

"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.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE Empress Frederick has, it is reported, bought some land, at Steglitz, on which to build a Hospital for young girls who have been abandoned by their natural protectors. At a recent gathering of the "Frauenbildungsverein" at Leipzig, Fraulein Friederici made a speech referring to what the Empress had done, and was doing, for the women of to-day. We all know, said the speaker, what the Empress was to her husband, how greatly he loved and honoured her, and how he sought every opportunity of praising her as a model among women. "We women, especially, would be guilty of base ingratitude if we did not faithfully and gratefully stand by one who has done so much for us."

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If thus admired in Germany, in England she is greatly beloved. The *Queen*, in a delightful article, entitled "The Widowed Sovereigns," says, "Princess Victoria of England, Empress Frederick of Germany, is one of the most remarkable women of the day. It is probable that, had the Providence which shapes our way decreed hers to have been laid in the paths of ruling sovereignty, the influence of her reign would have been an epoch in the history of Germany. A woman of strong personality, of indomitable energy, of resolutely liberal aims, she would have been a foremost figure in a nation of soldiers and scholars, where the woman naturally holds a secondary position. To raise the status of the German women was the aim of the Empress Frederick. To it she would have devoted the first place among the manifold objects she would have striven to attain. That this thirst for the enlargement of the womanly sphere would not have lessened, but widened its sweeter and gentler side, the Empress Frederick's own life proved. The devotion and the skill with which she nursed her husband was beautiful in its pathetic bravery. With a heart oppressed with anxiety, she yet seized every occasion in which she could fill a sovereign's part towards her people. She visited the flooded districts, she received deputations, she attended to every detail of State business that fell to her share. The end came, and the career of consort of the Emperor was hers no longer to fill. The widowed daughter and mother are now together. On the occasion of the Empress Frederick's accession to the throne of Germany, the Queen sent her one of those telegraphic messages which she knows how to make a model of concise and delicate depth of expression. 'Daughter—sister' were the winged words. By her widowhood, the daughter has become twice her mother's

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)