

"We beg you most kindly to inform us of the time at which, and the place where, your examinations are to be held, and to send us the certificates, distributed by you, so that we may countersign them, after which the names of those who have happily succeeded will be inscribed upon the register of the Association.

"It will be unnecessary to assure you that we attach high value to your adhesion. Only in this way the very desirable concordance in the training of the probationers and the examinations can be realised.

"We ask you also most courteously to send us the names of those persons who have rendered invaluable services to the cause of nursing, in order to propose them as *members* to the General Meeting, according to Art. V. of the Statutes, which they otherwise could never be as not having a certificate of nurse."

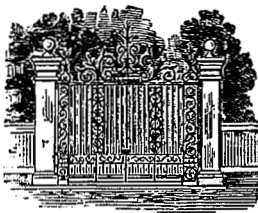
After having offered my most sincere thanks to those kind readers who have followed this letter to the end, I will now finish.

HOLLANDIA.

Amsterdam, January 18th, 1895.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



WHERE do the children go when they leave the Board Schools and National Schools in the afternoon? In many districts only a small proportion have homes deserving of the name in which to play. The street then is the only resource, and it need not be said what a cold, comfortless, not to say dangerous, resource that is. Children want to be amused. There is, therefore, plenty of work and scope for the energies of the Children's Happy Evenings Association, which held its annual meeting last week at the Mansion House, the Lady Mayoress being in the chair. It is a movement in which all sides and parties can join hands; it was, therefore, pleasing to find so many representative women interesting themselves in it, for among those present were Lady Jeune, Miss Meresia Nevill, Lady Howard, Lady Dorothy Nevill, Lady Cadogan, Lady Knutsford, Lady Anstruther, Sir Herbert Stephen, and Captain Sir Alfred Jephson, R.N.

Last week at the Berkshire Assizes, "Captain —,"—his innumerable aliases leave him nameless—was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude for not being satisfied with one nor even two wives at a time. The story of this "bigamist" reminds one of what Miss Florence Nightingale wrote in her official notes concerning matters affecting the Crimean war. She declared that it was really believed by many soldiers that if they had *three* wives they could not be punished for *bigamy*!

In the paper by Mr. S. E. J. Clarke, of Calcutta, on "India and its Women," read last week at the Im-

perial Institute, it was shown that Hindoo women now enjoy an ordered and secured freedom, that they do not desire the freedom of the West, and that there are many bright sides to their domestic life. Nevertheless there is urgent need for such institutions as that associated with the name of the Countess of Dufferin.

The Wesleyan Methodist Conference, we are informed, discussed a few days ago, with all the earnestness and seriousness the subject demanded, whether women should henceforth be elected to the Conference. It was at length decided that, in view of the great services which women render to Methodism, and the increasing activity of women in all spheres of work, they may be permitted to offer themselves for election, if in the judgment of the local authority such a step would seem to the best interests of the work of God. Really, virtue is rewarded sometimes, even in this world.

The current number of the *Cycle* is devoted entirely to women who go upon wheels. Among the short biographies of famous lady cyclists, it would appear that no small proportion are journalists. Though the bifurcated garment does not meet with general sanction, it is certain that many girls look extremely well in knickerbockers, judging by their portraits.

It is with real pleasure that we recommend Miss Edith A. Barnett's recently published book, "The Training of Girls for Work" (Messrs. Macmillan & Co.), to mothers and daughters; for the faculty of common-sense is far too rare in this work-a-day world. But Miss Barnett is nothing if not practical. She spares not the plain unvarnished truth. She shows again and again the absurdity of "ladies" presuming to think that mere "gentility" will stand them in good stead when struggling for work and bread. What is wanted is a thorough training in, or sound knowledge of, some kind of work, whatever it may be, for which the public is willing to pay. She also lays stress upon the fact, which Dr. Welldon, Head Master of Harrow, prominently brought forward last Saturday in an address to Students, that knowledge and industry form only a comparatively small portion of the qualities necessary for success in life.

## Science Notes.

### THE NEW ELEMENT.

AN extraordinary amount of interest was excited by the meeting of the Royal Society last week, when Professor Ramsay read a paper by Lord Rayleigh and himself on "Argon; a new constituent of the atmosphere." The audience filled the large theatre of London University to overflowing, many persons being unable to obtain admission. Lord Kelvin occupied the chair, and was supported by Lord Rayleigh and Sir John Evans. Chemistry was represented by Sir Henry Roscoe, Professors Armstrong, Frankland, and Roberts-Austen, and Mr. Crookes; Physics by Professor Rücker and Mr. Boys; Physiology by Professors Michael Foster and Burdon-Sanderson; and Geology by Dr. Woodward and Professor Judd.

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