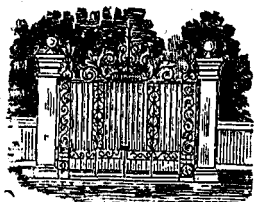


## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



On Monday Sir Charles McLaren, M.P., introduced into the House of Commons a series of Bills in which are incorporated a number of the reforms contained in the Women's Charter of Rights and Liberties drawn up by Lady McLaren and presented at the International Women's Suffrage Congress. The Bills provide:—

1. That a wife shall have a right to maintenance from her husband, without the intervention of the Poor-Law Guardians, if she has no other means of support and is debarred from earning her own living through having the care of young children.

(2) A wife who devotes her whole time to house-keeping and the care of the children shall have a claim upon her husband during his life, or upon his estate after death, for a sum calculated on a scale not exceeding the wages of a housekeeper in her station of life, provided she has not received any other personal allowance.

3. The divorce law shall be amended so as to allow either husband or wife to obtain a divorce on the ground of unfaithfulness alone.

4. Fathers and mothers shall be joint guardians of their children.

5. The ancient right of wives to dower shall be restored; and wives shall be put in a more equal position in cases of intestacy.

6. No woman otherwise qualified shall be excluded by sex or marriage from exercising the Parliamentary franchise.

Can anyone deny the reasonableness and justice of these proposals?

The London County Council is to be congratulated that two women have been elected to serve upon it of ripe experience and unquestioned ability. Miss Susan Lawrence, the member elected by West Marylebone, served on the London School Board, and has been a co-opted member of the Education Committee of the London County Council. Miss Nellie Adler is a daughter of the Chief Rabbi, and has done excellent work in connection with the organisation of trade schools and classes in which women are specially interested.

Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, and Mr. Granville Barker are announced to speak at the reception of the London Society for Women's Suffrage in connection with the annual council meeting of the Society, at the Great Central Hotel, on Friday, March 18th.

Mrs. Pankhurst will preside, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak at the Women's Demonstration at the Royal Albert Hall on Friday, March 18th.

Mrs. Sidney Webb, speaking last week at a drawing-room meeting at Lady Emily Lutyan's house in Bloomsbury Square, said we had at the base of our society a great mass of chronic destitution, to deal with which in all its phases we had two separate authorities. One-seventh of the present pauperism was due to phthisis, or tuberculosis, and under the Poor Law we dealt with it as foolishly as we did with typhus seventy years ago. One-third of the people who died of tuberculosis died in the workhouses, after infecting their families, and it was perfectly clear that these cases ought to be treated in their incipient stages, which the Poor Law was powerless to do. The whole machinery of the Poor-Law had become obsolete, and the time had come for a great step forward in the direction of prevention.

### VERSE.

When thy gaze

Turns it on thine on soul, be most severe.

But when it falls upon a fellow-man

Let kindness control it; and refrain

From that belittling censure that springs forth

From common lips like weeds from marshy soil.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

### COMING EVENTS.

*March 18th.*—London Society for Women's Suffrage. Reception by the Lady Frances Balfour and the Committee at the Great Central Hotel, Marylebone, 9—11.30 p.m.

*March 18th.*—Women's Social and Political Union. Demonstration at the Royal Albert Hall. Chair, Mrs. Pankhurst. 8 p.m.

*March 18th.*—Somerset County Nursing Association. Eighth Annual Meeting, Municipal Buildings, Taunton. Address by Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, 3 p.m.

*March 18th.*—Women's Local Government Society, Annual Meeting, Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster. Lady Strachey will preside. 4.30 p.m.

*March 18th.*—Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives, Annual Meeting, 36, Thurloe Square, South Kensington. Chairman, T. Raffles Hughes, Esq., K.C. 4 p.m.

*March 18th.*—The Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, S.W., Annual Court of Governors, Major-General Lord Cheylesmore in the chair. 4.30 p.m.

*March 19th.*—Meeting of the Scottish Nurses' Association, Masonic Hall, 100, West Regent Street, Glasgow, 4.30 p.m.

*March 23rd.*—Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Lecture on "Neurasthenia." By Dr. J. J. Graham Brown. Extra Mural Theatre. Nurses cordially invited. 4.30 p.m.

### WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"Truth exists, undivided and eternal; neither you nor I create it by our own apprehension of it. We are all in different vessels reconnoitring an isle; one thinks the isle is one shape, and one thinks it another; but our thoughts change it not; it is one shape and was ever so." GENERAL GORDON.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)