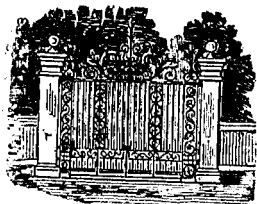


## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



In connection with the Children's Happy Evenings Association the Queen has presented a piano for use in entertaining poor children of Deptford on Mondays at Creek Road School.

The King has been graciously pleased to confer the decoration of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India on Winifred Selina, Lady Hardinge of Penshurst, wife of the Right Honourable Charles, Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

There is no doubt that the Public Health Sectional Committee of the National Union of Women Workers frames to be one of its most useful departments. At a recent meeting Lady Aberdeen, who is Convener, gave a most interesting report of a visit to some health institutions in France, and Mr. Edgar Kemp spoke on the Hospital Almoners' Council, which is engaged in very useful work in training ladies for the position of Hospital Almoners, and it is satisfactory to note that wherever these workers have been appointed to the out-patient departments of hospitals they are proved to be of such utility that their office is never abolished. The remuneration is modest, and as great tact and good education are necessary in the nursing of a Hospital Almoner the Hospital Almoners' Council hopes to see better average salaries in the future.

The American press, like our own at home, unjustly suppresses letters which support points of view in opposition to the personal opinions of the proprietor or editor, so that across the Atlantic, as at home, one need not look for fair play, and one would imagine that women were meekly submitting to the infamous new Page Law, which in reality they detest, if one did not know that their letters to the papers were pitched into the waste-paper basket.

As we go to press a public meeting is being held in New York to demand the repeal of Section 79 of the Inferior Courts Law relating to the compulsory examination and lock hospital treatment of women convicted of prostitution, and feeling runs so high that its repeal is certain.

Mrs. Houghton Hooker, President of the Just Government League of Maryland, writes, in a letter excluded from the *New York Times*:—

"The thing the women object to is the clause in the Page Law relating to the compulsory examination and lock hospital treatment of women convicted of prostitution. We object to it on the double ground that it is a discrimination against women, since men who are equally guilty with prostitutes do not come under the same law, and that hygienic measures, applying to women only,

have already been found in England and on the Continent to be worse than useless.

"The protest of the women means, not only that they have awakened to a true realisation of their birthright, which is justice before the law, but that they have been aroused to a vivid consciousness of the horror of the Social Evil. The secret is out, and women will no longer endure that the sacred purpose of marriage be blasted by the introduction into marriage of infamous disease and death, due to the immorality of men."

## Book of the Week.

### THE LAND OF HIS FATHERS.\*

Of Harry Ayres, the central figure of this story, the reader is informed that "up to six months before, he had never trodden the pavements of a bigger city than Toronto or Montreal, and never had the spending of more than a couple of hundred dollars a month. Now he was a man about town, in London, and at liberty to spend if he had a fancy for extravagance anything up to say thirty thousand dollars a month, without the least endangering his solvency . . . He had a kind of simplicity which is almost unattainable to rich men's sons in the Old World."

The book is mainly devoted to the developing of various philanthropic schemes to which Harry has determined to devote part of his newly acquired wealth.

"Ayres took a turn about the room, coming to a halt again in front of Wait's figure, where it sprawled in a big saddle-bag chair. 'If I dared say so, I believe what I really want is to try to do something to help this lovely, aged, tired-out old rose-garden of a country, whose great heart has pumped out the rich red blood that's fertilised a quarter of the globe.'"

To try and achieve this end he purchases some house property in the slums.

"The builders and painters and furnishers had all left and the front of the double house gleamed and shone upon that squalid street like a diamond on a dunghill. The two porches had been converted into one, and under the gilt lettered name, "The Farm," appeared the legend, 'Welcome' in cheerful red. It was a real porch now with fixed benches on either side, and a wide open outer doorway leading to swinging glass doors within. . . . The fee for admission to the dormitories with their neat cots and bunks, and the use of the baths was 2d.; the rent for the night of one of the rooms was 4d.

"'I suppose people will be sure to come,' said motherly Mrs. Bartholomew; 'it would be pathetic to see all this beautiful spick-and-spanness standing idle tomorrow night.' The captain of 'The Farm' smiled as one who knows. 'We shall be turning them away, mum, inside of a hower after opening.'

\* By A. T. Dawson. (Constable and Co., Ltd., London.)

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