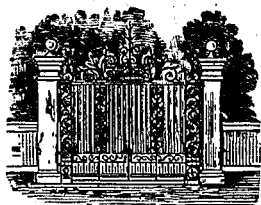


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



THE QUEEN sent the following telegram to Mrs. Gladstone the day her husband was buried:

"My thoughts are much with you to-day, when your dear husband is laid to rest.

To-day's ceremony will be most trying and painful for you, but it will be at the same time gratifying to you to see the respect and regret evinced by the nation for the memory of one whose character and intellectual abilities marked him as one of the most distinguished statesmen of my reign. I shall ever gratefully remember his devotion and zeal in all that concerned my personal welfare and that of my family.—VICTORIA R. I."

In some of the Liberal papers we observe that the Queen is criticised for not expressing more poignant grief at the death of Mr. Gladstone. Here we admire the Queen's courage. Mr. Gladstone was not personally sympathetic to Her Majesty, a fact far too well known to admit of expressions of regret which could not be sincere. We must remember that the late statesman, great as he was from a man's point of view, was narrow and intolerant where the interests of women were concerned, and this weakness made him necessarily tactless in dealing with them. Mr. Gladstone never realised that Queen Victoria was a great stateswoman by education and experience.

We own to a sense of relief that the passing of Mr. Gladstone means the removal of a great bulwark of sex intolerance in this country, as none of his party who remain have the power to wield much influence against justice to women in the future. We women, cannot forget that we were excluded by William Ewart Gladstone from participation in the delight of Liberty, often extolled by him as life's greatest and only true joy.

The Annual Conference of the National Council of Women is to be held this year at Norwich, opening on October the 2nd. Many interesting subjects will be discussed. Amongst them Technical Education for Girls from Elementary and Secondary Schools. Home Industries. The Friendly Society Movement. The Care of the Epileptic. The Treatment of Parents of Illegitimate Children in Workhouses. The Work of Midwives in the Villages. Mrs. Alfred Booth, the President, is to deliver the Presidential Address.

A Handbook of the National Union of Women Workers has been prepared by Lady Laura Ridding. It contains the Constitution, Bye-Laws, and a list of Committees, and Affiliated Societies. The price to non-members is 3d., and it can be obtained from the office, 59, Berners Street, W.

The Bishop of London, at a recent meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, held at Sion College, spoke in the warmest terms of womankind,

and expressed the opinion that England owes more to her queens than to her kings. Men were, said his Lordship, mostly what women made them, and would be poor figures without their care. Women also were able to criticise, and see new openings better than men. The whole world was turning to women to dissipate prejudice, and promote progress. We do not wonder at the Bishop's appreciation of women when we consider the exceptional opportunities he possesses for studying womankind of the very best type.

The meeting in London, during the present week, of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching has been an unqualified success. A month ago tickets of admission to the various functions were selling at double price; later they were not to be had at any price. The arrangements include an "At Home" at the Grosvenor Crescent Club, by the invitation of Mrs. Wynford Philipps, as well as garden parties at Devonshire House and Fulham Palace.

Of the pictures in this year's Royal Academy, 422 have been painted by women, and a high average level is reached by them.

MRS. CAIRD has recently written a book which is full of information as to the education of women in Spain. In the 16th and early half of the 17th centuries Spain was the leading power of Europe, the women were highly educated, and women were as a rule attended by women doctors. Then her greatness waned, and her women felt the effects of her downfall. In 1868, however, Señor Don Zorella opened the institutes and universities to women. But few women availed themselves of this privilege at first, but now they are doing so, and some are taking up the study of medicine enthusiastically.

Yet another new "ladies' paper," the *Ladies' Home*, very nice in its way, and only price threepence. Surely enough in the paper way has been done for "ladies." What we want is more support given to the "woman's paper," the *Woman's Signal*, so that the Editor may be enabled to carry on her great work for her sex, without such an individual strain.

WHAT TO READ.

- "Through Unknown Tibet." By Captain M. S. Wellby.
- "Unforeseen Tendencies of Democracy." By E. L. Bodkin.
- "The Story of Gladstone's Life." By Justin M'Carthy.
- "Twenty-five Years in British Guiana." By Henry Kirke.
- "The old Adam and the New Eve." By Rudolf Golm.
- "The Millionaires." By Frankfort Moore.
- "The Heart of Miranda." By Marriott Watson.
- "The Forest Lovers." By Maurice Hewlett.
- "The Unknown Sea." By Clemence Housman.
- "The Admiral." By Douglas Sladen.
- "A Guardian of the Poor." By T. Baron Russell.
- "The Edge of Honesty." By Charles Gleig.

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