

## OUTSIDE THE GATES,

### WOMEN.

Dear little Cæsar is dead, and the deepest sympathy will be felt for Queen Alexandra at the loss of so faithful and devoted a friend. Cæsar, an Irish terrier, was the favourite dog of the late King Edward, and his constant companion in all his travels. What a pathetic sight he was when following his august master to the grave. Of late years he has been the special care of Queen Alexandra. He has suffered much, so it was hoped an operation might relieve him, but under an anæsthetic he has quietly passed away, and is to be buried in the garden of Marlborough House.

We feel sure there are lovely sunny meads in other worlds where the spirits of all the beloved doggies are set free. Let us hope that royal Cæsar with others of his kind is there sublimely happy, full of joy.

Very few women will fail to rejoice that the Commons carried the second reading of a Bill last Friday to prohibit experiments on dogs. Sir F. Banbury, who brought in the Bill, as a professional blocker is a legislative nuisance, but we can forgive him much for realising that the dog has a special claim for exemption from vivisection on account of his close association with, and devotion to man, whose best friend he often is.

Miss M. F. Billington, the President of the Society of Women Journalists, is arranging an Evening Party, to be held at the Trocadero on May 2nd, to which she has invited all the members of the Society. We hear all sorts of delightful people are to be there, and the music and other amusements will be first-rate. Miss Billington is recognised by her colleagues as having attained the very highest rank in the journalistic profession, and is held by them in very great respect in consequence. We feel sure her party will be an immense success.

The Earl of Selborne has introduced in the House of Lords a Bill conferring the Parliamentary franchise on women who are already entitled to vote at municipal elections. The single operative clause reads as follows:—

"Any woman shall be qualified to be registered in a constituency as a Parliamentary elector, and, whilst so registered, shall be entitled to vote at an election of a member or members to serve in Parliament for that constituency, if she is a local government elector for the purposes of any local government election in that constituency."

### WORD FOR THE WEEK.

The truth is that life isn't worth living if you can have what you want—unless you happen to be the exceptional person who wants discipline, responsibility, effort, suffering.—*Cornelia A. P. Comers.*

## COMING EVENTS.

*April 11th to 30th.*—Children's Welfare Exhibition. Nursing Section 82 in Woman's Kingdom.

*April 25th.*—Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Meeting, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, 3 p.m. Tea and visit to Hospital, 4 p.m. Address by Mr. Paul Matthews on "Dickens, Thackeray and George Eliot Contrasted," 4.45.

*April 25th.*—Cleveland Street Infirmary League "At Home," 42A, Cleveland Street, W. 4 p.m.

*April 25th.*—National Union of Trained Nurses. Bath Centre. Lecture by Miss Musson, Matron, General Hospital, Birmingham, on "State Registration of Nurses. 17, Somerset Place, Bath. Tea and Business Meeting. 3.30 p.m.

*April 27th to May 1st.*—Nursing and Midwifery Exhibition, Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster.

*April 29th.*—Association of Inspectors of Midwives. Annual Meeting, Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, S.W.

*April 30th.*—Central Midwives Board Meeting, Caxton House, S.W. 3.30 p.m.

*May 2nd.*—Society of Women Journalists. The President (Miss M. F. Billington) entertains the Members at an Evening Party, Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus, London, W. 8.30 to 11.30 p.m.

*May 7th.*—Meeting Executive Committee Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 4.30 p.m.

*May 18th to 23rd.*—General Lying-in Hospital, York Road, S.W. Post-Graduate Week.

*June 9th to 12th.*—National Council of Trained Nurses. Annual Conference and Nursing Exhibition, New Central Hall, Birmingham.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

### WHY MATRONS WISH TO RETIRE.

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

DEAR MADAM,—After reading the letter signed "Matron of a Country Hospital," I believe I once worked with the lady, and can tell you the reason she is so popular with her fellow workers. It is her delightful personality—and how difficult that is to describe. I only know that she was not only Matron of the hospital, but many things besides. First of all organizer—such sound judgment, oil to the wheels—everything went like clock work when she was on duty, consequently no rows, and you know how people detest friction in institutions. Then so genuinely kind and considerate—mother as well as matron. Then so witty and amusing and full of life—a great asset in a place where there is necessarily much sadness and tragedy, the hospital seemed

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