

Outside the Gates.**WOMEN.**

We have pleasure in presenting to our readers a portrait of the Hon. Mrs. A. T. Lyttleton, the newly-elected President of the National Union of Women Workers. Mrs. Lyttleton is a leader who commands respect on account of the work she has already accomplished, and her personality is calculated to inspire enthusiasm in her following. As wife of the Bishop of Southampton she has a large sphere of influence, but her interest is not confined to philanthropic and parochial work. She is an ardent supporter of Women's Suffrage, and for years has presided over the Manchester and North of England Women's Suffrage Committee. Those who were present at the great Suffrage Meeting in the Queen's Hall, in June, will not soon forget the eloquent and amusing speech she made on that occasion, carrying the whole of the vast audience with her by its irresistibly convincing logic. Under her leadership we are hopeful that the National Union will accomplish great things.

Women suffragists have lost two sincere friends by the deaths of the Right Honourable Jacob Bright and Miss Anna Swanwick.

Mr. Jacob Bright, who was a Liberal, had the courage to condemn the attitude of his Party to the question of Women's Suffrage, and on one occasion when asked to renew his subscription to the Manchester Liberal Union he expressed his inability to do so in the following letter—very different in tone to the half-hearted support we receive from the majority of these politicians who express themselves at election times as in favor of women's suffrage.

"Ever since I entered political life I have advocated the claim of women to Parliamentary representation. For the last thirty years my wife, my sisters, my nieces, and, almost without exception, the women connected with my family, have given much labour to the cause of enfranchisement of their sex. I have never been satisfied with the attitude of the Liberal Party towards this question. I think it has been, and is, a

cowardly and ungenerous attitude. I see that the hesitation, not to say hostility, with which certain leading Liberals treat a claim so moderate and reasonable, is seriously undermining the very foundations of the Liberal creed. Considering the length of time which has elapsed since the principle that taxation and representation should go hand in hand, was established, it is only just that women should be at once admitted to their share in the government of the country they contribute to maintain. For these reasons I have reluctantly decided that until Women's Suffrage is seriously adopted and pressed forward as a measure of immediate Liberal policy, any means at my disposal must be given to those who, at great personal cost and labour, are advocating a reform which I hold to be essential."



THE HON. MRS. ARTHUR LYTTLETON,
President of the National Union of Women Workers.

Miss Anna Swanwick was at all times a firm supporter of the Women's Suffrage cause. Her appearance on public platforms was indeed rare, but it may be of interest to recall that the first occasion on which she ever stood on a platform or addressed a public meeting was at a large gathering in support of Women's Suffrage, held in Harver Square Rooms, in December, 1874, when she concluded a speech, described at the time as "eloquent and perspicuous," with the following words:

"On the battlefield of life, where the powers of evil and of good are arranged for mortal combat, the forces which are needed are not physical but spiritual forces; not powerful limbs, but hearts and brains; and in these women are not deficient. Give them a sound practical edu-

cation, remove their social and political disabilities, and in their energy, sympathy, conscientiousness, and tenderness, we shall, I believe, have a reservoir of power which will lift this great nation to a higher level of social and political life."

Brave words, spoken a quarter of a century ago; and still we women endure our degradation in a meek and "becoming" spirit, bleating mildly from time to time in ineffectual protest.

We women must realize that we shall not obtain the Franchise without a strenuous effort, and we must prepare for vigorous measures. We shall gain our right to a voice in the management of national affairs only by strong and united action.

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