

OUR FOREIGN LETTER.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—Ever since I was fortunate enough to join your great Convocation I have had it in my heart to address a few words to you. Will you kindly give me a few moments of your, no doubt, very precious time?

First let me thank you most heartily for sending me a copy of your highly interesting BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. We have read it, and quite appreciated what you have said of us in kindness and love. We have felt your sympathetic heart. There is a common bond that binds us together, and yet there is a world-wide difference between your "Sister-Nurses" and the Kaiserswerth Deaconesses. Do not misunderstand me. I do not mean personally; the difference is in the system, the management.

I cannot tell you how elate my heart was, how full of joy, when I looked at the crowds of nurses, when I thought that the world—literally the world—had convened together to help "suffering humanity." But if I think of

Florence Nightingale, your celebrated heroine, how she burnt in desire to help those that suffered, to alleviate the pain of the wounded, how she had no time to think of herself, how she tried to teach abnegation of self and

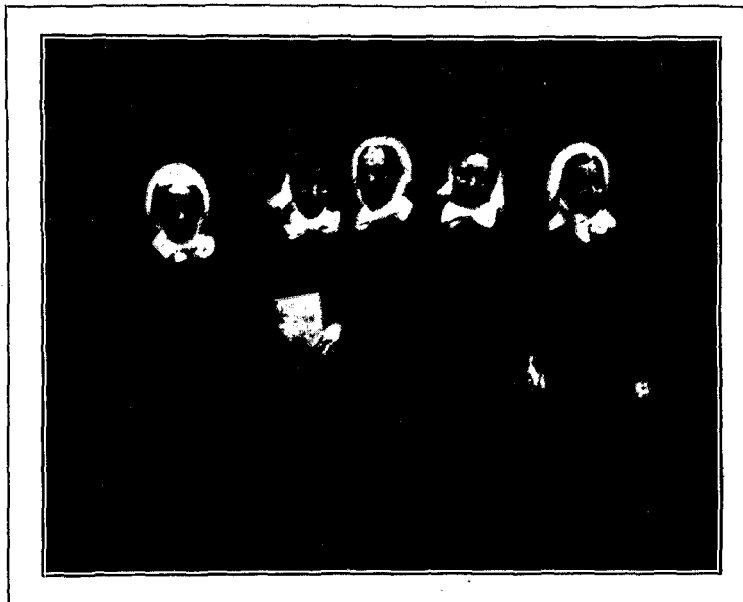
devotion to others, then I could not help feeling sorry that her great lesson had little in common with the questions that you discussed so ardently at Cologne. I do not say that I disapprove of them. That could not be, for I understand that you sadly are in need of some kind of organisation. And here I want to point out the difference between the Free Sisters and the

Kaiserswerth Deaconesses. We look at our calling from another standpoint, perhaps from a more ideal one. With you it is not only a question of work, but also a question of remuneration. Thank God, we have nothing to do with money

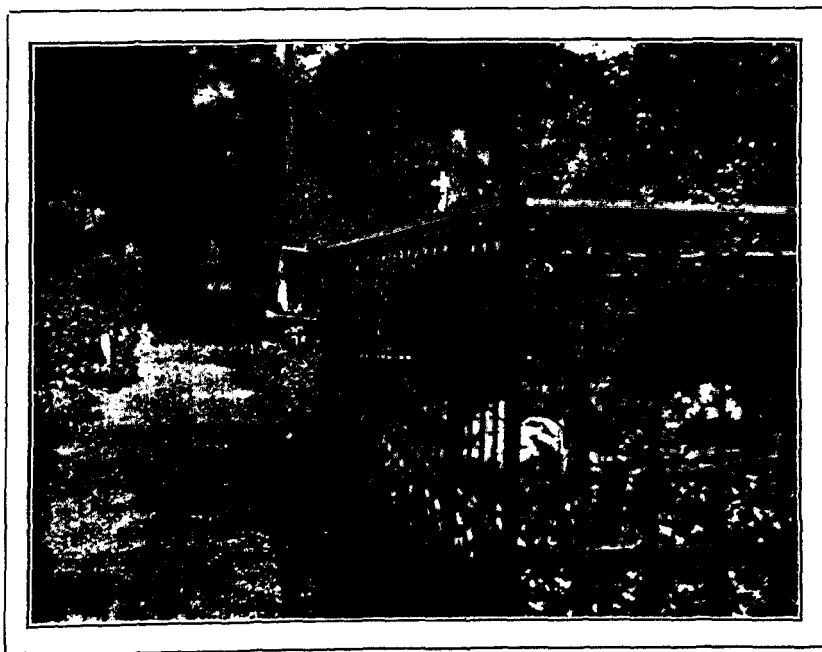
matters. The spirit that enables us to undergo any hardships is expressed in a short dialogue which you can find printed in almost all the Sisters' rooms. I will translate it for you:

What is your desire?
—My desire is to serve.

Whom will you serve? —
The Lord Jesus, in His poor and needy ones.



OUR SISTERS AT KAISERSWERTH.

THE GRAVE OF FRIEDERIKE FLIEDNER, KAISERSWERTH.
WREATH FROM BRITISH DELEGATES.

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