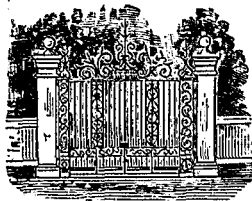


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



Was Mr. Rhodes a Woman-Hater?—The question was often answered in the affirmative; but, according to Mr. Stuart Cumberland the allegation was untrue. "True," wrote Mr. Cumberland, "he does not court women's society, and he is never found pouring empty nothings into a pretty woman's ear, but there are some women—women of the intellectual order—for whom he has an admiration. His aversion to women's society lies in the fact that he has little or no time to devote to them; and women in society demand so much of a man's time. It is an axiom with him that the man who plays his chances off his own bat, unhampered by woman's advice or interference, has the greater chance of succeeding in the battle of life." In short, Mr. Rhodes agrees with Ibsen that the strongest man is he who stands most alone.

It is announced that Mr. Rhodes has left the bulk of his property for the furtherance of an Educational Scheme for the benefit of the whole Empire. This is a project worthy of the man who "thought in continents." We hope that in this great conception the Women of the Empire are included. Most of the available funds for education both private and public are devoted to the education of boys. It is time that their sisters had a look in.

An influential meeting convened by Mrs. Farquharson, of Haughton, F.R.M.S., was recently held at the Palace Hotel, Aberdeen, for the purpose of considering the enlargement of the sphere of woman's usefulness. Principal Lang of Aberdeen University, Professor Grierson, the Rev. D. G. Mearns, Dr. John Gordon, Miss Lucy Ward, B.A., Mrs. Black, Mrs. Ogilvie-Gordon, D.Sc., Miss M. Irwin (secretary of the Council of Women's Trades of Glasgow), and Mr. George Middleton, M.A., LL.B., Glasgow, were among the speakers. Resolutions advocating the eligibility of women as members of Education Boards and urging the employment of women as salaried sanitary inspectors were unanimously passed. It was also resolved to form an association having for its object the enlarging of the sphere of women's public work.

In pursuance of the provisions of the Order in Council, dated March 6, 1902, the Board of Education have established a Teachers' Registration Council. The Council consists of the following members:—appointed by the Head Masters' Conference, Mr. A. E. Pollard; Incorporated Association of Head Masters, Dr. R. P. Scott; Incorporated Association of Head Mistresses, Mrs. Woodhouse; College of Preceptors, Mr. E. E. Pinches; Teachers' Guild, Mr. F. Storr; National Union of Teachers, Mr. E. Sharples; President of the Board of Education, Professor B. C. Windle, Rev. D. J. Waller, D.D., Professor H. L. Withers, Professor Meldola, Miss K. T. Wallas, Mr. J. L. Holland.

A remarkable story of a "sweet girl graduate" is told by a St. Louis paper. She has just graduated after a four years' course in history, astronomy, literature, political economy, geometry, arts, sciences, and languages. She has now gone to Cuba, Mo., to visit a schoolmate and take a course of piano lessons. The remarkable fact is that this "schoolgirl" has raised a family and is a grandmother. When she was sixty-eight years old she began a systematic course of study. In her youth she was denied educational advantages, and it was not until six years ago that she was able to set to work on her life's desire.

Miss Edith Aitken, late scholar of Girton College Cambridge, has been appointed Head Mistress of the High School for Girls that will shortly be opened in Pretoria. She took a First Class in both parts of the Natural Science Tripos, and has for some years directed the science teaching of the North London Collegiate School for Girls, Camden Road. A High School has already been established in Bloemfontein.

El Book of the Week.

A HEROINE FROM FINLAND.*

It is always interesting to come across a book which so completely breaks new ground as does this one. One speculates much upon the nationality of the author.

Either the book is a translation, or it is written by someone not wholly acquainted with the English idiom—not English by birth, though with a very fair mastery of colloquial English. There is a difficulty with that inevitable stumbling-block the use of "shall" and "will" in the future tense; sometimes two words meaning the same thing are repeated, as though the author thought they were different—"great, tired, weary eyes." Paul Waineman is probably a Finn, for he seems to have the Finnish quality of patriotism fully developed.

And certainly to read his book is to make one long to visit Finland. Here apparently is a quarter of the world unspoiled by the tourist, full of old castles, fortresses, dreamy lakes, cool water-ways, hot, glorious summers, masses of garden flowers, white and purple lilac; peopled by a race of honest, taciturn, hospitable giants. "When God made the world," say the peasants, "He let Finland fall, and it cracked all to pieces, and by degrees the cracks filled with water," and made a system of water-ways all about this delightful land. It is a species of El Dorado, and it is to be hoped that Paul Waineman, by publishing his book in our language of advertisements, will not bring "the trail of the Cockney" over it all.

"I have learned to love your country," says Count Rostoff, the fashionable Russian Count, who has left his heart behind him in the feudal atmosphere of Fridholm (Isle of Peace). "If people only knew the charm of a summer in Finland, how they would flock here!"

"Our country is like a hidden jewel, it only sparkles for a few. Crowds might spoil it; think of armies of tourists rushing through the land—horrible!" We quite agree. But the strange charm which

* By Paul Waineman. Methuen.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)