

members of the House of Commons were known to be friendly to the movement. Lady Frances Balfour, who presided, said "the Prime Minister was one of their chief friends." If this be so, he certainly has a lukewarm method of showing his friendship.

The Social Democratic Federation, 337, Strand, is making arrangements for a demonstration in favour of International Peace, to be held in Hyde Park, on Sunday, July 26th. Mrs. Aveling, in speaking of the strike going on in St. Petersburg, said it was by far the most interesting and important movement that had taken place in Europe during the past 20 years. Mlle. Vera Sassonitch, speaking in French, said that most of the people on strike were textile workers; they were not asking for an increase of wages, but a reduction of hours. Their working hours were from fourteen to sixteen per day, and they were asking that they should be reduced to twelve. Their leaders were liable to imprisonment, and to be sent to Siberia. The employers were willing to concede the terms asked for, but the police had interfered, and forbidden them to do so.

Mrs. C. L. Carson has done a splendid work for the theatrical profession, in founding and organising the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, which she started in 1891, for the purpose of assisting the poorer members of the profession at the time of maternity. No case of illness brought before the Guild is sent away, letters of admission being given for Hospitals. Convalescent tickets are also obtained for poor actresses, and clothing and money given to the necessitous. Happy evenings are also provided for the children, convalescent dinner tickets, and a lending library are also included among Mrs. Carson's many good works.

We note a significant announcement in the report of "The Women Journalists' Birthday Party," in last week's *Gentlewoman*, in which the editor, Mr. J. S. Woods, says:—"Everyone present expressed their entire enjoyment of the evening, and offered their congratulations to the President and the Council, and to Mrs. Jack Johnson, the hon. secretary, whose enthusiasm and interest it is impossible to over-appreciate, and also to the Society at having attained, in the short space of two years, to such a position of use and influence; to which I, as the humble individual who founded the Society, naturally add my own sincerest congratulations. From this point the Society will go forward as 'a society for women, managed by women,' for their own personal and professional advancement." We imagine that every member of the Society is inspired by a deep sense of gratitude to Mr. J. S. Woods for his help in the past. But his liberal and generous policy in founding the "Society of Women Journalists," and devoting his great organising abilities to making it a success, and then standing aside so that it may develop upon the only lines which will make it of true value to us women—that is, making us responsible for our own affairs—will raise him to the position of a hero in the estimation of those women who value self-respect and responsibility. We heartily congratulate Mr. J. S. Woods upon his sound common-sense and his grasp of the "woman question," and hope that some means may be devised by the original members of the Society to express gratitude to him, and to prove that we women still appreciate and admire chivalrous

and manly conduct, upon the rare occasions in which we come in contact with these now almost obsolete virtues.

In a paper recently read at a man's club by a woman, she had the courage to assert that conversation with a man under 35 is impossible, because the man under 35 never converses, he only talks. And your chief accomplishment of being a good listener is entirely thrown away on him, because he does not in the least care whether you listen or not. Neither is it of any use for you to show that he has surprised or shocked you. He cares not for your approval or disapproval. He is utterly indifferent to you, not because you do not please him, but because he has not seen you at all. He knows you are there in that chair; he bows to you in the street, oh, yes! He knows your name and where you live. But you are only an entity to him, not an individual. He cares not for your likes and dislikes, your cares, or hopes, or fears. He only wants you to be pretty and well-dressed. Have a mind if you will. He will not know it. Have a heart and a soul. They do not concern him. He wants you to be tailor-made. You are a girl to him. That's all.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, whose book, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has been read in almost every part of the world, has just died, in her 85th year. There is no question that the attention she called to the cruel conditions of slavery, was a powerful factor in its abolition. Indeed, she is always looked upon as having done more than anyone else to rouse public morality and feeling on this question; and her book certainly had much to do with causing the Civil War, which resulted in the emancipation of the colored man.

Miss Clara Barton—the "Florence Nightingale of America"—who is rendering such splendid aid to the distressed Armenians, is the daughter of a prosperous farmer in New York State. Her first public act was to establish a free school in the town in which she lived. She also worked in the Patent Office in Washington, where she was on the outbreak of the Civil War. Throughout those terrible years she continued her works of mercy, travelling with well-laden wagon trains filled with supplies for sick and wounded, through the heat of summer and the snows of winter, from Virginia to South Carolina, as long as such ministrations were needed. After the war Miss Barton, sympathising with those whose dead rested in unknown graves, instituted her famous search for missing soldiers. The work thus performed was not only a comfort to the friends of the dead, but enabled the government to rightfully adjust accounts amounting to millions of dollars.

For two winters Miss Barton consented to lecture on her experience in the war. Her health at last failed, and she was advised by her physician to go abroad for rest. On the breaking out of the Franco-Prussian war she was called on by a corps of assistants of the Red Cross, on their way to the frontier and invited to join them. She did heroic service on many of the battle-fields of France. With the help of the Grand Duchess Stephanie, the daughter-in-law of the Austrian Emperor, and the German Princesses, Miss Barton undertook the organisation of German hospitals.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)