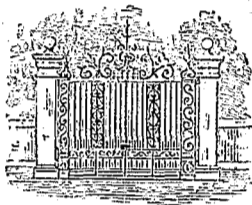


## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



The Society of Women Journalists gave a most enjoyable party at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Tuesday afternoon, when the guests were received by the President, Mrs. Stannard (John Strange Winter). Amongst those present was M. Santos-Dumont, "the great pioneer of the air." The music was undertaken by Herr Liebling, Mrs. Kate Lee, Mr. Joseph O'Mara, and Mr. George Giddens. A clever display of fencing was given by Miss Gladys Courtenay and the Vicomte de la Chapelle, and Miss Julie Critten was responsible for the palmistry.

## A Book of the Week.

### CYNTHIA'S WAY.\*

Mrs. Sidgwick is always delightful, and in this book she has returned to what all readers of "The Grasshoppers" will remember as her happiest vein—a story of domestic life in Germany.

It does not matter that the plot is as old as the hills. It is the treatment that is so fresh and so delightful.

Cynthia Blount's father was a banker, and died when his only daughter was three years' old, leaving two millions behind him. Her mother soon followed him, and Cynthia grew up an heiress and a beauty, and naturally distrusted the devotion of those young men who in quick succession made her offers of marriage. In order to test the reality of things, and get away for a time from the society life which she is forced to lead in England, she announces that she is going abroad for a year, and actually takes a situation as governess in a German family, at a nominal salary.

It is refreshing to hear of an heiress who will gaily put up with discomforts that would make many women now-a-days write to the papers with complaints of the infamous treatment of governesses. She has to share a comfortless room in a poky flat with her pupil, a typically German Gretchen, a trying child with no sense of humour.

"Her blonde hair was brushed smoothly back from her head and plaited behind in two pigtails. Her frock was of red tartan, made with a tight-fitting bodice fastened to the skirt with mother-of-pearl buttons. She wore a black bib-apron and home-knitted black stockings."

Besides this child, there are two riotous boys, who go to the day-school, a girl of eighteen called Wanda, the typical sentimental German girl, not in the least caricatured; and Frau Klopps, the maternal aunt of these orphans, who has brought them up, fed and educated them on a sum on which they must have starved in England.

Fortunately, Cynthia loved boys, and Kurt and Waldemar are two most loveable specimens of their kind. She also thought it the greatest fun to go and help in Frau Klopps' immaculate little kitchen; and the experiment flourished amazingly. Presently appeared on the scene the elder brother, or rather

\* By Mrs. Alfred Sidgwick. (Arnold.)

half-brother, of these children, Adrian von Reinmar, a good specimen of the charming, travelled, well-bred German gentleman. He has been in Rhodesia, working to pay off the mortgages with which Eschingen, the family place, has been encumbered by his father. Now the mortgages are paid, and Adrian has returned to take up the reins of government. A governor he means to be, as Cynthia soon discovers. He is puzzled much by the English girl, for he is the only member of the family with enough *savoir faire* to guess at the cost of Cynthia's simple gowns, or the toys which she is constantly buying for the children. Adrian also starts to adapt a sterner rule with the boys.

"You heard what he said about the circus," Waldemar cried. He said, 'We who are good are going.' He means that Kurt and I will be left behind. It is throwing money away to take girls to a circus. When they come back they can't even stand on their heads. You might explain this to him."

"You might have left Gretchen's doll alone," said Cynthia.

"In the fury of battle we forgot about the circus," said Kurt.

"Also we forgot that Gretchen is a horrid little tell-tale," said Waldemar. "Next time we are Matabele warriors we will attack her instead of her doll."

"If Adrian didn't want us to be warriors he shouldn't have given us those shields," said Kurt. "When I receive a present I think it is more polite to use it than to hang it on a nail."

"I am sure your motives were admirable," said Cynthia, getting up. "But I am afraid you will miss the circus."

This is a book from which it is tempting to quote but no space is left to tell how the drivelling sentimentality of Wanda nearly compromises Cynthia, in the eyes of a man, the women of whose nation stop short at no folly. The story is amusing, wholesome, droll and pungent. Mrs. Sidgwick is never quite in earnest, but she invariably strikes the right note, and her book is a work of art.

G. M. R.

## What to Read.

"The Life of Lord Russell of Killowen." By R. Barry-O'Brien.

"Love in its Tenderness: Idylls of Enochdhu." By J. R. Aitken.

"The Shadow of the Purple." By W. Beatty.

"The House with the Green Shutters." By George Douglas.

"By the Waters of Sicily." By Norma Lorimer.

"Our Lady of Deliverance." By John Oxenham.

## Coming Events.

*Tuesday, December 3rd.*—The Prince of Wales will be installed President of St. Bartholomew's. 12.

*Saturday, December 7th.*—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. The Winter Social Gathering will be held in the Medical School Library, 4.30 to 6.30 p.m.

*Tuesday, December 10th.*—Concert in Aid of East London's Poor Crippled Children, the People's Palace, 8 p.m.

*Monday, December 16th.*—Ball in aid of the New Hospital for Women, Euston Road.

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