

M0002403: Letter from Florence Nightingale to the Probationer Nurses at St. Thomas' Hospital, 1883

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And don't despise what
some of you call 'housemaid's
work'. If you thought of
its extreme importance, you
would not mind doing it.
As you know, without thorough
housemaid's work, every thing
in the Ward or Sick room
becomes permeated with
organic matter.

The greatest compliment I
ever thought I, as a Hospital nurse,
received was: that I was put
to clean & "do" the Special Ward,
with the severest Medical or
Surgical case which I was
nursing, every day: because I
did it thoroughly & without
disturbing the Patient. That
was the first Hospital I
ever served in. [I think I could
give a