

**FLORENCE
NIGHTINGALE:
A BIOGRAPHY**

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Florence Nightingale: a biography by Irene Cooper Willis

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IRENE COOPER WILLIS

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FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE



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THIS PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS MISS NIGHTINGALE WEARING A SHAWL AND HOLDING A LETTER, BOTH SENT TO HER BY H.M. QUEEN VICTORIA.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

A Biography

by

IRENE COOPER WILLIS

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THIS book could not have been written without constant reference to, and some quotation from, the letters and papers published in Sir Edward Cook's excellent two-volume biography of Florence Nightingale. (Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1913.) I am deeply indebted to Messrs. Macmillan for their kind permission to make these references and quotations.

I should add that since the publication of my book in America and while the proofs of this English edition were in the press, Miss I. B. O'Malley's biography of Florence Nightingale, written with the assistance of members of the Nightingale family, has been published. Miss O'Malley's book (which does not go beyond the Crimean War) contains much interesting and hitherto unknown detail but, after reading it with great enjoyment, I do not find that I need alter anything that I have written here. Indeed, the new official biography strengthens my previous impressions and, in particular, emphasizes what a very real struggle it was, at the outset, for Florence Nightingale to free herself from dependence upon ordinary human longings such as to please and be loved by her family and her friends.

I. C. W.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. IN THE BEGINNING	11
II. EARLY DAYS	24
III. TRIMMING THE LAMP	50
IV. THE CRIMEAN WAR	78
V. THE LADY-IN-CHIEF	93
VI. "AT THE ALTAR OF THE MURDERED MEN"	134
VII. HOSPITALS, NURSES AND STATISTICS	168
VIII. INDIAN REFORMS	189
IX. WORKHOUSES, POOR LAW AND WOMEN	211
X. OUT OF OFFICE	226
XI. FLORENCE AS A DIE-HARD	239
XII. THE END	246
INDEX	253