

Inventions, Preparations, &c.

The Berkefeld Filter Company, 121, Oxford Street, W., submitted to us, some time ago, an improvement in the purification of water known as the "Berkefeld" Filter. Since then we have made ourselves thoroughly acquainted with its value, and can readily endorse all the good things said about it by the eminent bacteriologists who have scientifically investigated its satisfactory working as regards the impossibility of the passage of bacteria through its filtering medium, and others who have had it in ordinary daily use. In buying a filter the principal points to ascertain are its construction, and the composition of its filtering medium. The "Berkefeld" Filter is constructed in the form of a hollow cylinder through the walls of which the water has to pass. The material of which this cylinder, or the filtering medium, is composed is fossil earth. Of this we have satisfied ourselves by microscopical examination of a portion of the cylinder, and we are thus enabled to say that *it is composed entirely of the silicious skeletons of the diatomaceæ*. Silica in any form is always an excellent medium, but the properties and construction of the fossil earth render it peculiarly suitable for the purpose of filtration. The filters are made in every form required for domestic, laboratory, and commercial use, and there are also some excellent patterns specially adapted for travellers. The "Berkefeld" Filter claims the following advantages:—It will filter large or small quantities according to pressure and number of cylinders. The filtered liquid is absolutely free from any solid particles and from germs. The filter can be easily cleaned (in fact it is the simplest in construction we know), and one cylinder will last for years; it being thoroughly sterilized by placing it in water and boiling for an hour. We certainly consider it to be the best filter that has yet been brought before our notice and, in view of the probability of another visitation of the cholera epidemic, we earnestly recommend its use.

MESSRS. M. B. FOSTER & SONS, Limited 23,
Brooke Street, W.

These well-known mineral water manufacturers have now added to their already existing and extensive list, a new and pure aerated water, the properties of which should be fully appreciated and found of great value in the sick-room for diluting milk, &c. This water is first filtered,

then boiled, and afterwards aerated and bottled for table use in the ordinary way, and the result is a charming addition to our "table waters," which we can strongly recommend. Those of our Nursing readers who take from choice, or, may be, have been medically ordered, nourishing stout, will find that the "Nursing Stout" sent out by Messrs. FOSTER & SONS, Limited, is most appetising and refreshing. Prices, &c., can be obtained direct from this firm, who will supply small cases holding a single dozen bottles when required.

THE SANITAS-EUCALYPTUS DISINFECTOR.

(THE SANITAS COMPANY, LTD., Bethnal Green, E.)

Always well to the front, the Sanitas Company, makers of the well known and much used "Sanitas" Disinfecting Solution, and other preparations, have recently introduced a very useful and much required article in their "Sanitas-Eucalyptus Disinfectant." This is a small and convenient arrangement for hanging up in a room or water closet. Its use is obvious, and any one acquainted with the objections of the ordinary w.c. opening on to a landing, or passage of a dwelling house, will at once appreciate the value of the innovation. We have only to add that it is provided with a cavity which should be filled with "Sanitas-Eucalyptus Oil" once or twice a week. The liquid is speedily soaked up, and its vapour is given off gradually into the air, thus purifying and perfuming it at the same time. We cordially commend this appliance to the authorities of Hospitals and Nursing Institutions.

THE MEISENBACH COMPANY'S ENGRAVINGS.

This firm have submitted to us some beautiful engravings executed by their photographic process, the same by which the portraits which appear from time to time in our own pages are produced. The latter, owing to the nature of the paper and ink employed in newspaper work, have not always the finished appearance we should wish, but with specially adapted paper and ink the same blocks give results equal to the best photographs, though far softer and pleasanter in tone. The Secretaries of Hospitals and Institutions who wish to produce engravings of their buildings to issue with circulars, reports, &c., should consult with Messrs. Meisenbach, of Norwood, S.E., before they decide on any other method.

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