her. I hear that Miss Lloyd proposes to devote this money to the purchase of a house for the Sisters and Nurses working in Poplar.

It is very interesting to find how Nursing is being adopted all over the world as an occupation by gentlewomen of wealth and position, who desire to be of some service to their fellowcreatures, and who undertake the work and steadily pursue it year after year, despite its hardness, rather than lead an idle and useless life in luxurious homes. Many of my readers doubtless know such in England. I have lately heard of several similar enthusiasts on the Continent and in the United States. One of my kind American correspondents sends me the following also:-"A lady, who belongs to a wealthy and distinguished family in South Carolina, has gone to study as a Nurse in a New York Hospital. When she has completed her training, she proposes to found Training Schools throughout her native state, and where some means of instructing Nurses are badly wanted."

TALKING of America reminds me of a paragraph I found lately in a Transatlantic paper. "The most notable Pension Bill recently introduced in Congress was one granting twenty-five dollars (£5) a month to Rebecca H. Lyon, a Nurse in the late war. The report shows that, in addition to her services, she spent twenty-five thousand dollars (£5,000) of her own money for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers. During her services as Nurse she contracted rheumatism, which resulted in paralysis, and she is now almost helpless." I sincerely hope Nurse Lyon has got her pension, for, after all, for such work as she must have done, and such suffering as she must have endured, and such benevolence as she has exhibited to others, £60 a year is not an extravagant return for a grateful country to make.

THE Americans are nothing if not original. Here are a Nurse's notes of a patient admitted into Hospital with severe burns:-"Being afflicted with rheumatism, patient anointed himself with oil; not in the Scriptural manner, but with best kerosene. He then stood in front of the fire to bask in its pleasing heat. Oil did not like heat and ignited. Mem.—Best kerosene and heat do not mix well."

IT seems that men do not intend to let women have it all their own way in Nursing in the States. I hear that a Training School for Male Nurses has been established at New York. It is the gift of Mr. Darius O. Mills, is situated in the grounds | 'What she requires is a Nurse who will come in

of Bellevue Hospital, and has cost about £ 15,000 to build. A young man entering the School is required to sign an agreement to stay in the School two years. At the end of that time he receives a diploma. During his stay he is paid a small salary, besides getting his board, and is expected to devote all his time and energy to study and practice in Bellevue Hospital. Training School for Female Nurses seems to be flooded with applications for admittance. It appears that the applicants are rarely residents of New York. Nine-tenths of the candidates were scattered from Maine to California. The twentyeight who were graduated last year lived in thirteen different States.

A CORRESPONDENT sends me the following cutting, I presume from some American paper. I hear from many quarters that our shrewd sisters across the Atlantic are bestirring themselves, and taking a leaf out of the book of the B.N.A. I advise them to find out, if possible, how the Association was organized, and then try to do likewise.

"DEAR EDITOR,—We are all aware, I think, of the great deal of harm done by imperfectly trained Nurses, or wholly untrained women, taking the charge of patients. Why not try and organize an 'American Nurses' Association,' the first object of which would be to get all the Nurses in the country welded together in one organization? The qualification of membership would be simply a guarantee of two years' work as a Nurse from a Hospital Training School, and if we could get a sufficient proportion of our Nurses to join, the Association would then take steps to obtain the grant of a Charter to bring about an official Registration of Nurses. I would like to have my fellow-workers' opinion on the subject .- EDITH Gordon, Brooklyn."

I SUPPOSE most Nurses know about the scheme for Nursing the sick poor in their own homes, founded by Her Majesty with the Jubilee gifts of the women of England. A very clear account of it, together with the special application of the system to Wales, lately appeared in the Cardiff Mail, from the pen of Dr. Alfred Sheen, and as it will doubtless interest many of my readers, I reproduce it here.

"By 'district Nursing' is meant the Nursing of the poor at their own homes, free of expense, by Trained Nurses, superintended by a Trained Lady Superintendent. Take the case of a poor wife and mother who is sick. As Mrs. Dacre Craven says,

previous page next page