrimage to people from all over the world, who, when they learn that its restoration is very urgent, naturally wish to help with the good work. Thus on the return journey from Embley Park Miss Elisabeth With, President of the Danish Council of Nurses, proposed that a little collection should be taken from the visitors who had so greatly enjoyed the visit to East Wellow and Embley Park, and that it should be sent with kind wishes to Mr. J. J. Crosfield,

"Sir,—

"I thank you very much for your kind invitation, which I enjoyed very much. Moreover, I have to say thank you for your kindness to send me the Red Cross badge which I carelessly lost in your house. Really I am very glad to have it again, as I have been keeping it since my first visit to London eight years ago.

"I am glad, on behalf of the Nurses' Association of the Japanese Empire, to offer you two pounds to Miss Nightingale's Church (Wellow Church), so that you may kindly put a piece of flower to her grave occasionally, with my best wishes."

Is it not sweet to think of our colleagues from many lands sending their gifts to help to save this ancient church with its hallowed memories?

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)