devised to give her the best chance of recovery. I had a great liking for Im Saleem long before this, but since then she has more than regard from most of us who witnessed the nursing of this case. She won respect and admiration from everyone, for she did her work bravely and well, never once complaining through those long weeks of isolation from her own children and numerous friends in and out of the hospital. Hers was no easy task, for she did both night and day nursing, but she was kind by nature and had learnt to obey; every order from the doctor was carried out faithfully, and so Nitfidgy made splendid progress. The room in which the patient slept was kept cool and fresh, though this is not always easy in semi-tropical countries; fortunately this was not the hottest time of the year, and there were no siroccos blow-Some physicians advise that the rooms in which such patients are nursed should be kept dark, but we adopted in this case the Continental plan, which is to have red light, so red linen blinds were put up in these two rooms. It is said that this treatment not only affects the course of the disease but prevents pitting of the skin. alleviate the thirst, always more or less present, soda water and lime juice were given in large quantities, and the diet was chiefly milk, clear soups, lightly boiled eggs, and later on the favourite boiled rice, boiled coosa (aubergines stuffed with little bits of meat and rice), chickens, etc. One does one's best at these times in the way of diet: European dainties would be utterly wasted on Arab patients; nothing would induce them to take any of these luxuries, but without them the patient made progress every day. To allay the irritation which attends the eruption carbolic oil -1 in 40-was used, and in the earlier stage to separate the pustules linseed poultices sprinkled with iodoform powder spread on lint and smeared with vaseline were used with very good effect. Nitfidgy's baths were postponed till almost the end of her convalescence, and then a daily warm bath was given, a little bi-carbonate of soda being added to the water.

It was difficult to keep Im Saleem supplied with old soft linen for the cleansing of her patient's mouth, etc., all of which she faithfully burnt after use. I often watched her from the balcony lighting her fire for this purpose on the open space which surrounded her temporary abode, and she would wave her hand to me quite cheerily to show that all was going well, and some weeks after, when the doctor considered, Nitfidgy quite well, and she and Im Saleem had been quarantined quite long enough they received a huge welcome on one of the balconies. We thought it still just as well to hold our reception in the open air while Nitfidgy, full of gratitude, was, in true Oriental fashion, embracing us all even down to our feet, till she espied her little son, who toddled up to her and put his arms round her neck as she knelt beside him. "Immy," he murmured softly, in his dear baby voice, "Hàthy immy" (It's my mother). Their joy was complete. Nitfidgy has her good looks back again, there is no pitting of any sort.

Marie Telfer.

(To be concluded.)

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



Lord Selborne will address a meeting on behalf of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association on Thursday evening, March 9th, at 8 o'clock, at the Hotel Cecil Lady Betty Balfour,

Miss Ruth Young, and Mr. Rowland Prothero are also announced to speak. Many of the supporters of the Association have invited guests to dine with them at the hotel before the meeting.

In view of the reply of the Home Secretary in the House of Commons last week to Mr. Snowden, M.P. for Blackburn, inquiring whether he had received a memorandum accompanying a request for a public inquiry into the conduct of the Metropolitan Police on the 18th, 22nd, and 23rd of November last, and what reply had been given to the request and Mr. Winston Churchill's answer, a letter in the *Times* from Mrs. Solomon is of great interest.

It will be remembered that Mr. Churchill stated that his reply was (1) to the effect that the proper course would be to prefer the charge in a police court in the ordinary way; (2) that he had made inquiry of the Commissioner with regard to certain general statements included in the memorandum and found them to be devoid of foundation; (3) that of the 200 women arrested not one complained at the time of being hurt, or brought any charge of undue violence or misconduct against the police; and (4) that he was "not prepared to order an inquiry into vague and general charges collected in response to advertisements in Votes for Women and brought forward by irresponsible persons long after the event."

Mrs. Solomon in her letter states that her name and evidence are referred to in the memorandum of the Conciliation Committee. She writes:—
"I should like to state that I was not only assaulted myself by uniformed members of the police force at Westminster, but saw others assaulted. In consequence of the shameful brutality which I experienced at their hands, I was confined to bed, and was too ill to deal with the matter at once. But as soon as I was able to write—namely, on December 17th, 1910—I addressed a letter to Mr. Winston Churchill as Secretary of State for the Home Office laying the facts before him of what I had personally experienced and had seen others suffer. I received a formal acknowledgment of this letter and nothing more."

In her letter to the Home Secretary, Mrs. Solomon stated: "The methods applied to us were those used by the police to conquer the pugilistic antagonist, to fell the burglar, to maim the hooligan, or to reduce to inanity the semi-barbaric and

previous page next page