

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.

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 (Secretary) 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; also that annual subscriptions were due on January 1, and that early payment of these will save much trouble to the Secretary and much expense to the Association.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—*"Chambers' Journal"* gives the following description of the "Sloyd" system, which may be read with interest by your correspondent, "A Country Pro." "We have been particularly fortunate in obtaining one of the chief Swedish authorities on the system, in the person of Miss Mystrom, who has been engaged in London in adapting the system to English requirements. Active preparations are being made to instruct those desirous of becoming teachers. The course is arranged in series. The first article which learners

have to make is a little pointer, using merely a knife and glass-paper. From such articles they proceed to more difficult ones, making rulers, inkstands, brackets, and so forth. Attendance at the classes is voluntary on the part of the pupil, so that there are certain conditions which the work must fulfil. It should be useful and not too fatiguing; the articles made should offer variety, and should not be articles of luxury; they should be accomplished without help, and they should be real work, and not play. A necessary feature, too, is that they should demand thoughtfulness, and not be purely mechanical work. Many will no doubt here say, 'It is nothing more nor less than ordinary carpentering.' On consideration, however, it will be found there are several differences. First and foremost comes the difference in the object of 'sloyd,' which is not to turn out young carpenters, but to develop the faculties, and especially to give general dexterity, which will be of value, no matter what line of life the pupil may afterwards pursue. Other differences are the character of the objects made, which are usually smaller than those made in the trade; the tools used (the knife, for instance, the most important of all in 'sloyd,' is little used in ordinary carpentry); and lastly, the manner of working is not the same. The division of labour employed in the carpentering trade is not allowed in 'sloyd,' where each article is executed entirely by each pupil. Truancy has almost been done away with in Swedish schools since the introduction of 'sloyd.' It has been found in all the schools where it has been introduced that greater and more intelligent progress has been made in the ordinary school work. It makes children think for themselves. The system demands individual supervision and instruction, which is an advantage, as the teacher is enabled to gain an insight into the character, and to establish a personal relation between himself and his pupils."—Yours faithfully,
A COUNTRY MATRON.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—The thanks of many Sisters and Nurses are due to you for your leading article in this week's issue of the "Nursing Record," concerning paying Probationers. I feel sure I do not err in saying that many of my fellow workers will agree with me that paying Probationers are a great evil in our profession. In Hospitals where a distinction is made in uniform, and in hours on and off duty, between the two classes of Probationers, the result is very bad. The patients do not like them (as Nurses), and would rather suffer any amount of discomfort, and "wait until Nurse comes," than ask the "Lady Nurse" for help. It frequently happens, too, that women who undertake Nursing as "lady (?) Probationers," look upon all menial and unpleasant work as "very nasty," and in consequence become a hindrance and very rarely a help in the Wards. Of course, there are many exceptions, but I know Nurses who commenced their training as paying Probationers, who frequently express regret that they did so, because they missed the preliminary training, which the non-paying Probationers receive.—I am, Sir, yours truly,
January 5th, 1889. A HOSPITAL SISTER.

[We insert our correspondent's letter because it is our mission to draw forth and express the opinions of

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