

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

### WOMEN.

The Illinois legislature has passed a Woman's Suffrage Bill, and it will become law next month.

The Senate in New York has also reported in favour of a Constitutional amendment enfranchising women, but as this has to be endorsed both by Congress and by the State legislatures, the earliest date at which it can take effect is 1915.

The Women's Local Government Society, of which Lady Strachey is President, is organising an American Fair, to be held at the Kensington Town Hall, on Tuesday, June 24th, in aid of its funds. A very attractive programme announces a country produce stall, a cake and sweet stall, flower stall, basket stall, Bruges pottery stall, &c. Silhouette portraits will be taken by Mr. Handrup. There will be concerts arranged by Mrs. Sidney Allen, a dramatic interlude and recitations arranged by Mrs. Alec Tweedie, English Folk Dances, sketching of Cats by Mr. Louis Wain and other attractions.

## BOOK OF THE WEEK.

### "PATCHWORK COMEDY."\*

Carfew (the explorer), Morton (the sculptor), and Lady Gillanby are the three personages that come uppermost in this novel, though there are many others of interest. Young Lady Gillanby was beautiful, something of a Bohemian, and married to an elderly roué. At the time the story opens, she had already filed a petition for divorce. She had been thrown much with Morton in Paris before her marriage. Her father had been a famous water-colour painter, and she herself had dabbled in art. Carfew, on his return from his travels, is amused that the boy he had left a student in Paris three years before is obviously championing the cause of the young wife against her elderly husband. After an introduction to her, he tells Morton, "I like your ill-treated wife; she has intelligence, and is far too good-looking to be a safe friend for a child like you. Besides, there's something about her that means she's going to find a lot of trouble. She seems a woman who is asking very much of life; and intending also, to get what she demands."

"Do you call that a fault?" protested Morton.

"A fault!" Carfew answered, speaking seriously. "Who mentioned faults? I call it the final misfortune, or the greatest blessing. I don't know which. In any case, it means pain as well as happiness."

We quote the following passage that our readers may judge for themselves something of the manner of Margery Gillanby's upbringing.

"Very soon after Margery had reached an age

\*By Humfrey Jordan. (G. P. Putnam's Sons; 24, Bedford Street, Strand, London.)

when she could sit an hour or two in the evenings listening to the talk, the frequenters of the studio forgot their restraint before her, speaking their minds freely and without disguise. Once a newcomer to the nightly gathering had pulled himself up short in the middle of a sentence, looking uneasily at the girl. 'Look here, my friend!' her father had interrupted, 'don't take fright; also don't hint at things; Meg isn't an ordinary female infant; she won't come to any harm from plain talk either.' Which, thenceforth, had been the standpoint of Rempton's friends in regard to their treatment of his daughter. She learned three rules for her guidance, and had seen their worth daily in the ordering of her father's life: That she should think for herself; that she should seek light and joy and beauty; and that she must avoid the false delusion that silence and an averted face mean either ignorance or virtue."

We are not surprised, therefore, to find that Margery with all her youthful charm was a person who called a spade a spade, and refused to put an end to her perfectly harmless intimacy with Morton, to please the scandalmongers of her circle.

Michael Morton, however, was not to gain the object of his desire, for when Margery is free, by the death of her husband, it is Carfew who wins her.

"I wonder, my husband," said she, and laughed softly at the title, "whether there is, or has been, anyone in all the world who saw the way plain from the start, and just followed it without swerving. We go on changing, seeing all the important things in another light till we die. . . . We'll do our work in company now, dear; and we shall be able to explain to each other what frightfully hard toil it is."

Carfew bent his head, and kissed her.

Touching no originality in a business far from original, they told each other that their love was greater than the love of common, more lethargic creatures.

H. H.

## COMING EVENTS.

June 24th.—Conference convened by the Penal Reform League. The Hon. Secretary will open a discussion on "Women Prisoners from Arrest to Rehabilitation." 11, Chelsea Embankment. 3.30 p.m.

June 28th.—Garden Party of the C.L.S.A. Nurses' League, at the City of Westminster Union Infirmary, Hendon. 3 to 7 p.m.

June 30th and July 1st.—Conference on Diet, Cookery, and Hygiene, in Schools, Guildhall, London. 10.30 a.m. to 5.15 p.m.

July 2nd.—Women Writers Suffrage League Dinner, Criterion Restaurant.

July 4th.—Bedford College for Women, London. The Queen opens the new buildings, Regent's Park.

## A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Real joy comes, not from ease, not from riches; not from the applause of men, but from having done things worth while.—*Greenfell*.

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