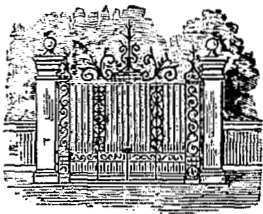


Inventions, Preparations, &c.

A NOVELTY in egg cups has just been patented by an American. It consists of a pretty and artistic porcelain cup with screw cover of German silver. The egg is broken into this cup, the cover then screwed on and the Premier Cup is then boiled for one minute longer than the egg in the shell; the contents will thus be found more digestible and in fact specially suitable for invalids, as by this process there is not the danger of serving up a bad egg, neither is there the inconvenience and trouble of the shell. The Premier Egg Cup will, without doubt, prove a great boon in the sick room, and be largely used there as elsewhere.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



popular vote before it becomes law.

Not long since it was thought that social reform could emanate only from the "far West," but New York—the Empire State—is showing she deserves her proud name by the drastic measures she has taken to defeat the corruption of Tammany, and by the broad policy she has shown on the Woman Question.

At a recent debate held at Newnham College, Cambridge, to discuss how far it was advisable that women's influence should extend outside their homes and the social sphere, one lady present, who is a Lecturer of the College, drew down upon herself the anathemas of many of the members of the Debating Society, who still cling to some ideals of the beauty of domestic life, and the influence of home. "Home," said this latter-day iconoclast, "home simply represents the house in which our nearest relations live." The statement was received in somewhat stony silence, but the debater, evidently thinking that "silence gave consent," proceeded further in her unnatural sentiments.

"There is no question," she said, "that we advanced women are suffering much, restricted much, and narrowed down, because we most of us are the unhappy possessors of out-of-date mothers!" But this was a little too much for the patience of the audience, who objected strongly to the statement, and its bald

want of appreciation and affection. Cries of "shame," "shame" resounded on all hands, till the speaker looked quite abashed at receiving so much condemnation where she had expected only approving applause.

The "advanced woman" does not show to advantage, and certainly does anything but prove her "advancement" when she elects to calmly dissect the mental attributes of her mother. Even the most hardened criminal has often a soft spot in his heart for the mother who bore him, and suffered for him, and did her best and her all, even if her "all" was little in the sum of human duty. One cannot help rejoicing that the spirit of Newnham declared itself against the hateful sentiment which led to the uttering of such blankly unimaginative views as those which this Newnham Lecturer appears to hold.

A WORLD-WIDE MOVEMENT.

It is an interesting fact that the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union, which will hold its third biennial meeting in Queen's Hall, London, next June, and which has already affiliated societies in almost every civilised nation, is only ten years old. Miss Frances Willard conceived the idea of uniting the women of all nations in a world-wide organisation against intemperance and impurity, when on one of her organising trips for the National W.C.T.U. of America. This idea was speedily carried out, and the first pioneer woman missionary, wearing the bow of White Ribbon (now the established badge of Temperance women everywhere), started on a journey round the world, with a courage and faith in her cause which inspired many women of different nationalities to start a Woman's Christian Temperance Union in their country. Four women missionaries have since done splendid work in building up and organising fresh unions, so that now the White Ribbon movement may be said to belt the world in the sacred and patriotic cause for "God and Home and Every Land."

THE POLYGLOT PETITION.

The Polyglot Petition, which has travelled with the five White Ribbon missionaries in all their journeyings, has been signed by women in fifty different languages and representing as many nationalities. This petition, which is to be presented to the British Government in June next by the representatives of the World's W.C.T.U., now numbers seven and one half million of names, including the endorsements by men, and the attestations of great societies, such as the Peace Congress held last year at Antwerp, where the president signed the Polyglot Petition on behalf of the Congress, at which there were delegates from fourteen leading nations, and forty different Peace Societies were represented. The Petition is addressed to rulers and representatives of the nations to which it will be taken, and asks for the prohibition of the sale of alcohol and opium in the territory over which the government extends.

The Petition has taken two years to prepare, and the lady who has made this her special work has spent on an average eight hours a day on her task. She has already mounted 1,928 yards, or over one mile of canvas. The Petition will come to England and be on view in June at the great international

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