

THE ECLIPSE THERMOMETER.

THIS valuable invention, introduced by Messrs. Maw, Son and Thompson has recently been submitted to us. It has a flattened back into which the scale is cut in enamel, so that it can never become rubbed off; the front, being convex, magnifies the index and scale, so that it is much more easily read than the ordinary form; and it has the further important practical advantage that even in a darkened room the scale can be read by holding the instrument up against the faintest light. We have also obtained the opinion of several medical men and trained nurses as to its utility, and they are unanimous in its praise, speaking in the highest terms of these and other practical advantages which they consider the thermometer possesses. We, therefore, confidently recommend this new Clinical Thermometer to the notice of all our readers.

HYGIENIC CORSETS.

MISS SADLER, of 211, Oxford Street, is, we think, unique in her ideas as to what constitutes a becoming corset. She boldly announces that she does not aim at producing the appearance of a small waist; indeed, she says plainly that she would not mind if her waist measured thirty inches, provided her corsets were well-fitting in other particulars. In spite of this daring assertion Miss Sadler has not frightened away her customers; in fact, she is distinctly popular, the reason being that, notwithstanding her unconventionalism, perhaps *because* of it, she manages to produce a corset which makes her customers appear at their best. The variety of materials which Miss Sadler displays, from satin to useful drill, should make it easy for the most fastidious taste to be suited, while her prices are very reasonable.

Preparations.

HARLENE.

AMONGST the many preparations for the hair, concerning which we frequently receive inquiries from our readers, there are few which give better results than the "Harlene Hair Wash," produced by Edwards and Co., of 95, High Holborn, W.C. It not only thoroughly cleanses the hair, but undoubtedly stimulates its growth to a very considerable degree; so much so that when it is used for merely toilet purposes it should be diluted with an equal quantity of water. If used for the former purpose it is important to remember that the head should be washed two or three times a week, as the powerfully stimulating effect of the liquid might otherwise cause irritation. It can be obtained direct from the inventors at the address above given, or through any chemists.

Outside the Gates.

WOMAN'S FRANCHISE BILL.

AFTER the strange inconsequent attitude of the Press, their inaccurate, and at times incoherent, statements concerning the Woman's Franchise Bill, it is good for us, whichever side we take, to turn to a little pamphlet called the "Woman's Protest," written by Mrs. Carmichael Stopes, the scholarly author of "British Freewomen: Their Historical Privileges."

Mrs. Stopes takes us back to the sixteenth century, and tells us of Francis Bacon's life work, which he fondly called "The Greatest Birth of Time." It consisted of three main divisions—first, a protest against authority; second, a protest against custom and prejudice in the domain of reason; third, a chart of the state of learning as it stood in his days, and the suggestion of a *novum organum*, or new instrument, whereby true progress might be made. His protest was directed against the universities of his time, their blind following of Aristotle, instead of allowing the natural development of human ideas and the gradual accumulation of knowledge by progressive effort. Bacon's two other divisions of his protest—his advancement of learning, and his *novum organum*—space does not permit us to consider. In the completion of his great work he called posterity to his assistance. Three hundred years later we, Mrs. Stopes says, more than a quarter of a million of individuals, *protest* against the teachings of the courts of law; *protest* against authority in dominating reason, against custom in fettering the natural action of inherent powers, against prejudice in unfavourably judging beforehand the effect of unknown conditions. We *protest* against the illogical assumption that sex difference should warp justice, disturb equilibrium, and discolour the fair whiteness of truth.

Mrs. Stopes touches upon the laws of bankruptcy; the marriage service, where men still commit perjury in swearing "With all my worldly goods I thee endow"; the laws concerning divorce and the custody of children, and other questions of great interest and importance. In conclusion, she says: "They say women do not want the Suffrage, and would not use it if they had it. This is one of those effects of prejudice, or judging beforehand, which Bacon condemns. Let us who know what it means convince them that we do want it, and that we ask it, not only in our name, but in the name of thousands who do not recognise in it the means to their desired end; we ask it for the sake of those men who, having the Suffrage, decline to share it with women, and are the poorer through their selfishness; and we ask it by the aid of those men who have been educated up to the level of the conception of justice and generosity; and we ask it by the right of the English Constitution itself. One of the main clauses in Magna Charta, the fundamental basis of the liberties of the people, runs thus: 'To none will we sell, to none will we deny, to none will we delay the right of justice'; and yet, till the end of the nineteenth century it has been denied to women."

The "Woman's Protest" was published in the *Humanitarian* under the title, "Unequal Justice to Women," but may now be had in pamphlet form from Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy, Congleton, or the office of the Suffrage Society, 10, Great College Street, Westminster.

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