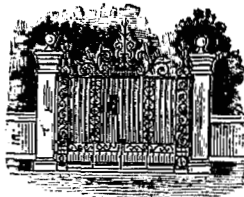


Outside the Gates.

"QUEENS' DAUGHTERS."

BY HOLLANDIA.



IN the life of most of us there will have been moments, never to be forgotten, when a great happiness filled our hearts, when lofty thoughts and feelings uplifted our inmost selves into a sphere of pure and high aspirations. History has to record of such supreme moments in the life of a whole nation! Such hours of noble enthusiasm and beatitude the Dutch people have known last week on the occasion of the inauguration of its youthful and graceful Queen, the adored pet-child of all her subjects, who have watched with anxious love her tender infancy, who have rejoiced with pride and admiration and gratitude at the aspect of this royal rosebud, holding such a rich and glorious promise for the future. The lovely child protected and guided by the care of a wise and dearly loving mother, developed itself into a young woman, richly endowed with all those gifts which Nature only bestows upon its favourites. And now the hour had come, in which Queen Wilhelmina should swear her solemn oath to keep faith to the fundamental law, by which her Kingdom is to be ruled, to further in all ways possible the welfare of her people. And she has sworn her oath and spoken her earnest words of devotion and affection for her people, whose history is so lightly interwoven with the history of her own illustrious race. And she has done so with a clear voice, sounding like music, and not a single word was lost. A thrilling of joy and admiration went through our whole country, a feeling of elevating and pure enthusiasm, casting over all things a golden shine—it was a supreme moment, never to be forgotten! But at the side of our young and beautiful Queen rises the figure of her noble mother, to whom we all feel so highly indebted for the indefatigable care, the undivided devotion, the self-sacrifice, of which our Queen has been the object. Queen-Regent for eight years and now Queen Mother! We all lay the greatest stress upon the second part of this word, because Queen Emma has been a mother in the fullest and widest sense, an ideal mother, an example for all her women subjects. Can it be wondered at, that the Dutch Nation, at the ending of her blessed and wise regency, felt urged to express its feelings of gratitude and warm sympathy, by offering a visible proof of its homage and respect? From all parts of our country, from the smallest hamlets, the pecuniary gifts flew in in great abundance, and on the 2nd of

September the Head Commission for the National Proof of Esteem went in audience to the Queen-Regent, in order to lay down at her feet the admiration and affection of all the Dutch people. The Queen-Regent, not only royal by birth and marriage, but a Queen in feeling and thinking, accepted the proof of esteem offered to her, with the following words: "I feel deeply touched by the assurance of so much love and sympathy, and I highly appreciate the present offered to me by the Dutch nation. In this moment of great emotion I cannot express my gratitude as I feel it. I can only say, that the affection and sympathy of the Dutch people, incarnated in this gift, is my greatest and most glorious reward for what I have tried to perform in the interest of this country. It is my most ardent desire to give a worthy destination to this present, and I firmly believe, that a philanthropical aim is the worthiest of all.

For a long time already it has been my secret wish to call into life a foundation that would be of great use to a great many of our suffering fellow-creatures. I mean a sanatorium for phthical patients, in the first place, on behalf of those persons whose financial position does not allow them to go abroad in order to find there aid and comfort for the terrible disease that prevails in our country, and has such very distressing consequences.

In a short time I hope to come into possession of the estate *Pranje Nassau-oord* near Renkum, which I propose to destine for my favourite project. Instructed and advised by fully competent persons, I intend to found on that estate the first Dutch sanatorium.

I am very happy and grateful that the present of the people, that I love, enables me to do so.

May the proof of esteem, now offered to me, be a great blessing to many sufferers in coming years."

When it was known in how noble a way the Queen Regent intended to dispose of this visible expression of the strongly-felt veneration of the Dutch nation, a pealing applause thrilled through the air, and everywhere in our whole country, the name of Queen Emma was pronounced with feelings of sincere affection and profound admiration.

By this action the Queen Mother has raised a undestroyable monument in the hearts of the Dutch people, firmer and stronger than one of marble or granite!

September, 1898.

WOMEN.

THE news of the assassination of the Empress of Austria, at Geneva, on Saturday last, thrilled Europe with horror. The utmost sympathy has been felt for, and expressed to, the bereaved Emperor, who is completely broken down by the sudden and awful trouble. "It seems," he said, "as if no sorrow in this world is to be spared me"; and, indeed, the

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