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THE CATHOLIC LEAGUE FOR THE EMANCIPATION OF WOMEN.

Victoria House,
Westminster. S.W.
August 1909.

Dear Sir,

re Men's League for Opposing Woman Suffrage.

You may possibly have received a communication from Mr. George Calderon setting out the names of an imposing Committee formed to oppose the granting of the extension of the Parliamentary Suffrage to women. Amongst the names are several Radical Members of Parliament with whom are associated the Duke of Northumberland, Lord James of Hereford, Mr. Henry Chaplin M.P. and other distinguished personages. Before deciding to identify yourself with this movement, we desire to point out to you the following facts:-

1 Great Britain was never so prosperous as when under the rule of that great and distinguished lady Her Majesty Queen Victoria. If, therefore, the nation prospered so much under the rule of a lady, why should women who, as men, would be qualified, be denied a vote?

2. Many ladies of property pay large sums in wages and rates. Is it reasonable that any woman who contributes £5000 in taxation to the nation should be denied the right to vote, when the

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illiterate creature who feeds her pigs is entitled to do so?

3. If votes were granted to those women who, if men, would be entitled to one, it would not involve the addition of more than 1,700,000 persons to the register.

It is the object of this League not only to obtain for women holding a stake in the country, a vote, but also the right to sit in Parliament. It has been suggested that if this should take place it would result in legislation being rendered impossible.

This latter argument forms the strongest possible reason for women being elected to Parliament.

All legislation is, as a rule, not only mischievous but dangerous and most of it during the last few years has been fraudulent. If, therefore, legislation ceased, the country might have an opportunity of prospering, and those having a stake in it would not live in fear of being robbed.

Could any Parliament consisting of women be worse than the Government now in power, which has been so aptly described by Mr. Henry Chaplin M.P. as "the most unscrupulous Government of "modern times".

Would any woman have sunk to the meanness of the Chinese Slavery fraud by which a number of adventurers are now drawing huge salaries from the taxpayers?

Would any woman be party to misappropriating monies left in trust for the purposes of religious education as has been attempted

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by the present Radical Nonconformist Government?

Would any woman have stooped to the falsehoods uttered by Ministers of the Crown to wit the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Birrell and Mr. Lloyd George, none of whom are happily Englishmen?

So lately as the 22nd Dec. Mr. Lloyd George in speaking at Liverpool of the benefits of "Free trade", and in particular referring to Plum Puddings, said "You draw from the east and west for these little children flour and fruit and spice, and then go to them and say to them "Little children, let us give three cheers for the free imports of all the things that the good God gives us".

Mr. Lloyd George is perfectly well aware that it is an absolute falsehood to state that sugar, raisins, currants, and spices, including candied peel, are imported free in this country. It is left to a Radical Government to obtain £6,000,000 by taxing sugar, and Mr. Lloyd George knows perfectly well that tea, coffee, raisins, and currants are all taxed, but this would in no way prevent a Nonconformist Minister, if it happened to suit him, stating the exact contrary.

In the long history of political fraud, has anyone yet been guilty of the deliberate and consistent misrepresentations and falsehoods to which Mr. Winston Churchill has resorted?

About the time Mr. Lloyd George, His Majesty's present Chancellor of the Exchequer escaped (disguised as a policeman)

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from a Meeting held to sympathize with the unspeakable ruffians who had invaded South Africa, Mr. Winston Churchill made the following statement:- "I have always thought a good liar ought to go to China, but I should not like to send these Pro-Boers to China because they would corrupt the morals of the Chinese".

This is the man who is now associated with the Pro-Boers and notwithstanding that he stated in 1902 that he was convinced "that no shred of independence should be given to the two States" "Transvaal and Orange, but that they must come entirely under" "British rule", it has been left for him and his associates to undo the work of the war and to hand over the Transvaal to the scoundrels who slaughtered our unfortunate brothers under cover of the white flag. Could anyone sink lower in the political scale than Mr. Winston Churchill? It is not surprising that the people of Manchester expelled him.

Mr. Birrell who, thank Heaven, is not an Englishman and who has made a mess of everything he has touched politically, had the effrontery to state in connection with the Licensing Bill, that it was a secret of the trade that a license was granted for only one year. Could any woman be guilty of this?

It was he who stated, after this miserable attempt to defraud investors had failed, that they had behind them "the whole forces" "of the nation", notwithstanding the Radical candidates had been routed at Ashburton, Mid-Devon, South Herefordshire, Worcester, South Leeds, Hastings, N.W. Manchester, Newcastle, Chelmsford,

Cockermouth, Brigg, Peckham, Colne Valley, Dewsbury, and Yarrow. So far from the Radical party having the whole forces of the nation behind them, Mr. Birrell knows perfectly well that at the last General Election less than 3,000,000 out of a population of 44,000,000 voted for them.

What woman would have been guilty of stating, as the Lord Chancellor, now drawing £10,000 a year from the public, did, that if the Licensing Bill (1904) then before Parliament became law, the value of licensed properties, which he then estimated at £300,000,000 would be doubled, when according to another Radical, Sir Thomas Whittaker, the self-appointed High Priest of the Teetotal Fanatics, they were at the time not worth more than £125,000,000. As everyone knows so far from doubling the value of licensed properties the reverse took place on the passing of the Act of 1904.

Mr. John Burns, who cost taxpayers an immense sum by his riotous behaviour, and was unfortunately acquitted at the Old Bailey when tried there, made the statement some time ago, that no man was worth more than £500 a year. It is a notable fact that he is pleased to retain £2000 a year when he gets it from the public, and would be very pleased, no doubt, to make it £4000. Would any woman be guilty of this?

Further, would any woman attempt to reduce all Catholics and for the matter of that, members of the Church of England,

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to the level of the Nonconformists, by defrauding the Churches of their funds, which is one of the ambitions of the present Government? As a matter of fact not 10% of the population of the United Kingdom are Nonconformists, and it is these arrogant people who desire to plunder the churches to promote their own interests, while they themselves retain their funds untouched.

At the present moment England is being governed by a posse of Scotchmen and with the well established reputation they have for greed, no Englishman has a chance of getting anything in his own country, as witness the latest appointment to a judgeship in the County Courts. There are thousands of Englishmen who would be thankful to be governed by any number of women, and would even prefer the control of the country should get into the hands of the present occupants of Dartmoor prison rather than be liable to the risks of being robbed by the "most unscrupulous Government of "modern times".

For these and many other reasons we need not now specify, we beg you will not be induced by any specious arguments to associate yourself with the Men's League for Opposing Woman Suffrage.

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London 2.W.1.
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27 Wilton Street
London W.1

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