

HER LAST RESTING PLACE.

It was on the morning of April 9th, 1947, a day of fitful spring sunshine, that the ashes of our late President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, were interred in the peaceful precincts of Thoroton Church, Nottingham, where the funeral service, privately arranged for members of her family, was conducted by the Vicar of Thoroton, the Rev. W. E. D. Thomson.

The last journey of her earthly remains lay through the lanes, highways and quaint villages of the beautiful Trent Valley, of which she was ever reminiscent, and where the landscape, now recovering from the grip of long winter, showed signs of the rising of soft verdure, over this unspoiled countryside, the familiar scene of her earliest years, that led at last to the perfect little pile of Thoroton Church.

Here the impressive Memorial service to Ethel Gordon Fenwick was held.

The casket of ashes, with flowers of unsurpassed beauty, lay before the Altar steps in this sanctuary of calm dating from Saxon times, where Easter tributes were still fresh in their glory.

How often in her early youth must she have passed along the aisles and beneath the Norman arches, or in her appreciation of antiquity gazed on the Saxon window of the church she loved! As the service proceeds in the rendering of the XXIV Psalm could her spirit be there with her only son, Mr. C. B. Fenwick, K.C., her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Christian Fenwick, and her grandson, David, when paying their last tribute to her memory? Close by is the window raised in memory of her mother and stepfather where it is written:—"In memory of George Storer their stepfather and Harriette his wife, this window was erected by her children, Clara, Ethel, and Eric, 1909."

Leaving the church, the casket is laid in her grave where sweet violets are dropped, and as we turn at the close of the committal service, we leave her at rest among her ancestors where, just visible through the trees close by, stands the home of her youth—Thoroton Hall. And beyond, as far as the eye can see, meadow and upland remain as she knew them almost 90 years ago.

Matchless in her time, as a defender in the cause of

justice and liberty of conscience, the name of Ethel Gordon Fenwick will go down to history among the great, in those peerless words: "I have fought the good fight."

By the courtesy of her Grandson, Mr. David Fenwick, we are able to reproduce the church of her youth and the scene of her last resting place.

A. S. B.

Messages of sympathy continue to reach the British College of Nurses, Ltd., on the great loss it has sustained through the death of its revered President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

From Miss B. G. Alexander, R.R.C., S.R.N., First Vice-President of the International Council of Nurses:—

With very deep regret I have heard of the passing over of our gallant founder, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. I was privileged to see her when she was a patient in Bart's Hospital last year and was amazed to find her still taking the greatest interest in passing events and particularly keen on the movements in the nursing world. She has done so much to uphold the status of the Nursing Profession for so many years that she will be greatly missed by all of us. I consider it is one of my greatest privileges to have known her and to have met her at our International meetings. The International Council of Nurses will always be a living monument to her. I feel sure all South African nurses would wish me to send sincerest sympathy to all with whom she was connected in the nursing organisations and to her family in their irreparable loss.

From Mlle. J. de Joannis, President, the National Association of Trained Nurses of France:—

DEAR MISS BRYSON,

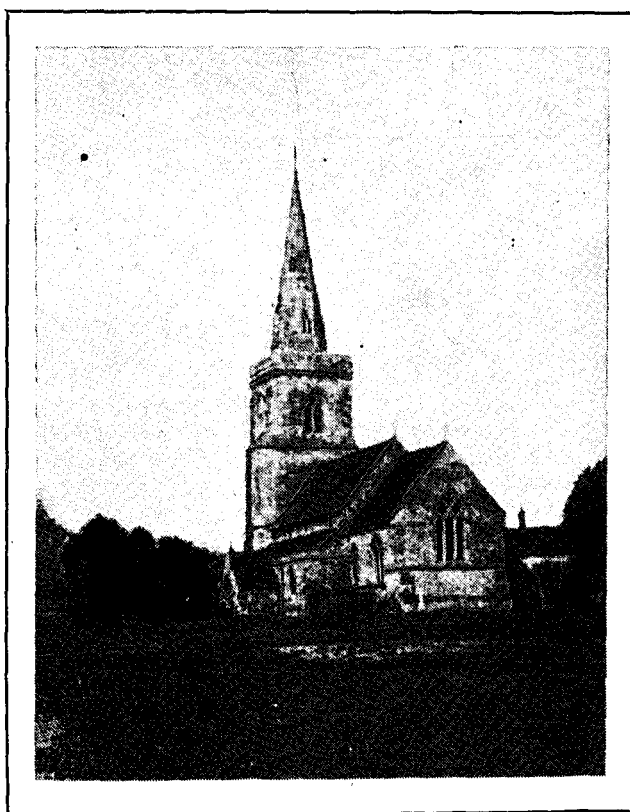
I was deeply moved in opening THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING to learn that Mrs. Bedford Fenwick had left you.

It is, indeed, an immense loss for the Nursing profession.

She was beautifully gifted and it is wonderful to see all her life devoted entirely to the great task of developing and raising the status of the nurses. As Founder of the International Council of Nurses, she has had a world-wide influence.

I wish to send you from myself and all our French Nurses, our most deep sympathy.

From the Board of the South African Nursing Association, a cable extending sincerest sympathy on the death of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was received.



HERE, UNDER THE SHADOW OF THOROTON CHURCH, SHE RESTS FROM HER LABOURS.

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