

WHEN FOUND, MAKE A NOTE OF.

A CHILDREN SWING.

A SWING is the joy of children and a source of considerable anxiety to their parents and guardians. Anybody may rig up a swing, be it only a sling of rope tied to the branch of a tree, but to make it safe and durable is quite another thing. As above described it will wear out at the upper knots or by rubbing on the branch in course of time, or it may hang for several years until the rope is rotten when a catastrophe is inevitable especially if it hangs out during the rains. Nevertheless when compared with other amusements the record of the swing loses much of its evil reputation. A swing gains much in attractiveness when made to hold several children. One of this kind was found useful in keeping the small patients out of the strong sunlight. A stout board six feet long was hung in two loops of rope and suspended from stout hooks screwed into the joists overhead. The ropes were nailed underneath to the board to prevent the seat from slipping. At about 15 inches above the seat a bamboo one and a quarter inches thick was tied to the ropes on one side for the children to hold on to, and the ropes at each end were strutted apart about 12 inches with pieces of wood to keep the long bamboo in a comfortable position. Four or five children could sit together in this swing while all of them had a safe hold on the bamboo. About 15 years ago this swing was very popular at the sanatorium. When out of use it was hung on a nail on the wall in order to clear the passage. A similar swing was hung in the coach house doorway of a private home and afforded endless amusement to the children. They sang their nursery songs as they swung, and finally they suspended a small football from the roof of the coach house within range of the swing. As the kicking of the ball was erratic its movements were still more erratic and helped to increase the popularity of the swing. The football may of course be hung in front of any swing. As a last word on the subject the fitting up of a swing should only be attempted by one who understands the work it has to do and the quality of the necessary materials. A swing for four children has just four times more stress on it than a swing for one, but it is more than four times as entertaining.

"MY CART FAILS ME."

A Portly countrywoman came along the platform at a certain railway station and sat down on a seat beside a hospital nurse who was waiting for her train. With a heavy sigh of relief the countrywoman disposed of her parcels and umbrella. Then she started chatting.

"Ah," she said, admiringly, eyeing the nurse's uniform, "I don't know what we'd do wi'out the likes of you."

"Oh, now you're too kind," protested the nurse, with a smile. "I'm quite sure you do things as worthy every day."

"Not me, miss," replied the old lady mournfully. "I can kill a duck or fowl wi' the best—that I'll admit. But when it comes to 'uman beings my 'cart fails me."