

them an excellent standing the empire over. And let me add that this is mainly due to the patience, application and self-sacrifice of the women of the country."

It should be pointed out that the Premier is labouring under a misapprehension in reference to two points, viz., (1) the political aspect of the Woman Suffrage question in this country, and (2) the attitude of mind of the women themselves in regard to this question.

The Premier probably bases his opinion on his knowledge of the attitude of a few women who have not yet been in a position to appreciate the facts regarding woman's position as a voteless citizen. In every community there will be found persons whose sheltered condition or whose mental make-up leads them to accept life as they find it, with placidity and without question, and this is especially true of any subject race, such as womanhood has been for centuries. But the views of these women are not to be taken as indicative of public opinion on any question, nor would it matter greatly if they even represented a majority. The force that counts lies in an activity, however small, rather than in an inert passivity, however great its bulk. It is merely a question of time as to when the mass has to give way. So it is with the women of this country, except that the activity represented by the Suffrage supporters is by no means small. We women are not so apathetic as regards the welfare of our country and the race as the Premier imagines. We are far from satisfied with the results of the well-meaning but inefficient efforts of men working alone, as we see them—and feel them—in legislation and in the moral and social atmosphere of today. We do not believe that it is desirable, in the interests of the race, that one half of the community should be excluded from the direct share in the control of the government of the country, and that the sole voice in public affairs, in national, in municipal, and in do-

mestic legislation, should be the voice of that other half, the half which contributes the largest percentage of inmates to our prisons, and which, while it asserts its innate superiority over us, yet naively pleads its own moral frailty and feebleness of character as a reason for declaring and providing that in certain cases where a crime is shared by a man and a woman, justice is satisfied if the latter is forced to bear punishment and public obloquy while the former goes scot free! We are not willing to shut our eyes and accept instead of justice and liberty the barren compliments with which our consciences have too long been lulled into lethargy.

In this country of all countries, where the magnificent work of the pioneers was shared always by the women equally with the men, where we face a glorious future with a sheet as yet comparatively free from stain, except as to certain laws due rather to ignorance than to selfishness, we have at this moment an opportunity of starting fair which other lands have lacked, and it is up to us to show the Government that the question of our freedom is an issue more "live" than any other which they are called upon to face, while we rely on them, as statesmen already distinguished for their breadth of outlook, their foresight, their judgment and their courage, to follow up the splendid step they have just taken in the path of justice, with the passing of the University Act, by introducing and carrying during the coming session a measure giving Votes to Women on the same terms as they are or may be given to men. ✓

"Nervous Debility."—"The Week" greeted the birth of its young contemporary with an editorial in its editor's most characteristic vein, headed "Suffragitis." We refrain with unexampled heroism from the obvious comment, and would only mention that the "Champion" is sorry the "Week" considers Tennyson "sententious," and