

The Third Division of the Scottish Court of Session on Saturday decided on appeal that women graduates of the Edinburgh and St. Andrews Universities had no right to vote in Parliamentary elections for universities.

What could be more unjust? These highly educated women must urge in and out of season the removal of the disqualification of sex for Parliamentary suffrage. The most demoralised male graduate can, through his vote, influence law-making, while a woman, even if she is a Gold Medallist of the University of London, and of unimpeachable character, is without the pale. No wonder the Suffragettes are playing the game of "pesterette" with such pertinacity and effect.

### Book of the Week.

#### THE YOUNGER SET.\*

If Mr. Chambers could realise that the average mortal does not talk in thirty line paragraphs he would turn out even more interesting books than he has already done. Beyond this one blemish there is but little fault to find with his work. Nice people abound in his pages, his characters have all the breath of reality in their bodies, and are not mere puppets. The disagreeable people are disposed of when done with perhaps with a rather melodramatic touch, but who will deny that life is never melodramatic? At least it is something to be certain of a good story, a very natural plot, and a series of human beings who might very easily have been taken from our own every day experiences.

The main plot of the book rests on the fact that Philip Selwyn, having given his wife, Alixe, a divorce in the easy American fashion, cannot divest himself of the idea that he is still morally bound, and has no right to marry again. Time, the arguments of his delightful sister Mrs. Nina Gerard, the bullying of his splendid chum, Boots Lansing, and last, but certainly not least, the fact that he falls in love with someone at last worthy of his affection, all very gradually push his scruples into the background. He is just beginning to find life very well worth living once more when circumstances pull him up with a round turn, and he finds himself forced to consider the question all over again, this time with a different result. Alixe is cast off by the man she seemingly preferred to Selwyn. Her behaviour is very peculiar, and gives rise to an ugly suspicion that she is mentally unaccountable. The fact becomes only too patent to Selwyn, who, while he forces her second husband not to divorce her, will not leave her at the brutal mercy of Ruthven, but gives up everything in order to support her away in the country in the charge of two kindly keepers. The beauty of Selwyn's character is marred by no impossibilities, he indulges neither in heroics nor hysterics, in all that he does for others it is a matter not of words but deeds. The brother of the girl with whom he is

\* By Robert W. Chambers. (Constable.)

in love promises to turn out a thorough young scamp. Selwyn has no sermons for the boy, he merely never fails him, and Gerald must have been less than human had he not responded in the end. The girl herself, Eileen Errol, would never know how much she had to thank Philip Selwyn for, or from what her brother had been saved. Some of the most forcible passages in the book, as well as the most beautiful, are those describing Selwyn's dealings with the weak, but obstinate lad.

Eileen is herself a very charming girl, clever, but very young, and wholly without a sentimental side to her nature. It is long before there are any signs of her falling in love with Selwyn, so that when he discovers that it is incompatible with his notion of his duty to pursue his suit he flatters himself no harm is done, and that he alone has to suffer. He is mistaken, for just at that very time Eileen finds her true womanhood, and the withdrawal of his attentions seems curious neglect. The result is complicated and most interesting.

But the whole story is by no means a series of monotonously grave events. There is very much humour in it. Boots Lansing and Drina in their quaint courtship are unfailingly amusing. So is Austin Gerard, in his stolid way.

The book may be recommended as thoroughly readable, and is of the class that leaves an exceedingly pleasant impression. E.L.H.

### Voices of the Day.

Voice of the Virgin Dawn,  
Gleam of the Greater Day;  
Banish the Night with the Sword of thy Light,  
Bid the World wake to pray.

Song of the Sovereign Sun,  
High on his Throne at noon:  
"Ye shall not rue, nor rest, but Do,  
Lest ye be gone—too soon."

Whisper of Eventide  
Borne on the Western Breeze;  
Thy note recovers the fondest lovers,  
Thy voice is their Heart's Ease.

Dirge of the lovely Night  
Over a World toil-worn;  
Console the weeping, and guard the sleeping  
Until the break of Morn. I. Z. M.

—*Westminster Gazette.*

### Coming Events.

November 22.—Conference convened by Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., Miss Isla Stewart, President, in the chair.

1. Brief statement by the President on the question at issue between the Council and the Metropolitan Asylums' Board, re the status of the Metropolitan Asylums' Board Matrons.

2. Emergency resolution by Mrs. Bedford Fen-

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