

most dangerous one to be read to an assembly like that. He declared the evils of tight-lacing to be manifold and terrible, and that it is perfectly refreshing to find a girl the muscles of whose back have not been withered by wearing stays. As a matter of beauty, not one woman in twenty who wears stays is presentable as a model.—Dr. Johnson Lavis expressed astonishment at hearing pathologists justifying the habit of wearing stays.—Miss Lydia Becker declared for the stays and tight-lacing in a moderate degree as conducive to comfort as well as appearance. But another lady strongly denounced their use, and pointed to herself as proving the possibility of doing without them.—Dr. Hoyle attributed many of the internal displacements from which women suffer to stays, remarking amid general laughter that many ladies do not feel properly dressed unless they are slightly uncomfortable.—Dr. Anderson sarcastically remarked upon the paper that its authors had given a rational explanation of the cause of many of the diseases in women which baffled Physicians. The pressure of the stays upon the abdomen increases the work of the heart. That causes palpitation and shortness of breath. The blood being driven to the head accounts for giddiness, driven to the nose it produces its redness, driven to the uterine organs it accounts for congestions, driven to the legs it produces swelled ankles and varicose veins, driven out of the abdomen it accounts for indigestion.—This chorus of disapproval brought up Mr. J. G. Adams, who entered upon a further vindication of the conclusions of himself and his coadjutor.

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### THE "NURSING RECORD" BENEVOLENT FUND.

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"BEAR YE ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS."

OBJECT.—To assist, by the united efforts of the readers of the *Nursing Record*, Trained Nurses who may be in need of temporary or permanent aid.

*Proposition I.*—That subscriptions shall be received to a Benevolent Fund, from which disbursements shall be made to relieve cases urgently needing temporary assistance. A statement of all such receipts and expenditure to be published in the *Record*.

*II.*—That for such cases of distress as need permanent assistance, the following procedure shall be adopted. Every annual subscriber to this journal shall have the right to send to the Editor the particulars of any such case, with which they may be personally acquainted, and if after full investigation it be found suitable, the name

and particulars shall be entered upon a list. The *Nursing Record* will ask its readers to work unitedly for only one case at a time, and when that one, in the manner considered most suitable, is permanently provided for, the list of cases as above obtained, shall be published in the journal. Each copy of that issue shall contain a slip of paper, so that each purchaser of that number will be able to vote for one of the cases on this list by writing her name thereon, and forwarding it by post to the Editor. The following issue of the journal shall contain the number of votes polled for each case, and that one which receives the largest number of proxies, will be adopted as the next case to be relieved by the Fund; and the readers of this journal will then be advised as to the method which seems most suitable for helping that particular case, and asked to unite in securing its speedy success.

#### CASE I.

Mrs. Sarah Duyck, aged 47, a widow. Has broken her leg so badly, that she will probably be a cripple for the rest of her life. Dislocated one shoulder some years ago, so that she is even unable to use her crutches for long at a time.

*Proposed Method of Assistance.*—To obtain an annuity of £20 a year from the British Home for Incurables. To do this at least 1,000 votes must be procured from subscribers to the Institution. Lists of subscribers can be obtained by sending eight stamps to the offices, 73, Cheapside, E.C.

Will every reader of this journal do what she or he can to obtain votes for this sad case—to assist, in however small a measure, to bear another's burden? Such help will be gratefully welcomed by the Editor, *Nursing Record*, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and all subscriptions, etc. will be duly acknowledged.

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### CORRESPONDENCE

(Notes, Queries, &c.)

\* \* We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by Correspondents. Brevity and conciseness will have first consideration. See notices.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—My attention has been called to some paragraphs in the "Nursing Echoes" of your last issue, and as they became the subject of conversation at a large dinner party last evening, you may be glad to learn that, though the company comprised men of all shades of political thought; distinguished in science, literature, and art; as Members of both Houses; on the Judicial Bench; at the War Office and the Admiralty; and in physics and divinity—in fact, an eminently representative gathering of successful thinkers and workers—it was unanimously agreed that your remarks, upon the necessity of keeping Nursing

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