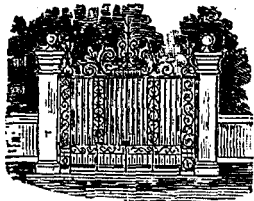


Outside the Gates.



WOMEN

Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., in response to the unanimous request of the Council, has accepted the office of Mayor of Aldeburgh for the ensuing year. Mrs. Anderson has been a member of the Council

for the past year, and has long been associated with Aldeburgh; her father, who resided there for many years, has filled the office of Mayor, as had also Mr. Anderson, her late husband.

On Tuesday, November 17th, a meeting of professional and industrial women will be held in support of Women's Suffrage at the Queen's Hall, W., at 8 p.m. Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., Mayor of Aldeburgh, will preside, and will be strongly supported by such well known women as Mrs. Ayrton, Miss Jane Harrison, LL.D., Miss Beatrice Harraden, Miss Cecily Hamilton, Miss Dove, Miss Clemintina Black, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Eva Gore Booth, Mrs. Dickenson, and others. All women are cordially invited.

The development of defective children is a subject of much interest to all who are interested in the science of education, and the new method of training in school gardens, which has been adopted in connection with the public schools of Cleveland, Ohio, described by Miss Louise Klein Miller, Curator, is of much interest. The teacher who conducted the experiment last year reported that gardening proved an appropriate and delightful occupation. It was a live interest; they could really see some outcome from their efforts, and instead of affording a transitory inspiration, it has proven a stimulus all during the winter. The children anticipated with keenest delight the coming of spring, when gardening activities could be renewed.

Some of the children were naturally more competent than others, but, by studying the capabilities of each child, the work was so distributed that each felt his portion was an important part of the whole. Those who were not able to plant the small seeds were allowed to rake the paths and put in the larger seeds, corn, squashes, beans, and morning glories.

Many of the children are suffering from undeveloped brain centres, and the teachers feel that the interest and stimulating influence of activity in the open air and sunshine will cause these centres to become aroused, and that a more normal condition of mind and body will result. The very contact with the soil has a soothing, quietening influence upon men and women of normal mental, and physical development, and why, asks Miss Miller, should the effect be less potent upon those creatures who are less fortunate?

Book of the Week.

INTERPLAY.*

As is the case in all her writing there is an undercurrent of sadness in Miss Harraden's "Interplay." It is, perhaps, this very fact that makes her pictures of ordinary humanity so life-like. There are many passages of real humour running through the actual tragedies, like gleams of sunshine breaking through heavy clouds. The motto ably explains the title, and, reading the book, the most ordinary intelligence must grasp that the title could not be more apt.

"There was much playe and interplaye of musick, divers instruments acting the one on the other in wondrous fashion."

Even so with Miss Harraden's characters. They act and re-act on each other, not in any aggressive manner, or of set purpose, but rather in the simple every day unconscious way in which human beings influence each other.

We have before us a full canvas: eleven figures all carefully drawn, and each in its own way important. Miss Harraden proves herself an able advocate in the Cause of Women. Here again her restraint makes one realise that her cause is good and true. Women must have freedom of thought and action, equal power with man to retrieve past mistakes, and to rehabilitate themselves not only in their own self-respect but in the eyes of the world, she would argue. "Travel, my dear," says the Bishop to the erring, but repentant, Harriet Rivers, "the world passes on, pass on too. Lift up your dear heart, and pass on too, God bless you."

There is not much plot, and it might be called a "Romance of the Middle Aged," for, with the exception of Bess and Hughie, all the characters are over forty.

Harriet Rivers, the divorced wife of an impossible man, is a woman with such a warm heart that she compels sympathy. Left alone by the death of her lover, with ample means, she rescues a former school-fellow, Margaret Tressider, from a life of struggle. These two live together in close friendship, the only other member of the family being Paul Stilling, the half-witted brother of Harriet's lover, who, dying, left him in her charge. Most nobly she fulfils the charge, even to her own hurt. Margaret calls him "The old Signpost," and is always trying to keep him in the background that he should not spoil Harriet's chances. Fortunately for her the right man comes into her life, Captain Bending, an Arctic explorer, just home, covered with glory, the hero of the moment. A real typical, breezy sailor, who carries all before him. He falls in love at first sight with Harriet, and not even her frank avowal to him of her past turns him from his purpose of marrying her.

His sister-in-law, Mrs. Ermytrude Bending, is an amusing skit on the conventional woman of average intellect, straining after "Culture." Her daughter, Bess, is a charming girl, who, making the acquaintance of Margaret, realises that to be-

* By Beatrice Harraden. (Methuen.)

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