

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.

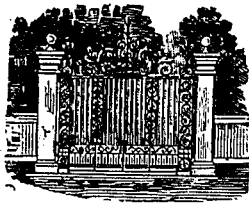


figure of the great procession last Saturday, proved the affection and admiration in which she is held by thousands of women.

To stand on the curb and watch the passing of such a procession is indeed a liberal education. "The Vote" is the open sesame to conversation with those around, and if the "man in the street" whistles down the wind, the "woman on the curb" merrily touches the key-note of public opinion. It would be well for Liberal statesmen to mingle with such a crowd; they might realise that if woman is not a "reasoning animal," or "a just beast," she is tempered finely where the higher attributes of conscience are concerned.

The delegates from the countries forming the International Suffrage Alliance are now flocking into London, the "storm centre" of the movement. On the 25th, friends are invited to meet them at an evening reception at the Lyceum Club, where they will be received by Mrs. Bedford Penwick, the Vice-Chairman, and a Reception Committee. The great events of next week will be the Albert Hall Meeting, with the spectacular entry of the thousand professional and industrial women grouped with emblems of their trade. Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., will be in the Chair, and Mrs. Chapman Catt, President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, Dr. Anna Shaw, and Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., will be present and speak.

The Pageant will practically include representatives from all women's professions, trades, and industries. Early in the procession will come Lady Doctors and Sanitary Inspectors, whose emblems are somewhat similar. That of the Doctors, in black and silver, shows the two serpents of Æsculapius and the Cock; that of the Sanitary Inspectors, one of the serpents looking into the mirror of the future, while below, set on the staff in the manner of the old Roman standards, will be a miniature sun and the chemical formulæ for water and oxygen. Trained Nurses will use the Red Cross and wear indoor uniform, and the Midwives will show on plaques babies in bas relief. Five hundred lanterns made by the Artists' Suffrage League, after the pattern of those used by London watchmen, will light the procession on its way to the Albert Hall.

The great Suffrage Meeting to be held at the Albert Hall on Thursday, April 29th, convened by the National Women's Social and Political Union,

will be memorable for the fact that all those who have seats on the platform will have suffered imprisonment. Four hundred and fifty-one sentences have now been served by members of the Union, and on the 29th they are to be presented with the Holloway brooch, specially designed by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst. It represents a gate with silver chains, bearing the broad arrow in purple, white, and green enamel.

The Freedom of the Burgh of Paisley has been conferred on Mrs. Stewart Clerk, who instituted a fund of £12,000 for incurables; Mrs. Polson, who gave £10,000 for the improvement of the ancient cross of Paisley; and Mr. Peter Coats, who has given fully £15,000 towards the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, and has helped towards the erection of a nurse's home. The burgesses' tickets were contained in massive silver gilt caskets. This is the first time that ladies have been admitted honorary burgesses of the town.

Book of the Week.

PATRICIA BARING*.

Written under the guise of an informal diary, Miss Winifred James has given a clever and exhaustive study of an introspective character.

That Patricia should from her very childhood develop this habit of self-searching communion is clearly due to two causes: her own natural tendency in that direction, unhealthily emphasised by circumstances.

Patricia begins her diary at the tender age of nine; that she appears so much older than her age is doubtless the result of living alone with Mr. and Mrs. Cary, her maternal grandfather, and "Granny," both charming old people and devoted to her. With her grandfather she is more or less in sympathy, but to her Granny, she is as a closed book. The child has no natural outcome. Hers is one of the strange dumb natures feeling intensely but lacking the power of expression, and the old lady does not possess the qualities needed to draw her out. Patricia at the age of twenty sums up her own limitations very cleverly in a few words. "I feel that I sometimes miss the best of life by wanting eternally to know 'Why?' I pull my doll to pieces to see what it is made of, but it does not teach me much, and the doll is spoilt."

Mrs. Cary voices her perplexities thus: "I cannot understand you. You are so cold, yet suddenly so full of passion," and truly if there be a coating of ice, Patricia, as we know her, from her diary, is a veritable volcano. Perhaps the strongest passion in her nature is intense love of children, and all young creatures, which is probably the reason why she chose the wrong man of the three who loved her. She gives herself wholly, unreservedly, and unwisely to Axel Fotheringham, a man whose character has been soured by an unhappy childhood. Patricia's love for him is more than half pity, and an intense wish to make up to him for all the misfortunes he has had. Misplaced pity it

* By Winifred James. (Constable.)

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