CHARITY VOTING REFORM. To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—For some years past the majority of the London Press have been good enough to call the attention of the public to the operations of this society, which has for its objects the abolition of the system of election to the benefits of many of the principal London Charities by the votes of the Subscribers, a system which unfortunately carries with it the necessity for canvassing. This voting and canvassing system imposes great hardship, delay, and expense upon the poor candidates and their friends; and perhaps one of the worst features of it is, that those who have wealthy friends who are able to buy votes, and to pay a large sum for printing and postage of appeals to the governing bodies, succeed in the elections, whereas the really poor and friendless, in most instances, have to wait for years before being elected, and perhaps ultimately fail. It is the opinion of the great philanthropists who have studied this subject that the voting system is cruel, unjust and unnecessary, and that the time has now arrived when it should be entirely abolished. As the subscribers to the voting Charities, scattered as they are all over the country, do not know anything of the individual candidates, this Committee suggests that voting and canvass-ing should cease to exist, and that all elections should be made by the managers of the Charities themselves, after a careful comparison of the relative merits of the candidates.

Nothing can satisfy the great bulk of those who have given this subject their careful attention but the total abolition of the system, and it is hoped that with the kind assistance of the Press this may gradually be effected.—I am, Sir, your obedient Servant, I. A. Dow

Secretary, Charity Voting Reform Association.

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