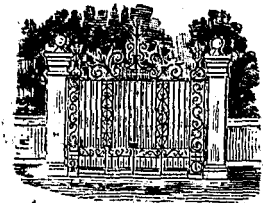


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



Bill to meet this criticism.

Mrs. Garrett Fawcett, as President of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, makes the important announcement in *Women's Franchise* that the Union has decided to give this paper its full support instead of issuing its own journal in October.

The Women's Local Government Society has just published its triennial list of Women Poor Law Guardians and Rural District Councillors in England and Wales. This useful publication may be obtained, post free, 7d., from the offices of the Society, 17, Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W.

The same Society has issued a leaflet addressed to Women Occupiers. On the 1st of August each year the Occupiers' List is posted on the doors of churches, post offices, etc., and all women who are qualified to be entered upon it and thus to exercise the Municipal Franchise, should make a point of consulting the list and ascertaining if their names are inserted upon it. If not, they should send in their claim before August 20th.

The report of the Industrial Law Committee, York Mansion, York Street, Westminster, S.W., of which Mrs. H. J. Tennant is Chairman, and Miss Gertrude Tuckwell Hon. Secretary, shows that by means of lectures given in various parts of the country more interest has been aroused than in any previous years. Concurrently with the increase in the number of meetings has been the increase in the number of the infringements of the law which have been brought to light, for more "complaints" were received in the past year than in any other year.

A necessary part of the work of the Committee is the administration of an Industrial Law Indemnity Fund. The report covering the years 1905—1906 says that the need for the continued existence of the fund is fully shown by the cases which have been brought to the notice of the Committee. Cases where a worker is avowedly dismissed for having given evidence to an inspector are becoming of rarer occurrence, but there has been an increase in the number of cases where dismissal has followed within a short period after evidence has been given to an inspector, but where other causes have been alleged as

the grounds of the dismissal. The Committee are most anxious that no worker should be penalised for doing what the law requires merely because the employer has found some other pretence for the dismissal.

The practice of sati, writes a correspondent in the *Lancet*, still survives in some parts of India, though the cases reported are few and far between. Though prohibited by law, the practice is apparently upheld even by educated Indians. In a Calcutta native paper there was recently given an account of a case, and the editorial article was couched in the most approving tones. A Hindu in bad health went to Puri and died there. His wife when she heard of his death poisoned herself with opium, but before taking this course she wrote a note to her brother: "Don't grieve for me, brother. I follow him to whom I was entrusted by my parents." Satis by poison, known as "cold" satis or "white" satis, are far more common in India, particularly in Bengal, than is generally believed. It is argued that there is something pathetic and noble in the attitude of a wife who refuses to outlive her husband. The writer goes on to say: "Before the law interfered the burning alive of widows was considered obligatory by certain castes, and in view of the opinions expressed by educated Bengali gentlemen the question arises whether sati would not be introduced as one of the consequences of swaraj. I may add that this swaraj is a sort of reaction to old Indian ways and traditions as against the adoption of anything belonging to Western civilisation."

Book of the Week.

A NAVY FROM KINGS.*

Is anything outside the bounds of possibility? To admit such a belief is to dub oneself a dweller in the backwaters of life, for the utterly improbable is happening every day. Starting, therefore, with the admission that such things could happen, we find Miss Theodora Wilson Wilson's story exceedingly pretty, refreshingly simple, and eminently readable:

That Dare Musgrave should fall in love at first sight with a mere school girl, that his interest in her should be stimulated by the fact that she is sorely in need of a friend, are not among the possible improbabilities. That he should have recourse to such desperate means to win her as to become a mere navvy, a labourer, and a farm groom is not inconceivable. But that he should be able to palm himself off on the shrewd Westmorelanders, among whom he goes, and escape detection for so long, does rather call for a stretch of imagination.

Cicely Holden is the daughter of a gentleman, but her mother's people were of the farmer class. The marriage in all essentials is a failure. The character of Harry Holden, little as we have of it, is exceedingly well drawn. We cannot but

* By Theodora Wilson Wilson. (Cassell & Co.)

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