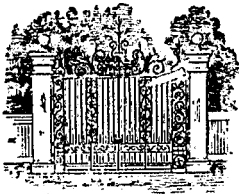


## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



The deputation which the Right Honorable Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Prime Minister has consented to receive from the combined associations formed in support of female suffrage, and others in sympathy with the movement, will be met by the Premier at the Foreign Office at noon on Saturday, May 19. It is expected that nearly 400 members will attend. The organisations represented will be formed into the following groups: Women's suffrage societies; Liberal organisations; Labour organisations (comprising trade unions, co-operative and industrial bodies), temperance organisations; educational, professional and philanthropic associations.

The *Women's Tribune* is the title of a weekly paper which makes its first appearance on the 18th of May. It deals with economic and political topics as affecting women, and will afford a medium for the expression of women's views. Miss Nora Vynne is the editor.

It is with great pleasure we announce that Madame Curie has been appointed to the Chair of Chemistry at the Sorbonne University, in the place of her late husband. She is the first woman to be appointed a Professor at the Sorbonne, but no one can doubt that the appointment, which was recommended by the Council of the Faculty of Science is a fitting tribute to her genius, for that she was the actual discoverer of radium is undoubted. The appointment has caused great satisfaction in scientific circles in Paris, where it is realised that she is the only one competent to carry on the work of her husband as Professor of Chemistry.

Since the death of Miss Susan B. Anthony her house at 17, Madison Street, Rochester, U.S.A., has become the Mecca of American Suffragists. It was there that she wrote the fourth volume of the "History of Woman Suffrage," of which the first three were written by her friend Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and in the simple little parlour are collected souvenirs of over half a century's public life.

The women of Rochester have formed an organisation to raise 75,000 dols. for the erection of a woman's building on the campus of the Rochester University as a memorial to Miss Anthony. It was largely through her personal efforts that women gained admission to this university, and such a building would seem to be the most fitting memorial that could be erected to her memory, as she was a believer in higher education for women. The Monroe County Registered Nurses Association is represented on the Committee by Miss Ida R. Palmer and Miss Lona Black.

## Book of the Week.

### FENWICK'S CAREER.\*

It would be idle to say that "Fenwick's Career" will ever take its place among the books which have made Mrs. Ward's high reputation.

Not only is the story deficient in interest; the style also lacks conviction.

But to say that it is not a great book is by no means to say that it is not an interesting one. Mrs. Ward's writing is always so lucid, so balanced, so powerful and so restrained, so definite yet so refined, that whatever she chose to write one would read it for the charm of being in her company.

The story of John Fenwick is roughly the story of Romney, but bowdlerised. John Fenwick, artist and plebeian, being given the chance to go to London by an accident, goes, leaving his wife Phœbe and his baby daughter behind him in Westmorland. Mrs. Ward knows and loves Westmorland, and all her descriptions of the lake country are a joy to read. She has its atmosphere, its peculiar charm, and she brings it before you in a way that Eden Philpotts and other professed landscape describers wholly fail to do.

But, alas! Fenwick is a painter, and Mrs. Ward is not. She has had to learn up the painters' jargon which she uses. She does not make any bad mistakes, she is too careful and clever an author for that. But she fails to make Fenwick and Watson and Welby and Cunningham convincing.

Compare the careful, pedantic art talk in this book with Thackeray's account of Clive's student days in Paris in the "Newcomes."

The place of Lady Hamilton in Romney's career is very faintly and hesitatingly assumed by Madame de Pastourelles in Fenwick's.

Madame de Pastourelles is a charming woman, but she is not alive. She remains from first page to last a beautiful abstraction.

The person who really lives in the book is Phœbe, and of Phœbe we see and hear far too little.

Phœbe was the clever one of the family, the girl her farmer father was so proud of—the one who was clever enough to make it worth while to educate her for a schoolmistress. Her assumption of culture, in her own small way, and the manner in which she consequently jars upon Fenwick, when he has been in London and mixed with really cultivated people, makes excellent comedy, which hovers always on the brink of a pathos nigh to tragedy.

The bit of the book that really holds you is the last portion of it, when Phœbe has returned to the husband she deserted twelve years before, and the two, alienated, stupefied, estranged, are under the same roof, trying to fumble for a way in which they may face the beginning of a new life together. To me, this part of the book is so far the best, the most interesting, the most real, that I wish it took two-thirds of the whole, instead of being far too short.

The way in which the disappointed, unstrung man, ill and a failure, slowly recaptures his powers, his poise, his grip of things, is told with all Mrs. Ward's

\* By Mrs. Humphry Ward. (Smith, Elder.)

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