All about Florence Nightingale

BY EMILY MILESTONE

Who was Florence Nightingale?

Florence Nightingale was born on the 12th of May in 1820 in Florence Italy, but was raised in England.

She was from a wealthy family and was expected to get married and have children but she had other plans. From a young age she said "I want to help people."

What did she do?

Florence Nightingale was a nurse and after 2 years of working there she became head nurse.   One day she got a letter that said "War has broken out in Crimea so we need some nurses." The war broke out in Oct 1853.

Florence then went to Crimea, what is now Turkey, to sort out the hospitals and she was shocked by the state of them. She wrote to the UK Government and they shipped a pre-built hospital out, which was built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

What is she known for?

Florence realised that the infections were killing the wounded men so she learned basic hygiene practises i.e. washing hands and cleaning the wounds and she therefore saved a lot of lives by doing this.
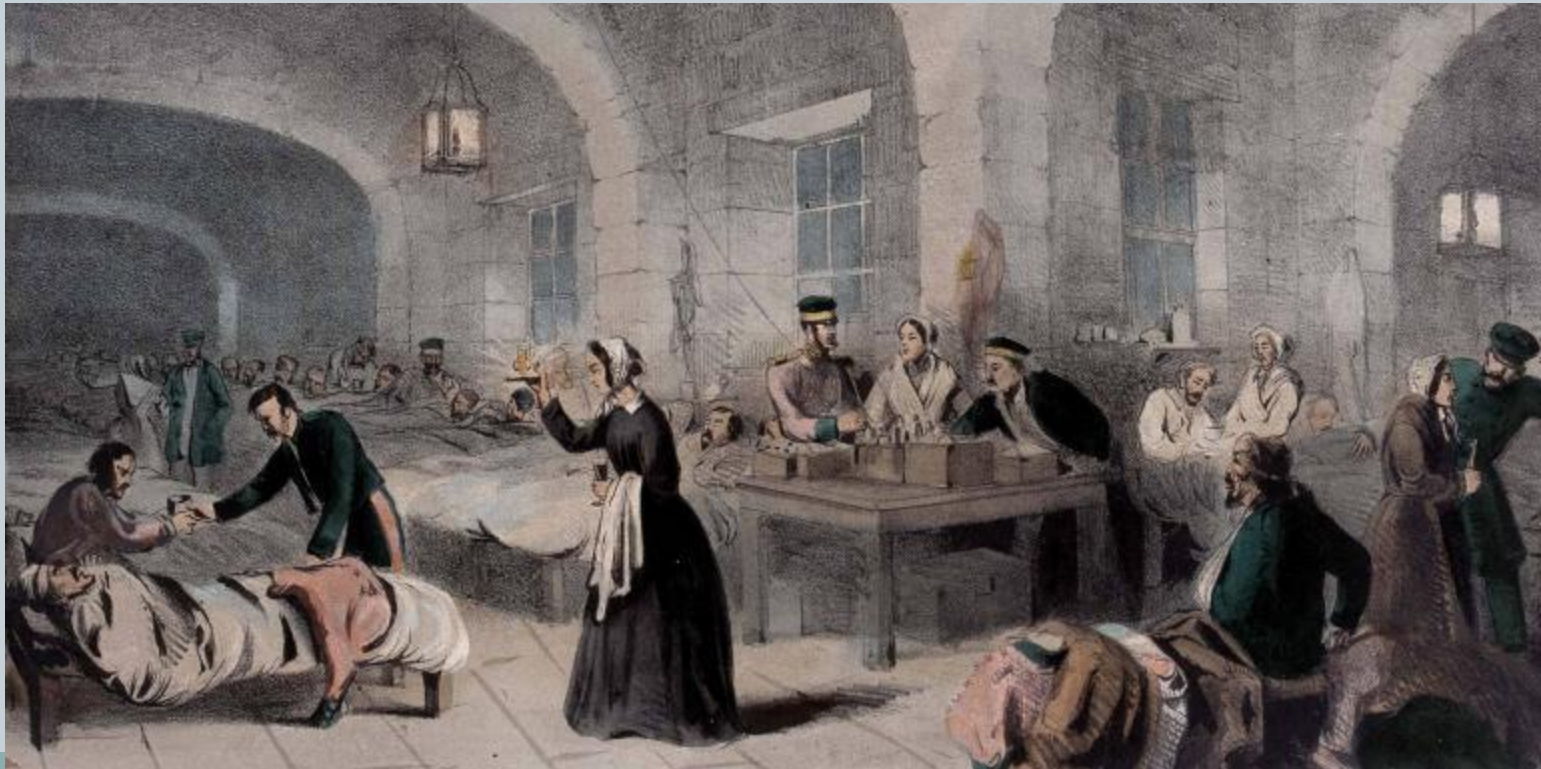
She came back to London and set up her own nursing school.

In 1883 she was rewarded the Royal Red Cross Medal and in 1907 she was the first lady to be given the Order of Merit.

How has she influenced nursing today?

- Florence has influenced nursing today by knowing that hospital buildings can affect the health and recovery of patients, and good hygiene practices.

Summary

Florence died on 13th August 1910, she was 90 years old.

She is the founder of modern nursing that we know today.