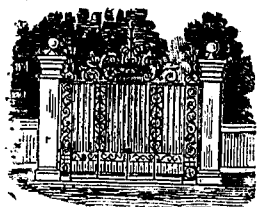


## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



will be Problems of Child Life and Educational Ideals.

The Women's National Health Association of Great Britain is being organised much on the lines of the National Health Society. It aims to arrange health lectures for women—more particularly young wives and mothers—throughout London and the provinces on such subjects as the following: Feeding and rearing of children; Value of food-stuffs; Sick room cookery; Value of open air; Care of the teeth; Alcohol and its relation to health; Dust and disease; How to assist sanitary inspectors and health officers; Improved lavatory accommodation; Maternity clubs; The care of mothers before and after confinement; Crèches; What a girl should know about her health; and to introduce personally into the homes of the country the practical details of personal and domestic hygiene.

At the free public meeting in support of Votes for Women, to be held at the Queen's Hall on June 6th, at 3 o'clock, Mr. Mansell Moullin, Consulting Surgeon to the London Hospital, will speak. No doubt many nurses will be present. We are always thankful to note a medical man with the courage of his opinions on this most important of all questions.

The Women's Life Society of Liverpool desire to "register a protest against the grounds upon which the present inequality in respect of misconduct has been defended" before the Royal Commission on Divorce by certain witnesses. It has, therefore, addressed a letter in which it calls attention to this matter which virtually concerns the moral and legal status of women in respect of divorce to Lord Gorell, Chairman, and to Lady Frances Balfour, and Mrs. H. J. Tennant, members of the Commission.

The letter argues:—

- (1) That no sanction for such views is to be found in the whole of the literature touching on marriage.
- (2) That the attempt to estimate the injury caused by misconduct of either of the parties misses "the moral and social problem involved—namely, the well-being of the family and child life as conditioned by the moral and physical health of the parents." Only within the pale of monogamic marriage is parentage legitimate, and immoral conduct on the part of one parent is an injury, not

only to the other, but to the "offspring and to the whole fabric of social life."

(3) How far misconduct may be regarded as accidental must be regarded in the light of the "question as to with whom such 'accidental' misconduct is likely to take place. Misconduct with a pure woman would imply a very deliberate and sedulously pursued intention; with an immoral one a choice of company which . . . cannot be held consistent with due regard for the rights of the wife, or family, or of society. Along the paths of dalliance "accidents" belong to the category of high probabilities."

(4) "As to whether the maintenance of a separate establishment by a man would be consistent with the affection due to his wife, an offer of marriage carrying with it provision for such a condition would, by the overwhelming majority of women, be rejected with scorn."

## Book of the Week.

### "OLIVIA L. CAREW."\*

"She is the funniest, primmest little thing you ever saw. . . but she is awfully pretty by the way. . . She knows how to dress herself for one thing. . . Here's this child now as crude and raw as a Nonconformist savage, if you'll excuse the apparent absurdity. Yet put her in favourable growing circumstances, and I believe she would end by astonishing us. At the moment she is just a stilted little prig. . . All the same, she interests me. I wonder what you'll think of her?"

Carew thought her the loveliest little creature he had ever seen.

Her little pronouncements were delivered with such an air of finality, her statements were so positive, her self-possession so assured, that in fancy he saw the American flag streaming behind the fair head with all that the spangled banner expressed of independence, coolness, and self-confidence.

Dick Carew, wildly enamoured of her, proposes after an acquaintance of a few days, and, in spite of her assertion that "Marriage would hinder her career" (though she has not made up her mind what it is to be), persuades her to accept him.

Dick has the soul and temperament of an artist, and Olivia as yet has only the conventional outlook of a prim schoolgirl, whose affections have never been awakened.

"She was by training and still more by nature a rigid puritan in morals and manners." Her cold and repellant attitude to him after their marriage estranges his affection, and in Siena, where he has taken her, they drift apart, he finding a more congenial companion in Sylvia Carnegie, an old acquaintance.

"Sylvia has the gift of eternal youth," was the comment of one of her friends. "One day we shall wake up with astonishment, and find she is an old woman. But she will never be middle aged."

Together they revel in picture galleries, and delight in the Cathedral, while Olivia is vexing herself about doing the "right thing" in sight-seeing.

\* By Netta Syrett. (Chatto and Windus).

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