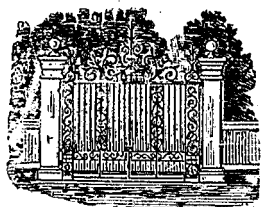


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



During the visit of the King and Queen to Ireland in July the Queen will, on July 10th, receive an Address from the Women of Ireland, and will visit the Coombe Lying-in Hospital at Dublin.

June 17th, 1911, will be memorable for the Great Procession of Women, such as never has been seen in any country before, which marched through the streets of London from the Embankment to the Royal Albert Hall to demonstrate once more the demand of women for the Parliamentary Franchise. The procession included over 40,000 women, led by Mrs. Drummond on horseback, the standard bearer, Miss Charlotte Marsh, given this honour in the triumphal march because she held the banner aloft in her solitary prison cell, through weeks of forcible feeding, Miss Annan Bryce as Joan of Arc, and then the leaders of the Women's Social and Political Union, Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst.

The W.S.P.U. has before demonstrated its ability to organise effective pageantry, but Saturday's procession, in which the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, led by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., and the Women's Freedom League, led by Mrs. Despard, joined, exceeded all its previous efforts. The 700 women, who have changed the broad arrow of shame into a symbol of honour were all represented. Women who held public office in the middle ages, the heroines of the nineteenth century, Grace Darling, Jennie Lind, Florence Nightingale, Charlotte Brontë, and many others, in the poke bonnet and ample skirts of the middle of the last century, were there too; Welsh women in their distinctive tall hats and kerchiefs, Scottish women led by a band of pipers, red cloaked colleens from Ireland, and contingents from our dominions beyond the seas, with New Zealand, the first of our Dominions to give women the vote, in the place of honour. The women graduates in their robes made a notable group, the gardeners carried baskets of flowers, and clergy of the National Church were there to testify effectively to their sympathy by carrying banners. The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, and the Free Churches were also represented.

The trained nurses, many of them in indoor uniform, were one of the most interesting groups, and received the cheers of the crowd along the route. Very fresh and winsome they looked in spite of having been on duty since early morning, or having shortened their hours in bed as night nurses to take part in the procession. Indeed, the remark was heard more than once the nurses looked so much cleaner than anyone else. The long wait on the Embankment, which the nurses' contingent did not leave until seven o'clock, unfortunately

made it necessary for some of those who had waited there since 4.30 p.m. to drop out of the procession before it reached the Albert Hall in order to be on duty "on time," a great disappointment. The nurses' section was preceded by a white banner, bordered with green, bearing the Red Cross, and the words "Hospital Nurses," and inscribed "Faithful doing day by day," and relays of nurses carried it along the route. A second banner, mauve in colour, and also bordered with green, with "Hospital Nurses demand the Vote" in white lettering, was carried by Miss Lenanton, a district nurse, and Miss Mullan, engaged in private nursing. The nurses' contingent was led by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Pearse, Miss Kingsford, and Miss Breay. The representative of an anti-suffrage lay nursing paper was busy endeavouring to obtain a census of the nurses present, but some, at least, refused to furnish names and addresses on demand.

The comment of the *Times* on the procession is "The march, toilsome and trying though it must have been, was well maintained, in spirit as well as in stateliness, showing a wonderful capacity to endure physical strain and discomfort." But the women were marching to victory, with the promise of the Prime Minister in his letter to Lord Lytton, published in the press in their minds, that the pledge of the Government to give effective facilities to the Women's Suffrage Bill of the Conciliation Committee should be redeemed next Session in the spirit as well as in the letter; and the dominant note of the wonderful meeting in the Albert Hall, packed from floor to ceiling with an enthusiastic audience, which was addressed by Mrs. Pankhurst from the chair, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the mover and seconder of the Resolution, Mrs. Annie Besant, and Miss Vida Goldstein, was a note of triumph.

The Resolution, which was carried unanimously by the vast audience, was as follows:—

"That this meeting rejoices in the coming triumph of the votes for women cause, and pledges itself to use any and every means necessary to turn to account the Prime Minister's pledge of full and effective facilities for the Women's Enfranchisement Bill."

On Friday, June 16th, Mr. Lloyd George received a deputation on the subject of the National Insurance Bill from the Women's Trade Union League, the Anti-Sweating League, the National Federation of Women Workers, the Women's Labour League, the Women's Co-operative Guild, the National Association of Midwives, and the Women's Industrial Council. After hearing speeches on behalf of the majority of the societies the Chancellor of the Exchequer left hurriedly to attend the Imperial Conference. A further deputation of midwives will attend on a later date.

Miss Eleanor Beatrice Harvey, of Girton, who has been declared equal to a Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos at Cambridge, is a daughter of the Rev. George Harvey, of Milnrow, Lancashire, and was born at Thirsk. She was pre-

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