

attacks of "agitators" (those in favour of registration). "We (on Olympus) know enough of his work to treat them (the attacks, we presume, not the works) with the utmost contempt." As Mr. Holland is never backward in fighting his own battles, and bludgeoning right royally offensive opinions; which differ from his own, this motherly solicitude appears somewhat superfluous.

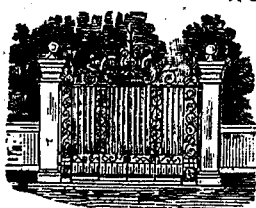
Miss Luckes also permits the Chairman to address the nurses. She writes, "I should like to remind all nurses again how pleased I am to let them have a copy of Mr. Holland's 'Talks to Nurses.'" Rumour has it that the nursing staff do not clamour for this particular philippic, in which they are advised as to their personal cleanliness, appearance, and discipline, details which one would imagine would be less offensive to refined women if discussed privately by the Matron, and not in print by a man!

The Chaplain, enviable cleric, must see at least a pair of gaiters, if not a mitre, dangling before his eyes after conning the following commendation: "I must again record our appreciation of the whole working of the Chaplain's Department, both in regard to the ward services, and the visiting of the patients, both of which continue to be carried on with the utmost efficiency." Why not bring it surreptitiously to the notice of Randall Cantuar?

It seems a pity that these reams of vacuous verbosity should not have been edited by a mere mortal—one with a sense of humour for choice—before Mercury of *malice propense* deposited them in the letter rack of a registrationist.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



On Wednesday, May 20th, the Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, received a deputation of Liberal members in his room in the House of Commons to ask for facilities for the further stages of the Women's

Suffrage Bill, or for a promise that the Government would, before the close of the present Parliament, deal with the question themselves or allow the House to do so. In his reply, Mr. Asquith said that of late years the movement had gained a great impetus. He could not promise facilities for the Women's Suffrage Bill, but said it would be the duty of the Government, before the close of the present Parliament, to submit an effective scheme for the reform of the present electoral system. Into this measure it would be clearly competent to introduce woman suffrage by way of amendment and extension. The Government, as a Government, could not, and certainly would not, oppose such a proposal, provided that the change proposed was on democratic lines.

Grand opportunities of demonstrating that we do want the vote will be ours on June 13th and June 21st, when we can, in thousands, join the processions being organised by the Women's Suffrage Societies, to march to the Albert Hall and Hyde Park in demand of Votes for Women. Next week we shall advise nurses how to do this most effectively.

NURSES AND THE VOTE.

In response to Miss Hulme's invitation, there was a crowded audience at the Nurses' Lodge, Colosseum Terrace, on Tuesday evening, to hear Mrs. Pethick Lawrence speak on Votes for Women. The rooms were charmingly decorated with flowers, and Miss Kent, who was in the chair, proved that she can speak as well as she can write, and her reference to the poet's description of woman as "a milk white lamb, bleating for man's protection," aroused a ripple of laughter.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, always earnest, buoyant, witty, and convincing, spoke eloquently on the right of women as ratepayers to the parliamentary vote, and said that for fair wage earning political power was an absolute necessity both for men and women. She proved that the wages of men had risen fifty per cent. of recent years, whilst those of women, always much less for equal work, had remained stationary, or had decreased. In reply to a question, "Why the suffragettes had abandoned lady-like methods in their campaign," Mrs. Lawrence proved that they had taken a lesson from men in tackling Cabinet Ministers, who were, after all, the paid servants of the tax-payers, avoiding only deeds of violence, murder, and arson. When this campaign was through, we should have learned that the true womanhood—the self-respecting courageous woman—had produced a higher type of lady than the present standard.

In proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, which met with an enthusiastic response, Miss Kent proposed that a Nurses' League for Women's Suffrage should be the outcome of the meeting. This would be an excellent and practical result.

Over the teacups there was much animated chat before the guests bid their kind hostess good-night.

The Women's Social and Political Union are holding a meeting for members of the nursing profession in the Lecture Room of the Nurses' Club, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C., on Wednesday, June 3rd, at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is to be the speaker, and she will show how votes for women will affect the work and condition of nurses, who are cordially invited to be present. Several Matrons of most important London Hospitals have most cordially responded to the request of the Union to be allowed to address the nurses during their off duty time in the different hospitals to which they are attached; and any offer of the use of a room for either large or small nurse audiences would be greatly appreciated by the Union, whether in hospitals or outside.

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