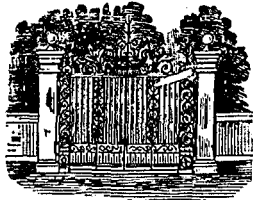


Outside the Gates:



WOMEN.

The Metropolitan magistrates appear to have *carte blanche* to inflict the most severe terms of imprisonment on women political prisoners, and the treatment of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Despard, and other suffragists, for attempting to see the Prime Minister at the House of Commons, has aroused a deep and bitter feeling amongst women who resent their political inequality, and, in consequence, personal degradation. These ladies have been awarded long sentences of imprisonment in the second division, as criminals, for what is termed "obstruction."

This, when you come to think of it, is a very inappropriate term, as the one and only aim of the Suffragists is to remove all that obstructs equality before the law. Men who make unjust laws based on sex prejudice, and refuse to reform them, "obstruct," the burly police through whom unjust laws are enforced "obstruct," but the human being, though physically weak, who attacks obstruction, as personified by brute force, cannot be justly punished under this heading. Punishment becomes intimidation, nothing more nor less.

The result of what Suffragists term "bashing," that is, to crush out and smash down conscientious conviction in the human being by the high hand of "the Law," will not be fully realised until that day of reckoning—the General Election.

It is interesting to note that amongst the latest batch of prisoners sent to Holloway there are several nurses and masseuses. Miss Maud Fitzherbert, certificated at the London Hospital, upon receiving a severe sentence, remarked: "She would now go to prison for the second time for nothing; but she would take care that the third time she would go for something."

The result of the voting on a resolution proposed by Mrs. Humphry Ward, at a debate on Women's Suffrage, at which Mrs. Fawcett took the opposite side, was a foregone conclusion. The resolution, as follows:—"That in the opinion of this meeting the concession of the Parliamentary franchise to women is not necessary to the interests of women, and would be dangerous to the interests of the country," met the fate is deserved, 74 voting for and 235 against it.

That 74 women can be found in these days to publicly acknowledge that it would be better for their country had they never been born is an astounding confession of immorality or idiocy. To be a danger to the community a person must be of criminal intent—idiotic or insane. No wonder hisses express the indignation aroused by the arguments with which the anti-Suffragists support the

supremacy of men. The whole thing is horribly animal and unashamed.

A public meeting of industrial and professional women will be held in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on March 17th, at 7.30 p.m., in support of Women's Suffrage. The meeting is being organised by a special committee on the same lines as the demonstration in the Queen's Hall, London, in November last, which was attended by thousands of industrial and professional women, and it is desired that the Manchester meeting shall be thoroughly representative of the feeling and determination of educated, self-supporting women in the country. It is hoped that trained nurses will attend the meeting, and will help to make it a success by selling tickets or any other means in their power. Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., Mayor of Aldeburgh, will preside, and amongst the speakers are Mrs. Grant Richards, Editor of the *Englishwoman*, Miss Chrystal McMillan, M.A., Mrs. Dickenson, Miss Roper, B.A., and Miss Gore Booth. Admission free; seats numbered and reserved, 2s. 6d.; reserved and not numbered, 1s. Tickets to be obtained of the Hon. Secretaries, Miss Roper and Miss Gore Booth, 5, Dalton Street, Manchester.

VERSE.

There's never a pain that hides not some gain,
And never a cup of rue
So bitter to sup but what in the cup
Lurks a measure of sweetness, too.

COMING EVENTS.

March 5th.—59th Annual General Meeting of the London Homœopathic Hospital, in the Board Room of the Hospital, the Right Hon. the Earl Cawdor presiding, 3.30 p.m.

March 10th.—Royal Free Hospital. Annual Meeting at Mansion House, Lord Mayor presiding. 3 p.m.

March 10th.—Annual Meeting, Medical Aid Society for Necessitous Gentlewomen, 18, Grosvenor Square, W. By kind invitation of Mrs. Benyon. *Chairman*.—Archibald Campbell, Esq. *Speakers*.—Dr. May Thorne, Canon E. E. Holmes, and Lady Grove. 3.30 p.m.

March 12th.—Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, W., 4 p.m.

March 15th.—The Territorial Force Nursing Association for the City and County of London. Meeting at the Mansion House for Trained Nurses, Egyptian Hall, 4 p.m. For tickets apply to Miss Goodhue, 14, Ashley Gardens, S.W.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

Lectures.—Extra Mural Medical Theatre, 4.30 p.m. Trained Nurses cordially invited.

March 10th.—"Bacteria," by Dr. Theodore Shennan.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Big things are only little things put together. It is encouraging to think of this when confronted by a big task. Remember that it is only a group of little tasks, any one of which you can easily do. It is ignorance of this fact that makes some men afraid to try.

W. P. WARREN.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)