

## OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

LATELY, says a Vienna correspondent, the good-natured Queen of Saxony, who dotes upon little children—she has never had any of her own—was walking in the park at Dresden, where she is well known. Meeting a nurse in charge of two little children she stopped to admire the rosy babies. The following dialogue was then heard:

The Queen—"They are twins, are they not?"

Nurse—"Yes, please your Majesty."

"I suppose their papa is very proud of them?"

"This little boy's papa is, but that little boy's papa died a month ago."

"But I thought you said they were twins?"

"Your Majesty said they were, and I don't think it right to contradict the Queen."

"My dear," said a Mormon wife to her husband, "I think that you should be ashamed of yourself, flirting as you did with Miss B. in church to-day."

"Flirting with her," he replied, in astonishment: "Why, we've been engaged the last three months. It's all over the town."

"Oh, I beg pardon," answered his wife, indifferently: "if you are regularly engaged, I suppose it's all right. When does the happy event take place?"

One stormy night, 18 years ago, so runs the story, a young girl, living in the town of B—, expressed her determination to attend a "pound" party at a neighbor's house. But her parents said her nay. She, however, persisted in her determination, and finally her father said, "you are no longer a child of mine if you go." She went. She never returned home. Years rolled by and naught was heard from her. A few weeks ago a hack drove up to the house where she had spent her youth, and the broken-hearted father—for he had long repented of his harshness—saw with joy his missing child.

"Father," she said in sobbing accents, "father, I've been gone a long time, but I've come home to stay with you and be a faithful daughter hereafter." The old man said nothing, but the glad light that beamed from his eyes and the warmth of his embrace

he gave her told her she was forgiven. And then she turned toward the hack and said "Come." And lo! six children got out and came, "These are all mine, too, father," she said, "and how happy we will all be together." And the old man sat down on the steps and sobbed like a child.

The young women of England are taking up physical culture with an enthusiasm which will carry them far ahead of their American sisters if the latter do not look to their laurels. Recently the pupils of the Young Women's Christian Institute connected with the Polytechnic gave a remarkable gymnastic performance. Fencing, vaulting horses, figure-marching and other evolutions were gone through with much energy and skill to the accompaniment of a full brass band. The pupils of the Regent Street Institute for Young Men looked on and were much impressed.

The glad tidings come over the sea that Queen Victoria is making great progress in her Hindustani studies. Further proof of this is furnished in a recent issue of the *Strand Magazine*, where two pages of Her Majesty's Diary are given as copied by herself expressly for the article. The article itself, by the way, is written by an eminent Indian scholar, Moulvie Raffiuddin Ahmad, whose enthusiasm over the acquirements of his sovereign is very naive. Everybody, however, will agree with him in considering it interesting that the Queen at her age should have shown her ability to "master a new language entirely alien to the people of Europe, acquaint herself with the philosophy of the East, read the sentiments of her Eastern subjects in their vernacular, and keep a daily account of her work in her new language."

minds herself of social and other engagements by writing them out on a postal card and mailing it to herself twenty-four hours in advance. She has invented a system of abbreviated notes intelligible to nobody else, and as a result of her unique plan she never fails to meet her appointment.

"Mrs. Noble, of Washington," re-  
The English newspapers say that Lady Henry Somerset, whose ardent,

not to say furious, advocacy of temperance principles is well-known, is herself the owner of four ten-public houses. Lady Henry is accused by one writer of being "void of conscientiousness and morality to her cause" because she is alleged to have utilized the proceeds of the sale of "that cursed drink" to defray the expenses of her tour as an itinerant denouncer of alcohol.

## JERUSALEM MODERNIZED.

"JERUSALEM, the railroad center of Palestine."

The words have an unnatural sound to most people, as with the mention of Jerusalem and Palestine is generally associated some fact of sacred history or the events of the crusades in the Middle Ages.

But since Baron Rothchild has begun to carry out his gigantic colonization schemes Palestine has experienced an awakening, the Holy City has found itself moved by the mighty machine of progress and the destiny once predicted for Jerusalem by Napoleon seems not impossible of accomplishment. The Corsican's prediction was that Jerusalem would one day be the capital of the world. The last few months have worked a great change in the city so long regarded as having few attractions beyond its religious and historical associations.

A letter just received from Mrs. A. E. Davis, a woman missionary who has spent 11 years of her life in Jerusalem, gives a striking picture of the changes now under way.

"Palestine," says the writer, under date of Aug. 16, "will soon assume an appearance truly European. Its principal cities are fast being connected by modern railroads, and before long the toot of the American locomotive whistle, so familiar to your readers' ears and yet no novel to the native Syrian, will be heard every hour in Jerusalem, which will be the railroad centre.

"Our Joppa railway is about finished, connecting us directly with the Mediterranean coast. A branch line is contemplated to Halfa and one to Jordan. The passenger depot has just been completed. To look at it one would hardly realize that he is still in Jerusalem—it is so thoroughly modern. The freight house is in