

A NEW FORM OF FEMALE SYRINGE.

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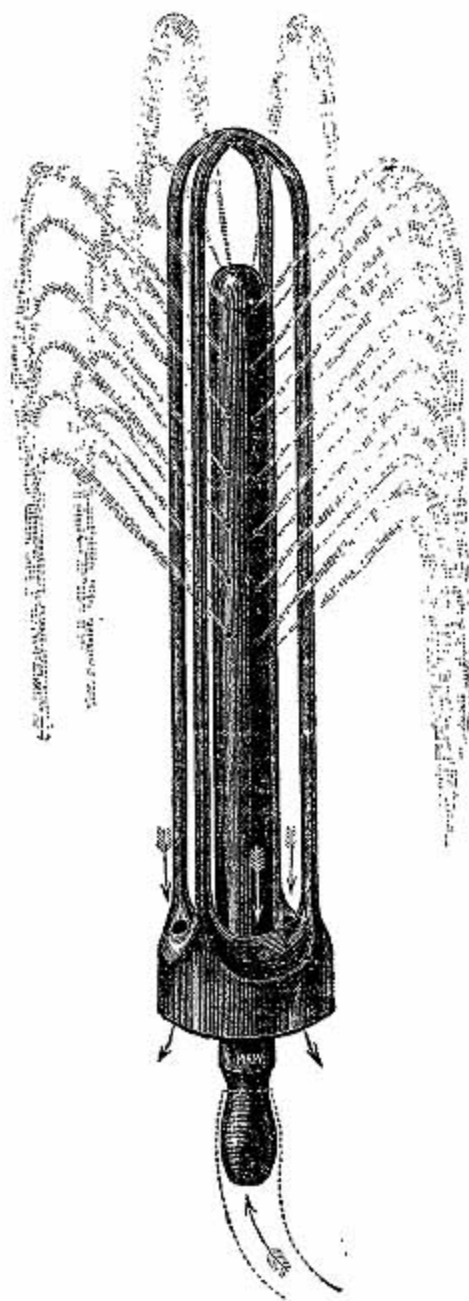
THE want of an efficient instrument for bringing various forms of injections in contact with the entire surface of the vagina and the os uteri has long been felt, and many of the leading writers on the diseases of women refer to the inadequate means generally employed for this purpose. In order to cleanse the vagina, or locally treat its diseases by injections, it must be dilated in such manner that its walls may form a tube, the dilator itself offering as little surface as possible; and the fluid to be injected should be delivered freely and from many points. These requirements can be fulfilled by the invention now brought before the notice of the medical profession. The accompanying engraving gives a very good idea of the new appliance. It consists of four small-size rods, about six inches long, curved at their upper ends so as to meet at a central point, and connected at their lower ends with the outer margin of a cylindrical stock, the spaces between the rods being equal. This part may be termed the dilator. In the centre of the stock is a hole in which is fixed a vagina-tube, which extends upwards nearly to the point of the dilator, and downwards about an inch below the stock, and it has four rows of perforations which face the spaces midway between the rods of the dilator, each perforation being directed diagonally upwards. On the lower end of this tube is fixed three or four inches of india-rubber tubing to receive a nozzle. The vagina-tube should be made of vulcanite, or some incorrodible material, but the

dilator may be made either of the same material or of hard and stiff metal. The other portions of the apparatus possess no novelty, and consist of a half-gallon tin reservoir, having an outlet in the bottom leading into a nozzle soldered on the outside. On this nozzle is fastened one end of an india-rubber tube, eight feet in length, the other end being fixed on one of the nozzles of a union tap. By connecting the other nozzle of the tap with the vagina-tube the apparatus is ready for use.

Directions for use.—Close the tap and place the injection in the reservoir, and hang it from a bedpost or a wall about seven or eight feet from the floor. The patient should then introduce the dilator and tube into the vagina as far as possible, and sit on a bidet or other vessel raised to a convenient height. By turning the tap the injection will flow freely, and, whilst flowing, the instru-

and the whole apparatus is manufactured by Messrs. S. Maw, Son, and Thompson, of Aldersgate-street, London, who have satisfactorily carried out every detailed instruction. This invention, which has been patented in France, may, when made in suitable sizes, be used with advantage in any passage or wound requiring dilatation during irrigation.

Plymouth.



ment should be moved to and fro, and occasionally slightly rotated. If only a small medicated injection be required, it may be forced into the vagina-tube from an india-rubber bottle furnished with a bone nozzle, instead of using the tin reservoir; but it is advisable to first cleanse the vagina with water if there be much morbid secretion. The vagina-tube and dilator may also be used in combination with any suitable form of injecting instrument. It will thus be seen that when fluid is injected into the vagina by this means, the jets are directed diagonally upwards, and, striking its walls, rebound in splashes to the opposite side of the passage (the perforated tube being surrounded by a free space), and the injection escapes from the vagina through holes in the stock. The arrows in the engraving show the course of the currents.

The dilators are of three sizes—large, medium, and small—