

To enter again into my mother's womb, to look after myself in battle, to leave your service, and to go to Mass." This was after he had just left the death-bed of Coligny.

The secret of Paré's success is, perhaps, contained in the following remark: "During this journey I always inquired of the surgeons if they noted anything rare in their practices, so that I might learn something new"; and this habit he apparently kept up to the end of his life.

At the end of his "Journeys in Diverse Places," Paré says: "I have published this Apologia that all men may know on what footing I have always gone; and sure there is no man so touchy not to take in good part what I have said. For I have but told the truth; and the purport of my discourse is plain for all men to see, and the facts themselves are my guarantee against all calumnies."

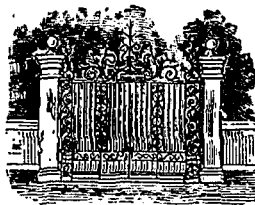
Towards the end of his life Paré, as has already been mentioned, was at war with the faculty of the physicians and was involved in a law-suit with the College of Surgeons. In both instances he came off victorious in the end, but only after a prolonged struggle, in the course of which there was some plain speaking on his part. The faculty was furious with him for publishing his collected works in the French, instead of the Latin tongue. We are told: "It is characteristic of the faculty that they were taken by surprise. On May 5th (1575), they held their first meeting to stop a book that was already published; they called Paré impudent and ignorant; they appealed to the Parliament"—a method, says Mr. Paget, still employed by the profession, from time to time, without very marked success. The Dean of the faculty, who was in the chair, pointed out that the book contained much that was "grossly indecent and immoral."

Finally, Parliament confirmed an old decree, forbidding the sale of any medical book without the approval of the faculty, but here the farce ended, for the book had long been all over Paris. Paré, in a pamphlet of fifteen pages, told his colleagues his opinion of them, and asserted that both physicians and surgeons were "moved by wilful hate, envy, and jealousy to see Ambroise Paré in some reputation as a man well esteemed in his profession." Of the surgeons he further says, "I know very well that the surgeons who ought to lend me a hand to hold up my chin for fear I should go to the bottom, have wanted to push my head under water to drown me; they have done their best to make me obnoxious to the authorities, both of Church and State, and to the public; they have left no stone unturned to upset me if they could."

Paré's account of the plague is most noteworthy, and his name will always be associated with the treatment of this disease. Perhaps he is most widely remembered, however, for his substitution of humane and rational treatment in place of the barbarous method of pouring boiling oil into gunshot wounds, and his use of the ligature in place of the cautery in amputations. Mr. Paget deserves, and, no doubt, will receive, the cordial thanks of the medical and nursing professions for so skilfully collecting, and pleasantly recording, the history of the great surgeon, whose name is held in universal honour, though the details of his life are singularly unknown. The book is one which deserves not only to be read, but to be bought, and re-read, and it is to be hoped that it will find a place on the bookshelves of many nurses, and in every nurses' library.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



principle of Woman's Suffrage.

Women suffragists are not very sanguine that their demands will receive consideration this Session, although the leaders are working as pluckily as ever, and they hope to secure a day for discussion in the House of Commons on the

Mrs. Fawcett, seen by a *Daily Mail* representative, said everything depended on the result of the ballot, which was to bring in a Bill, or, failing that, a resolution. Personally, she did not think the suffrage would ever be passed as a private member's Bill, but would be granted as a Government measure when next the Registration Bill was brought up.

Good meetings, however, to discuss the question have been held during the past week, notably at the new quarters of the "Pioneer," in Grafton Street, under the auspices of the Women's International Progressive Union, when Mrs. Carmichael Stopes opened a brilliant address by asking the question, "Is there any reason why women should be denied the suffrage?" to which she proved a most convincing negative. Would that it were possible for this most charming speaker to address a meeting of dissentient M.P.'s. Why not?

We hope all women who have votes for the County Council will not fail to record them, whatever their politics may be. It is the duty of all women on the register to prove that they value their votes, so that the argument so often used by enemies to women's suffrage—that "women do not care for or use a vote when they have it"—may have no foundation in fact.

The British Women's Temperance Association and the Woman's Industrial both "want to know" the opinions of the candidates for election to the County Council, and the latter body are making a test question of the training and hours of work of asylum attendants; they also naturally object to a Technical Education Board from which women are excluded. The absurdity of men dealing with Domestic Economy, unaided by women, is apparent to everyone, with the exception of the members of the Board themselves, because women who are merely co-opted into Committees are simply *used* to supply information men do not possess, and accept a very invidious position. If their special knowledge is a necessity, then they have a right to legal representation.

Lady Henry Somerset has written to Lord George Hamilton, withdrawing the proposals made in her letter to him last year, upon the health of the Army in India. She says, "I am writing to withdraw any proposals made in that letter, for this reason: that the events of the past year have convinced me of the inadvisability and extreme danger of the system that in April last I thought might be instituted. . . . My view was that it would be instituted as an odious but

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