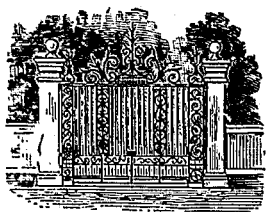


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



the compliment in a brief speech.

AT the annual meeting of the Cambridge Women's Liberal Association, Miss Helen Gladstone was elected President, in succession to Mrs. Bateson, who has resigned. Miss Gladstone, on taking the chair, was cordially received, and acknowledged

The memorial of resident M.A.'s requesting the Council of the University of Oxford to bring forward a scheme for the admission of women to the B.A. degree has been signed by Dr. Caird, Master of Balliol, Sir Henry Acland, Professors Sir F. Pollock, Rhys, Dicey, Burdon Sanderson, Wallace, Poulton, Tyler, York Powell, Cook Wilson, Elliott Green, Warrington, Legge, Max Müller, R. Lodge, W. R. Hardie, Mr. Arthur Sidgwick, Mr. G. H. Morrell, M.P., Mr. Sadler and a large number of college tutors and lecturers. The present vice-chancellor, Dr. Magrath, is known to take great interest in the matter, and to give every facility for full discussion of the arguments for and against. The Rev. T. H. Grose, Fellow of Queen's College, president of the Association for the Education of Women in Oxford, and Professor Pelham, President of the Council of Somerville College, are the two leading supporters in the University Council.

Women have long been asking when the elements of justice would lead men to allow women, who have worked hard and conscientiously at the Universities, to take the degrees their examinations warrant. It seems on the very face of it such a paltry thing for Oxford and Cambridge to allow men and women to compete in examinations, to grant the men their degrees, and to withhold them from the women. A young man who just manages to scrape through his "pass" may proudly write B.A. after his name, while his sister, who may have passed brilliantly and has been bracketed with, or is herself, Senior Wrangler, may put no letters after her name. London University has always been more generous and has granted its degrees to women who have fairly earned them, but Oxford and Cambridge have maintained a very churlish attitude. It is somewhat surprising that women have not "boycotted" Oxford and Cambridge, and shown their appreciation of the wider generosity of the London and other British Universities.

Miss Rossetti began writing verse when she was only a child, beginning with a poem, addressed when she was twelve years old, to her mother on her birthday. Christina Rossetti, like most poets, suffered much through her emotions and affections. Without suffering, the true beauty of a nature is never revealed, just as the true essence of a flower is never yielded until the flower is crushed. So throughout Miss Rossetti's poems it is shown "that the anguish of the singer lends its sweetness to the strain."

The very last lines she ever wrote form, as her brother says, "a very fitting close to her poetic performance." Mr. Rossetti found the lines after her death, has supplied the title, and has presented the MS. to the British Museum, to be added to our national treasures.

SLEEPING AT LAST.

Sleeping at last, the trouble and tumult over,
Sleeping at last, the struggle and horror past,
Cold and white, out of sight of friend and of lover,
Sleeping at last.

No more a tired heart downcast or overcast,
No more pangs that wring or shifting fears that hover,
Sleeping at last in a dreamless sleep locked fast.
Fast asleep. Singing birds in their leafy cover
Cannot wake her, nor shake her the gusty blast,
Under the purple thyme and the purple clover
Sleeping at last.

Bookland.

WHAT TO READ.

"The Poor in Great Cities, their Problems and What is Doing to Solve Them," by Robert A. Woods, W. T. Elsing, W. J. Tucker, Joseph Kirkland, Sir Walter Besant, and others. (Kegan Paul, Trench and Co.)

"The Sister Dominions: Through Canada to Australia by the New Imperial Highway," by James Francis Hogan, M.P. (London: Ward and Downey.)

"Ballads and Songs," with a title page and cover design by Walter West.

"At the First Corner, and other Stories." (The Bodley Head, Vigo Street, London, W.)

"Krishna Kauta's Will," by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, translated by Miriam S. Knight. (London: T. Fisher Unwin.)

"The Paying Guest," by George Gissing. (London: Cassell and Co.)

"And the World Saith," by "Leda Law," Second Edition. (London: Digby, Long and Co.)

Coming Events.

Jan. 28th.—Special Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 20, Hanover Square, 4 p.m.

Jan. 30th.—Lecture on "Epileptic, Hysteroid, and other Convulsions, their Observation, and Management," by W. S. Colman, Esq., M.D., at the offices of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 17, Old Cavendish Street, W., at 8 p.m.

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