

ing particles of food, is still better educated. Its tip can distinguish between compass points one twenty-fourth of an inch apart, and is the most sensitive member of the body.

Mr. Spencer's theory agrees with some well-known facts. For example, he showed what was pretty well known long before he was born—that the finger tips of the blind are more sensitive than those of persons who can see, and who therefore do not practice their sense of touch so much. He also found that skilled type-setters were more sensitive than the blind on whom he experimented, for the type-setters could distinguish both compass points when one-seventeenth of an inch apart. It may be suggested that many facts could be adduced to show that parts of the body do not become more but less sensitive by continual touching of things. The fingers of a seamstress are often "calloused" by needle pricks or pressures, and yet she is always as much seeking to avoid the pricking as the type-setter is to seize but one type.

But in such scientific matters theories are plenty and easily made. The facts themselves are the interesting things, as are all pieces of novel information about the wonderful human body.

HOW EYEGLASSES ARE MADE.

The pieces of glass which are to be made into lenses for spectacles, for microscopes, small telescopes and the like, are first ground into shape, roughly, by being held against a cast iron tool like a grindstone. This, of course, is curved to give the lense the concavity or convexity desired. From this tool the glass passes to a "fine tool," so-called, of similar construction, but made of brass and covered with fine powder of sulphate of iron, calcined and ground. Jewelers call it rouge. Then a third tool, like the second, but covered with cloth which is thoroughly powdered with rouge, is used for polishing. After both sides have been treated thus the lense is cut to the required shape, oval

or round, with a diamond glass cutter and steel pincers, and the edges are ground smooth on metal wheels.

TAKING THE HUSBAND'S NAME.

The practice of the wife assuming the husband's name at marriage, it is said, originated from a Roman custom, and became the common custom after the Roman occupation. Thus Julia and Octavia, married to Pompey and Cicero, were called by the Romans Julia of Pompey and Octavia of Cicero, and in later times married women in most European countries signed their names in the same manner, but omitted the "of."

Against this view it may be mentioned that during the sixteenth and even at the beginning of the seventeenth century the usage seems doubtful, since we find Catharine Parr so signing herself after she had been twice married, and we always read of Lady Jane Grey (not Dudley) and Arabella Stuart (not Seymour.) It was decided in the case of Bon vs. Smith, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, that a woman by marriage loses her former name and legally receives the name of her husband.

A DREADFUL FATE.

Some Frenchmen were boasting of their "affairs of honor," when one of them declared that he had inflicted upon an antagonist the most dreadful fate that a duellist had ever met.

"How was it?" asked everybody.

"I was at an hotel, and I chanced to insult a total stranger. It turned out that he was a fencing master.

"One or the other of us," he declared, in fearful wrath, 'will not go out of this room alive!'"

"So let it be!" I shouted in response; and then I rushed out of the room, locked the door behind me, and left him there to die!"

Facetious Passenger—How often, conductor, does your trolley-car kill a man? Conductor (tartly)—Only once? —New York Commercial Advertiser.