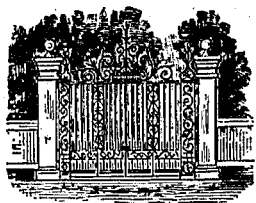


Outside the Gates.**WOMEN.**

THE Queen is in Ireland, and in consequence all the world and his wife are there also. Now is the time to sweep away the obsolete Lord Lieutenancy and his bogus Court and fix upon permanent Royal residences. If the British flag is the "greatest commercial asset in the world," then so long as Ireland forms part of the Union it should benefit by the increase of trade, which follows in the wake of Royalty.

A story is going the rounds that when a few weeks ago our military affairs in South Africa looked blackest, the Queen sent for Lord Salisbury, and expressed the wish that Lord Roberts should take chief command, to which Lord Salisbury replied that such an appointment was not in his department, and that it was the Commander-in-Chief's affair. "No," replied the Queen, "this time it is the affair of the *Queen of England, and Lord Roberts goes.*"

Mrs. May Wright Sewall, President of the International Council of Women, expects to arrive in Paris about June 20th, as the executive committee of the Council will be held there between that date and July 10th. Mrs. Sewall hopes to find opportunities whilst in Europe of assisting Council organisation, and she writes: "I am sure that the wars which have been carried on, both in the Philippines and in the Transvaal, during the last few months have awakened the interest of the whole world to the necessity of a new impulse to internationalism." Mrs. Sewall is arousing this interest by her new lecture on "Woman's Part in the International Movement."

Frau Helene Lange a much respected member of the German National Council of Women has been selected as Treasurer of the International Council, which is to meet in Berlin in 1904, so we may look forward with confidence to the next Quinquennial. It is satisfactory to hear that £216 has been handed over by the Treasurer of the Congress Fund (Mrs. Bedford Fenwick) to the President and Treasurer of the International Council, so that the work can be carried on without financial stress.

The National Council of Great Britain and Ireland (N.U.W.W.) will hold its Annual Meeting and Conference this year at Brighton in October. It should be well attended, as Brighton is so easy of access from town.

We learn on the best authority that the directors of the London Exhibitions have abandoned the idea of holding a competitive "Beauty Show" during the forthcoming International Exhibition of Women's Work at Earl's Court. It would be well to know who these directors are, who in the first instance gave their consent to this scandalous proposition. Working women will be somewhat shy of connecting themselves with this exhibition—in spite of its Duchessey Committee—after such a suggestion having been made to the various nations of the world.

Miss Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler's new novel on which she has been working for about 12 months is now published by Messrs. Hutchinson and Co. It is entitled "The Farringdons," and the scene is laid in the Black Country of the author's native Staffordshire, and in London. The first English edition will consist of 20,000 copies.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

We have received from the Central and East of England Society for Women's Suffrage, 20, Great College Street, Westminster, S.W., an excellent Occasional Paper. It contains (1) Notes of the present Parliamentary Session, in which unfortunately the chances of discussion of the all-important question of Women's Suffrage appear to be scant. (2) A most excellent review of Parliamentary progress in the direction of women's suffrage since the question was first brought forward at the General Election in 1868. Those who desire to acquaint themselves with the main facts regarding the work done in this direction cannot do better than obtain this pamphlet in which all the salient points in connection with the efforts to obtain the suffrage for women are most lucidly detailed. (3) An account of the Local Associate Scheme, to which attention has been already directed in this Journal. The object of this scheme is to bring into touch with the work of the Society, persons in sympathy with the women's suffrage movement whose support has so far not been utilized for want of local organization. The working of this scheme has been most satisfactory and already some 2,000 new supporters of the cause have been discovered by its means. Organization, however, is costly, and an appeal is made for increased annual subscriptions, to enable the work to be carried on. (4) Good work was done during the recent London University election by women graduates, who, as members of Convocation of the University, should be entitled to vote for its Parliamentary representative, but are disqualified on account of their sex—in writing to the candidates, asking their support to Women's Suffrage. It is satisfactory that Sir Michael Foster, while declining to pledge himself to his action in Parliament, has expressed the opinion that it is "quite wrong that the women members of Convocation should have no voice in the appointment by Convocation of a person to look after the interests of learning and of the University in the House of Commons. (5) The most satisfactory record as regards progress is that of Western Australia and Victoria. In the former colony its Parliament has granted the suffrage to women, and as soon as the approval of the Imperial Government has been received women in Western Australia will have the right to vote. From Victoria the Hon. Secretary of the Melbourne Women's Suffrage Society writes to say that the supporters of the movement feel confident that the Women's Suffrage Bill will pass both Houses at the short session before Federation. The Premier of Victoria, who is a supporter of women's suffrage, has promised to send up the Bill, which has already passed the lower House four times, to the Legislative Council, where it was rejected by a small majority. We may hope, therefore, that this colony will soon be added to those where the women are treated as reasonable beings."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)