

the author of that widely-read devotional book, "The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life," will visit Toronto, to take part in the great World's W.C.T.U. Convention in October next.

An influential deputation of the Women's Local Councils of Ontario waited upon the Ontario Government on Feb. 15th, asking for amended legislation to the Shops Act, in order to protect shop girls in similar manner as the Factory Act protects factory girls.

A public meeting was held in Ottawa, on Feb. 10th, to formally inaugurate the scheme of the Victorian Order of Home Helpers; by which it is suggested that Canada commemorates the Queen's Jubilee. The scheme was explained by the Countess of Aberdeen, endorsed and supported by His Excellency, Premier Laurier and other members of the Cabinet.

The "Victoria Free Dispensary," for the sick, indigent women of Toronto, is a Diamond Jubilee scheme conceived by the Women's Medical College, a movement having for its aim the free treatment of poor women by women physicians only. The students are soliciting subscriptions from Toronto ladies with much success.

The ninth annual exhibition of the Women's Art Association of Canada will open in Robert's art galleries, 79 King street west, on March 1st.

It now appears that Miss Flora Shaw, the writer of the series of colonial articles in the *London Times*, is responsible for hastening the Johannesburg raid. Miss Shaw, it will be remembered, passed through Canada on her *Times* mission three years ago.

WOMEN ABROAD.

Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher whose recent accident and serious after-illness gave rise to the report that she was dying, has a remarkable constitution and her family are looking forward to her recovery.

Queen Liliuokalani has established herself for the present in Washington, very much to her own comfort, and apparently somewhat to the discomfort of the outgoing and incoming Presidents.

That Her Dusky Majesty does not mean to be ignored, and that she still regards herself as Queen of the Hawaiian Isles suffering an illegal dethronement, is evident.

Miss Clara Barton, of the Red Cross League has offered to go to Cuba to relieve the destitution and suffering there. Her offer has been accepted by the Spanish Government. She is ready to leave when funds are raised.

The first Congress of Mothers, which met in Washington on February 17th, 18th, 19th, proved most successful.

Mrs. Cleveland who is generally rather shy of women's gatherings, approves heartily of this newest women's organization, and gave the delegates a private reception at White House.

It is asserted in a book published in Germany last month that the present Empress of Germany takes an active interest in Cabinet politics. She is a strong, sensible and healthy, and her influence is likely to be on the side of prudence and common sense.

It is not unlikely that the coming session of the Kansas Senate will be opened by a woman chaplain. The Rev. Frances E. Brandt is a candidate for the office of chaplain, and the newspapers of that State say that her chances are good. If she is successful, Miss Brandt's name will go on record as the first woman chaplain of a legislature body.

Eugene Field's daughter, Mary French Field, made her debut before a New York drawing room audience on February 18th, as reader and interpreter of her father's poems. Better than any other woman in the world—except her mother, who was with her last night—she understands the undertones and the stiller voices in her father's stanzas. Moreover, whether by pure sympathy or by a skill so simple that it had no outward flourish to announce itself she made her audience understand the finer, the more delicate ways in which the words she read appealed to her. Her recital was most successful.

The passage of the second reading of the Woman's franchise bill in the British Parliament on February 3rd, is a notable event in the history of the movement. The third reading of a bill is usually merely a matter of form; and although it may be delayed another year, yet the fight is practically over and the cause won. The movement has five times suffered defeat in the United States during the past month. A woman's suffrage bill was brought up in the Nebraska Legislature on February 8th, and defeated by a motion of indefinite postponement, carried by a vote of 56 to 30. A similar bill was lost in the Nevada Legislature by a vote of 15 to 5; and in Delaware on February 16th by a vote of 17 nays to 7 yeas. In Boston and Oklahoma Legislatures the bill also suffered defeat on February 18th.

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