

# The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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## LLEWSAC LODGE.

A place to rest for a moment,  
To draw a long, long breath,  
Before the onward movement  
That takes the hill's next crest.

(Mrs S. R. Graham Clark).

Llewsac Lodge, though situated at Bedford, Mass., fifteen miles from Boston, is yet a part of that wonderful work of which Massachusetts white ribboners are so justly proud, the Frances E. Willard settlement of Boston, of which Miss Caroline M. Caswell was and is the inspiration and head.

The Lodge is two miles out of Bedford and perhaps twice as far from historic Lexington, and claims to be, not only a vacation home for young girls during the summer months, but an all-the-year home for women between the ages of forty and sixty, who are without means of support—an industrial centre where such can earn a living.

From its incipency the Frances E. Willard settlement has always maintained a home for young women in connection with its other work; a home open only to working girls of good character, earning the small sum of five dollars a week or less. During the many years of the Settlement's life numberless applications to enter this home have been made by women who could no longer be called young and yet were not old enough to obtain entrance to any Old Ladies' Home. These were intelligent American women, without resources, through no fault

of their own, who could not become objects of charity. Many of them had spent their early years in the care of a family of younger brothers or sisters, or an aged parent; others

helping hand and a place from which to make a fresh start.

The need of these applicants appealed to the generous heart of Miss Caswell that had already gone out to the young girl and child, and a great longing to found an industrial centre where such women might find means of support took possession of her. In November of 1909, under circumstances that looked like the direct guidance of God, the Settlement took over the Bedford property now called Llewsac Lodge, trusting that He who had made possible the first payment on the estate would see that the whole of the indebtedness was met. In March of 1910, the house was entered by Mrs Myra L. Higgins—the devoted matron and head worker of the new home—and a few helpers. In May of the same year, it was first opened to the public.

The Lodge is a twenty-roomed house originally built for a gentleman's private residence. Within, it is high-ceiled, many-windowed and spacious; without, by its proportions and beauty, it commands immediate attention. It sets on an eminence and is approached through an avenue lined with trees and shrubs, a veritable pathway for the fairies when dressed in the tender greens of spring or the variegated hues of autumn. Like a

city set on a hill it cannot be hid—except when the trees are in full leaf—and dominates the landscape for a long distance, making, with its

AT the risk of wounding adult susceptibilities, I must repeat that not much can be done for this generation in the way of changing the moral bent of 'grown up' persons. The fate of the world is determined by the influences which prevail with the child from birth to seven years of age, certainly from birth to fourteen years of age. Such is substantially the unanimous judgment of living psychologists. All our problems go back to the child—corrupt politics, dishonesty, and greed in commerce, war, anarchism, drunkenness, incompetence and criminality. We know now that much of our labour for the radical betterment of society is costly and fruitless. It is because we are working against nature. We take the twig after it is bent and has stiffened into a tree. We take the brook after it has become a torrent. We take the fire after it has become a conflagration. God is teaching us, in ways made costly by our ineptitude, to *begin at the beginning* and to meet the demands of the situation by conforming to fundamental principles."

—School Physiology Journal, Boston, Mass.

were pushed out of position where they earned their bread by those younger or better fitted to meet the demands of our day. All needed a