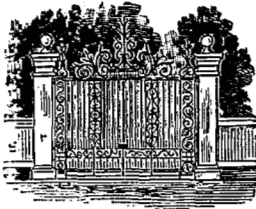


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



MISS WILLARD is expected in England in May to complete arrangements with the B.W.T.A. for the reception of foreign delegates, who are expected to attend the World's W.C.T.U. biennial gathering in June, and to make arrangements for the Council.

The American liner s.s. *Berlin* has been chartered by Dr. Lunn to bring over the members and friends of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union to the biennial gathering, which will take place in Queen's Hall, London, in June next.

Once a great reform has been conceived it cannot die and be lost sight of. One of the most frightful, and it would seem stationary, abuses of America is the hatred of the negro race. Even the abolition of slavery did not overcome it. The lynching of negroes has long been a disgrace to the United States. But it seemed when last year she came to this country, that little success was likely to wait upon Miss Ida Wells' effort to bring about an end to this disgrace. But now we read that a Bill has been introduced into the Senate of Tennessee which provides "That the taking by force of any person from the custody of an officer, or while in confinement and the killing of such person shall be murder in the first degree." That this will come into force sooner or later is certain.

Are we not too apt to forget, in urging the recognition of the rights of women and the protection of the rights of men, that there are other rights which need protection. For much of the pleasures of country and suburban life we are indebted to the birds. Yet through heedlessness—it is impossible to suspect heartlessness—these feathered creatures are threatened constantly with extinction. The motive of the Society for the Protection of Birds, which held its annual meeting last week, has, therefore, our heartiest sympathy. Woman can do much to prevent the wholesale slaughter of birds by refusing to bear traces of slaughter in hat or bonnet.

A word must be given to the important changes ushered in by the Revised Code recently issued from the Education Department, under whose supervision there are, in round numbers, some 19,500 day schools, 5,000,000 scholars, and a proportionate number of teachers. As is well known to those who have given any attention to the subject, neither the knowledge of pupils nor the capability of teachers can adequately be gauged at the yearly pre-arranged visit of the inspector. One teacher shows the pupils how learning

and study may be a pleasure, and by leading them into pleasant by-paths, encourages voluntary study. Another keeps to the old treadmill, whatever the season of the year, or whatever the pupil's bent, and "licks them into shape," in view of nothing beyond the examination. This recognition of the difficulty of forming a true estimate has led to an arrangement in lieu of a set examination for visits being made without notice. Conscientious teachers will now have a better chance to strike out according to the bent of their mind. Another delightful advance is that a limited number of visits to places such as the British Museum and the National Gallery, will count as attendance at school. Cottage gardening will be regarded as a subject to be taught where possible to boys, as cookery or dairy work is taught to girls.

The younger boys will now in many cases have the advantage of being taught by women, instead of by men or boy pupil-teachers. Here is a splendid opportunity for a refined or gentle woman to give boys, from, maybe, the roughest homes, an insight into the amenities of life. Lastly, we are glad to notice that pensions for teachers will be extended.

The audience present at the Annual Meeting of the Women's Lecturers' Association, held last Friday at Dr. Williams' Library, Gordon Square, though few in numbers, was representative. The Earl of Stamford, who took the chair, was supported by Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D., Mrs. Gosslett, the popular lecturer of the National Health Society, and Miss Bradley, the secretary; and among the audience, to mention only two or three of those present, were Lady Priestley, Mrs. Gascoigne and Mr. Spencer Hill, Mrs. Caryl Kelsey, Miss Taggart and Mrs. Fenwick Miller. This Association has, indeed, had a hard struggle for want of capital; but, it is hoped, it has passed through the troubled waters of infancy. The *first* idea the Association had in mind was to give employment to gentlewomen; the *next*, that there was possibly an opening for simple lectures to audiences who found University Extension Lectures above their heads, and beyond their purse. Mrs. Scharlieb said a few words showing that lecturing on Sick Nursing was distinctly a woman's work. Mrs. Gosslett gave some excellent advice to those who lecture on Hygiene. "Put yourself," said she, "into sympathy with your audience; avoid condescension; be simple and direct; remember that prejudice cannot be overthrown by hurling ungraciously new knowledge at people's heads."

Last Saturday the Triennial Meeting of the Council of Women of the United States at Washington, came to an end. Women who take any interest at all in public matters, are familiar with the work of a similar body existing in this country, the National Union of Workers in Great Britain, which links together the many branches of work, philanthropical, religious and remunerative and professional into which women have launched. The advantages of such a central body are many; and they form the text of a carefully written and appreciative article by the Countess of Aberdeen, in the February number of *Arena*, an excellent six-penny magazine published in Boston. The writer, in the course of her remarks, makes reference to another and similar Council of Women which is doing valuable

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