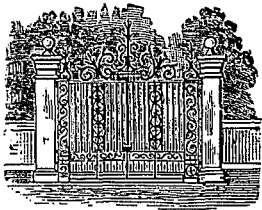


## — Outside the Gates. —

## WOMEN.

## FINAL MEETING OF THE CHICAGO COMMITTEE.



AFTER the recent issue of the Report of the Royal Commission on the World's Fair it seems fitting that the various Committees should hold their last conferences. The concluding meeting of the Committee on Women's Work was held on Saturday afternoon, May

26th, at the offices at 53, Berners Street, and proved a bright and interesting gathering.

There was a large attendance of the heads of the various sections of women's work, and of the members, and some representatives of Sub-Committees. Sir Richard Webster, Sir Douglas Galton, and Sir Henry Wood represented the Royal Commission.

H.R.H. Princess Christian, who graciously occupied the Chair, wore a pretty gown of light grey trimmed with "butter" lace; a bonnet with bright roses giving the necessary dash of colour to the quiet tints. The Duchess of Abercorn, who sat on her right, was plainly gowned in black, made in the open coat fashion, a style which suited her admirably. Of the other ladies present may be mentioned Lady Iddesleigh, who seconded a vote of thanks to the Queen for the exhibits of her work which she kindly allowed to be included in the Women's Section; Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, whose beautiful orchids were much admired, was seated next to Mrs. Roberts-Austen, who was arrayed in a most artistic 'creation' of light heliotrope which set off her fairness to perfection; Lady Priestley, Mrs. Fawcett, Lady Agnes Burne, Mrs. W. K. Clifford, Lady Roberts, Miss Annesley Kenealy, Mrs. Carmichael, and Lady Galton were among the company.

Princess Christian, in opening the proceedings, made a graceful little speech complimenting the ladies on the energy and talent they had shown in arranging the various departments of women's work at the Chicago Exhibition. She congratulated them on the admiration and success with which their efforts had been met. She said she had derived much pleasure from her position as President, and testified to the great assistance she had received from the members of the Committee, specially thanking Miss Lankester for the efficient help she had given her throughout.

Sir Richard Webster, as Chairman of the Royal Commission, said it gave him great pleasure to testify to the able work done by the Committee of Women's work. He said it was neither the time nor the place to dwell upon the magnificence of the Exhibition, which was the finest the world had ever seen; and certainly none but the youngest of the company could ever hope to see a repetition of such splendour. With regard to the part the women had taken, he said that it was necessarily of an experimental character, as there was no tradition as to the procedure in such cases, a special women's department being a new feature in exhibitions. While he considered that the

average was good, and in some sections an excellent showing had been made, he thought the experience gained would lead in the future to modifications of the plan adopted, to more varied selection, and to a somewhat different method of classification.

He proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Queen and all those Members of the Royal Family who had allowed their artistic work and handicrafts to be exhibited; and he alluded to the special interest taken by Chicago and the American nation in these exhibits. He considered that additional impetus and encouragement had been given to the movement in England by the individual interest taken in the matter by the Royal ladies.

He drew an amusing picture of the position he occupied as "buffer" between the Commission and the Ladies' Committee. If the ladies desired to send a deputation to lay some requisition before the Commission, it always fell to his lot to refuse or to grant as expediency suggested. It would seem, he said, as if the Commission regarded him as the only man who was hard-hearted enough to resist the blandishments and persuasions of the Ladies' Committee. He had done his best, but he feared there were times when he was temporarily unpopular owing to the impossibility of using the liberality he should have liked to entertain towards the Woman's Section. It had been thought that the ladies had had their full share of the money grant, and, if he might venture to say so, he would express the opinion that the Princess Christian was irresistible as a beggar.

Sir Douglas Galton gracefully acknowledged the vote of thanks offered for his services on the Finance Committee, and expressed his appreciation of the help he had received from Miss Lankester and Miss Stephenson.

Princess Christian expressed the thanks of the meeting to Sir Frederick Abel and the officers of the Imperial Institute for the space they had placed at the disposal of the ladies for packing and unpacking exhibits. She also cordially praised the work done by Mrs. Bond and Mrs. Cope and their efficient services as custodians.

After the meeting, tea was served by the Oriental Association; the tables being beautifully decorated with pink peonies and asparagus foliage. A pleasant social half-hour followed.

## — Science Notes. —

## THE LATE DR. ROMANES.

The sudden death of Dr. Romanes, at Oxford, last week, has, we feel sure, been the cause of keen regret to very many outside the scientific world in which he was so prominent a figure. Dr. Romanes was a personal friend of Darwin, and his chief work was in connection with the evolution of mind. One of his contributions to the literature of this subject, entitled "Animal Intelligence," is a collection of anecdotes with an introduction and remarks, and even a child would find it a most delightful story-book, but it is more than that; the care which has been taken in collecting, sifting, and arranging the stories renders the book of value to the student of comparative

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