

practice gives perfection woman would have excelled her male counterpart not only as an executant but as a composer. But what are the facts? In instrumental performance she cannot for a moment compare with him, while as to composition she is nowhere. The repertory of music from the dawn of the art to the present day owes simply nothing to her. Considering the time she has spent over it, her failure to evolve new harmonies or even new melodies is one of the most extraordinary enigmas in the history of the fine arts. It has been remarked, but never explained, by such accomplished æsthetic writers as Lady Eastlake in her celebrated essay on "Music," and by such keen psychological analysts as Mr. G. H. Lewes in his "Life of Goethe"; it is indeed, a problem still awaiting solution, unless we can solve it by an appeal to such facts as Sir J. Crichton-Browne adduced in his recent oration—the inferiority of woman to man in the cerebral substratum of ideomotor energy. Why with such a record of "no results"—so far, at least, as the production of a female Handel or Beethoven or even a female Gluck or Bellini is concerned—music should usurp such a preponderant place in girls' education it is difficult to divine. We have seen the practice defended on the same grounds on which in our classical schools the writing of Greek and Latin verse is vindicated; a finer appreciation is thus attained, in the girls' case, of musical excellence, in the boys' of the Hellenic and Latin masterpieces. "Tis better to have tried and failed than never to have tried at all," while failure gives a truer sense of what perfection consists in. Such is the argument—for what it is worth. But even on this analogy the boy sometimes succeeds where the girl invariably fails. In George Buchanan John Milton, Arthur Johnston, Joseph Addison, Vincent Bourne, Thomas Gray, to say nothing of the late Marquess Wellesley and Benjamin Hall Kennedy, we have classical poets hardly inferior to any but the best of antiquity; but where, in ancient times or in modern, can woman, with all her practice, be found to have created one *chef-d'œuvre* in music? The inference implied by the negative answer to such a question seems simply this: that in the higher efforts of mind—even in those where the admixture of an emotional element, as in music, might be supposed to give her the advantage, woman is inferior to her male counterpart, and cannot by any educational forcing system be made to equal him—deficient as she is in the physiological conditions of ideoplastic power.—*Lancet*.

SALICYLATE OF LITHIUM IN RHEUMATISM.—M. Vulpian has read, before the Académie de Médecine, a summary of the results of his experiments on salicylate of lithium in articular rheumatism.

He states that his experiments indicate that lithium salts are not so poisonous as they are supposed to be. Salicylate of lithium is not more dangerous than salicylate of sodium, and can be administered in almost equally strong doses. In acute articular rheumatism salicylate of lithium relieves the pain which often remains in the joint after the swelling has disappeared, whereas colchicum and salicylate of sodium have no effect. M. Vulpian believes that salicylate of lithium is especially beneficial in fibrous rheumatism. In progressive subacute rheumatism M. Vulpian has seen salicylate of lithium produce great improvement. Salicylate of sodium has been successful in such cases, and produced amelioration of the patient's condition; but both greater and more lasting benefit is obtained by salicylate of lithium. In chronic articular rheumatism M. Vulpian has found salicylate of sodium useless, whereas salicylate of lithium has had a marked effect on the joints, which become less swollen than before the treatment. This drug sometimes induces headache and deafness, but is never followed by the distressing noises which characterize treatment by salicylate of sodium. The headache and deafness disappear quickly.—*London Med. Record*.

FEL BOVIS INSPISSATUM AS A THERAPEUTIC AGENT.—In a paper read before the Section on General Medicine, of the New York Academy of Medicine, Dr. W. H. Porter states that ox bile is of great service in typhoid fever, nephritis, faulty digestion, etc. He also calls attention to its great power and activity in softening and removing fecal matter from the colon, in connection with chronic constipation or where impaction has occurred. The fel bovis alone, or perhaps better in combination, as in the following formula, will soften and remove quite effectually impacted feces and stimulate the lower bowel to action when all other means have failed. It is also a very powerful agent for bringing away the gas and relieving troublesome tympanites.

R Fel. bor. inspiss., ̄j.
Glycerini, ̄iv.
Ol. ricini, ̄ij.
Aqua. q. s. ad. ̄vj.

M. Sig. This added to pint, or better still, a quart of warm soapsuds; the larger amount can be retained when slowly injected into the lower bowel.

After several copious injections have been administered and retained for a time and come away without producing the desired effect, we are justified in assuming that the colon is free. This has been verified with sufficient frequency in the dead-house to warrant the statement that it will invariably soften and remove fecal matter from the colon, of course, excepting a tight stricture