THE NEEDED COMMON PRONOUN.

The necessity of a personal pronoun of common gender cannot much longer be ignored by writers. The awkward and ungrammatical methods of expression which the lack of such a pronoun compels have become intolerable, and, especially in the department of criticism, the need is one which is daily growing more pressing. What is required is a word which will be readily taken up and assimilated spontaneously. With this in view a contemporary offers one which may meet with favour. It is as follows: Nominative, *Hi*; possessive, *Hes*; objective *Hem*. The advantages of this pronoun are, first, brevity; second, resemblance to both the masculine and feminine forms of the third person singular; and third, conformity to the existing endings. To the book reviewer, who is often sorely vexed as to the sex of an unknown author, what a boon it would be to be able to write—"The author of this poem is unknown to us, but *hi* exhibits such undeniable talent and many of his lines are so strong, that we may confidently look to him for notable work in the future." Of course the eye and ear experience a shock at first, but this will be the case with any word which can be coined.