

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, &c., will be duly acknowledged.

CORRESPONDENCE

(Notes, Queries, &c.)

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

* * British Nurses' Association.—We are requested to state that Miss Wood (Hon. Sec.) will be at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W., every Wednesday, from 10.30 a.m. to noon, and at 7, St. George's Mansions, Red Lion Square, W.C., on each Friday until noon, to see Nurses or others who may wish to make inquiries.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I am thankful to see that Miss Homersham, in her excellent "Hints to Novices in Private Nursing," advocates the system of the Nurse keeping her patient's room clean and tidy herself, instead of expecting a relay of domestics to wait upon her, and perform this part of what ought to be her duty. In a very serious illness, when the patient is nervous and unstrung, I believe it to be most injurious to have maids quite ignorant of the quiet demeanour of a Nurse, fussing in and out of the room, noisily raking out the ashes and making up the fire, whisking hither and thither, and doing a hundred and one little things, which it seems to me, from the invalid's point of view, should be done by the person who is responsible for the comfort of the patient. I have lately recovered from a severe illness of several weeks duration, and I cannot honestly say that my opinion of highly trained Nurses has been heightened during that time; so-called menial work, and in consequence the cleanliness, and therefore the comfort, of my surroundings, not being included in what they considered the "duties of a Nurse." I am old-fashioned enough to think, that the sooner the very rudiments of her profession is included in the "duties of a Nurse," the better for the patient. I only hope my late attendant will read, mark, learn, and put into practice the excellent advice given to private Nurses by Miss Homersham.—I am, yours truly,

A SURVIVOR.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—So much has been written in your valuable paper upon the necessity of women being thoroughly trained in whatever branch of work they intend to undertake, that I should be greatly obliged if you could give me any information on the subject of how one can become thoroughly conversant with the duties of a housekeeper in a public institution, as I am ashamed to own I have a great antipathy to nursing the sick,

and much enjoy the more commonplace occupations connected with domestic duties and housekeeping.—I am, yours truly,

HOUSEWIFE.

[We should advise "Housewife" to apply to Miss Headdon, who is the foundress and Superintendent of a Training Institution of Housewifery at Newnham-on-Severn; indeed, many girls would enhance their value as Probationers, if they underwent a course of training at this excellent Institution before entering a Nursing School, as many have there to be taught the rudiments of their duty, such as sweeping, dusting, &c.—ED.]

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—Can you give me any information as regards where I could apply for Nursing in India? My application for the post of Nursing Superintendent has been accepted at the India Office, only it takes so long to get a vacancy. I think there must be other sources.—Yours truly,

F. D.

[We should advise you, if possible, to find some friend who would bring your qualifications for the post you mention direct to the knowledge of Viscount Cross, G.C.B., the Secretary of State for India—say, through the Member of Parliament for your borough.—ED.]

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—Several Nurses at _____ Hospital wish for your advice. We are much interested in the British Nurses' Association. Our Matron and one of our Doctors have lectured us, and told us we must not join it, so we dare not do so, and yet it is very hard upon us, because everybody seems joining—at least every one of our friends in country and other London Hospitals have been advised by their Matrons to join, and have done so. We don't like to be left out in the cold, and certainly would extremely like to go to this *Conversazione* about which everyone is talking. Can you give us some advice on the matter, and much oblige several of your

CONSTANT READERS.

[We publish this, because it is by far the most temperate of many letters upon the same topic which constantly come to us. Our advice upon the matter is distinctly this. A Hospital cannot be carried on without the strictest discipline; consequently we consider the slightest disobedience on the part of Nurses to any injunction of the Matron or Staff to be seriously reprehensible, and not for one moment to be countenanced. At the same time we feel bound to point out that a Matron who brings pressure to bear upon her subordinates either to join this, or *not* to join that, outside (and distinct from their Hospital duties) Association is, in either case, taking upon herself a most serious responsibility. We are extremely sorry to know from several sources that our correspondent's statement about "one of our Doctors" is true. We fancy the gentleman in question can have little idea of the indignation and unpopularity his remarks have caused, and brought upon him.—ED.]

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I beg to enclose a postal note for two shillings and sixpence, as a small contribution to your Benevolent Fund. I saw in the "Nursing Record" that there is an idea of raising a fund in connection

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