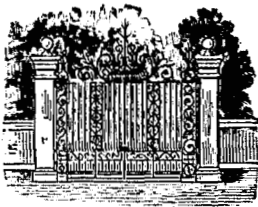


Outside the Gates.

CITY HOUSEWIVES.



IT has taken a long time for the world to discover that the housewifely hereditaries and instincts of women can be of immense value to the State. The love of order and spotlessness, and capacities in the direction of spring cleaning inherent in women can

be turned to wide municipal account.

Major Swift, of Chicago, is evidently smart enough to appreciate this idea, for he has appointed Miss Jane Addams, of that city, to a position which bears the title of "sanitary policeman." The duties of her office are to look after the collection and removal of garbage, and see that the contractor performs his work properly.

Miss Addams recently sent in a tender to the city authorities for removing the garbage herself under contract. But Chicago gives such appointments only to political wire-pullers, so that Miss Addams's offer was refused. But she persevered, and has now obtained the position of overseer, so while she has been debarred by a sex objection from doing the detail work herself, she is in the position of seeing that others perform it well.

Miss Addams has been for some time at work amid the worst slums of Chicago, with a view to ameliorating the horrible conditions under which the people in the "outer darkness" of that city live. She has organised some most successful plans for bringing some of the brightness and sweetness of life into the lives of the outcasts of this fearful and wonderful city of the West. In the progress of her work it has been borne in on her that no real permanent good can be accomplished so long as the people live in squalor and dirt. Sanitation is the A B C of progress, the first rung in the upward ladder, and this Miss Addams has determined the people of her district shall have. People are not so likely to clean their houses if they live in a dirty street. Even in the most fashionable avenues and boulevards of Chicago, newspapers, cabbage stalks and old shoes are painfully evident from day to day. In rainy weather the pavements and roads become morasses of mud. But in the slums this condition of things is magnified, and is really a menace to the health and lives of the people. No doubt it is largely owing to this uncleanness in a city, whose climate is so treacherous, and the extremes of heat and cold so very extreme, that the death rate is so high, and that infantile diseases, such as summer diarrhoea, are so very fatal during the summer.

Miss Addams is now filling a position which is probably held for the first time by a woman. We now have some few women Factory Inspectors, and some half dozen women Sanitary Inspectors, but Chicago is unique in having appointed a woman as sanitary overseer of the public streets. A bright woman recently said "that men worked excellently when they

had a woman to overlook them." It remains to be seen if Miss Addams can inspire the dilatory garbage contractor of Chicago to put some enthusiasm and energy into his work. If this lady succeeds, no doubt many other women will come forward to occupy similar positions. City house-keeping is really only domestic house-keeping on large lines, and there is no question that the quick eye of a woman will detect a great many flaws in the sweeping and cleaning of the streets that would hardly be apparent to a man.

Women have naturally such a wholesome horror of dirt, and their domestic training intensifies this horror, and she will no more tolerate the collection of rubbish in the streets under her supervision than she would tolerate the same state of things in her own kitchen.

Surely there should be a large field for women in city house-keeping.

WOMEN.

The dissolution of Parliament should be to the women of Great Britain "as a call to arms." The enterprising gentlemen who have already added M.P. to their names, and those who are ambitious to do so, are wont at election times to appeal to the sentiment of the women, to flatter them and beg for their assistance in canvassing, &c. This perhaps did very well for "out of date" times, when the women had no political views of their own, and were quite willing to influence their masculine relatives to vote for Mr. So-and-So, because "he was so good-looking," or even because "he had kissed the baby!"

But it is to be hoped the new woman is made of sterner stuff, and that she will not use her influence for any man who, in his turn, will not use *his* influence in favour of Woman's Suffrage.

Let no woman canvass, or allow bills to be displayed on her house, in favour of any candidate who is not strong on the woman question. There is no party for the women at present but the women's party, and let them be true and loyal to that party, in that they give no assistance to any candidate to Parliamentary honours who is not prepared to give women what is, after all, simply a human right. We hear so often that question: "Why do women want a vote?" They want it because they want justice, and it is a human right to have the power to help to make the laws which control human existence. At elections women are frequently asked to lend their carriages to convey electors to the poll. No woman who is loyal and true to her sex should allow her carriage to convey one elector, if that elector is going to vote for a man who denies to women equality before the law.

Some enterprising spirits in America have decided to edit a Woman's Bible. Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the famous advocate of Woman's Suffrage, has long been persuaded that the utterances of St. Paul have gone far towards maintaining the "subjection of woman" both politically and intellectually. She does not propose, however, to take up time in showing that the spirit of the times call for a new reading of ancient teaching: but she, assisted by a band of able coadjutors, has set to work to delete from the Bible all those passages which hint at the inferior-

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