

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

### WOMEN.

The Continuation Committee of the World Missionary Conference, held last week at the Hague, under the presidency of Dr. John R. Mott, and attended by missionary organisers and representatives from all parts of the world, were encouraged by the following very sympathetic message from the Queen of Holland:—

"It affords me a twofold pleasure to bid you welcome to my country, as I thus have an opportunity of assuring you how warmly my feelings coincide with those of the Committee in its sacred work, and also gives me occasion to declare my affinity of soul with the grand task which is aimed at by the Continuation of the affairs of the Edinburgh Conference. Your aspiration to unity and co-operation in mission work is re-echoed in the Netherlands. Here, too, we aim at a sympathetic understanding of foreign races as faithful disciples of Him Who came to serve. I consider your visit and your presence at the Dutch Missionary Conference as a good omen, showing that those among my compatriots who are interested in the missionary cause persevere in realising these principles. My earnest wish is that the spirit of unity of all followers of Christ, members of His invisible community, may gain in intensity, and that Our Saviour may direct our hearts and develop the strength of our combined prayer. May our zeal be inspired and sanctified and we all be fitted for the several vocations to which Christ calls us individually, so that the sun of His truth may shine over the whole world, shedding light in the darkness of human misery, and gladdening the hearts of all mankind with the ineffable richness of His Divine Love!

"WILHELMINA."

The Committee have sent a suitable reply to Her Majesty.

We deeply regret that Sir Thomas Barlow, the President of the Royal College of Physicians, has thought well through the *Times* to state that he fails to see any reason why he should intervene by criticism or condemnation on the question of forcible feeding of Suffragist prisoners as he has been authoritatively assured from the Home Office:—(1) That there is at present no forcible feeding of Suffragist prisoners; (2) that since April only in three cases of Suffragist prisoners has forcible feeding been employed; (3) that there is no foundation for the statement made by all my correspondents that forcible feeding is employed as a punitive and disciplinary measure."

Whether forcible feeding in prison is employed as a punitive measure or not, it is a demoniacal and a brutalising torture to which no human being in a civilised country should be subjected, and men who support and inflict such torture cannot be classed as civilised human beings. To be of the highest value to the community,

the profession of medicine must be based on deep and tender human sympathy. This, no doubt, is the reason women have appealed to the President of the Royal College of Physicians.

Women Liberals in Leicestershire are exceedingly indignant at the treatment of Sir Victor Horsley, by the executive committee of the Harborough Division. Early in the year, Sir Victor was selected by the executive committee and later adopted by the council of the Harborough Liberal Association as prospective candidate, a Radical supporter of the Government and of woman's suffrage. As the result of his humane attitude towards militant Suffragists, the executive have now indicated to him by resolution their belief that his opinions would militate against his success! We hope Sir Victor will stand for a constituency liberal in deed as well as word—if there is such a place in this reactionary island. We women are beginning to doubt it.

Congratulations to the Governors of Guy's—Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., has been permitted to address the Nursing Staff in the Home on Women's Suffrage, where, of course, she had an enthusiastic reception, Miss Haughton, the Matron, proposing the vote of thanks.

We are informed that the Matron of the London Hospital has refused permission for the Nursing Staff at that institution to enjoy a like privilege. *Cela va sans dire!*

In this connection nurses should read "The Future of the Women's Movement" by Mrs. H. M. Swanwick. In the introduction, Mrs. Fawcett praises the work justly, when she writes:

"The woman's movement aims at nothing less than raising the status of an entire sex—half the human race—to lift it up to the freedom and valour of womanhood. . . . It is more deepseated, for it enters into the home and modifies the personal character. No greater praise can be given to Mrs. Swanwick's book than to say that she treats of this great subject in a manner worthy of it."

### WINTER DAWN.

Stillness and creeping of colour  
A flushing of gold and of red;  
Opening eyes of Aurora  
Roused from a crocus bed.

Voices of kine from the meadows  
Weary of waning night  
Birds in a husky chorus  
Darkly aware of light.

Lamps in the valley appearing  
Bright spurts one after one;  
A joyous crackle of fagots,  
And the heavy night is gone.

—From *Lyrics and Dramas*  
By Stephen Phillip

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