

to gratify. With the help of her priest, she availed herself of the opportunity afforded by her incarceration and enforced solitude to fulfil her lifelong desire.

The University of St. Andrew's has conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. on Miss Elizabeth S. Haldane, Vice-President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. Miss Haldane is well known to many nurses, owing to the warm interest she has taken in the question of their Registration by the State. They will learn with pleasure of the honour which has been conferred upon her.

The demonstration held in Hyde Park on Tuesday, to celebrate the release of Mrs. Sparborough, Mrs. Knight, and Miss Annie Kenney from Holloway Prison, was a very orderly and well-conducted gathering. The change of attitude on the part of the crowd was very marked. English people admire pluck wherever they find it, and they do not believe that these women enjoyed spending August in prison. They were consequently accorded the respect which those who have suffered for honest convictions command.

The sudden death of Mrs. Craigie (John Oliver Hobbes) removes from the ranks of novelists a brilliant writer. "The School for Saints" and "Robert Orange" are books which will abide.

Mr. Owen Lovejoy, speaking at the eighth biennial meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, U.S.A., said, referring to women workers: "People often speak of 'women workers,' as though the term were in contrast to men workers. Bless us! We have not yet forgotten far enough in this country to even define a 'woman' in the economic world. In Minnesota, I believe, a female is a woman, industrially, when she is eighteen years of age. In Indiana she must be 16, in Pennsylvania 14, in New York sweat-shops she is a woman worker at three years of age. In Georgia a girl is a woman as soon as her little body can reach up to the spinning frames and her little fingers can handle the threads. She may be 12 or 10 or 7, it makes no difference, if she is able to work the great State says, 'Hands off! She is a woman and must stand by her own strength.' The census of 1900 classifies 303 distinct occupations, in only eight of which women are not employed. Let us welcome the advent of women in all legitimate fields of human endeavour, but in Heaven's name let us spare the little baby girls, the very beauty and sweetness of our humanity. Let us demand that our little children shall not be made a sacrifice to our boasted progress."

Miss Jane Addams, of Hull House, Chicago, spoke at the same meeting on Settlement Work. She dispelled some of the false ideas that prevailed in regard to this form of social endeavour. She dwelt upon the necessity of understanding the working people; "who are, after all," she said, "the real people: we are only onlookers." Later in the evening an incident occurred illustrating the magic of Miss Addams's name. A note was sent to the plat-

form from a group of working-girls who said they had come far to hear Miss Addams, but had arrived too late for her address. They asked that she come to the front of the platform, that they might at least look upon her face. Such is the appreciation and affection which is commanded by one who has proved herself a true friend of the class to which they belong. It was a reward of her work after Miss Addams's own heart.

Thousands of the maidens of Korea are languishing in spinsterhood owing to an edict of the Government. A year ago the crown prince became a widower, and he has decided to remarry. Government officials throughout the country have been instructed to forward to Seoul the names and full descriptions of the most eligible maidens. Meanwhile, instructions have been issued that no young women of the better class shall be married until the crown prince has announced his choice. The governors of Kyeryke, Chungchulla and Kyongsang disobeyed the edict and allowed their daughters to marry. Consequently they are in great disfavor at the court, and are to be severely punished.

Book of the Week.

THE QUEEN'S TRAGEDY.*

It is largely the fashion now, to uphold or belittle religious causes by writing novels about them. Miss Thorneycroft Fowler poured out her sparkling epigrams in favour of Congregationalism; James Lane Allen wrote his terrible indictment of American sectarianism in the form of "The Increasing Purpose." Mr. Bagot vehemently hurls himself against the Church of Rome in book after book; and Father Benson writes of the Reformation of the English Church with the urgent pen of one who has forsaken his national faith and must needs justify himself to himself continually.

It is greatly to be doubted whether, in any solitary instance, such books have ever done anything for the cause they uphold. It is still more to be doubted whether any truth can emerge from trappings of the muddy waters of the 16th century religious struggles. As in France at the Bartholomew, so in England, politics figured largely in the animus between the various parties.

But, apart from his wholly one-sided view of the ecclesiastical position, Father Benson has given us a wonderful study of a woman's heart.

It is not to be doubted now, by any reasonable and unprejudiced person, that the unhappy Mary was conscientious. The title "Bloody" belonged to her ferocious father fully as much as it belonged to her. All the Tudors were cruel, conspicuously so even in a cruel age. Mary was also ill-tempered, narrow-minded, and suspicious, her early life afforded abundant excuse for the large development of such qualities. With the sunshine of love and happiness in youth the mind might have broadened, the jealousy and suspicion fallen into the background, the temper sweetened, and the health improved. But the wrongs of her mother and herself, acting on her natural morose temper, and fostered by continual ill-health and pain, produced one of the unhappiest women of whom record exists.

* Robert Hugh Benson. Pitman.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)