

you.' Whosoever will be greatest among you, let her be servant of all. Finally, with ready and self-respecting obedience, you are to submit yourselves to the direction of those who are over you in the Lord, and whose duty it is to guide you in the work to which you will be appointed. And thus, serving the Lord and sent forth to minister to those that are heirs of Salvation, may it be yours to render your account with joy and to hear from His own lips the 'Well done!' which the Master has promised to good and faithful service. And now, dear Sisters, have you duly considered how weighty an undertaking this is, and do you believe that God has called you to the office and work of a Deaconess in the Christian Church? Then answer 'Yes,' and give me in confirmation

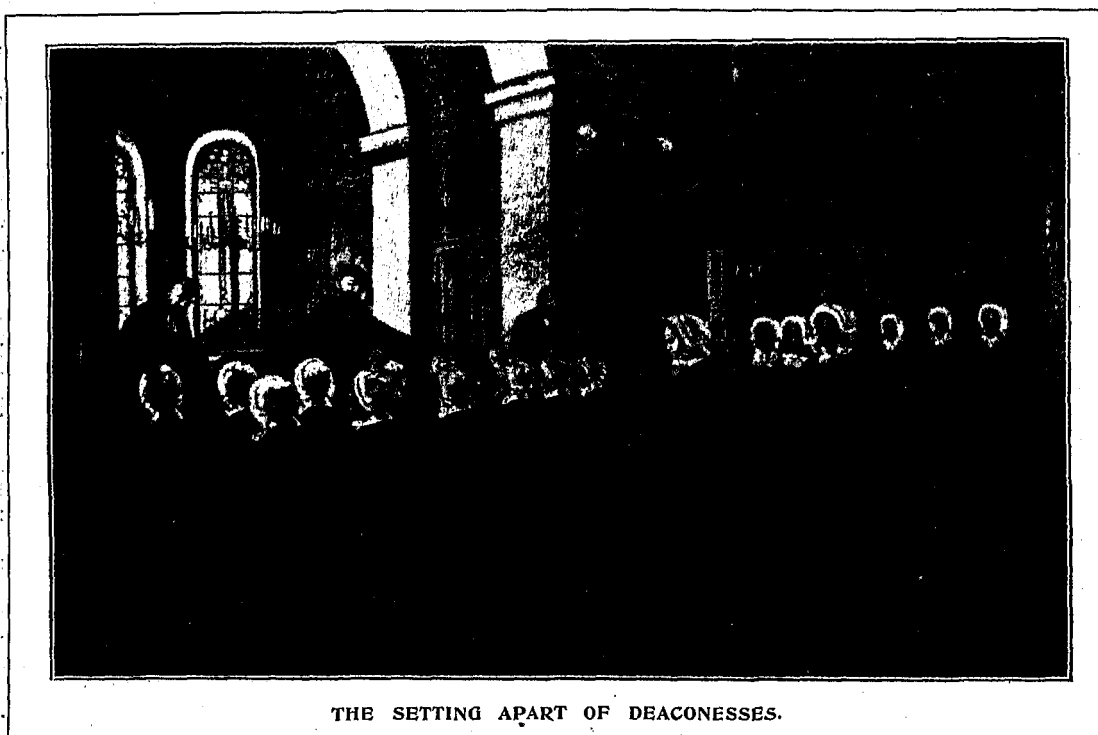
to me, "Once a deaconess, always a deaconess!" but we do not think so; we are perfectly free to leave the Order, if circumstances should require it. Nay, not only that; even our superiors ask us every five years whether or no we are willing to stay. As for my part, I must confess I never felt the least inclination to leave.

Excuse me for not having written sooner—sometimes even I am hard up for time. My heartiest greetings to all of you. Miss Breay, I thank very much for sending the papers with the account of Miss Nightingale's burial.

I remain, yours very faithfully,

JULIE BORGES.

Seminar, Kaiserswerth.



your right hand." This is a very solemn moment. The Sisters answer yes, advance to the very steps of the altar, and after having given their hands, they all kneel down. The Warden and his two assistants lay their hands upon their heads and bless them, saying: "The Almighty God who has called you to serve Him in this manner give you the power to fulfil this your service acceptably through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

I enclose you a little picture—it is taken when the sisters are in the act of getting up and kneeling before the altar—it will give you a very good idea of the solemn transaction. Of course, in the afternoon there is a very pleasant sociable gathering—guests, friends, sisters, all flock together to congratulate the new deaconesses and bid them welcome. But you must not think that this ceremony is binding. A London lady once said

PRACTICAL POINTS.

In the matter of washing patients while in bed, it will be found that the drying is far more comfortably accomplished by the use of small towels, about twenty-two inches square, than by towels of ordinary size. Worn Turkish bath towels, both brown and white, may easily be cut in two for this purpose, eliminating the threadbare centre portion. They are also more easily washed and dried than the larger towels.

A German medical journal reports the case of four infants, from three to five months old, who were losing weight from diarrhoea. Buttermilk was substituted for two or more of the ordinary feeds during the day, with immediate improvement. Buttermilk is effectual on account of its low fat content and high lime content, and its considerable proportion of albumen.

previous page

next page