N OVEMBER 12, 1891.]

told, who are quite good enough for Shakespeare, but not educated enough for Ibsen. I understand from this authority that one of the qualifications for playing Ibsen is to have no fear of making yourself 'acutely ridiculous,' and I can easily believe that this exponent of Ibsen is not troubled by that kind of trepidation; but if the 'inevitably sentimental actress' in Shakespeare should be a Helen Faucit or an Ellen Terry, I think that most of you will be satisfied with her capacity for the finest achievements of her art. It is certainly a ludicrous pretension that the fitness to play Shakespeare disqualifies an artist for embodying the creations of some dramatist who is supposed to represent a political anti-social movement. I do not know whether the Ibsen drama will obtain any permanent standing on our stage, but it is a comfort to find that, in the opinion of the author I have quoted, Shakespeare will not be entirely extinguished. I cannot share the lugubrious views so freely expressed by certain modern writers with regard to either the present or the future of our stage. We hear from one doleful dramatist that he suffers most acutely because the public will not allow him to introduce literature into his plays. Upon my word, I think he need only take heart of grace and make the experiextinguished. I cannot share the lugubrious

ment. Others have done so, and are doing so with excellent success. I am satisfied that more good plays have been written within the last forty years than in the half-century preceding, and I am encouraged more than I can say for the future of the art which I love when I see the great number of earnest young recruits daily joining its ranks from the great body of the more highly-educated classes." I hear, since the redecoration, the Lyceum is a greater temple of Art than ever. I am longing to find myself within its portals once more.

You poor, dear, hungry old thing ! Don't imagine yourself sixteen, and at school again, if you receive a neat little hamper some time tomorrow. The chickens are roasted and cut up, so knives and forks will be of no importance.-Your loving TEAN.

AN ILL-LEG-GIBLE PRESCRIPTION .- Lady Visitor (at





