

is now in working order, and it would seem very hard to be obliged, through want of annual subscriptions, to close it at the end of its first year.

I AM pleased to be able to announce that in connection with the St. John Ambulance Association, No. II. District, in the Metropolitan Centre (City and Port of London), classes are now being formed as follows:—At St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, E.C. (three minutes' walk from Farringdon Street Station), Women's "First Aid," Tuesday, November 5th, 1889, at 6 p.m., fee 7s. 6d.; Men's "First Aid," commenced last Tuesday, at 8 p.m. Early intimation is necessary in order to estimate numbers, and applications should be made to Mr. C. Alan Palmer, District Secretary, 29, Ludgate Hill, E.C. It is hoped that ladies will use this opportunity and join the class as above; a great difficulty being experienced in getting together a sufficient number to enable a class to be formed.

### "NURSING RECORD" BENEVOLENT FUND.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE.

WE want 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, and for this purpose donations, whether small or large, will be thankfully received, as the Fund has already many demands made upon it.

#### HELP WANTED HERE ALSO.

Mrs. Sarah Duyck, aged 48, is a widow, and has broken her leg so badly, that she will probably be a cripple for the rest of her life, besides dislocating one shoulder some years ago, so that she is even unable to use her crutches for long at a time.

Mrs. Duyck wishes 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 please 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.

As some little creatures do bite us, and we scarcely feel it, but afterwards we shall well perceive that they have bitten us; so though we do not perceive the hurt that cometh by ill company at first, yet we shall find it afterwards.—*Cawdray*.

## WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

### THE HORTICULTURIST.

IT is not only the poor the "Lights of London" allure to ruin. Ladies, if compelled through circumstances to find provision for themselves, ever to London also turn their eyes, and thither they hurry to add their unit to the already overpopulated city. There are two ways of turning an honest penny—one by making, the other by saving; and against even a good salary offered in town must be put always the extra cost of living, the heavy rent, expensive dress, and doctor's bills into the bargain, for the fogs are sure to work havoc in lungs accustomed may be to the pure fresh air of the breezy moors or the elixir of the zephyr redolent of the ocean brine. Well is it, then, that more and more people are awakening to the fact that there are country pursuits suitable to women. One of these is horticulture, the production of the treasures earth yields to patient, skilful fingers. The almost mania for floral decorations which has seized society of late years, and which culminated in the beautiful floral *fête* held in the Botanical Gardens this year, has caused flowers to become precious pecuniarily as well as for their sweet scent and fair beauty. Money can also be made from fruit gardens if properly worked; but horticulture, as well as every other science, needs learning. Those who propose to follow this, the oldest of all occupations, must consider the ground of the county of their choice; the famous apples of Cornwall would not grow on the weald of Kent, and the green hops would not flourish if transplanted to the strawberry beds of the Dee. The railway tariff is a heavy item, and must be duly accounted for on the debit side. Mushrooms, which are far from difficult to grow, always fetch a good price. The common blackberry even finds a marketable value; but it is fruits of a superior kind only that really pay and defy that bugbear of England, "Free Trade," or, in other words, Foreign Competition. Let not any young enthusiast run off with the idea she will be able to make a fortune out of the pursuit of her favourite pastime, though many ladies have realised from their gardens from £50 to £100 per annum (remembering that money goes much further in the country), and have vegetables and fruit out of them also. It is gratifying to remember, as we sigh over the apparently awful waste of enormous sums of money on withering flowers whilst little children weep for bread, that there is the other side, and that through these floral extravagances a healthful happy pursuit is being opened up for our country sisters.

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