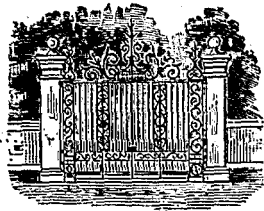


## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



S. and Mrs. Yates, of Liverpool.

In announcing that Miss Dora E. Yates (University College, Liverpool) has passed the examination for the degree of M.A., the *Jewish Chronicle* states that she is the first Jewess to take this degree in England. Miss Yates is the youngest daughter of the late George

Mrs. Crawford has kindly consented to become the President for the year of "The Society of Women Journalists," in succession to Mrs. Flora Annie Steel. Mrs. Stannard (John Strange Winter) has been elected Chairwoman of the Council. The annual meeting will take place in the third week of July, at 7, Chesterfield Gardens, by kind permission of Mrs. Frederick Beer.

Since the Spanish-American peace the struggle between the Latin races and the Anglo-Saxon ones has been renewed in Cuba; but this time between the women rather than the men.

After the war American women accompanied their husbands and fathers to Havana. Then a notable thing happened.

Cuban women, who had travelled, "looked askance upon certain American social idiosyncrasies, and to-day their daughters are guarded—I had almost said imprisoned—as never before." So says a writer in "Munsey's Magazine."

The Cuban girls resent this bitterly, and demand social freedom, which the parents refuse. An engaged girl is scarcely seen out in public after her engagement is announced. She must stay at home, and is literally watched by the entire family. Never under any circumstances is she permitted to see her promised husband alone, even for one minute.

A married woman may not receive other than women friends. She must stay at home. She cannot converse rationally on subjects of public interest.

The strings of Cuban etiquette—the etiquette of Spain in the Middle Ages—have been drawn the tighter, in fact, since the American girl appeared, free as air, to challenge them.

But there are hopes that progress will win. The English language has been introduced, and little Cuban girls are fluttering about the Prado of Havana every day on bicycles.

A meeting of Afrikander Women to protest against the annexation of the South African Republics was held at Cape Town on July 9th.

Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister to the United States, is quoted as making the confession: "I am a little more afraid of the American women than the American men." He deprecates the inconsistencies of American women's clothes, and in his denunciation of the ridiculous length of the skirts worn in the street, he only voices the opinion of many of his Occidental brothers. As for their hats, "with dead birds and animals on them," they inspire him with disgust, and he asks: "Is that humanity?"

## A Book of the Week.

### A LADY OF THE REGENCY.\*

If this is, as the title page leads one to suppose, the first work of its author, it is a very remarkable first attempt.

It is a historical romance, and comprises the adventures of June Cherier, maid of honour to Queen Charlotte, afterwards to the Princess Charlotte, and later still to the unfortunate Caroline of Brunswick.

Among all the conflicting histories of those curious events, the marriage of the Regent, his subsequent treatment of his wife, the question of her guilt or innocence, it is hard indeed to ascertain the truth. Mrs. Stepney Rawson holds a brief for Caroline of Brunswick. She represents her as an impulsive, loving, fascinating woman, of charming manners and personal attractions. It is not thus that Caroline has come down to us in the pages of history.

That she was a deeply wronged woman and an unloved wife is incontestable; but that her charms of character were such as Mrs. Stepney Rawson would have us believe is open to the gravest doubt. The book teems with sketches of royal and prominent persons. Queen Charlotte, George IV., Lord Brougham, Canning, Princess Charlotte, and many others, cross the stage, and they are drawn with animation and ability. We have yet another account of the celebrated flight of the young Princess from Warwick House; and in this June Cherier is implicated.

June has foolishly contracted a secret marriage with Conway Dorren, a young and impulsive boy. Circumstances compel them to separate at the church door and soon after, the poverty of her father compels June to accept a post in Queen Charlotte's dull, penurious Court. There is a villainous secretary, the illegitimate son of somebody, who would be glad to do the girl a bad turn, and who keenly suspects the entanglement that exists between her and Conway. To show the youngest lady of the Queen's household guilty of such an intrigue would have been a weapon to his hand; but the author does not permit him to use it. The hero of the book is Stephen Heseltine, an Irishman, whose views we are given to understand are socialistic, but whose whole life is spent in the service of Caroline of Brunswick, who is in love with him, but whose love he does not return. This part of the story is somewhat confused, the author has many threads, and in parts her story would be more telling were it simpler, but the style throughout gives signs of extreme ability.

The character of old Queen Charlotte is exhibited in anything but an amiable light; and this is probably true to life. No really good woman could have brought up a family of sons to be so entirely worthless and undeserving as were the sons of the Mecklenburgher.

That June Cherier should have accepted the post of spy upon poor little Princess Charlotte, with whom she was herself in sympathy, seems unlikely and horrible; though she did the best she could in such a hateful situation.

The final scene in the book is the Queen's rebuff at the Abbey on her Coronation day.

Charlotte dies in Heseltine's arms—how much of this is true to history?—and Heseltine and June sub-

\*Mrs. Stepney Rawson. Hutchinson.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)