

Mrs. Humphry Ward's challenge was taken up by a speaker who showed that the cause of women's education has been set back.

Miss Potter, who spoke as one of the younger members of the society, in support of the Resolution, suggested that the young would be old some day and it was unwise to alienate their sympathies.

Several ladies who stated that they were strong Suffragists expressed their intention of voting against the Resolution.

The declaration of the poll when the voters returned from their respective lobbies was listened to with suppressed excitement. Thirteen members who were in favour of the Resolution, did not vote, there were 199 in favour of the Resolution and 59 against. The result was greeted with tremendous applause.

RESOLUTION II.

The second Resolution, proposed by Mrs. Dawson and seconded by Mrs. Edwin Gray, was carried unanimously. It was:—

"That this Meeting urges the Government to amend the Franchise and Registration Bill now before Parliament, so as to remove the anomalies and disabilities existing in the present law with regard to Women's Local Government Franchise, and to safeguard the powers already possessed by women."

It was decided to send the Resolutions to the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, and the heads of the various parties in the House of Commons, and also to the press.

It has been well said that neutrality on such a question is impossible.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

"VALSERINE."*

After reading "Marie Claire," we had, of course, looked forward with interest to the next work from the pen of Marguerite Andoux. We must confess to disappointment now that it has arrived. We are told in the introduction that these sketches were written long before the book that brought the writer's name before the public was published. The volume consists of a collection of short sketches, the original and translation of which are given. They are, apparently, the spontaneous, and, one might also think, effortless production of a facile pen.

"Valserine" is the longest of the series; and the introduction also tells us that it was intended for a longer story, and should not be considered as complete.

It describes how the father of the child Valserine was arrested by the Customs officer, and the subsequent efforts of the little girl to earn a living for herself until such time as he should be released.

* By Marguerite Andoux. London: Chapman & Hall.

After a long journey in the carrier's cart, she arrives at the village of Saint Claude, where she is to learn diamond-cutting.

We give the following as a fair sample of the easy, simple style of the authoress:

"Valserine seated herself like the others on a high stool. Her new blouse was a little too long, and caught at the knees. She folded her hands, as she knew a good little girl ought to fold them, and looked round at the others, as Madame Reny had told her to do. She remembered her father had chosen this trade for her a long time; and she felt glad at the thought he was not so unhappy as he might have been in prison, now that he knew his daughter was working at the diamond-cutting." And so on, reminding one of the old-fashioned tales that children of thirty or forty years ago were brought up on.

The story of "Catiche," who had St. Vitus' dance; and was so called by the ward-sister, because that was what she called all little girls who had St. Vitus' dance. "When she heard that was to be her name, she became furiously angry. She threw off her blanket, and wanted to beat the sister. She twisted and turned like a little worm, and said in her hoarse voice, 'You will see.' A nurse ran up and dabbed a wet cloth in her face, while the sister held her down on the bed. She refused to eat. They pinched her nose, to make her open her mouth; but she opened her lips only, and breathed through her clenched teeth." We commend this soothing treatment to our professional readers.

"Wolves! Wolves!" relates how old Granny refused to be operated upon; she said, "The pain is inside, but I have had it so long that I have got used to it now." Her daughter—a big woman, with a pointed nose and hard eyes—said, "If you won't let them operate on you, I will sell the donkey." And all the patients burst out laughing. A little thin, dark woman, in the ward, said she had come to before her operation was over, and four men had to hold her down, while the wound was being stitched up." It is not surprising that the fear of it broke down the old woman's mental balance, and she cried, "Wolves! Wolves!" all night.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

November 30th.—The League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. General Meeting, Clinical Lecture Theatre. 3 p.m. Social Gathering, 4 p.m.

December 3rd.—The Infants Hospital, Vincent Square, S.W. Lectures on Babies, "The Effects of Boiled Milk on the Infant and Child."

December 4th.—Irish Nurses' Association, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. "Flies and Disease," by Dr. McDowel Congrave.

December 4th.—Bridge Drive, arranged by Miss Carson-Rae, Café Cairo, Dublin. Tickets, 3s. each.

December 6th.—The Nurses' Co-operation. Show of the Nurses' Needlework Guild, in the Club Room, 35, Langham Street, W. Tea, 3.30 to 5.30.

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