

"NURSING RECORD" BENEVOLENT FUND.

"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.

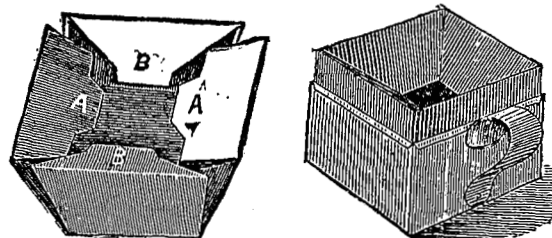
Mrs. Sarah Duyck, aged 47, a widow. Has broken her leg so badly, that she will probably be a cripple for the rest of her life. Dislocated one shoulder some years ago, so that she is even unable to use her crutches for long at a time.

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, &c., will be duly acknowledged.

NOTES ON INVENTIONS, NOVELTIES, &c.

THE well-known firm of Messrs. Seabury and Johnson, of 46, Jewin Street, E.C., are introducing an article which we think will prove quite a boon even in these well provided modern times—*Sanitary Cuspidores* or *Spitting Cups for Invalids*. These are something entirely new, very neat, portable and presentable, and should be appreciated by Nurses, as they prevent the disagreeable work of cleaning spitting cups which often falls to their lot. It will be noticed that these cuspidores are so devised that if they are knocked over the contents cannot well escape. The chief advantage, however, is, that when done with the whole thing can be burnt. The price of the boxes, containing five cups and a metal frame, is 7d., subject to discount according to the quantity taken. They are also supplied loose for Hospital use at 40s. per thousand; the frames only at 20s. per hundred.



We cannot too highly impress upon Nurses and sanitarians generally this excellent yet simple invention, the value of which cannot possibly be overestimated, for it is well known that scarlet fever, a contagious disease, producing a large annual mortality, is produced by a specific poison which emanates from the person of the patient and can be caused by no other means; and this poison is remarkable for the readiness with which it affixes itself to spitting cups and other objects, which, if portable, may convey it long distances, and for its tenacity of life, which renders it difficult to destroy. Diphtheria, also a contagious disease and largely fatal, may also arise from other causes than contagion, notably from fermenting filth in spitting cups, and requires not only isolation, but cleanliness, for its extinction. Typhoid fever and Asiatic cholera, while not directly communicable from person to person, are spread by the dejecta of their victims, which contaminate spitting cups and other receptacles, and thus an efficient disinfection of these dejecta is a very desirable thing to accomplish. Therefore, it is evident, if the public knew how diseases arise and are disseminated, it would be prepared to more heartily and effectually second the endeavour of sanitarians to limit and subdue them. We believe we are the first to make these sanitary cuspidores known to the Hospital and Nursing authorities in this country, and through the kindness of Messrs. Seabury and Johnson we are able to say that, where the Managers and Superintendents of Hospitals are disposed to take them up for regular use, they are willing to make a present of as many as fifty frames, in cases where one thousand papers are ordered, an inducement which should be apparent to everybody. We may further add that the same form is put up for use as spittoons, with suitable frames, and of course much larger.

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