WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL. EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER

VOL. XIV.-No. 160. PUBLISHED MONTHLY,

MAY 1, 1883.

PRICE ONE PENNY. BY POST THREE HALFPENCE.

Contents :

Leading Articles: —Mr. Mason's Resolution; Memorial to Mr. Gladstone; Meetings during April; Women's Suffrage in Canada; Municipal Suffrage in Italy; Pensions and Heirs Male; The Rights of Women in the Peerage; Eviction of Widow Farmers; Mr. Stansfeld's Resolution; Election of Poor Law Guardians; The Money Value of a Wife; Magis-trates and the Wives' Protection Act.

Parliamentary Intelligence. Cricklade and Swindon Liberal Association.

A Husband's Right to be where his wife is. Obituary:-Lord Talbot de Malahide. Women Poor Law Guardians for 1883. Mr. Kennett's Special Fund. Treasurers' Reports ;-Mauchester ; Central Committee ; Birmingham. Petition An Icelandic Lady Novelist.

lt is always safe touse

THE MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY With an Introduction and Notes on the Act of 1882. By H. N. Mozley, M.A. –BUTTERWORTH, 7, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

ENGLISHWOMAN'S REVIEW.—Published on the 15th of each month. Price 6d., or 6s.

per annum. CONTENTS FOR APRIL, 1883.

Female Emigration; or Fifty Pounds and How we Spent it. By A. M. Beddoe.
 Blackwood and the Westminster Review on Women. By Sarah A. Norton.
 A Woman's Paper in Denmark.
 Employment of Women in Libraries.

Lady Governors and Royal Caledonian Asy-Lady Governors and Royal Caledonian Asy-lum – Protection of Young Girls – The Leeds Ladies on Industrial Schools – Amendment Act – Darlington Women's Liberal Associa-tion – Girls' Training Home, Dublim – Public Miscellaneous, n Note Correspondence. Record of Events :- Election of Poor Law Guar-

Foreign Notes and News.

Published by Trübner and Co., Ludgate Hill. and at 22, Berners-street, London, W.

OUGHT WOMEN TO LEARN THE AL-PHABET? By T. W. HIGGINSON. Re-printed from "Atlantic Essays." Price 3d. A. Ireland & Co., Manchester.

Crickiade and Swindon Liberal Association. The Convention of Royal and Parliamentary Burghs. Public Meetings :- York, Leeds, Wakefield, Cheshunt. Women's Suffrage in Italy. Women's Suffrage in Canada. The Discovery of Canada. A Social Problem Solved.

PETITION ! PETITION ! PETITION !- Friends of Women's Suffrage are earnestly exhorted to aid the cause by collecting signatures during the recess for petitions, to be presented in support of Mr. Mason's Resolution, which is expected to come on for discussion in Parliament at an early date. Petitions from women householders or others who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote are particularly valuable. Special forms of petition to be signed by such women, as well as general petitions, ready for signature, will be supplied on application to Miss BECKER, 64, Berners-street, London, W., or 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester; Miss BLACKBURN, 20, Park-street, Bristol; or Miss KIRKLAND, 13, Raeburn Place, Edinburgh.

DERBY.—A Public Meeting will be held in the Guild Hall, on Tuesday, May 8th, 1883. Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd and Mrs. Shearer will attend as a deputation from the National Society for Women's Suffrage, and the following gentle-men are expected to be present : Ald. F. Longdon, J.P., Ald. J. Renals, J.P., Ald. Thos. Roe, J.P., Ald. W. Hobson, J.P., and Ald. G. Holme, J.P.; Councillors H.F. Wakes, John Keys, R.W. Spriggs, and F. Ward : Rev. W. H. Tetley, Messrs. Frede-rick Earp, E. C. Ellis, Wm. Hall, E. S. Johnson, John Lamb, and C. W. B. Norton. To commence at Eight. Admission Free. at Eight. Admission Free.

G RIMSBY PONTOON.—A Meeting will be held on the morning of Thursday, May 10th, on the Pontoon, Grimsby, in support of the exten-sion of the suffrage to women who possess the electoral qualification. Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, Mrs. Shearer, and others will take part in the proceedings. The chair to be taken at half-past eleven by Mr. Councillor HARRISON MUDD.



GRIMSBY.-A Public Meeting in support of the extension of the franchise to duly qualified women will be held in the Temperance Hall, Cleewomen will be neid in the Temperance Hail, Clee-thorpes Road, Grimsby, on Thursday, May 10th, 1883. The chair to be taken at Eight o'clock by Mr. Councillor DOBSON. Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, Mrs. Shearer, and other ladies and gentlemen will take part in the proceedings. Admission Free.

THE HISTORY OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE. THE HISTORY OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE. Illustrated with steel engravings. Edited by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Matilda Joslyn Gage. Complete in three octavo volumes. Vols. I. and II. now ready. Price, eloth, two pounds. The question of Woman Suffrage, the rights and status of Woman, has already become one of the vital political issues of the day; therefore, its relation to political, social, and religious questions should be thoroughly understood. The Phila. Evening Bulletin says: "The magnitude of

should be thoroughly understood.
The Phila. Evening Bulletin says: "The magnitude of this history prevents us from giving even a sketch of it, but we simply and honestly say that it is a noble production, honourable to its editors and to its subject, and fairly representing the characters of the really great women, like Mrs. Stone, Lucretia Mott, Harriet Martineau, and scores of others in England and this country, who made the claim of equal rights of suffrage a part of their political and religious creeds."
The N. Cobserver says: "The able editors present this work as an arsenal of facts, to which all interested in the subject may resort and find whatever is worth knowing in regard to the movement. The history of such a movement is full of interest, and while the material is at hand and easily gathered, the editors have done well to gather it into these thick volumes, and preserve it as a put of the represented make us acquainted with the features of some who have become famous."
To be had from the office of this Journal, 28,

To be had from the office of this Journal, 28, Jackson's Row, Manchester.

THE NEW VOLUME.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.-Volume XIII. January to December, 1882. With coloured cover, price, post free, One Shilling and Tenpence.-London : Tribner and Co.; or at the office of the Women's Suffrage Journal, 28, Lackson's Raw Manchester Jackson's Row, Manchester.

Now ready, price 1s., by post 1s. 1d. WOMAN SUFFRAGE: THE COUNTERFEIT AND THE TRUE. REASONS FOR OPPOSING BOTH. By Rear-Admiral MAXSE. London: W. Ridgway, Piccadilly, and all booksellers.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.-Communications for the Editor and Orders for the Journal to be addressed to Miss BECKER, 64, Berners-street, London, W.; or to the Office, 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester.

22

19

14

13

14

81

37 33

PETITIONS.

WOMEN'S DISABILITIES.-For Removal. SIXTH REPORT, 2-6 April, 1883. Brought forward, Petitions 102-

Signatures 3,055 4764 2 KETTERING, Northampton (Lord Burghley) 4765 ,, PLYMOUTH and neighbourhood (Mr. Macliver) 4766 3 WARRENPOINT, Down (Viscount Castlereagh) 113 ○*4767 ,, HOLBECK, Leeds, Attendants at a Drawing-room Meeting held at 6, Granville Terrace, Mary F. Wilkinson, chairwoman (Mr. Jackson) *4768 " BROCKLEY (Viscount Lewisham) *4769 " ELIZ. BLACKWELL and others (Mr. Murray) *4770 4 BERTHA MARY BATES and others (Mr. Jacob Bright).. *4771 ,, WATFORD, Herts (Mr. Cowper) *4772 4773 *4773 " HAMMERSMITH and SHEPHERD'S BUSH (MIT. FITUH) *4774 " DULWICH High School for Girls, Head Mistress and Assistant Teachers of the (Mr. Grantham) *4775 ,, BRIGHTON (Mr. Marriott) Dilke) O 4779 6 Lady Peckitt's Yard, York, Attendants at a Meeting held in the Adult School, Maria H. Richardson, president (Mr. Creyke) ", HENRY TUTCHINGS and others (Mr. Gore-Langton) ... *1780 *4781 " YEOVIL (Mr. Gore-Langton) *4782 ,, ,, 59 *4783 ,, " *4784 ,, ,, ---- --- --- --- ---*4785 ,, ,, *4786

4789 , BOWDON and ALTRINCHAM, Chester (Mr. Warburton) Total number of Petitions 128-Signatures 3,834

SEVENTII REPORT, 9-11 April, 1883.

			Brought forward, Petitions 128-
		1pri	I Signatures, 3.83
0	7675	9	HUNSLET, Women Members and Friends of the
-			Unitarian Congregation, Sophia Robinson, chair- woman (Mr. Jackson)
0	7676	"	HUNSLET, Leeds, Women Members of Salem Chapel, Jene Burniston, chairwomen (Mr. Jackson)
0	7677	"	DLENHEIM Baptist Congregation, Hannah Holroyd, chairwoman (Mr. Jackson)
0	7678	,,	LEEDS, Woman Teachers of the Board and Voluntary Schools, Celia Walker, president (Mr. Jackson)
0			CARDIFF, Inhabitants of the borough of, in the county of Glamorgan, at a public meeting held on December 21, 1882, G. A. Stone, mayor (Sir Edward Reed)
	7680	11	Bewdley (Mr. Baldwie) 11
	7681	"	SARAH BOLDING and others (Mr. Fawcett) 2
			Total number of Petitions 135-Signatures 3,97

marked thus (*) are substantially similar to that from Plymouth [APP, 5].

The Petitions marked thus ()) are from public meetings, and are signed officially.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED.

Le Devoir (Guise); Woman's Journal (Boston, U.S.A.); Queen Bee (Denver, Colorado); The New Northwest (Portland, Oregon); Our Herald (Lafayette, Indiana); Woman's Exponent (Salt Lake City, Utah); Toronto World, April 6th; Globe (Toronto), April 6th.

ENGLISH PAPERS.

Newspapers received containing notices of the Women's Suffrage Journal:-Swinton and Pendlebury Times, March 31st; South Hampstead Advertiser, April 5th; Peterboro' Standard, April 14th; Bootle Times, April 21st.

TEXT OF PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.-SESSION 1883.

May 1, 1883.

FROM THE APPENDIX TO THE PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS.

APP. 5. Mr. Macliver. Sig. 1.

35. The humble Petition of the inhabitants of Plymouth, in public meeting assembled, in the Guildhall, Plymouth, on December 4th, 1882,

Sheweth,-That, in the opinion of your petitioners, the Parliamentary franchise ought to be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and no future measure of Parliamentary reform will be satisfactory that does not contain a provision for such extension.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable House will pass a measure to remove the electoral disabilities of women.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c. Signed on behalf of the meeting, JOHN MERRIFIELD, Chairman.

APP. 20. Mr. Tottenham. Sig. 10.

246. The humble Petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Templeogue, Rathgar, &c., county Dublin,

Sheweth,-That the exclusion of women, otherwise legally qualified, from voting in the election of members of Parliament is injurious to those excluded, contrary to the principle of just representation, and to that of the laws now in force in England regulating the election of municipal, parochial, and all other representative governments.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable House will pass a Bill to remove the electoral disabilities of women.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

SUSAN MURPHY. CHARLES J. MURPHY. ANNE SIBELLA HOLMES. &c., &c., &c.

AN ICELANDIC LADY NOVELIST.

The New York Nation has received from the author a volume which is unique in more than one respect. Its title is "Brynjolfur Sveinsson." It was printed in Revkjavik, the capital of Iceland, by Emar Thordarson, the leading publisher of that distant land, and composed by Mrs. Torfhildur Thorsteinsdottir Holm, who resides in Selkirk West, Manitoba, Canada. It is a stout volume of 309 octavo pages, and is, on the one hand, the first historical novel ever written or published in the Icelandic language, and, on the other hand, the first novel ever written by an Icelandic woman. The scene of the story is in Iceland, in about the middle of the seventeenth century, Mrs. Holm having purposed to give a picture of Ultima Thule about the time when the epoch of modern researches in old Norse antiquities began. The hero of the novel is Brynjolf Sveinsson, Bishop of Skalholt, who discovered the manuscript of the elder Edda in the year 1643, and gave it the title of "Sæmundar Edda," believing it to have been written by Sæmund the Wise (born 1056, died 1133), an opinion that has since been set aside.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL. EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

Vol. XIV.-No. 160. PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

meeting:-Miss CARBUTT, Miss LAURA WHITTLE, Mrs. THE ballot for a day for Mr. MASON'S Resolution has, up to the present date, been unsuccessful, and the period SHEARER, and Mrs. SCATCHERD. when the subject can be brought before the House of In Leeds several meetings of women householders have Commons is still wholly uncertain. Our friends should, taken place, which have been arranged and addressed by however, not relax their efforts in promoting petitions and Mrs. OLIVER SCATCHERD. Meetings are announced in bringing the subject before their Parliamentary repreduring May in Derby and Grimsby. sentatives at every opportunity. The notice that can be given of the time when the Resolution will come on is WE record with great satisfaction the acceptance of the principle of women's suffrage by the QUEEN'S Government necessarily very short, and friends should be prepared for action at any time.

A MEMORIAL to Mr. GLADSTONE, to the effect that no measure for the assimilation of the county and borough franchise can be considered satisfactory unless it contains provisions for the extension of the suffrage to all persons, without distinction of sex, who possess the statutory qualifications for the Parliamentary franchise, has been very influentially signed, and will shortly be presented. Above ninety members of Parliament have appended their names to the document.

YORKSHIRE has been the scene of the principal meetings before them in working in support of the enfranchising that have been held during the month. A great meeting took place at the Festival Concert Room, York, on April clause of the Government Electoral Bill. 5th, under the presidency of Sir JAMES MEEK. The ladies The hopeful condition of affairs in Canada should serve who took part in the proceedings were Mrs. OLIVER as an inducement to the friends of equal political justice SCATCHERD, Mrs. CADY STANTON, Mrs. CHANT, Mrs. in other colonies to organise women's suffrage societies. SHEARER, Mrs. HENRY RICHARDSON, Miss MULLER, Miss This is of especial importance in countries where the LILLIE STACPOOLE, and Miss FLORENCE BALGARNIE. Two general subject of electoral law is undergoing, or about to preliminary meetings were held in different districts of undergo, reconsideration and reform. York, and a drawing-room meeting for the same object was held at Cherry Hill, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. THE principle that women should have a share in electing HENRY RICHARDSON. the men who make laws for them is gaining ground

A crowded and enthusiastic meeting was held on April in other besides Anglo-Saxon countries. The Italian 17th, in the Corn Exchange, Wakefield. This room is so Government proposes that women shall be allowed to vote arge that it is seldom filled either for ordinary political in all communal and provincial elections, provided they meetings or for amusements. But the people crowded it are able to read and write, and possess the usual taxfor this occasion, and it was said that there never had been paying qualifications. Even before this time, there has such a meeting in Wakefield. Mr. Alderman HENRY LEE been in Italy a kind of shadowy acknowledgment that occupied the chair, and the following ladies addressed the women have a natural right to vote. Suffrage in Italy

70

PRICE ONE PENNY. MAY 1, 1883. By Post THREE HALFPENCE.

> in Canada. A Bill has been introduced in the Dominion Legislature by Sir JOHN MACDONALD, Premier, for amending the electoral law. This Bill includes a clause giving the suffrage to unmarried women who possess the electoral qualification for the vote. Should this Bill become law, an important step will have been made towards the acceptance of the principle of women's suffrage by the Imperial Government at home.

> WE are glad to record the formation in Toronto of a Canadian Woman Suffrage Association. A report of the proceedings at the inaugural meeting will be found in another column. The Association have a grateful task

has been based as a whole, till the last Act, upon the possession of taxable property, and a woman who paid not less than 40 lire of the prescribed taxes could, if she of the European kingdoms. was a widow, or legally separated from her husband, authorise her son or son-in-law to vote for her. The present Act is a distinct step forwards from this exceedingly limited right of suffrage. The articles are as follows: Art. 21. Citizens of both sexes are electors who have completed their twenty-first year, have civil rights, know how to read and write, and find themselves in one of the conditions established by the following articles. . . Art. 74. The electors will exercise their right personally. The electors who prove their right to be inscribed in the electoral lists of several communes for elections in the commune in which they reside, and the women may send to the president of the electoral office, either directly or by means of the syndic or other person, their paper closed and sealed, and with their signature authenticated by the syndic of the commune where they reside, or by one of his delegates or a notary, and with the stamp of the commune or the notary.

This plan was suggested in 1876 by the Commission on Municipal Reform, which presented its Report to the Italian Government in the December of that year. "Considering," it says, "that under present circumstances it would be difficult for women to present themselves personally at the polls, it shall be lawful for them, as well of DE Ros and LE DESPENCER. They date from A.D. as for other electors non-resident in the communes for 1264. The latter is held by Baroness LE DESPENCER which they have votes, or prevented from attendance by in her own right. Baroness WILLOUGHBY DE ERESBY illness, to send their vote sealed up," &c., &c. "These arrangements," the Report of 1876 goes on to say, "by which some of the largest contributors are given the right to vote, were proposed in the Bills of 1861 and 1863, in which Bills those women in whom the right to vote was recognised were allowed to delegate the exercise of this right to another person, instead of sending the written vote, which was then only allowed to invalids and to those necessarily absent. Our Commission thinks that the right of personal voting is far preferable for women to the power of only delegating it, and therefore proposes this means of facilitating their vote."

In view of thirteen years' experience in England of the ease with which women can attend personally at the municipal polls to give their votes, we can afford to smile at the caution of the legislators of Italy in thus providing exceptional facilities for them. Meanwhile it is matter for great satisfaction that the measure which has been

many years is at last to become law, and that the personal right of women to vote will be acknowledged in another C. A. B.

In the debates on the Annuity Bills for Lord ALCESTER and Lord WOLSELEY, attention was called to the provision restricting the pension for two lives to the heirs male. There does indeed seem to be no reason why honours and rewards bestowed on the families of men who have deserved well of their country should be limited to male members only. We may assume that fathers care as much for their daughters as for their sons, and if the grant had been in the form of a lump sum instead of an annuity for two male lives, the daughters would have had their share of the national bounty.

THE pensions proposed to be given to the heirs male of Lord ALCESTER and Lord WOLSELEY may be supposed to be given to maintain the dignity of their rank. But this consideration serves to bring into view the retrogression in law or custom, which has taken place of late years with regard to the rights of women in the peerage.

Formerly, peerages were conferred with remainder to heirs general, and several peeresses are now in the enjoyment in their own right of titles created in the middle ages. The two oldest baronies on the roll are those holds a peerage created A.D. 1313, Baroness BERNERS one of 1455, Baroness NORTH 1554. All these baronies, though dating from periods when military service was more distinctively attached to feudal rank than it is at present, are capable of being inherited by women. But in modern peerages the succession is limited to heirs male, even though the dignity may be conferred in the first instance upon a woman, as in the case of the peerages conferred on the Countess CROMARTIE, on Viscountess BEACONSFIELD, and on the Baronesses BURDETT COUTTS and BOLSOVER.

It is a remarkable circumstance that, under the reign of a woman whose title is derived from the ancient right of succession of women to the throne, the equally ancient right of women to succession in the peerage should have become practically ignored.

WE learn from Truth that by one of the "rules" of the ARGYLL estates a widow is not allowed to retain the before the consideration of the Italian Government for so holding of her late husband, and that at the present

[May 1, 1883.

May 1,]

moment a Mrs. MACPHAIL is to be evicted in Mull under than justice, and great mischief, misery, and scandal this rule, although she owes no arrears, has a son of result from that state of things in many of the occurrences fifteen years of age, and her neighbours are willing to and events of life." guarantee her rent. It has now fallen to the lot of the statesman who pro-

The moral drawn by the editor of Truth is that the pounded these opinions to have to revise one portion at Duke of ARGYLL would do well to ask himself whether least of this chapter of legislation. We may assume that the Widow MACPHAIL, and others who are similarly in so doing he will endeavour to redress the inequality treated, are not likely to agree with the PRESIDENT of the and injustice which he has so forcibly described. But BOARD of TRADE, that there is room for legislative imwe believe that he would find his power to carry out provement in the land laws. changes in this direction materially strengthened if the We would, however, submit that neither the Duke of members of Parliament, on whose support he depends in ARGYLL, nor any other landowner who makes a rule of enforcing such changes against the influences that will be clearing his estate of women occupiers, need trouble himbrought to bear in resisting them, were directly responself as to whether or no the ejected widows think that sible to women electors among their constituents, and there is room for improvement in the land laws. No such through these to the womanhood of the entire nation.

improvement would be likely to affect their interests in this particular so long as the invidious distinction is

WE have the pleasure of recording that the annual elections of Poor Law Guardians which took place last month have resulted in the return of an increased number of ladies. The peculiar fitness that women have shown in carrying on the multifarious and intricate details of this public office, on which the health and welfare of other women and of children so largely depend, receives its acknowledgment in the eagerness shown by the ratepayers to secure their services wherever a lady has had the leisure, courage, and energy to offer herself as a candidate. The number of lady guardians in London has slightly increased. In St. Pancras Miss FLORENCE DAVENPORT HILL, Miss It is beyond the province of this Journal to discuss the LIDGETT, and Miss S. WARD ANDREWS have been returned; the two first without a contest, the latter at the head of the poll. In Lambeth, where last year there were three ladies, there are now but two, Miss FRANCES LORD and Miss WHITEHEAD; Miss EVA MULLER having retired on the occasion of her marriage with Mr. WALTER B. M'LAREN. Plumstead has again returned Men have not shown themselves in the past such care-Miss EVINS at the top of the poll; Kensington returned Miss DONKIN; Paddington, Mrs. CHARLES. In Islington Miss VARLEY was re-elected without a contest; and in Holborn Miss BAKER was returned at the head of the poll. The Clapham Union has, for the first time, obtained the advantage of placing three ladies on their Board, Lady MONTAGUE POLLOCK and Miss SYNNOT being elected for the Clapham and Mrs. POULDEN for the Battersea districts.

maintained between occupiers who have and those who have not political power. The real reason why the rule is enforced, which deprives Widow MACPHAIL of house, home, and livelihood, is that Widow MACPHAIL has no vote. THE success of Mr. STANSFELD'S motion on April 20th expresses the decided sense of the House of Commons in favour of the modification or repeal of the scandalous and immoral legislation of 1866-69, which still disgraces the statute book, but which must, sooner or later, be unconditionally swept away. details of legislation on this subject, but we are bound to emphatically protest that men alone are not morally competent to make laws relating to public morality, and most deeply touching the safety, honour, and liberty of women, while excluding women, just because they are women, from any share in influencing legislation.

ful guardians of public morality, or of justice to the other sex, that they can be trusted with irresponsible power in this matter. Mr. GLADSTONE, in the course of his long experience, has never given forth a more weighty and statesmanlike utterance than when he said in the House of Commons, in a debate on women's suffrage in 1871. after referring to the inequalities of the Divorce Act, The subject which I am now on the verge of is rather painful, and not necessary to enter upon in detail, but I In the country districts the ladies have, with few exmay say that in the whole of this chapter of legislation, ceptions, been equally successful. In Bristol the four especially where the irregular relations of men and women ladies who were guardians last year have been re-elected, are concerned, the English law does women much less | Miss WINKWORTH and Miss WOOLLAM being at the top

72

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

of the poll for their district, and Miss CLIFFORD heading the poll in hers; Mrs. PRENTICE was second in her district. In Bridgwater one lady only, Mrs. HAMMILL, offered herself for re-election ; Miss SPILLER, who last year was also elected, finding her time too much occupied with School Board duties to offer herself again. In Birmingham two ladies were added to the Board of Kings Norton in place of two gentlemen, who resigned because they felt "women could be so much more useful." These ladies are Mrs. SMITH JAMES and Miss AGATHA STACY. Mrs. ASHFORD, who was elected last year for the parish of Birmingham for three years, of course, still retains her position on the Board, but Mrs. PERRY has resigned on account of ill-health. In Bradford a lady, well known for her services among the poor, Miss MACTURK, was brought forward by the Bradford Women's Suffrage Society. We are happy to report that Miss MACTURK was returned second on the poll, having received nearly five thousand votes. The Women's Suffrage Association is to be heartily congratulated on their success in placing ladies on the School Board and Board of Guardians in Bradford.

In Eastbourne, Miss WILHELMINA HALL has been elected. In several smaller towns and parishes ladies who have already served in this capacity have been reelected : Mrs. MILQUHAM for Boddington in the Tewkesbury Union; Miss SPOTTISWOODE for Shere, near Guildford; Miss SIDDON for Honley, in the Huddersfield Union; and Mrs. SHAW for Elstree, in the Barnet Union. This last had three votes for every one of her opponent.

Some other ladies who were nominated in various parishes, from one cause or another, retired before the election, and in three or four cases lady candidates were unsuccessful. Miss FIELDER, who has filled this office for five years at Abergavenny, was defeated; so was Miss VULLIAMY, a second lady candidate in Eastbourne; Miss BESSIE PHIPPS in Newington ; and Miss BOYD at Canning Town, Stratford.

If we add to the number of the lady Poor Law Guardians who have just been elected in England, Miss LOUISA STEVENSON and Mrs. MILLER, whose triumphant return at Edinburgh as Poor Law Managers we had the pleasure of chronicling last month, we find there are twenty-eight ladies lately elected; and three, Mrs. ASHFORD in Birmingham, and Miss CARBUTT and Miss WILSON in Leeds, who, being elected last year for a triennial term, are still in office. The total number of women guardians is thirtyone. A small number, undoubtedly, when we think of the large interests involved and the enormous extent of

our pauper unions; but an advanced guard which is doing such good and satisfactory work that we feel confident each year will see it on the increase.

THE money value of a farmer's wife was assessed by a Sussex jury at the recent assizes at two hundred pounds. A farmer, named GOSLING, sought to recover from the London and South-Western Railway Company damages for the loss of his wife, who was killed by a train at Stokes Bay railway station in August last. The jury found for the plaintiff, and damages were arranged at £200, with costs of special jury.

It would be interesting to know on what principle money damages are awarded for the loss of a wife. It is easy to understand the grounds on which compensation in money is awarded to a wife for the loss of her husband, because the husband is or is supposed to be the "breadwinner," and a wife, deprived by the act of others of the man who "maintains" her, suffers a material loss for which material compensation is due. But unless it is allowed that the services of a wife have a material money value to the husband, it is difficult to understand on what grounds a money compensation can be claimed; and if they have such value-if a wife's work is worth money-what becomes of the theory that married women, while they render such services, are "supported" by their husbands?

MAGISTRATES still continue to exercise the power to withhold from wives who are beaten by their husbands the protection decreed by the Matrimonial Amendment Act. A Nottingham paper reports a case in which JOSEPH BROADBENT was charged with assaulting his wife. Mr. W. B. SMITH appeared for the complainant. He asked the magistrates to treat the case as one of aggravated assault, and to grant a judicial separation, as the prisoner had for years ill-treated his wife. On a certain day he came home drunk, began to quarrel, and threw pots at his wife, one of which struck her. A day or two afterwards he again came home drunk, and again began quarrelling. She went out, and he followed her into the street and struck her a violent blow on the shoulder. He would not work, and she had to maintain him. The prisoner admitted the assault, but the magistrates did not think it was of so aggravated a character as to justify them in granting a judicial separation.

Therefore the woman is legally bound to take her tyrant back, to work for his maintenance, to live with him and serve him, and to suffer his blows and ill-treat-

May 1, 1883.

May 1,]

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

ment so long as he just manages to keep within the line of aggravation which the magistrates hold that the woman is bound to endure without hope of release.

Surely justice demands that the person who has to On April 5th a public meeting in support of the claims of women suffer ill-treatment should be the one to decide whether householders to the Parliamentary franchise was held in the Festival Concert Rooms, York. Alderman Sir JAMES MEEK, J.P., presided, and there were on the platform Mr. Councillor and Mrs. E. T. Wilkinson, Mr. and Mrs. H. Richardson, the Rev. F. Lawrence, the Rev. S. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. the blows and assaults are sufficiently aggravated to entitle her to escape from liability to them. PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE. Smithson, Miss Meek, Miss Wilkinson, Miss Swaine, Mrs. J. Agar, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. James, Mrs. Stephenson, Mrs. Worthington, Mrs. Gibb, Mrs. Cady Stanton, Boston, U.S.; Mrs. Shearer, London; Mrs. HOUSE OF COMMONS, Friday, April 20. Oliver Scatcherd, Leeds; Mrs. Chant, London; Miss Muller, of the Supply,-Order for Committee read ; London School Board; Miss Balgarnie, of the Scarborough School Board; Miss Lillie Stacpoole, London; Mr. H. W. Empson, Mr. T. G. Mann, Mr. H. M. Cross, Mr. Harold Cox, Mr. G. Manton, Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair :"---Mr. Arey, &c. There was a very large attendance, which was com-posed principally of ladies.

Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "this House disapproves of the compulsory exami-nation of women under the Contagious Diseases Acts,"-(Mr. Stansfeld,)- instead thereof :-

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out tand part of the Question :"-Debate arising ;

Saturday, 21st April, 1883 :

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Debate be now adjourned :"-(Mr. Gorst :)-Motion, by leave, withdrawn. Question put :- The House divided; Ayes 110, Noes 182: - Words added.

Main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to. Resolved, That this House disapproves of the compulsory examination of women under the Contagious Diseases Acts.

Thursday, April 26. DUBLIN TELEGRAPH CLERKS.

Mr. O'DONNELL asked the Postmaster-General why the female elegraph clerks at Dublin, receiving 30s. a week and upwards, were refused the annual holiday of three weeks enjoyed by female telegraph clerks receiving similar rates of salary in Londo

Mr. FAWCETT : In reply to the hon. member, I have to state that the difference to which he calls attention between the periods of annual leave in London and in Dublin appears to me an anomaly, and I will see whether steps cannot be taken with a view to its removal. (Hear, hear.)

CRICKLADE AND SWINDON LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the committee of the borough of Cricklade Liberal Association, held on April 10th, the following resolution was adopted with only one dissentient: "That, in the opinion of this meeting, no future measure of Parliamentary reform will meet the requirements of the present time which does not provide for the representation of women householders and ratepayers." A petition in support of this principle was signed by the chairman, Mr. Sadler, on behalf of the association, and forwarded to Mr. Maskelyne, M.P., for presentation to the House of Commons.

Mrs. CADY STANTON, in seconding the resolution, observed that they had heard it said that no just government could be formed SCOTLAND. THE CONVENTION OF ROYAL AND PARLIAMENTARY The Convention of Royal and Parliamentary Burghs was resumed without the consent of the governed, and that was the question without the consent of the governed, and that was the question they were there to consider; the most momentous question, the most far-reaching in its consequences, of any that a people had ever been called upon to consider. The right of the suffrage was simply that of self-protection, which they believed was the in-alienable right of every man, woman, and child that was born into the world. (Applause.) The only reason why women had so much to complain of was that they were not represented in our Government. They had no representation in any government on the face of the earth. Men claimed to represent women, but they might as well ask the men to do the women's repentance, or pravin Glasgow on April 4th. Lord Provost Ure, Glasgow, again occupied the chair as Preses, and was supported by Lord Provost Hewat of Perth, Provost Moncur of Dundee, Provost Wilson of Greenock, Provost Swan of Kirkcaldy, and Dr. Lees, chaplain to the Convention. THE FRANCHISE. It was unanimously agreed, on the motion of the Commissioner for Paisley (Provost Clark), to memorialise the Government to introduce a Bill for assimilating the county with the burgh fran-chise; and, on that of the Commissioner of Linlithgow (Provost might as well ask the men to do the women's repentance, or praying, or petitioning at the Throne of Grace, as to represent them in an earthly tribunal. It was utterly impossible. Replying to some of the objections to the granting of the franchise, she denied that it Mackie), to petition Parliament to confer the Parliamentary franchise on women.

74

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

YORK.

GREAT MEETING IN THE FESTIVAL CONCERT ROOMS.

Sir JAMES MEEK observed that he had several years ago advocated the rights of women, when Lord Houghton presided with his usual eloquence and ability. He (Sir James) still thought that where a spinster or a widow had the responsibility of property or even a tenancy, and had to pay taxes, that she ought to have the rights and privileges of men. (Applause.) The Married Women's Pro-perty Act, however, went farther than that; but whether it went perty Act, however, went farther than that; but whether it went too far in some respects yet remained to be seen. He thought that men had greatly erred when they had sought to oppress or degrade the opposite sex. (Hear, hear.) Sir James then spoke of the beneficent influence of women, and mentioned amongst the more illustrious of the sex Boadicea, who led the ancient Britons to war; Queen Phillipa, of Hainault; and the Countess of Pembroke, who was for many years high sheriff of Westmoreland. (Applause.) The brightest eras in our history were to be found in the reigns of our queens. Women were naturally more conservative than men. still he hoped they would ever be grateful to the party that ren-dered to them, as well as to the country, the best service. dered to them, as well as to the country, the best service. Mrs. OLIVER SCATCHERD, of Leeds, then read letters of apology

from the Viscountess Harberton, Mrs. Fawcett (wife of the Post-master-General), Mrs. Clark (daughter of the Right Hon. John Bright), Miss Jane Cobden (daughter of the late Richard Cobden). Mr. Ralph Creyke, M.P. for York, wrote to say that women householders had just as good a right to the Parliamentary franchise as to the municipal vote, and having right on their side they would doubtless some day obtain the power they now sought. The Rev. F. LAWRENCE (vicar of Westow), who was called upon

to move the first resolution, said that the theory of government in this country was that taxation and representation should go together, that those who paid taxes should have a voice in the expenditure. And yet there was a very large and important class of rate-payers who were excluded from the possession of the franchise because the members of that class happened to be women. This was a manifest injustice. It was a relic of a bygone barbarism, which he trusted this meeting would assist in sweeping away. He then moved: "That in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who, in all matters of local government, have the right of voting.

would cause differences in the family circle. She wanted woman to have a voice in government because she was the representative of the moral forces of society. Man represented the material forces of society. (Applause.) In this age of intellectual triumph and scientific advancement the moral and physical forces did not seem to keep pace, and the answer lay on the surface—it was because woman had not yet awoke to her duty.

Mrs. CHANT supported the resolution.

Mrs. SHEARER also supported the motion.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried with two dissentients.

Mrs. HENRY RICHARDSON, who proposed the second resolution, thought that everyone present with a doubting mind would now agree that there was a case for women, and furthermore that it had been well pleaded. She occupied her present position from a desire to show her willingness to be found on the side of a cause which, she believed, bore to a great extent upon the elevation of womanhood. If she thought there was anything unwomanly, or undignified, or unbecoming in her lifting a voice in favour of the enfranchisement of women, she would not have stood where she was. The longer she lived and the more she saw of the operations of the laws which affected women-and in fact the nation at largethe more she was convinced of the absolute necessity that women should have a voice in the choice of our national legislators. If the House of Commons would only permit the more prominent promoters of this movement an audience, and allow them to plead their cause, they (the women) would probably effect such a result that they would obviate the necessity of a very long continuance of this agitation. She then moved the following resolution : "That a memorial to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., first Lord of her Majesty's Treasury, be adopted, and signed by the chairman on

behalf of the meeting." Miss MULLER said the point and end of everything they were asking for could be briefly stated. There were some countries where representation was based upon the principle of personality. We had in this country the principle of property representation. If a man lived in a house and paid the rates he had a vote, but if he was succeeded by a woman householder she was refused that right, and there the property qualification was dropped and the personal qualification was brought in. By removing that disability of women they would not only do them justice, but would consoli-date and solidify the principle on which the whole constitution was based, and would be removing one of the most fundamental incon-sistencies that any nation could have in its foundations.

Miss BALGARNIE (of the Scarborough School Board) supported the resolution most heartily, and the more so because the one to whom it was addressed had already expressed himself in favour of the principle of the matter, though he had not in so many words said it came within the sphere of practical politics. The women wanted to be allowed by the vote to "love their country more," and to have a greater interest in the true greatness of the country. (Applause.) It was not a personal and selfish question. It was in the highest sense a patriotic question. They did not argue it simply for their own reasons, but they wished to help forward their country. They wanted to be made the true helpmeets of men, and that which they were seeking for was one of the best means of attaining that end They did not demand that in a spirit revolutionary or antagonistic but in a spirit of co-operation. (Applause.)

Mr. Councillor WILKINSON, in supporting the resolution, said if the principle that "taxation without representation is tyranny" were true, nothing could have a closer bearing upon that question. They were often fond of boasting that our laws were just and equal but let them look at the laws as they affected the political rights of women and men. The law said all householders should have a vote under certain well-known conditions, and it was positively touching to see the care the Legislature had taken of the political rights of men, but in respect to women it said they should not vote. It was a glaring anomaly, and the feeble objections which had been made to the granting of that right had been hundreds of times confuted and "broken to pieces and smashed and pulverised to powder." He should like to make a remark with respect to the Press of York. One of the speakers spoke of the Press as coolly ignoring those who were seeking that right. (Miss Muller: The London Press.) That statement did not apply to the York Press. ability with which the York Press is conducted. (Applause.) The resolution was passed with only one dissentient. Miss STACPOOLE moved : "That petitions to both Houses of

Barliament, based on the foregoing resolutions, be adopted and signed by the Chairman on behalf of this meeting; and that memorials to Ralph Creyke, Esq., Joseph J. Leeman, Esq., Sir F. A. Milbank, Bart., and the Hon. Guy C. Dawnay, members for the city of York and the North Riding of Yorkshire, asking them to upport the resolution to be moved in the House of Commons by Mason, be also adopted and forwarded to them."

Mr. GEORGE MANTON, who was called upon to second the proposition, remarked that in the births in this country there was a predonderance of girls; and, furthermore, so long as the barbarous custom of war was tolerated, a great number of the flower of our manhood were killed. In most cases it was the custom for the majority to rule the minority, but in regard to legislation the minority controlled the majority. He was strongly in favour of the franchise being extended to women.

Mrs. SCATCHERD supported the resolution, and stated that of the 34 members which Yorkshire sent to Parliament, 16 had voted in favour of that measure of justice to women; 9 had voted against it, and nine were neutral or had not yet had a chance to vote. Mr. Creyke, M.P., was in favour of the movement, but she did not know quite so much about the opinions of their other member on the subject. Under any circumstances they could not forget the services which Mr. Leeman's father always rendered to the cause. (Applause.) Not only did he support the agitation for women's suffrage when he was member for this city, but he took an active interest in every other cause of justice to women, and she hoped that his son would soon see his way clear to follow in his father's footsteps in that respect. (Applause.) She hoped that he would be encouraged by the memorial now passed. Even if he were opposed to the principles now laid down, good would be wrought, because he could not then say that he had never heard from his constituents he could not then say that he had never heard from his constituents on the subject, and that the people of York did not care about it. (Hear, hear.) Sir Frederick Milbank, M.P., was in favour of it; but Mr. Guy Dawnay, M.P., had yet to be influenced. Recently there was a women's suffrage meeting at Malton, and a memorial was forwarded to Mr. Dawnay. In his reply he said he could not deny that there were many women who were better qualified to vote than some men, but he was not prepared to say that voting came so naturally to women, or that it was within their sphere as it was within the sphere of men. They were told it was not natural for women to vote, but in municipal elections they performed that office quite as well as men, and at any rate they should first give women the opportunity of voting before tellng them it was not natural.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

On the motion of Mrs. SHEARER, seconded by Mrs. HENRY RICHARDSON, a vote of thanks was heartily passed to Sir James

Meek for presiding. Mr. H. M. CRoss (secretary to the North Riding Liberal Associa-tion) moved a vote of thanks to the ladies who had delivered addresses, and this having been carried, the proceedings terminated.

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS.

YORK.

On April 2nd a meeting to promote the great meeting to be held n the Festival Concert Rooms, York, on April 5th, was held in the Adult School, Lady Peckitt's Yard, to pass resolutions to support the claim of women householders to the Parliamentary franchise. Mrs. Henry Richardson, of York, addressed the meeting, and said she hoped that before the meeting was closed those who did not at present pathise with the objects of the meeting would come warmly over to their side. At the meeting on Thursday there would be a large number of ladies who have spoken a great deal on the subject of women's suffrage, who would put the matter before them in a clear and intelligent manner. The question of women's suffrage when properly looked at could not, she thought, be controverted. It has ustice and right upon its side, and it was only those with prejudiced minds who saw any error or inconsistency in it. When they had it put before them that only the difference of sex between them was considered, people would soon see that it was fallacious Very appreciative notices had appeared in every paper belonging to York, and that gave them a very high opinion of the character and for Parliamentary representation, although they occupied the same

May 1, 1883.

social position as other ratepayers. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. H. M. Cross moved the first resolution, which was as follows :—"That by the exclusion of women, otherwise legally qualified, from voting in support the meeting to be held in the Festival Concert Room, York, on Thursday evening next, April 5th." He sympathised the people, and a better condition of civilisation generally. use.) Women were certainly entitled to vote on the ground f intelligence in Parliamentary elections. After referring to the many great achievements of women in the paths of literature, science, and art, he said that in those countries where women had the greatest amount of freedom, civilisation was most advanced. to both Houses of Parliament, based on the foregoing resolution, be

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said he had taken part in several meetings in that room, but at none of greater interest the election of members of Parliament, a large part of the property, intelligence, and industry of the country is unrepresented, and this than the question of the evening. They met under the auspices of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, which had for its object to give the Parliamentary franchise to all women who, had meeting, believing such exclusion to be unjust, pledges itself to they been men, would have been now on the register. He thought deeply with the movement, and thought that if women had had the law of England offers an unworthy insult to the other sex when political privileges in the past, there would now have been in this it declares, as it does, that a householder, by the mere fact of being country more political virtue, and a higher state of culture among a woman, is morally and mentally incapable of exercising the franchise, and therefore they were outside the pale of the constitution. This was not a political question, but was altogether unconnected with political party. Some politicians objected to giving the franchise to women on the ground that it would increase the number of Conservatives or Liberals, but this was a very narrow view to take of the question. If women were entitled to the vote the vought to (Hear, hear.)-Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, of Leeds, seconded the have it. Women had taken part in municipal elections, on boards of resolution, which was carried unanimously. -- The Rev. C. J. guardians, and school boards, without any detriment to the interests Morriss moved, and it was seconded and carried, "That petitions of society or the State. There was no danger involved in this uestion; women were not going to upset the glorious Constitution. signed by the President, on behalf of this meeting, and forwarded Applause.) It was asserted that women did not want the vote, Several other ladies addressed the meeting, which conout whilst many women naturally shrank from publicity they were cluded by a vote of thanks being passed to the President. asking for the franchise all over the country, and they were pleading with an earnestness and eloquence which could not be ignored. (Hear.) They were told that women did not understand politics, On April 3rd, a numerous company of ladies assembled by invitation at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Richardson, Cherry but he contended that, remembering the complex nature of some political questions, if the right of voting were limited to those who understood politics, the operation of the franchise would be indeed limited. If voters did not thoroughly understand politics, they knew what they required and what was for their interests. (Hear, Hill, York, to listen to addresses on the subject of the extension of the Parliamentary suffrage to women householders. Mr. Richardson presided, and in opening the proceedings quoted statistics which howed that if women were enfranchised, between 300,000 and 100,000, or one woman to every seven men who now possessed the hear.) One special reason in favour of the movement was that unfranchise, would become voters in England and Wales for Parliarepresented classes never got a hearing for their grievances. In the mentary representatives. The Return of Owners of Land in 1872 rush and hurry of political life the voice of woman could not make gave the number of women landowners of one acre or upwards in itself heard, and a great many things connected with our laws which England and Wales as 37,806, out of 269,547-a proportion of one bear hardly upon the social relations of women, and required rectifying, were not attended to. (Hear.) He had long been thoroughly seven. That women desired the franchise was shown by the fact that in 1875 the signatures to petitions in favour of such a convinced of the justice of the claim of women to vote, and he was fully satisfied of the wisdom, capacity, and discretion of women householders, entitling them to enjoy that right and privilege. measure reached the number of 415,622, of which about half were those of women. During the past fourteen years upwards of 1,300 public meetings had been held in the United Kingdom in support of the movement, and last February more than 5,000 women assembled in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, to urge the removal (Applause.) Mr. GEO. MANTON moved the following resolution : "That by the exclusion of women, otherwise legally qualified, from voting in the f this disability.

election of members of Parliament, a large part of the property, Miss BALGARNIE, of the Scarborough School Board, in an ex-cellent address, supported the movement. She gave a very inteintelligence, and industry of the country is unrepresented; and this meeting, believing such exclusion to be unjust, pledges itself resting historical review of women's rights, in which she pointed out to support the meeting to be held in the Festival Concert Room on the reverence which the Teutons of the continent had for women as Thursday evening next, April 5th." In doing so he contended that counsellors, and how that when the Saxons brought the germs of there were three special grounds on which anyone could claim a voice in the making of the laws. First of all, our lives were subject representative government to England, women were admitted to have votes for and voices in the councils of the nations, abbesses to the laws. Secondly, a woman's liberty was at the mercy of the having in the time of one of the Henrys been called to Parliament. law. Thirdly, her property was similarly at the mercy of the law. She severely criticised the degenerated chivalry which imagined As there was no distinction made in the administration of the laws, it was nothing but just that a woman should have an equal voice that all women were incapable of doing hard work, and also the action of members of Parliament who were under this misconcepin the making of those laws that men have. (Applause.) As to the mental capacity of both sexes, he was able to testify, as a teacher tion in regard to the measures which would restrict the rights of the women of the poorer classes from earning a livelihood in trades of many years' experience, that girls were equally strong mentally in which they had hitherto worked. It was not work that deas boys. (Applause.) Mrs. SHEARER seconded the resolution, which was adopted. graded women ; but it was scarcity of work, and when they were reduced to starvation wages, which degraded them. Upon those Mr. W. SESSIONS moved a resolution to the effect that petitions to both Houses of Parliament, based on the foregoing resolution, be women who were in higher stations of life a solemn duty devolved signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting. He endorsed the of protecting their humbler sisters from the injustice which they were now suffering, and to seek to place them on that equality with remarks of the previous speakers as to the need of women being men that justice demanded. put on an equality with men as to voting. Mrs. O. SCATCHERD, of Leeds, seconded the resolution, and spoke

Mrs. SHEARER, of London, delivered an exhaustive address, and, after a few words of encouragement from the Rev. SYDNEY F. MORRIS, a petition by that meeting in favour of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women was unanimously decided to be sent to both Houses of Parliament. The proceedings then terminated

The resolution was carried unanimously. On the motion of Mrs. SMITHSON, seconded by Mrs. SHEARER, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and on the proposition On April 4th, a meeting was held in the Mission Room, Nunnery Lane, in this city, to promote the demonstration to be held in the Festival Concert Room on April 5th, on the subject of women's of Mr. HENRY RICHARDSON the thanks of the meeting were passed suffrage. Mr. Councillor Wilkinson presided, and was supported to the ladies who had addressed them. by Mr. Geo. Manton, Mr. W. Sessions, Mr. Hy. Richardson, Mrs. The Chairman's reply terminated the meeting.

76

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

Ronald Shearer (London), Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd (Leeds), Miss Swaine, Mrs. E. T. Wilkinson, and Mrs. E. W. Smithson.

at some length, urging that women were entitled to the franchise on the ground that they were personally interested in many public questions, such as education, poor laws, prison discipline, peace and war, and temperance. In conclusion she asked them to give their support to the movement.

LEEDS.

78

On April 6th the Leeds Debating Society discussed the question of women's suffrage. Miss Alice Hurst, mistress of the Basinghallstreet Schools, led in the affirmative, and was supported by Messrs. Leshman, Gibson, and Sutcliffe. Mr. Daughtry replied in the negative, and was supported by Messrs. Musgrave and Armitage. Mr. Latchmore presided, and spoke strongly in favour of the claim made. When the vote was taken there were only four opposed to it.

On April 9th Mrs. Scatcherd gave an address to a meeting of ladies assembled in the Baptist Schoolroom, Woodhouse Lane, or "the duty of Christian women in regard to the women's suffrage question." Discussions followed, several Bible women and district visitors saying how greatly the possession of the suffrage would help them in their work in this great town. A petition to Parliament carried unanimously.

On April 18th a well-attended meeting of women householders and other women of the second division of the north-west ward was held in the Woodhouse Mechanics' Institute. Miss Carbutt pre-sided, and was supported on the platform by Mrs. Shearer, Mrs. Ed. Walker, Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, Miss Alice Ker, M.D., Miss Hurst, Mrs. Sunley, &c. Resolutions, memorials, and petitions in favour of women's suffrage were carried with enthusiasm, without a single dissentient. How strongly the audience sympathised with the speeches was shown by their constant murmurings of approval, and at times indignant comment, when laws specially affecting women were dealt with. A special petition from the women house-holders of this division of the north-west ward only was signed by all householders present; a large number.

We notice with pleasure also that petitions in favour of women's suffrage have been carried from large meetings of women assembled in Salem Congregational Chapel, Hunslet Methodist New Connexion Chapel, Baptist Chapel, Woodhouse.

WAKEFIELD.

On Tuesday, April 17, a public meeting in support of the claim of women householders to the Parliamentary franchise was held in the Corn Exchange, which was filled with an interested audience. The chair was occupied by Alderman HENRY LEE, in the absence of the Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Mander), who, along with other local gentlemen, were engaged on Parliamentary business of the Corporation in London. Mr. Lee was supported by the following ladies and gentlemen, viz., Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, Mrs. Shearer, Miss Carbutt, Miss Laura Whittle, Miss Wilkinson, Mrs. Wilkinson Mrs. M'Cormick, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Theedam, Mrs. Vero, Mrs. J. F Grace, Mrs. Boston, Miss Hall, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. I. G. Waites, Mrs. Wallis, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Mackenzie, Rev. J. R. Wolstenholme, M.A., Rev. A. B. Matthews, Councillors Milnes, J. F. Grace, J. S. Booth, Nicholson, and Peacock, Mr. Theedam, Mr. J. Nicholson, and Mr. I. G. Wallis, &c.

The CHAIRMAN, in a brief speech at the commencement of the proceedings, explained that he appeared in that capacity because of the enforced absence of the Mayor and Alderman Milthorp, the ex-Mayor. He took the chair on the understanding that he would not be expected to make a speech. With regard to the movement itself, he recognised the rights of women in many offices they performed, but he was not quite sure in his own mind whether such rights as they were now advocating would not take them out of the sphere in which they shone most; but if he became a convert during that meeting he would be quite ready to acknowledge it. (Laughter.) Having expressed the regret of the Rev. J. S. Eastmead that he was unable to attend the meeting, the chairman called

The Rev. J. R. WOLSTENHOLME, M.A., to move "That in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women possessed of qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who in all matters of local government have the right of voting." Mr. Wolstenholme observed that he had some difficulty. in knowing what to say on the resolution, for the simple reason that he could not for the life of him see what objection could be raised to it. (Applause.) He had not talked with any one or read a single speech on the subject, but thinking over the matter in his own mind, he had come to the conclusion that it was almost a self-evident and axiomatic truth that mere sex should be no barrier to an important civil right; and where a woman was placed in the same position as a man, paying taxes, and bearing the burdens which fall upon the country, then her sex should be no barrier to | men, and were not likely to abuse any power given to them for the

her exercising a right of voting on such matters. The answer to this claim of women had generally been that they (the men) did not believe in women taking part in the politics of the country. He said that their belief had nothing whatever to do with the matter. (Applause.) If the claim was a right one their belief had nothing whatever to do with it. Then it was urged that women should remain at home to their duties, and he replied to that that women would not be taken away by the possession of the power they sought to obtain. (Applause.) Then some were ready to say that they could not trust to the judgment of the women in these things. He said shame on the man who said so. (Applause.) They had to trust to the judgment of the women in a good many things, and to give way to them too-(laughter) ; and he held that if the judgment of women could be relied upon in these minor matters, then it should be trusted in these higher things. (Applause.)

Councillor MILNES seconded the resolution, and in doing so said the ladies in connection with that movement set the men a very good example by the energetic way in which they worked. With regard to the proper sphere of women he felt that he was in his proper sphere in the bosom of his family, where he spent a good deal of his time, so that he did not see that women were to remain there exclusively. It might be urged that one in a family was enough to enter into electioneering matters-his wife thought the same. (Applause and laughter.) They must remember, too, that there were women whose lots were cast in a different position to that of the wife; women were left to be the heads of families, and in that capacity often exercised great thought and business aptitude in the management of small or large estates as the case might be; and he contended that women who were called upon by the State to fill School Boards, Boards of Guardians, and for Town Councils, should have a voice in Parliamentary matters. (Applause.) He must say, however, that there was not amongst the women in Wakefield the enthusiasm which marked that Society represented on the platform that night, for they always found in this town a difficulty in getting the women to vote, and they had to select what was called a "ladies" man to get them to vote. (Laughter.) He, however, sympathised with the movement, and had pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN, in calling upon Miss Carbutt, of Leeds, a mem-ber of the Leeds Board of Guardians, to support the resolution, observed that if his own experience as a Guardian was a criterion they ought to have women Guardians. The other day it became what he might call his painful duty to inspect the beds of the paupers in the Workhouse, and he confessed he felt out of place in doing so; but another duty was that of seeing that the babies were properly washed and attended to. (Laughter.) Whatever difference of opinion there might be as to the desirability of women having a voice in the Legislature, there could be no diversity of feeling as to the desirability of their being on boards of guardians. (Applause.)

Miss CARBUTT then spoke. She remarked upon the smallness of the request the women were making, and argued that the same difficulty as they now experienced was found on the question of the slave trade, which, patent as the evil of it was, took fifty years' agitation to remove it. She asked the men of Wakefield not to do as did the indifferent men of the time in regard to the slave trade, render no help, and then when the victory was won come forward and say that they were always of opinion it was right—(laughter) but let them support it now, and let their voices be heard so that the members of Parliament for the borough and for the Riding might be influenced. The speaker, quoting from the Free Press of April 7th, observed that that article was a capital one, and stated "Without at all entering into the unprofitable controversy con-cerning the natural intellectual disparities between men and women, one cannot fail to remark that the idea is dying out that women have nothing to do with politics." They ought not to enter into a controversy on such a point. Men could do many things which women could not, and, on the other hand, women could do many things which men could not ; and they could thus help each other. Referring to her experience as a Guardian of the poor, Miss Carbutt expressed her gratitude for the kindness she and her fellow-woman guardian had received from the men Guardians of Leeds, and asked the audience, amid roars of laughter, to think of a man trying on ulsters for forty girls. Pursuing her argument the speaker said women were quite as much interested in having good laws as the

[May 1, 1883.

May 1,]

making of laws; for even if they were disposed to be erratic, they were only one to seven of the men. Answering the objections of "logical" member for a small town in Wiltshire, and a Rev. Mr. Smith, of Massachusetts, in America, Miss Carbutt, quoting the former, said, "I consider that women have a function to discharge which men are not fitted for, and I think it best for the happiness and proper adjustment of social life that they should confine themselves to that great function." Well, busy men with important functions found time to do duty on the various Boards on which they sat, and so could women ; and as to the voting, that would not occupy more time than it did for her to get her ticket at the railway station, and did not require much preparation. She held that the woman who took an interest in what was going on around them would be a better wife for a husband and a better mother in the household. (Applause.) She did not desire to take the place of the man; but they both had duties to do, the left hand as well as the right, and they were quite willing to be the left. (Applause.) The other gentleman she had named, Rev. Mr. Smith, urged that if women were allowed a Parliamentary vote they "would sink to the level of, well of men." (Great laughter.) Alluding to the Mayor of Leeds, Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Gladstone, and other men high in public life and esteem, the speaker asked if they should sink to the level of such men, what then ? The speaker oncluded an effective speech by pointing out the invidious dis-nction in the law which allowed her gardener a vote, while she who had been a householder for thirty years was debarred from the same

ight, and resumed her seat amid applause. Miss LAURA WHITTLE, of Liverpool, followed in a neat and gical speech, in which she asked what logic there was in allowing omen to vote for guardians, school board members, and counillors, and refusing them a vote for a member of Parliament, when he women householders had to contribute just in the same proportion as the men. One member of Parliament declined to support the movement because there was such a difference of opinion amongst women themselves on the subject; but Parliament did not decline to pass measures which seriously affected the labour and the livelihood of women without ever ascertaining that they were all of one opinion. As to the fear that the glory would depart from their homes if the women were allowed a vote, she reminded the audience that the women had to live in those homes as well as the men-(applause)-and there never was a time in the history of our country when home taste and culture had grown so rapidly as within the last ten years. (Applause.)

Mrs. SHEARER, of London, also supported the resolution. A man in the audience, in response to the chairman, asked several

nestions, the purport of which was whether the advocates of vomen's suffrage would grant the franchise to women residing in the lowest parts of our great towns and cities, some of which women would sell their vote, as they had done, for a glass of gin; and whether it was not advisable to restrict the vote to educated women.

Mrs. SHEARER replied in effect, and amid the applause of the audience, that when the vote was restricted to men who did not ive in low parts of towns, and who also sometimes sold their vote. and who were not always educated, then she for one would be agreeable to a restriction on the other side.

The resolution was carried with four or five against, and whom the chairman spoke of as a "few unfortunate gentlemen.

Rev. A. B. MATTHEWS moved : "That petitions to both Houses of Parliament, based on the foregoing resolution, be adopted and signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting, and that memorials to Mr. R. B. Mackie, M.P., and to the Hon. H. W. Fitzwilliam, M.P., and Mr. W. H. Leatham, M.P., members for the borough and the southern division of the West Riding of Yorkshire, asking them to support a resolution in the House of Commons to be moved by Mr. Mason, be also adopted and forwarded to them." Mr. Matthews said he was in full sympathy with the object of the meeting, and could see no reason why spinsters and widows should not have a vote for members of Parliament. One gentleman he had spoken to bjected on the ground that there were so many foolish women, but he had recently visited an institution in which were a number of both men and women, and the men represented the larger proportion. It was admitted, however, on all hands, that women were shaper witted than men, and had a more sensitive nature, and they were quite as likely to act judiciously as the men.

Councillor PEACOCK seconded the resolution, which was supported by

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

Mrs. SCATCHERD, of Leeds, who, in the course of a very excellent address, ably advocated the rights of her sex, and, alluding to the labour laws, said the Government interfered with them to the injury of the women, without even ascertaining their feelings in the matter. The law was most unfair to women, for no married woman could obtain relief by law from her husband until she became a pauper, and then the guardians, a body of men-she could not even then obtain it as her own right-could recover the sum advanced ; and, as a matter of fact, it was far easier for the unmarried mother to obtain maintenance for her child-she could do so without becoming a pauper - than it was for the respectable married mother. It was a shame that English laws should be so, and the effect was to place a premium on immorality. They did not claim to be equals with the men, but they were equivalents-(laughter)and they had it on high authority that the largest brains were not those who did the most work. She asked the meeting to do what they could to influence their Parliamentary representatives. They had now sixteen members of Parliament in Yorkshire on their side, and if they could only get two more, Mr. Mackie and another,

they would then have the majority. The resolution having been carried, a vote of thanks was given to the chairman for presiding, on the motion of Mrs. SHEARER, seconded by Mrs. SCATCHERD, and the proceedings terminated.

CHESHUNT.

A public meeting in support of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women householders and ratepayers was held at the Cheshunt Hall, Crossbrook-street, on February 27th, when there was a good attendance, the ladies predominating. The chair was taken by Mr. LITCHFIELD, who was supported by Miss Caroline A. Biggs, of London, and Miss Frances Lord, a member of the Lambeth Board of Guardians, as a deputation from the Women's Suffrage Society, the Rev. O. N. Tribe, B.A., of Ware, and lately of Cheshunt College, Mr. A. Cowe, B.A., of Cheshunt College, and Mr. W. A. Todhunter, M.A.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said they were met to discuss and promote the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women householders and ratepayers, and the case would be submitted to them by those who would deal with it better than he could, and he hoped it would be so presented to them that any prejudices they might have would be taken away. There were five or six hundred thousand women who were entitled to vote, and that was on the proportion of one women to six men, so that there was no reason to suppose that the men would be outvoted by the women. Women contributed to the taxes, and had had for a long time the privilege of voting for local bodies such as the Guardians and School Boards, and there was no doubt that they would use the right and not abuse it, as it was abused at the last general election. If they looked at the musical world they found women the foremost, amongst painters and sculptors they held high positions, and if they went to the Royal Academy, or to any gallery of note, and saw a lot of people hovering round a picture, on referring to their catalogue they found that picture was the work of a woman. In sculpture it was the same as in the study of medicine, they came out quite as well as the men, and as a proof of that they had the case of the recent illness of the Postmaster General ; when the nation was trembling as to the result, they found a woman in the midst of the doctors ; he referred to Mrs. Garrett Anderson, who had attended some friends of his own. He then dealt with the question of agitation, justifying it by quoting the passing of many measures as the result of such movements as the present agitation.

The Rev. O. N. TRIBE said their object was to place women on the same electoral footing as men, and lest some might think it was proposed to extend this to married women, he would distinctly state that as married women did not pay taxes, but their husbands, it was only intended to extend this right to single women and widows. He appealed to them to support this movement on the grounds of fair play. Men were able to agitate a question by means which are precluded to women, and if women were pleading their own cause they would never plead it in that manner, but they were pleading the cause of their own sex. He referred to the natural shrinking of women from publicity, and pleaded for fair play, asking his audience to help them, not for the sentimental reason that they were women, but because of the justness of their cause. Men whose property was assessed at a certain amount had the right of voting,

and judges had decided that the word "man" meant man or woman when the question of tax paying came up ; but when it came to a question of electoral rights they decided that it meant "man," and not "woman," and he thought there was some unfairness in this respect. Some people said why make a fuss about this question. There were instances of women holding farms being turned out because the landlord had not the same political power as if a man held a farm. For another example, supposing a working man died, and his wife, by dint of hard work, kept on the house by taking in washing, she might be turned out, and not being able to find a suitable house in the same neighbourhood, have to go to another neighbourhood for the same reason. These were not isolated cases, but they occurred over and over again. Recently there had been much legislation affecting women, but Parliament was not able to legislate so well in this respect as if women were consulted. Much of the legislation was fostered by trades unions, and he quoted a case at Bristol, where, under a recent Act dealing with women and children, only the women in the printing offices had been turned out, and men taken on in their places. This showed how unjust the laws affecting women were, and there were many laws on the statute book which would not have been there if women had had a voice in making them. The alteration of the law relating to married women's property was due to the agitation of the Women's Suffrage Society, and they should persevere to obtain their end. It was only fair that this right should be acceded, and it only needed to be shown that it would be for the good of women and for the country at large to ensure it. He moved that the franchise should be extended to all women who possessed the necessary rating qualification to enable a man to vote. (Applause.)

Miss BIGGS, on rising to second the motion, was received with applause. On being put to the meeting the resolution was declared carried, with two dissentients.

Mr. A. Cowe, B.A., proposed that a petition to both Houses of Parliament be adopted and signed by the chairman, on behalf of the meeting. In addressing himself to the question of the extension of the suffrage to women, he dealt with it on the grounds of expediency. He thought the admission of women to public life would temper much of the unseemly manner in which much public business is carried on, as they must have noticed when the lady who spoke before him was addressing that meeting, she was not interrupted in the manner in which men generally were. Miss FRANCES LORD, a member of the Lambeth Board of Guar-

dians, seconded the resolution, and said she would confine herself to those points in the subject which had occurred to her in the speeches which they had already heard. Referring to the objection that women were backward in political education, she said when ten years ago she made her first speech on the subject, she was met with the same objection, and related an anecdote which she heard, of a man being asked for his vote, and on hesitating to promise, saying it all depended what he got by it. On being asked what he meant, he said he saw in the House they cried "divide," and he supposed they divided the taxes. (Laughter.) She did not believe any woman would be so ignorant as that. In the towns where bribery was proved, they were heavily rated to defray the expenses, and women ratepayers had to pay the same as others, though, as they had no influence in voting, there was no chance of their being bribed. Referring to the guardianship of children, Miss Lord quoted an instance where a lady having consented to act as guardian to her coachman's children, when she was dying and her son was appointed guardian, she was obliged to incur a great deal of trouble and expense in making the children wards in Chancery, before he could legally become their guardian. As to the unfitness of women for public life, she was a member of a body which consisted of five women and seventeen men, and though they had slight rubs, as all public bodies had occasionally, there was nothing of unfriendliness about them. As instancing the advantage of having women on Boards of Guardians, etc., for the benefit of their advice and experience in domestic and other minor details of life, the speaker said she heard of an instance of a Board of Guardians discussing for three hours and a half over a very important question, whether the dressmaker should put buttons and button holes or hooks and eyes on the dresses of the inmates. (Laughter.) One of the speakers was very kind in speaking of the refining influence of women, and she hoped that influence would always be on the side of good. Some people seemed to think that if they gave

morning to ten o'clock at night attending political meetings ; but it took very little time to vote, only writing a name on a piece of paper and putting it in a box, though it might take more time to make up one's mind. Political life and home life should go to-gether, so as to make their existence more happy. She recommended her audience to spread the literature of this movement and advocate its opinions, as it was so important to women. A very good could find out their views on this subject, when it would often be found that people had been waiting for some one to speak to them about it. Another way to promote the cause was to write to their local members, as though petitions were necessary for the House of Commons, the local members were more interested in a private letter. She asked them not to begrudge the time for canvassing and stimulating them to action. This was a question that must be very soon settled, as public opinion was already formed on it; and there were other questions which demanded the attention of the public, such as the provision of dwellings for the poor. (Applause.)

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. W. A. TODHUNTER proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers, and also to Mr. Litchfield for presiding, saying that the latter was always willing to come forward to assist anything for the benefit of the people, or the neighbourhood.

Mr. REVELL seconded the motion, which was carried.

Miss BIGGs briefly responded on behalf of Miss Lord and herself : and

Mr. LITCHFIELD having acknowledged the compliment, the meeting separated.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

Wakefield Free Press, April 7.

The ladies' battle is one we are always prepared to fight, and are therefore glad to hear that a meeting in aid of women's enfranchisement is to be held in our town. The proposal to endow women with full rights of citizenship and distinct political power involves, as any thoughtful man must recognise, grave and interesting considerations that cannot be disposed of by the badinage or the platitude with which the subject is usually treated. The proposal to give women, or a limited and presumably a more independent class amongst them, an influential voice in the election of Parliamentary representatives, is, in truth, nothing more than the natural and logical sequence of the views that have come to be entertained as to the place in society that rightly and properly belongs to women, and the theories now in vogue as to the character and extent of the mental culture most befitting and salutary for them. Without at all entering into the unprofitable controversy concerning the natural intellectual disparities between men and women, one cannot fail to remark that the idea is dying out that women have nothing to do with politics; the making of crewel work, the arrangement of menus, the reading of fashionable novels, or the distribution of sanctified respirators among the natives of the Sandwich Islands is their sole work in the world. Women are just as much interested in good government as men are. They have just as much claim to a voice in the affairs of the State as men have, and no question of intellectual fitness can arise after the experience we have already had of the satisfactory way in which women use the franchise in matters affecting their own town's government. Is, then, their inferiority to the "lords of creation" so marked that they are unqualified to take share in the choice of imperial governors? No one, if we make one notable exception so far as we know, now contends that they have shown themselves unfit to take part in municipal elections. They are not terribly loquacious, or riotously demonstrative or mentally incapable. The old-fashioned nonsense about their intellectual inferiority is dying out, and those who argue that woman is incapable of understanding politics simply because they think it proves their own loftier organisation, belong to a species that will very soon be as extinct as the griffin or the dodo. Did we hear the voice of a well-known Wakefield alderman in echo, or was it merely fancy ? Never mind, ladies, persevere, keep "pegging away," you have a good deal of prejudice and a great deal of errors to fight against; but, then, you are skilful strategists, are clever pleaders, have winning ways, and have only to persevere to be sure of the victory you deserve, for ubi mel, ibi apes ! At any rate, we found it so in the franchise to women, they would be out from six o'clock in the | our younger days; and not having lost all our ardent attachment

May 1, 1883.

May 1, 1883.

for the fair sex we wish them success in the battle they are fighting, and to this end we doubt not the meeting about to be held will be a most useful contribution.

Yorkshire Chronicle, April 7.

The remark is often made by opponents that women do not inderstand politics. It is to be regretted that there is so little ntelligent apprehension of political questions amongst either men or women. The members of a class, deprived of political power, can have only a limited interest in questions which they are not llowed in any way to influence. It is, however, not so much a knowledge of political science that is wanted, as a knowledge of haracter. The voter has to choose a representative. His duty is select the man of highest ability and character who will act for nim, and in such a case, perhaps, the sympathies and instincts of women render them better judges than the other sex. Unrepreented classes can never get their claims recognised or their rievances redressed. Many of our laws are unjust to women in eir social and industrial relations. In the risk and hurry of poliical life she has no chance of making her voice heard ; in the conested condition of the Parliamentary machine she has no chance having her grievances considered until she is armed with the otent weapon of a vote. There are signs that the long struggle is roaching its end. The public mind is awakened and convinced. either of the great parties could be induced to adopt the measure, might pass at any time almost without a division, and then, as with many other reforms, we shall wonder why a change so just and lesirable should have encountered so strong an opposition.

Western Daily Press, Bristol, April 16th.

Whatever the merits and whatever the prospects of the movenent for the political enfranchisement of women, its promoters nay at least claim that theirs is not a failing cause. It may or it y not advance, but it cannot recede. Two somewhat important dents which occurred last week, one in Canada and the other in ly, indicate a political tendency which is wholly in their favour. the Canadian Parliament on Friday, the Premier, Sir John Macdonald, introduced a Bill which proposes, amongst other things, to confer the electoral franchise upon spinsters possessing the which Miss Becker and her friends will gain satisfaction is the The other incident from oposal made by the Italian Premier last week that women shall allowed to vote in all communal and provincial elections, ovided they are able to read and write, and possess the usual xpaying qualifications. This, of course, concedes no more than English law concedes in regard to elections to various administrative bodies. There is, however, one provision in the Bill which ives a special character to this extension of the local franchise to omen. Female electors, it is proposed, shall vote either in person, r by sending to the returning officer a sealed voting paper, ndorsed with their signature, attested by the mayor or a notary This is how the Italians, who are never in want of ingenuity in olitical matters, propose to deal with the proprieties involved in he case.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN ITALY.

Signor Depretis has laid before the Italian Chamber a very comreliensive Bill, reforming the communal and provincial law at resent in force in the Peninsula. One of the most remarkable hanges which it introduces is that of female suffrage. It provides hat in all communal and provincial elections women shall be ullowed to vote, provided that they possess the electoral qualifica-tions. They must have completed twenty-one years of age, they must be able to read and write, and must enjoy their civil rights, and must pay at least five francs per annum in the shape of taxaon, A curious provision finds a place in the Bill, allowing female lectors to vote either in person as other citizens, or to send to the eturning officer a sealed voting paper bearing on the outside their ignature legalised either by the syndic or by notary.

The King of Bavaria has appointed a niece of the late Richard Wagner to be a "Royal Professor of the School of Music," this eing the first appointment of the kind which has ever been given n Germany to a lady.

80

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN CANADA.

The Toronto Women's Literary and Social Progress Club, having in view the above object, gathered in public for the first time in the City Council Chamber, Toronto, on March 9th. The meeting took the form of a conversazione. Among the ladies present were Mrs. D. M'Ewan, Mrs. W. I. Mackenzie, Mrs. W. B. Hamilton, Mrs. John Hallam, Mrs. John Foulds, sen., Dr. Emily Stowe, Mrs. Frey (Toledo), a sister of Mrs. Dr. Greenless; Miss E. Foulds, Mrs. Daniel Rose, Mrs. John Baxter, Mrs. Ritches, Mrs. N. L. Steiner, Mrs. Hain Miller, Mrs. J. W. Bengough, Miss Martin, Mrs. S. A. Curzon, Mrs. W. F. M'Master, Mrs. E. Briggs, Mrs. J. R. Stitt, Mrs. E. W. H. Adams, Mrs. Wilie, Miss J. Gray, Mrs. Thomas Dunnett, Miss Churchill, Miss Riddel, Mrs. Wilson (Parkdale), Mrs. Dr. Clapp, Mrs. Thomas Moor, Lottie E. Birdsall, Jessie W. Baxter, Miss Emma Burrows, Miss Kate Wesley (Barrie), and others. Among the gentlemen were Mayor Boswell and Aldermen Steiner and Baxter, ex-Ald. Hallam, W. B. Hamilton, Capt. M'Master, Alf. Jury, W. I. Mackenzie, Samuel M'Allister, Thomas Moor, H. J. Hill, J. L. Foulds, W. A. Littlejohn, Thos. Bengough, J. W. Bengough, Andrew M'Connell, Mr. Burgess, of the Citizen.

Mrs. M'EwAN was conducted to the chair by Mr. Hallam, and opened the proceedings by an address in the following terms : I am somewhat diffident as to my position to-night, but it must be remembered that I am the first woman who has occupied this or a similar chair in Canada. To-night we take the stand that in this country those who own property to a certain extent are entitled to the franchise. There are many women in our land who do hold property, and pay taxation on that property the same as a man, and yet they are denied the franchise. We take the stand to-night and say that it is the simple right of women to vote the same as men. More than that, I may say that it is not denied to us by gentlemen. They accede to our request and say, "Yes, you have the right, and you have only need to ask for it to get it." in his Vaughan speech has said that we have only to ask for it to get it. We do now ask for this as a simple right. Although this subject is a new one in Canada, it is not so in England, for there many of the best women are to-day taking this position and asking for the right of the franchise, and we can point to large and enthusiastic meetings of the women in England. They have been asking for it for sixteen years, and I hope that in Canada we shall reap the benefit of this work. We ought not now to have to do this pioneer work. We ought now to have only to ask for the franchise to get it.

Miss E. FOULDS then read a paper treating pithily and with much aptness on the subject of the franchise; and regarding the boon ought as a deserved emancipation of women from a position of inequality because of her sex. Miss Foulds's paper elicited warm applause. The same lady moved the following resolution : 'Resolved, that in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote."

Alderman HALLAM arose and with much enthusiasm seconded the motion. He had had this question in his mind a good deal for some time past, and the longer he pondered it the deeper the impression grew that what was asked in this resolution was simple right and justice. He paid warm tribute to the high intellectual qualities of women, he could not see why ladies who were taxed should not have a right to vote, and, rising with the greatness of his subject, he even soared to the height of supposing that there might even be a mayoress, lady reeves, and members of councils, as well as men, in Canada, which was supposed to be first and foremost in every great enterprise. Well, in education he considered that it must be admitted they were first ; but in this matter he contended that England had got a little ahead. They voted in England for school trustees, and were eligible for election on the School Boards of Trustees. He considered it very reasonable that they should be allowed to vote as well as men. He concluded by referring to his resolution introduced into the Municipal Council in favour of women being allowed to vote.

Alderman BAXTER then rose. He said he did not quite understand how far the resolution aimed, but he was decidedly in favour of extending the franchise to women, subject to the same qualifications demanded of males, for all election purposes. He could see no reason why it should be withheld, since ladies were known to possess as high order of intelligence as the sterner sex. Beyond

this, several questions with which they were peculiarly fitted to deal, those affecting themselves, ought to be put within their reach through the exercise of the franchise. The resolution was carried.

Mrs. CURZON said she did not wish it to be considered that the ladies were asking anything beyond their simple right. A number of objections had been raised to extending the franchise, one of these being that it would in a measure unfit woman for the performance of the duties pertaining to her domestic sphere. This was an absurd mistake. The demand now being made was not to was an absurd mistake. The demand now being made was not to serve any visionary purpose; the duties to herself and to society which she could perform by the use of the ballot were plain and important. The question of education, of city management, with regard to the laws protecting health, and the position of women in other respects were surely subjects with which she was peculiarly fitted to deal. Mrs. Curzon's speech was a series of happy and appreciative points, and it was plain that she felt that zeal in her work which is not to be quenched by obstacles, and is sure, sooner or later, to see success. Indeed it may be stated here that the remarks of all the ladies were singularly concise and appropriate, and that it would hardly be possible to hear an equal number of men, in so few words, say so much to the point. The lady presi-dent took occasion once to say that the ladies did not seek legislative honours, or the mayoralty, as had been in half joke, perhaps in whole earnest, put forward by one of the gentlemen; they simply desired what they asked in the resolution, that the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote.

It was then moved by Mr. J. L. FOULDS, seconded by Mrs. FREY, of Toledo : "That all favourable to this first extension of the franchise be invited to leave their names and addresses with the secretary of this meeting, in order that a society may be formed to forward such legislation as may be required to expunge from the statute books any distinction of sex as a barrier to qualification for the franchise, and that said secretary be and is hereby empowered to call together within fourteen days those who thus signify such desire, so that a society may be organised." Passed.

The MAYOR said he did not wish to say anything to commit himself, but he would say that he had much sympathy for the object sought by the ladies, whose intelligence on many of the problems presented to public men were equal to, and in some respects superior to, that of the male sex.

Selections were read by Mr. THOS. BENGOUGH from speeches delivered by prominent gentlemen at the meeting of the dominion alliance favourable to an extension of the franchise to women.

Mr. J. W. BENGOUGH read an amusing paper on the subject, con-sidering the objections to the concession asked, and eliciting a good deal of applause.

Mr. J. L. FOULDS read a paper which, in a pointed and lively style, argued the justice of the appeal by the ladies, and expressing the conviction that what was sought would soon be granted.

Other speakers also offered observations approving of the extension of the franchise.

At this stage those wishing to identify themselves with the movement were requested to come forward and sign their names, with a view to forming a society to press for the legislation asked in the resolution. A large number came forward and subscribed their

The conversazione came to a close after ten o'clock, and the pretty women, with their earnest, thoughtful faces, dispersed, well pleased with the success of their initial step.

The adjourned meeting of the Woman Suffrage Association was held on April 5th, in Shaftesbury Hall, Mrs. McEwen presiding. The articles of the constitution were adopted. The name of the society shall be "The Canadian Woman Suffrage Association." The object of the association is to obtain for women the municipal and Parliamentary franchise on the same conditions as those on which these are or may be granted to men. The officers of the association will be a president, a vice-president, a secretary-treasurer, and an executive committee of not less than twelve members, who will have power to add to their number or replace vacancies which may occur. Seven will constitute a quorum at any meeting of the executive. The regular business meetings of this association will be held on the second Thursday of each month. A circular setting forth the aims of the association, and asking for co-operation, will be issued shortly .- Toronto Globe.

It was on the 5th of April, 1497, that John and Sebastian Cabot, sent out by Henry VII. of England, first rested their eyes on Canada as its discoverers. Looking back so far, Canadians may almost claim to be an ancient people. According to Prof. Agassiz, who said that before the primæval waters rolled back from the plains of Europe, America was ; the early explorers were a long time discovering the then long existing country of "stupendous cataracts and purling streams." The march of the centuries has evolved from vast wildernesses and impenetrable forests a populated country and populous cities, not the least of which is the Queen City, situated so far from the cold coast of Labrador, which first met the view of the Cabots nearly 400 years ago .- Toronto Globe.

THE DISCOVERY OF CANADA.

A SOCIAL PROBLEM SOLVED.

There is in London a Jewish working men's club, at which it is contended that three of the greatest problems which occupy the attention of philanthropists have been solved. The hon. secretary, Mr. A. J. Myers, in a letter to a contemporary, states that they admit females to all the privileges of membership, that there is an average attendance of about one hundred and fifty on week-day evenings, and more than double that number on Sundays ; that the club is a formidable rival to the music halls, dancing saloons, and the streets; and that during the several years the place has been open, there has not been a single complaint against a female member. The club is self-supporting. Refreshments are sold, but not intoxicants, and Mr. Myers writes of the institution : "We do not care for fifth rate lecturers giving our members a condensation of their super-ficial reading, but we prefer the elevating influence of first-class music. Every Sunday evening there is held a concert, in which musicians of undoubted talent take part. As we can ensure an appreciative audience there is no lack of artistes, who give their services quite gratuitously. We are unrivalled in chess among working men's clubs. For six years consecutively we have won the chess trophy offered for competition among the clubs by the Working Men's Club and Institute Union."-Manchester Courier.

A HUSBAND'S RIGHT TO BE WHERE HIS WIFE IS.

George Edwards, a collier at Hackenthorpe, was charged on two summonses with assaulting his mother-in-law, Sarah Turner, the wife of Oliver Turner, and Rose Edwards, his wife.—The defendant went to seek work and left his wife and child at his house. Upon return he found that his house had been broken up and his wife and child were at Mrs. Turner's house. He went there and was refused to see his wife or child, and soon getting into another room he proceeded to take his child away from its aunt, and is then alleged to have assaulted the three women.—The Justices decided that a man had a right to be where his wife was, and that he did not use more force than was necessary to see his child. They dis-missed both cases.—Sheffield Telegraph.

Obituary.

LORD TALBOT DE MALAHIDE .- We regret to record the death, at an advanced age, of this estimable nobleman. He was a warm friend of the movement for education and for the enfranchisement of women, and took part in more than one public meeting in connection with the Women's Suffrage Society.

A LADY REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS .- The widow of the Rev. Thomas Tuffield has been elected Registrar of Births and Deaths for the District of Woolwich Arsenal in the place of her late husband. The Poor Law Guardians were unanimous in making the election, which will have to be confirmed by the Registrar-General.

A lady has given a donation of five hundred pounds to the Chelsea Hospital for Women, for the purpose of naming after her deceased sister one of the memorial wards in the new building, which is situated in Fulham Road.

May 1,] May 1, 1883.

WOMEN POOR LAW GUARDIANS FOR 1883.

nomin			MANUILOI DI DOULLI	DONATIONS APPIL 1983
	1 0	RESULT.	SUBSCRIPTIONS AND	DONATIONS, APRIL, 1883.
PLACE.	CANDIDATES.	RESULT.	Mr. R. B. Kennett (special	LEEDS (continued).
THAT IND			donation) £250 0	0 Miss Bullock £0 2 6
ENGLAND.	1000 Tel 107 . 201		Mrs. William Hargreaves 5 0	0 Mrs. Flockton
London: St. Pancras	Miss F. Davenport Hill	Re-elected	Mrs Winkworth 5 0	
	Sec. 7.17. 11		Mrs. Hy. Richardson 2 2	U mis, colos
** ** ** **		Re-elected	Dr. Buchanan 2 2 Mrs. John Mills 2 0	0 Mrs. Ellis 0 1 6
Lambeth	Miss F. Lord	Re-elected	Dr. Pankhurst 1 1	0 Miss Brown 0 1 6
	Miss Whitehead		Mrs. Pankhurst 1 1	
Paddington			Messrs, A. Ireland & Co 1 1	0 PRESTON.
Kensington			Mr. J. Peiser 1 1	0 Mr. R. Benson, J.P 1 1 0
Islington			Mrs. Brankston 0 10	
Holborn Plumstead			Mr. B. Cullwick 0 10	6 Miss Thompson 0 10 0 0 Mrs. Addison 0 5 0
Clapham			Mis. Hallett 0 10	
· · · · · · · ·			Mrs. Frankland 0 6 Miss Alice Wood 0 5	0 Mrs. Parkinson 0 2 0
Battersea	Mrs. Poulden	1st time	Mr. J. G. Blumer 0 5	0 WAKEFIELD.
Bristol : Westbury-on-Trym			"A Lover of Justice" 0 4	0 Messrs. W. Nicholson & Sons 1 0 0
" Clifton			Dr. Emily Stowe (Toronto) 0 3	11 Mrs. Tattersall 1 0 0
» « » » · · · ·	Miss Woollam Mrs. Manning Prentice		Mrs. Evans (Tewkesbury) 0 2	6 "A Friend," per Mrs. M'Cormick 1 0 0
., St. Philip's Bridgwater	Mrs. Hammill		Mrs. Jacob 0 2	
Boddington			Mrs. H. Busby 0 2 Mr. H. M. Cross (York) 0 2	
Elstree			Mr. H. M. Cross (York) 0 2 Miss E. Lord (London) 0 2	
Shere, near Guildford	Miss Spottiswoode	Re-elected	Mrs Jesper 0 2	
Honley, near Huddersfield		Re-elected	SOUTHPORT.	Mr. John MacGirr 0 5 0
Bradford		1st time	Miss Brennan 2 2	0 Mr. J. G. Wallis 0 2 6
Eastbourne	Miss Wilhelmina Hall	1st time 1st time	Mrs. M'Connel 0 10	0 Mr. S. Stephenson 0 2 6
Birmingham : Kings Norton	Mrs. Smith James Miss Agatha Stacey		Miss Barnes 0 10	0 Mr. R. Reynolds 0 2 6
", Birmingham	Mrs. Ashford		Mrs. M Korrow 0 5	
Leeds	Miss Louisa Carbutt	Elected in 1882, for 3 yrs.	Miss Goouch 0 5 Mrs. Incham 0 5	
			Mrs. Ingham	
SCOTLAND.			Mr. Gillett 0 5	0 Mr. Ald. Denham 1 0 0
Edinburgh	Miss Louisa Stevenson		Miss Nicholson 0 2	6 "A Friend"
Constraint of Andrea	Mrs. Jane Miller	DED DED DE	"B.B." 0 2	6 Dr. Cameron 0 5 0
A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	Lab a lab a second	ATTEND LOD	Mrs. Rimmer 0 2	0 Mr. G. H. Robinson 0 5 0 "E. H." 0 5 0
NATIONAL SOCIE	TY FOR WOMEN	'S SUFFRAGE.	HYDE (continued).	
	NETT'S SPECIAL F		Miss Hibbert 0 10 Mrs. Derbyshire 0 2	6 Mr. Joseph Haigh 0 2 6
			Mrs. Curfew 0 2	6 Mr. Thos Walker 0 2 6
Miss Becker has muc	ch gratification in an	mouncing that Mr.	Mrs. Pointon 0 2	6 Mrs. Lundy 0 2 6
Richard Barlow Kennet	t. with characteristic	generosity, has not	Mrs. John Sidway 0 2	6 "Y.H." 0 2 0
waited for the stipulated	amount of £1 000 to	be fully subscribed.	Mrs. John Oldham 0 2	6 6 £295 5 11
but has in consideration	af the effort that h	s heen made by the		A DEL MARY SOUTH AND THE MARKED BY DEALER AND
DUL HAS IN CONSIDERATION	or the enort that h	as built made by the		00 Laborata Down Manahastar

iends of the cause, sent to Miss Becker a bank note for five ndred pounds. This sum is divided, as proposed, between the entral and the Manchester Committees, and is acknowledged in eir respective lists.

The following sums have been paid or promised in compliance th Mr. Kennett's offer. The Executors of the late Mr. Thomas homasson paid, in March, $\pounds 200$. Although this was promised efore Mr. Kennett's offer was made, he has kindly accepted it as art of the stipulated sum. Mrs. P. A. Taylor, $\pounds100$; Miss Jessie erett, £25; Miss Williams, £5; Mrs. Streatfield, £5; Miss ull, £1; Miss Mordan, £1; Miss Müller, £10; Miss Courtenay, 100; Mrs. Smithson, £5; Mrs. Lynch, £4. 4s.; Mrs. E. Carbutt,
5; Mrs. Garrett Anderson, £2. 2s.; Mrs. Ruth, £1; Mr.
homasson, M.P., £200; Misses Prideaux, 10s.; Mrs. Smithson, ; Mrs. Hullah, £5; Miss Willson, 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Winkworth, ; The Kensington Ball Committee, £109. 3s. The sum of these utions is £784. 9s. 6d. Although Mr. Kennett has not isted on the completion of the £1000, it would be manifestly atly to the advantage of the societies if this were done. Miss ecker therefore earnestly appeals to the supporters of the move-ent to promise the remainder of the desired fund.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

UENTRALI UUMMITTEL.		
SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM MARCH	28 TO	
APRIL 28, 1883.		
Mr. R. B. Kennett (special Mr. E. H. Waid	£0 5	0
(onation) 6250 0 0 Mr. James L. Torr	0 5	0
Proceeds of the Kensington Ball - The Misses Lord		0
Dan Committee 1(910 0 Miss Anderson		0
Mrs. P. A. Taylor	0 5	0
21, and MIS, Pochin 25 0 0 Miss Andrews		0
Priss Courtanid 9 9 0 Mrs Wates	0 5	0
	0 4	0
o 10 6 Mr Seaking	0 2	6
Allo & Mrs Sasking	0 2	6
		6
	0 2	6
A 5 0 Mrs (1 Hooper	0 2	6
	0 2	6
	0 2	6
	0 2	6
		-
Miss Peppercorn	£493 15	0

LAURA M'LAREN, TREASURER, 64, Berners-street, W.

82

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

MANCHESTER SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

S. ALFRED STEINTHAL, TREASURER, 28, Jackson's Row, Manchester.

BIRMINGH M BRANCH OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. SUBSCRIPTIONS UP TO APRIL 28TH, 1883.

										00	10	0
X. Y. Z			£2	2	0	Mrs. Rogers	••					0
Mrs. Middlemore			1		0		**			0		0
Mrs. C. E. Mathews				1	0 -					0		0
Mr. Edward Deakin				1	0					0		0
Mr. W. H. Dixon			1	1	0	Mrs. Ashford				0		0
Mr. J. Baldwin			1	1	0	Mrs. John Cash				0		0
Alderman W. Kenrick			1	1	0	Miss Goyne				0	5	0
Mrs. George Dixon			1	1	0	Dr. Furneaux Jordan				0	5	0
Mr. Henry Hawkes			1	i.	0	Mrs. Saxelby				0	5	0
Mr. R. F. Martineau			ī	1	0	Mrs. Cattell				0	5	0
Miss Chamberlain			1	ī	0	Mrs. F. Impey				0	5	0
Mr. W. H. Hart			ĩ	î	0	Mr. H. J. Manton				0	5	0
Mr. Fred Ryland			ĩ	ĩ	Ő	Mr. J. Fairfax				0	5	0
Mrs. Alfred C. Osler			î	1	0	·Rev. H. W. Crosskey	1.1			0	5	0
			i	ō	õ	Mrs. Crosskey				0	5	0
Miss S. Harrold			i	0	0	Mrs. Hewins				0	5	0
Mrs. Tyndall			1	0	0	Mrs. R. L. Impey.				0	5	0
Mrs. R. C. Barrow			1	0	0	Mrs. Bartleet.				0	5	0
Mrs. A. Southall			1	0	0	Mrs. G. S. Mathews				0	5	0
Alderman Sturge			1	0	0	Dr. Lawson Tait				0	2	6
Miss Sturge Mr. and Mrs. W. Taylor			4	0	0	Mr. W. Amery				0	22	6
			1	0	0	Mrs. Archer				0	2	6
Mrs. Albright		•••	1	10		Mrs. Thomas Rose				0	2	6
Alderman G. Baker		•••		10	6					ő	2	6
Mrs. W. B. Smith				10	6	Mrs. Cox Miss Julia Smith				Ő	2	6
Mrs. W. H. Ryland			0		6					õ	2	6
Mr. W. White				10	6	Miss Dixon					4	6
Miss Hill				10	0	Mr. Pank				0	20	0
Mrs. W. Kenrick				10	0	Mr. T. H. Lakins.,	••			0	Z	0
Mr. C. B. Cave				10	0							
Alderman H. Manton				10	0					0.0	0	0
Mrs. Southall			0	10	0				£	36	3	6
		ar	TER		P.n.	ASURER, 44, Wheley	T ST	Pani	1			
CATHERINE	11.0	151	110/110	V. 2	KE.	ASURER, 14, WILCIO	10 1	10.110				

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. CENTRAL COMMITTEE .-- REMOVAL TO NEW OFFICES.

The Central Committee beg to notify that they are about to remove their offices to 29, Parliament-street, Westminster, S.W. Their tenancy of the new offices begins on May 9th, after which date all communications should be addressed as above.

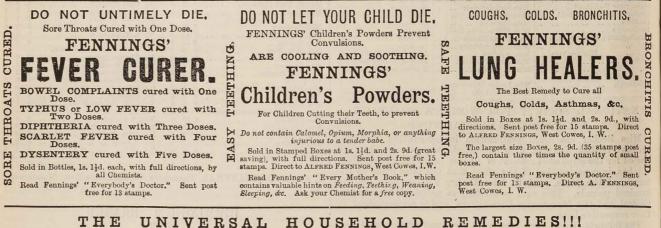
83

May 1, 1883.

CASH'S NAMES EMBROIDERED AND INITIAL LETTERS MARKING LINEN. FOR

Your Name or Initials Embroidered on our Fine Cambric Tape in Turkey Red, which can be sewn on to any article of dress requiring to be marked.

SOLD BY HOSIERS AND DRAPERS EVERYWHERE.



UNIVERSAL HOUSEHOLD

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS &

These excellent FAMILY MEDICINES are invaluable in the treatment of all ailments incidental to every HOUSEHOLD. The PILLS PURIFY, REGULATE and STRENGTHEN the whole System, while the OINTMENT is unequalled for the removal of all muscular and outward complaints. Possessed of these REMEDIES, every Mother has at once the means of curing most complaints to which herself or Family is liable.

N.B.-Advice can be obtained, free of charge, at 78, New Oxford Street. late 533, Oxford Street, London, daily between the hours of 11 and 4, or by letter.



By the use of which, during the last Forty Years many Thousands of Cures have been effected; numbers of which cases had been pronounced INCURABLE!

The numerous well-authenticated Testimonials in disorders of the HEAD, CHEST, BOWELS, LIVER, and KIDNEYS; also in RHEUMATISM, ULCERS, SORES, and all SKIN DISEASES, are sufficient to prove the great value of this most useful Family Medicine, it being A DIRECT FURIFIER OF THE BLOOD and other fluids of the human body.

Many persons have found them of great service both in preventing and relieving SEA SICKNESS; and in warm climates they are very beneficial in all Bilious Complaints.

Sold in boxes, price 71d., 1s. 12d., and 2s. 9d., by G. WHELPTON & SON, 3, Crane Court, Fleet-street, London, and by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors at home and abroad. Sent free by post in the United Kingdom for 8, 14, or 33 stamps.

Printed by A. IRELAND & Co., Pall Mall. Manchester, for the Proprietors, and Published by Messra. Trübner and Co., 57 and 59, Ludgate Hill, London, and Mr. John Herwood, Manchester.-May 1, 1883.- Entered at Stationers' Hall.

84