

ments that the hours should be 168 in three weeks. He had to object to the position taken up by Mr. Godfrey, that the Treasurer should not impose these conditions. If the Treasurer did not do so, who was to do so? The only reason the clause was struck out of the Bill was an undertaking that he, as Treasurer, would have inquiries made. The Government now proposed to introduce a Bill to make those pay who could pay, and ought to pay. (Hear, hear.) In the meantime, he would not enforce the condition for six months. He would be glad to hear any complaints from the Nurses, but would reserve to himself the right to impose the condition or not, as appeared necessary, at the end of the six months.

### Inventions, Preparations, &c.

At the Chemists' and Druggists' Exhibition perhaps the most noticeable feature was the large stand occupying the centre of the Hall, the walls of which were covered entirely with sponges. The name of Cresswell Brothers and Schmits was a guarantee of their excellence, while the address announced—1 & 2 Red Lion Square, and at Ægina (Greece)—showed the reason for this excellence, namely, that they are selected by the firm on the spot from which they are obtained.

The Leicester Plasters, of all sorts and sizes, were fascinating to all who appreciate daintiness and nicety.

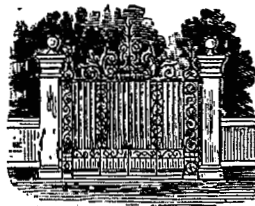
Messrs. Farrow and Jackson, of 16, Great Tower Street, showed an excellent cork for re-corking champagne or soda-water bottles which have been opened.

On entering the vestibule one felt immediately at home, as the stalls of Messrs. Maw, Son, & Thompson, Burroughes & Wellcome, and the Sanitas Co., were all in evidence, bringing back pleasant reminiscences of the Nursing Exhibition. Perhaps the next Nursing Exhibition will find its home in Argyll Street. The National Skating Palace seems admirably suited for this purpose.

THE Exhibition of Laundry and Sanitary Machinery and Appliances, lately organised by Messrs. Cordingly & Co., at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, was a most interesting show. There was a great variety of steam-driven, water-driven, and electric hydro-extractors, or drying machines, to be seen in the Hall, and it is claimed that the promoters assembled together specimens of every form of washing, drying, ironing, and other machines incidental to the laundry trade. There were even electrical irons of the latest pattern, soaps of many kinds, starch from several different factories, and carpet-beating machines. The show-cases containing specimens of exquisitely got-up linen, frills, and laces, &c., was the most artistic part of the contribution.

### Outside the Gates.

#### WOMEN.



THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to direct that the Institution at South Kensington known as the "National Art Training School," shall henceforth be styled the "Royal College of Art."

The Queen has signified her willingness to receive the petition which has been signed, in 44 languages, by her women subjects in all parts of the world, praying for increased protection against the evils of the liquor traffic and the opium trade. The petition contains over 7,000,000 signatures and endorsements, obtained during the last few years by the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union. As it would be impossible to present to the Queen the immense roll containing all these names, the pages have been photographed and bound in two large volumes. The names of Miss Frances Willard, president of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, and Lady Henry Somerset, vice-president, head the list.

The ex-Queen of Servia will probably not pay a visit to her house at Biarritz, the Villa Sacchino, this season. Some time ago the ex-Queen lost a splendid diamond which she wore on her arm. She no sooner missed it than she promised that, if she ever found it, she would give its value to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Biarritz. The diamond has been found in the grounds, and, in order that it may bring in its full value and even more, she has ordered the precious stone to be raffled, and the proceeds to be given to the Sisters.

British Women who read their *Times* received a rude shock on Monday from the Paris correspondent, who wrote:—"The *Eclair* has been the first French journal to venture to refer to a delicate question which for many days has formed a topic of common conversation. The question is as to what shall be done with the Empress—for the Constitution does not confer any official dignity upon the wife of the President of the Republic, and Mme. Faure consequently cannot figure in the official procession when the Imperial pair make their entry into Paris. Now that the *Eclair* has raised this question the other newspapers are giving their opinion upon it with the frankness with which ceremonial is apparently always destined to be discussed in a democracy. This discussion naturally offers an excellent occasion to the *Gazette de France* to ridicule the Republic and to satirize the occupants of the Elysée. It suggests that in the Imperial carriage M. Faure should have a low seat in front with his back to the driver. The *Temps*, however, assures its readers that the Emperor and the President will occupy the first carriage, and that in the second the Empress will sit with her ladies of honour."

So much for a Republican Constitution founded on *Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité*. It is indeed one of life's "little ironies" that before the world the women

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