

the wave on to the golden strand of liberty—a free creature.”

“Good gracious! Matron, your forehead is absolutely corrugated. These tempestuous emotions—”

“Are a little more than skin deep,” I answered, “that is why I should not respond to treatment. It takes more than emollients and tonics, and steaming and rubbing, and cosmetics to paint the lines out of a heart, and the most beautiful face I know is furrowed like a ploughed field, and spongy with tears.”

After which expression of heresy, she bid me good day.

WOMEN.

MRS. WRIGHT SEWALL, the President of the National Council of Women of the United States, has been very busy during her visit to London, and leaves in a few days for Holland, where she is invited to meet some of the leading women in that charming country, and visit the delightful exhibition of women's work open at the Hague. It is hoped that a National Council will be inaugurated in Holland, in this auspicious “Queen's-Year.”

MRS. SEWALL lunched with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, on Friday to meet the International delegates, and delighted all present with her witty enthusiasm. Mrs. Sewall is a delightful conversationalist, and says so many wise things humorously that the most serious questions discussed by her are never dull. She is to be the guest of Miss Isla Stewart at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on Friday, where it is to be hoped many nurses may have the pleasure of making her acquaintance. Mrs. Sewall is the President elect of the International Council of Women, and no doubt, when she returns to London next year for the Great Congress, her extraordinary oratorical powers will delight thousands of listeners.

THE annual meeting of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies was held on Friday afternoon at the Westminster Town Hall. Lady Frances Balfour presided, and there was a large attendance.

The report showed that fairly satisfactory progress had been made, and that 767 supporters had been enrolled in the three constituencies in which work had been carried on. The finances, however, were not in a flourishing condition, and an urgent appeal was made by the committee on behalf of the funds.

The Hon. J. Cockburn (Agent General for South Australia) said that he regarded the movement as one of the greatest reforms of the present century. What they aimed at, would affect more than half the inhabitants of Great Britain.

He pointed out that formerly in South Australia women were, in common with “criminals and idiots” (as Englishwomen, to their shame, are to-day), debarred from the exercise of the franchise. A great change had, however, been effected, and women were now placed upon an equality with men, and exercised their franchise to the satisfaction of the community.

The franchise in South Australia had not been obtained without very great opposition but he was glad to say that that opposition had now entirely disappeared, and in fact their bitterest opponents had become their warmest supporters. He hoped that the day was not far distant when the whole of the Australian colonies would have embraced that substantial measure of justice.

Mr. J. S. Fletcher, L.C.C., moved: “That the experience of this Session having strongly exemplified the difficulty of attaining to any legislation for the enfranchisement of women by a private Member's Bill, this meeting is of opinion that, in the light of the second reading of last Session, the time has now come to urge the Government to provide for the inclusion of duly qualified women on the Parliamentary Register, in the next measure they introduce dealing with electoral questions.”

MRS. FAWCETT advised a continuation of tenacity and patience, and said the present aspect of Parliament was certainly not favourable to their object.

THE more patient we are, the less favourable our rulers will prove. When one class of human beings acts with cowardly injustice to another, and the injustice is not bitterly resented, those in bondage are supposed to enjoy it! It is much less trouble to be a slave than accept the active responsibility of freedom.

THE Ribbon Work now on view at the rooms of the Misses H. and I. Woollan, 28, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, is beautifully executed by Miss Rachel Byng. It is delightful to see the work of our great grandmothers revived in this tasteful manner, and applied, as it is, to sunshades, evening gowns, bodice fronts, waistcoats, table centres, candle shades, delightful photograph frames, and quite the sweetest baby shoes imaginable; the evening shoes for grown-ups, too are very *chic*, and the fact that they can be made up by one's own bootmaker is such a boon.

MISS BYNG has made quite a speciality of the large ribbon flowers; the general effect is very good, and coupled with the artistic blending of colours makes this unique little show most pleasing to the eye. The Ribbon Work can always be seen at the Misses Woollan's, 28, Brook Street, W., and orders are executed at any time.

We hear constant complaints of the lack of general education upon the part of girl typists—that they can neither spell nor phrase, and simply work like machines. The report just issued by the Committee, appointed by the Women's Industrial Council to investigate the conditions attending the employment of women typists, divides the workers into three classes:—

- (1) Really capable, well-educated girls, knowing one or more foreign languages, whose wages are £2 a week or more, and whose hours are moderate. “The better the house, the shorter the hours.”
- (2) Intelligent girls, who are not so well educated as Class 1, and whose wages vary from 20s. to 30s. a week.
- (3) Girls, recruited almost entirely from the artisan and lower-middle Classes, whose work is hard and mechanical, and whose wages range from 10s. to 15s. a week.

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