

offered a Government Research Scholarship to continue her work on Taranaki petroleum, but turned it down in order to keep house for her father while her mother was in Europe. In 1913 Mary left this life of domesticity and went to London where she studied Home Science at King's College for two years, and then went on to study medicine. In 1918 she qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. at the Royal College of Surgeons, London. In 1923 she gained a Diploma in Psychological Medicine from the Royal College of Physicians, London, and in 1924 she became qualified as a Doctor of Medicine and was awarded the University of London Gold Medal in Psychological Medicine. After several years in posts at the Bethlem, Hellesdon, and Maudsley hospitals Mary was appointed Superintendent of the Lawn Hospital in Lincoln. Throughout her years in London Mary was a very active member of the Fabian Society and the National Guild League.

Fred's reminiscences of his younger years provide an unusually candid record of his attitude towards women, courtship, and marriage. His letters and diaries reveal some desire to 'understand' women, and he held views which were probably typical of educated men during the Late Victorian era: the woman's intuition complemented the man's logic; women were the equals of men, entitled to education and freedom of choice, but 'if a woman goes about with her eyes open and her heart not fast shut, I think', Fred wrote to his sister 'that in time she will see that marriage for most of her sex is the best and noblest career'.<sup>4</sup>

In 1883, at the age of twenty-nine, Fred confided to his diary that he 'should like to marry and settle down'. For his wife-to-be he chose a young woman friend with whom he had no particular romantic attachment. He counselled himself that he should not be impatient in his courtship. Implicitly there were rules to be followed—the man was to humble himself before the woman of his choice and be patient. As it happened Barkas was willing, but the lady was not. Fred, apparently, was incapable of playing these games. He bemoaned his failure to his brother:

No, I shall never win a woman by slow steady attention—no Jacob's seven years of service for me. . . . I could sing "Come into the Garden, Maud" and if she came with not too much coyness and placed her hand in mine—I shall be her faithful servant and best friend; but to storm the house, to be rebuffed and to attack again and again is not to my liking as a way of winning the woman.<sup>5</sup>

When Fred and Amy agreed to marry it was little wonder that Amy should have been the initiator. Fred seems to have been more in awe of Amy's independence and strength of character, than a victim of Cupid's arrow. On 17 April 1887 he listed in his diary the 'pros and cons' of marrying Amy in what seems to have been a