

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

VOL. XIII.—No. 150. PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

JULY 1, 1882.

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Garibaldi's Appeal to Sicilian Women.

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"LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY."
A Reply to Mr. Fitzjames Stephen's Strictures on Mr. J. S. Mill's "Subjection of Women," by LYDIA E. BECKER. Reprinted from the *Women's Suffrage Journal*. Price 2d. To be had at 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester.

PETITION! PETITION! PETITION!—Friends of Women's Suffrage are earnestly exhorted to aid the cause by collecting signatures for petitions, to be presented in support of Mr. Mason's Resolution. Written 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.—Petitions should be sent in before July 21st, the day for which the resolution stands for discussion in the House of Commons.

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NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE

Central Committee, to appoint the Executive Committee, to receive the annual report and the financial statement, and to transact any other business which may arise, will be held in the

WESTMINSTER PALACE HOTEL,
Victoria-street, S.W., on Thursday afternoon,
July 13, 1882.

Chair to be taken at Three o'clock, by
HUGH MASON, ESQ., M.P.

W. Caine, Esq., M.P., W. Woodall, Esq., M.P., J. P. Thomasson, Esq., M.P., C. M'Laren, Esq., M.P., Miss Becker, Miss Tod, Miss C. A. Biggs, and other ladies and gentlemen are expected to be present. The attendance of members and friends is invited.

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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.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

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APPENDIX TO THE NINTH REPORT.

Containing Petitions presented May 1-12, 1882.
 Delivered May 17.

BALLOT ACT CONTINUANCE AND AMENDMENT BILL
 (FOR ALTERATION).

App. 146. Dr. Webster. Seal. Sig. I.

4695. The Petition of the Royal and Parliamentary Burghs of Scotland, in convention assembled,
 Humbly sheweth,

That there is at present pending in your honourable House "A Bill to amend and make perpetual the Ballot Act."

That the convention has had the said Bill under consideration, and cordially approve of the alterations it proposes upon the law of Parliamentary elections.

That as regards Scotland the convention is of the opinion that the provisions of the Bill, as far as applicable, should be extended to municipal as well as Parliamentary elections.

That another amendment which the convention would suggest is, that the Parliamentary franchise should now, as has been the case with the municipal and school board franchises, be extended to women. It is most inexpedient longer to retain this disability on women in reference to Parliamentary elections. Its removal would accord with the ripe feeling of the large majority of the country upon the subject.

May it therefore please your honourable House to pass the said Bill with the engraftment therein under the branch or part thereof particularly affecting Scotland of the various amendments thereon above proposed, viz. :-

1. That the provisions of the Bill shall apply to municipal as well as to Parliamentary elections.

2. That the Parliamentary franchise be, as well as the municipal and school board franchises, extended to women.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Signed in name and on behalf of the convention of the Royal and Parliamentary Burghs of Scotland, and the seal of the convention affixed hereto, on the fourth day of May, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, by

THOMAS J. BOYD,
 Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Presse.

GLASGOW.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM MARCH 20th TILL JUNE 28th, 1882.

Mrs. D. Greig	£1 0 0	Mrs. Stirton	£0 5 0
Mrs. Wm. Smith	0 10 0	Mrs. Fraser	0 2 6
Mrs. Goyan (2 years)	0 10 0	Miss Milne	0 2 0
Mrs. D. Russell	0 5 0		
Mrs. Glasford	0 5 0		
			£2 19 6

ANNA M. N. YOUNG, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

THE CALENDAR.

JULY, 1882.

MOON.		Rises.	SUN.	Sets.
1st	Full Moon, 6h 5m morn.	3 49	.....	8 13
7th	Last Quart, 9h 52m aft.	3 54	.....	8 15
15th	New Moon, 7h 1m morn.	4 3	.....	8 9
23rd	First Quart, 10h 18m morn.	4 12	.....	8 0
30th	Full Moon, 2h 2m aft.	4 22	.....	7 50

1	S	
2	S	Fourth Sunday after Trinity. Madame Grisi born 1812.
3	M	
4	T	Women employed as Clerks at Stockholm Bank, 1874.
5	W	Mrs. Siddons born 1755. George Sand (Madame Dudevant) born 1834.
6	Th	
7	F	
8	S	Women's Protection and Provident League founded 1874.
9	S	Fifth Sunday after Trinity. Catherine II. declared Empress of Russia, 1762.
10	M	National Citizens' Ballot Box established U.S.A., 1878.
11	T	Elfreda, "Lady of Mercia," died 919. Baroness Burdett Counts admitted to Freedom of City, 1871.
12	W	Harriet Martineau born 1802.
13	Th	Charlotte Corday assassinated Marat, 1793.
14	F	First Swimming Baths for Ladies in London, 1858.
15	S	Madame de Staël died 1817. National Women's Suffrage Society, U.S.A., 1869.
16	S	Sixth Sunday after Trinity. Anne Askew martyred, 1546.
17	M	
18	T	Lady Franklin died 1875. Debate Married Women's Property Bill, 1870, House of Lords. Married Women's Property (Scotland) Act passed 1881.
19	W	Protection Orders given to Wives in Scotland, 1874.
20	Th	Treaty of Colmar: Union of three Kingdoms under Margaret of Denmark, 1397. Girton College incorporated, 1872.
21	F	
22	S	
23	S	Seventh Sunday after Trinity.
24	M	Congres du Droit des Femmes, Paris, 1878.
25	T	
26	W	
27	Th	
28	F	
29	S	
30	S	Eighth Sunday after Trinity. Married Women's Property Act (1870) Amendment Act, 1874.
31	M	Miss Edgar received B.A. degree, N.Z., 1877.

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We are happy to announce that Mr. MASON has, by the courtesy of Mr. ARTHUR ARNOLD in giving place to him, secured the best place for Friday, July 21st, for the discussion of his original resolution, "That in the opinion of this House 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." We ask all our friends to use every effort in their power to support the action of our Parliamentary friends by petitions and every other means at their disposal. Petitions should be forwarded for presentation not later than Thursday, July 20th, and earlier if possible.

There is also a possibility that a discussion may be taken on the amendment of which Mr. MASON has given notice in Committee on the Corrupt Practices Bill. Mr. MASON proposes to insert a clause giving votes to persons who are liable to be rated for expenses connected with Parliamentary elections. These expenses are not necessarily connected with the expenses of a Royal Commission. There are expenses in the preparation of the Parliamentary list of voters of every constituency which are paid for out of the rates, and to which women have to contribute their share.

The question may also be raised on the motion which Mr. ANDERSON has placed on the paper for Committee in the Ballot Act Continuance Bill in that part of the Bill affecting Scotland, for the extension of the provisions of the Municipal Franchise Act of last year relating to the suffrage for women, to Parliamentary elections.

This course has been taken in compliance with the prayer of the petition from the Convention of Royal and Parliamentary Burghs of Scotland, that a clause to this effect might be introduced in the Ballot Act Continuance Bill. We are glad to observe that, not content with this collective or representative petition, the Councils of the several burghs appear to be beginning to petition severally for the alterations therein prayed for. A petition to this effect has been already presented from the Provost, Magis-

trates, and Council of Banff, and we trust that other councils will follow the same course.

THE annual general meeting of the Central Committee will be held in the Westminster Palace Hotel, at three o'clock, on Thursday, July 13th. Mr. MASON will occupy the chair, and many of the Parliamentary friends, and ladies connected with the movement, will take part in the proceedings.

Ordinary meetings cease during the summer months, but a few lectures and debates have taken place. The fortnightly afternoon receptions of friends of the movement, at the offices of the Society in Berners-street, have continued to be well attended and been very successful.

THE Married Women's Property Bill, which has been read a third time and passed in the House of Lords, was introduced in the House of Commons as a Government Bill by Mr. OSBORNE MORGAN, who moved the second reading on June 9th. Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL moved the adjournment of the debate, but this motion was negatived without a division, and the original motion put and agreed to. The Bill now stands on the orders of the day for Committee, but it is blocked by a notice of opposition in the name of Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL, which may prevent the further progress of the measure during the present session. In this case all the labour and anxiety spent in conducting it safely through the House of Lords will be rendered nugatory, and the Sysiphean labour will have to be begun again next year. We trust, however, that this catastrophe may be averted, as the Bill is in excellent hands, and receives powerful and influential support.

The Bill would without doubt pass speedily if women had votes for members of the House of Commons. No member of whose constituents women formed one seventh part would be likely to use the forms of the House for the purpose of obstructing a measure of justice to women, the principle of which, after a thorough and searching

discussion, had been deliberately affirmed by both Houses of the Legislature.

MR. STANSFELD, in presiding at the annual meeting of the Society for the Election of Women as Poor-law Guardians, made the significant observation that he knew nothing whatever to be compared to the progress of the woman question during the last twenty years. The force of this observation will be appreciated by anyone who takes the trouble to look back not for twenty but for fifteen years—the period which has elapsed since Mr. MILL brought forward the question of women's suffrage in the House of Commons.

At that time there was no public provision for the higher education of girls, and the Oxford and Cambridge local examinations were limited to boys. When it was proposed to allow girls to be examined, it was gravely asserted that the extension to girls would so lower the prestige of the examinations that the boys would refuse to go in for them! This rather foolish panic died out entirely when the admission of girls became an accomplished fact, to be renewed in another form by a set of men from whom better things might have been expected. When it was proposed to admit women to medical degrees, there was a strong protest from men. One gentleman went so far as to declare that his diploma would be henceforth useless to him, and to bemoan the imaginary loss of the worth of the degree obtained at the cost of so much time and money, which was to accrue through the grant of a similar degree to a woman!

Long and hard has been the struggle through which women students of medicine have gallantly carried the standard to victory, and much yet remains to be accomplished before complete justice in regard to facilities for medical education is obtained, but active hostility is silenced and the general sense of the community is now converted to the acknowledgment of the right of women to enter the medical profession. The latest official utterance on the subject is contained in Professor HUXLEY'S address to the students of the London School of Medicine for Women. In speaking of the Report of the Medical Acts Commission, of which he was a member, Professor HUXLEY said that the Commissioners were deeply impressed with the importance of medical education for women, and that if their recommendations were carried out, whether there be one porthole or many for admission to the medical register, the way would not be closed against women.

Equally significant has been the progress of opinion

respecting the election of women as poor-law guardians. About fourteen years ago, the first nomination, so far as we know, of a woman as guardian of the poor took place in Bethnal Green, by the nomination of the Baroness, then Miss, BURDETT COUTTS, for election in that parish. Naturally she came out at the head of the poll. But the returning officer was fully impressed with the notion that a woman was not legally competent to act as guardian; he therefore took upon himself the responsibility of disregarding all votes given to the lady as votes thrown away, and he made his return declaring as elected the man next below her on the poll. The nomination had been made without the knowledge or consent of the Baroness BURDETT COUTTS, and as she had no desire to serve she did not contest the ruling, therefore the question whether a woman could be elected remained in abeyance. Meantime public opinion on women's questions had been steadily growing, and the passing of the Elementary Education Act, making women eligible as members of school boards, doubtless tended to dissipate any remaining doubt in the minds of vestry clerks as to the legality of their election as guardians. But it is only within the last three or four years that any systematic or serious attempt has been made to obtain the election of women. The success which has attended their efforts in the administration of the poor law offers the strongest possible reason for endeavouring to extend the work of women in this department of public duty. The existence of the rating qualification, which excludes nearly all married women, and many others who possess admirable personal qualifications for this work, is, however, a serious hindrance, and we trust that an effort may be made before the period of the next election to abolish a restriction which deprives the ratepayers of the services of so many persons who would be capable and economical administrators of the fund for the relief of the poor.

THE advance of opinion in regard to physical exercise is equally marked. Dr. ERASMUS DARWIN, who was much ahead of his age in regard to exercise for girls, speaks with regret of skating on the ice in winter and swimming in summer as "not allowed to ladies by the fashion of the age or country." But ladies now practise these and many other healthful physical exercises with the approval not only of common sense, but of fashion. The prevalence of such pursuits has led to a beneficent reform in the mode of women's dress by necessitating the abandonment of the load of spreading skirts and cumbrous drapery which

would have rendered such a pastime as lawn tennis impracticable for our mothers and our aunts. In spite of signs which may occasionally appear of temporary reaction, we have full faith in the influence, in the long run, of the greater liberty now enjoyed by women to shape their own lives according to their own nature and of the removal of enfeebling restraints on their mental and physical development, to effect still more wholesome reforms in the emancipation from the dictates of absurd and injurious fashions in dress than any that have yet taken place.

Two recent illustrations in the weekly mirror *Punch*, which performs the social service of catching and fixing the fleeting superficial aspects of every-day life, and preserving the pictures for the instruction and amusement of posterity, illustrate the foregoing remarks. One picture represents two young ladies mounted on a tricycle at full speed, flanked by two young men on bicycles, with the motto—"How this drawing would have astonished our readers twenty years ago!" How indeed, considering that that was the period of full inflation of the bell-erinoline. Another picture represents a pair of small children—a tiny mite of a boy on the top of a step calls out in a lordly manner to his little sister, "Come here, EFFIE, I want you;" while the tinier dot of a girl, in a Greenaway bonnet and coat, toddles composedly in another direction, replying, "Thanks, I want myself." By the time EFFIE grows up women will have discovered that they "want themselves," and men will find that they are far better worth having for that discovery.

THE Bill to render legal marriage between a man and the sister of his deceased wife was rejected in the House of Lords, on June 12th, by the narrow majority of four, the numbers being for the Bill 128, against 132. The total number of Peers who took part in the division was 262, including two Lords who paired. The total number of members of the House of Lords is 506. There is therefore a reserve of 244 Lords who refrained from voting on the occasion.

The number who voted this year for and against the Bill were much larger than the corresponding number in 1880, when the Bill was rejected by 101 non-contents, against 90 contents. Very urgent whips had been sent out this year on both sides, and the result can hardly be contemplated by either party with unmixed satisfaction. The friends of the measure will be encouraged by the small majority against them, while those to whom the proposed change is repugnant will feel that very strenuous effort will

be needed in the future, if the integrity of the present rule regulating marriages of affinity is to be maintained.

One of the most remarkable features of the debate was the slighting manner in which the sentiments of women in regard to the proposed change were referred to. Lord DALHOUSIE, in moving the second reading of the Bill, endeavoured to meet the objection that women did not approve of it by saying that he did not think that women had a fair chance of understanding the Bill; if they had, he saw no reason why they should dislike it. That afternoon a petition, signed by 5,000 women, had been presented from the city of Lincoln.

We have, however, heard of women who have signed petitions for the Bill under the impression that it would place the husband's brothers in the same position in the family as the wife's sisters, and who would not have signed if they had understood that its effect was one-sided. We have heard of others whose first distant view was favourable to the proposed change, but whose opinions and feelings underwent a strong revulsion on a nearer approach and closer consideration of the subject.

No women have petitioned the House of Commons this session in favour of the Bill, while thousands of women have signed petitions against it. These women stated, among other grounds of their objection to the measure, that it would alter very injuriously the relation borne by a husband to the sisters of his wife during her life-time, and seriously impair the confidential intimacy between a living wife and her sisters. They also believe that women are much more deeply interested than men in the maintenance of the present law.

Whether this be so or not, there can be no question that women are at least as deeply interested as men in questions affecting the marriage laws, and as there is at present no method by which women can bring any direct influence on the legislature which is asked to alter the law, it seems reasonable to ask that women should be afforded—what Lord DALHOUSIE said they have not had—"a fair chance of understanding the Bill;" and when they do understand it, that their sentiments should be taken into consideration in dealing with the subject. Meanwhile the fact that measures which touch their deepest affections and most sacred relationship so very nearly are subjects of debate and discussion in Parliament is one of the strongest reasons that can be urged for admitting them to a share in Parliamentary elections.

THERE is probably not a parish in the land in which the

organisations of the Church of England—its schools, classes, charities of all sorts—do not depend largely for their vitality, often for their initiative, on the services of women. When we hear then that a scheme has been promulgated for a "London Diocesan Church Conference," it were only reasonable to expect that the voices of women should have some recognition in its representation.

The scheme proposes that the Conference consist of representatives, both lay and clerical, from each rural deanery in the diocese—the clerical representatives to be chosen by the clergy; the lay representatives by "all laymen, members of the Church of England, of full age, resident or ratepayers in the parish." Layman is a generic word, and should include both sexes; so far this might seem as if the work of women was to be recognised. But examining the scheme further it appears from the detailed instructions that the meetings for election of representatives in each parish is to be of "Adult Male Members of the Church."

We have been assured that the Committee by which this scheme has been prepared "do not ignore the priceless character of female aid in the Church's work." To completely pass over the voices of the large body of women who spend their time, strength, and substance in doing the Church's work is a remarkable way of recognising the "pricelessness of their labour;" and when our informant proceeds to tell us that "to invite any but adult male members of the Church would involve them in greater difficulties than they are prepared to meet or able to provide against," we see how deeply the systematic ignoring of women in political rights has vitiated public opinion, when one of the chief dioceses of the National Church finds insuperable difficulties in meting out fair measure to the women whose services are so much in request in every parish. H. B.

THE South Dublin Union has emphatically declared its approval of women as Guardians of the Poor, and has petitioned Parliament in favour of the removal of the restriction which at present prevents women, duly qualified as ratepayers, from being elected in Ireland.

The question was brought before the attention of the Board at their meeting on 15th June, by an address from the ratepayers of Rathmines, calling the attention of the Board to the present agitation in favour of women guardians in Ireland, and setting forth the benefits to be anticipated from their presence on such Boards. Mr. ABRAHAM SHACKLETON moved the adoption of the address,

and said he had for some time after he became a guardian doubted whether ladies should fill that office, but now he had no longer any doubt that their management would be very proper for the welfare of the poor and the benefit of the ratepayers, and he referred in support of this to the experience of England, where each year more ladies were becoming guardians. The motion was seconded by Captain BOYD, and although it had been received by some with a smile, an amendment that the address be marked as read was lost by 10 to 17, Mr. SHACKLETON's motion being carried by the same division. A petition to Parliament was subsequently adopted.

The South Dublin Union is the "premier" Union—the largest and most influential—in the sister Island, and its example will be an aid and an encouragement to all others who have this question brought before them—one "to which the best answer was supplied," as the *Freeman's Journal* remarks, "by the silence of Mr. SHACKLETON's opponents." H. B.

WITHIN the past month two cases have occurred in the law courts in which one of the points to be decided was the money value of a wife. In a divorce suit brought against his wife by Mr. S., on June 22nd, the petitioner asked for "damages" against the co-respondent. The counsel for the defence made a speech in which he applied himself to the question of keeping down damages. He "submitted that the question for the jury to determine was, what had been the value of Mrs. S. as a wife?" and he invited them to answer that question in the light of her conduct. The PRESIDENT, in summing up the case, observed that certainly the jury had to consider what loss the husband had sustained. Dr. TRISTRAM asked them to value the wife when she had fallen, but he invited them to value her when she was a wife living on affectionate terms with her husband. The jury would say what compensation the co-respondent should pay for having broken up a happy home. The jury assessed the damages at £5,500.—The next day another divorce suit was heard, in which the jury awarded £2,200 damages to the husband.

We believe that money compensation for the loss of a spouse through infidelity can be obtained only by an injured husband, and that the law provides for no similar compensation to an injured wife, although the wound to her affections is equally great, and the injury in a material point of view is usually far greater. The house and home in which a married couple reside are generally the property of the man, and if the wife is unfaithful she goes away

leaving the husband in possession. But if the husband is guilty of misconduct which entitles a wife to a divorce, the guilty husband is left in possession of the household, and it may be of the children also, while the innocent wife has to leave the house that has sheltered her, possibly to leave it in possession of another woman, and, innocent as she is, she will have the sense of being an outcast. It is true that the Court may award her alimony or maintenance, but we believe she cannot obtain anything of the nature of compensation or "damages" such as the husband can recover in a similar case.

If a man gains a woman's affections under a promise of marriage, and then marries another woman, she can obtain damages from him for the loss of a promised husband and a prospective home. But if he deserts her for another woman *after* he has married her, there is no law to mulct him in damages as compensation for the loss of her wedded husband and of her actual home.

Two cases which were brought on the same day (June 9th) before the Manchester City Police Court illustrate a grievous defect in the otherwise admirable Bill passed by Lord PENZANCE for the protection of wives liable to violent assault. The first case, which is headed by the reporter for the local press "A Brutal Husband," is that of ANDREW M'MICHAEL, described as a cashier, who was charged with a violent assault on his wife ELIZABETH. M'MICHAEL was brought before the Court on the previous day, but conducted himself in such a violent manner that the Bench ordered him to be detained in custody till next morning. ELIZABETH M'MICHAEL gave evidence showing that on the day in question the prisoner came home and had his dinner served to him in the parlour. While there he sent out to know what had become of "the other chop," and when the prosecutrix sent him word that she had eaten it he came out of the room and struck her, knocking her down, and while she was lying on the floor he kicked her several times about the body and then threw water over her. She succeeded in getting out of the house, and some neighbours went in and restrained him from committing further violence. The woman took her child with her and went to the workhouse, but the Poor-law authorities refused to take her in, and told her to engage apartments, which she did. She asked for an order of separation. One would think that even the magisterial mind would have been moved by this appeal, and would have hesitated to give back the helpless wife to the ill-usage of the

man whose violence had been so great that they found it necessary to protect themselves from it by detaining him in custody. But the Bench refused the relief prayed for, they inflicted no punishment whatever on the ruffian, but simply bound him over in a bond of £50, and ordered him to find two sureties in £25 each to keep the peace towards his wife for *six months*. After which period it may be presumed he will be released from his bond, and be free to resume his violent practices with impunity.

The second case is headed, "Another Married Savage." JOHN ROBINSON, a broker, was brought up in custody on a charge of having committed an assault on his wife with intent to do her grievous bodily harm. Mr. SMITH appeared for the prosecution, and asked the court to decree an order of separation. The parties had been married about ten years. On the 23rd of May the prisoner attacked his wife because of some dispute with regard to business matters, and beat and kicked her so violently in different parts of the body that, although the prisoner was arrested on the day of the assault, the woman had not been able to appear until now.—Sir JOHN ILES MANTELL said he had very rarely been able to put in force the Act giving him power to decree separation, because in his mind every other remedy ought to be tried before it was resorted to. In this case, however, he had no hesitation. He fined the prisoner £20 and costs, or in default six months' imprisonment, ordered him to enter into his own recognizances in £50 to keep the peace towards his wife, and made the decree of separation asked for, the prisoner to pay his wife a weekly allowance of £1.

In this case there is no fault to find with the judgment. But the declaration of the magistrate that he had very rarely put the act in force, and that in his mind every other remedy ought to be tried before a separation was resorted to, seems to explain the refusal of relief in the first case. This practice amounts to a denial of the protection which the law was intended to afford to the victims of conjugal brutality.

A RECENT case at the Bow-street Police Court will acquaint thousands of persons with the curious fact that a husband can proceed criminally against his wife for libel. Mrs. TENNENT has been summoned at Bow-street for an alleged libel respecting her husband, which she appears to have circulated freely by means of post-cards. These contained allegations of misconduct of various kinds. Some objection appeared to be entered against the capacity of a husband to

prosecute his wife, but this was met by the representation that the prosecution was in the name of the QUEEN, for a libel calculated to provoke a breach of the peace. In the end the magistrate said Mr. TENNENT must be protected, but he thought it advisable that the case should be adjourned, which was done.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Friday, June 23.*

Mr. MASON gave notice that on that day four weeks he would move the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this House 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."

Tuesday, June 20.

Mr. ANDERSON gave notice that in Committee on Ballot Act Continuance and Amendment Bill, he would move in clause 16, page 5, line 14, after "modifications," to insert the following sub-section: "The provisions of the Municipal Franchise Amendment (Scotland) Act, 1881, relating to the franchise for women, shall be extended to Parliamentary elections."

The following resolutions also stand in the order book of the House of Commons:—

In Committee on Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill,

Mr. MASON to move the following addition to Mr. Broadhurst's proposed clause, that returning officers' expenses be paid out of the rates:

(3) That all persons liable to be rated under this Act for expenses incurred at or for the purpose of any election by a returning officer, shall be entitled to be registered as electors, and to vote at such election, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mr. HUGH MASON to move the following clause:

(Persons rated for expenses to be registered electors.)

That all persons liable to be rated for expenses under the Election Commissioners Acts, 1869 and 1871, shall be entitled to be registered as electors, and to vote at Parliamentary elections, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

June 8.

MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY BILL.

Mr. OSBORNE MORGAN said that this was an identical Bill with that which was settled by a select committee. He moved that it be read a second time.

Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL opposed the second reading. He moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was negatived, and the Bill was read a second time.

THE QUEEN AT BALMORAL.

Her Majesty often receives as many as forty telegrams a day, all of which she sees and takes note of. Apparently she is determined that the Sovereign's duties shall not be of a nominal character, or her sign manual attached to documents in a matter-of-form way without consideration of their contents. The Queen, who ordinarily leads a very busy life, is busier than ever, and when she returns from her long drives usually sits up reading despatches and writing till one in the morning, resuming again at eight a.m. her routine of day's duties.—*Western Daily News.*

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

SOUTHSEA.

A meeting was held at the Portland Hall, Southsea, on Whit Tuesday, May 30th. The large hall was well filled, a great number of ladies being present. For an hour before the proceedings began a band played selections of music. The chair was occupied by Mrs. LUCAS, and there were present on the platform Miss J. E. Cobden, Miss Becker, Miss C. A. Biggs, Miss Müller, Mrs. Fenwick Miller, Count and Countess Metaxa, Rev. Dr. Nicholson, Mrs. Reeve Lay, Miss Luscombe, and others.

The following letter was read from the Hon. T. C. Bruce, senior member for Portsmouth:—

"Dear Count Metaxa,—I have always voted for women's suffrage, and intend doing so again when it comes forward; but as I have not taken a prominent part in the discussion, I cannot have my name on the back of the Bill. It is influentially supported without that.—Believe me, yours truly,
"THOMAS C. BRUCE."

The following letters had also been received by the Count Metaxa:—

"Lord Salisbury presents his compliments to Count Metaxa, and begs to acknowledge the receipt of his letter of the 3rd instant. In reply Lord Salisbury begs to say that he does not think it is possible to give any opinion upon the question of women's suffrage without a knowledge of the precise provisions of the intended enactment, and that he thinks it better to defer the expression of opinion till the matter is before Parliament."

"Sir Stafford Northcote has received your letter asking him to give an opinion with regard to women's suffrage; but he wishes me to say that his views on the subject are well known, and he could only iterate the opinion he expressed in his recent letter to Mrs. Ashworth Hallett.—I remain, yours faithfully,
"ARTHUR SAUMAREZ."

Letters had also been received from many other gentlemen of influence and position in the neighbourhood regretting that they were unable to be present with them upon that occasion.

Mrs. LUCAS, the President, said it was very gratifying to see such a gathering, and it was also very agreeable for her to be present, although she would much rather be a listener than a speaker. However, the one who was in the chair was not expected to say much, and there were a number of speakers prepared with arguments in support of the position they had taken up. The question of suffrage for women was one that was gaining ground daily; and she felt thankful that the friends in this town had sown some good seed. She hoped that when the time arrived, they would come up enthusiastically upon the subject. Many people inquired why they wished to have the suffrage; but it seemed rather extraordinary that they should be granted other kinds of franchise, but be denied the one which really gave the most power, and was the most effectual, viz., the Parliamentary franchise. Many were inclined to say that women did not know how to vote, and that they would all vote Conservative. (Laughter.) Now it seemed to her rather singular that that idea should go forth, because there were ladies of different families who had dissimilar politics, as well as those who belonged to Conservative families—(applause)—and surely they would not all vote Conservative. And if it were so, it was no reason why they should not be entrusted with a vote. They came, therefore, to the public to ask them to consider the subject for themselves, and to see if there were not those among them who might materially help on the work. Those who were opposed to them, and who were not willing to grant them the franchise—though she believed most people thought what they asked for was very just—had an idea that the women would lose many of the privileges they now enjoyed if they had the Parliamentary vote. Her opinion was that they would be strengthened, not lost; and they would get quite as much attention from the gentlemen—(laughter)—and quite as considerate treatment—(laughter)—if they had the vote. Another question was as regards war. It was said they could not go to fight; therefore they must not ask for Parliamentary franchise. What a strange reason this was! They know that women never wished to fight—(laughter and "Oh, oh")—and were on the peace side. (Laughter and "Oh, oh.") Well there might be a few who wanted to fight—(laughter)—but the large majority was for peace, although there might be a few

belonging to the portion of the community who looked upon war a little differently. She, however, had been brought up a Quakeress, and was very strong on the principles of peace and war. (Applause.) The rates gave a man a vote. She was a large ratepayer, and did not see why she should not have a vote too—(applause)—and she knew a large number similarly situated. She wondered what the Government would do if they were to refuse to pay the rates. She would like very much to try it on; and if the Bill for paying the cost of elections out of the rates came before Parliament, that would be the time for them to work. Surely if women had to pay the expenses of elections without having a vote it would really be very unfair—(applause)—and then would be the time for them to rise and rebel against a Government which passed such a measure. (Applause.)

Miss MULLER, a member of the London School Board, said she had much pleasure in moving the first resolution; and she hoped when the time came, it would be carried unanimously. She was going to ask the kind indulgence of the audience while she stated their case, for she did not want anybody to go away from that meeting feeling that he or she had any doubt whatever as to what was their object, and also as to what would be the practical results and effects of the desired extension of the English law of representation to women. No doubt they were all aware that the law of representation in England was one of property qualification. It was not in this country as it was in America and some other countries—a question of personal qualification; but the foundation of the English constitution was that no man should have a vote unless he possessed property of a certain kind and of a certain value, the reason being in order that a man might feel a certain amount of responsibility in the State, that he was personally concerned in its welfare. Now one would have thought that that being the basis of the English constitution and representation, in anything so fundamental and important as that, a principle underlying the whole of the English liberties as they now existed, it would surely be impossible to find any flaw in the working of it. But such was not the case. It was when representation was denied to women that they came upon a flaw and an injustice, although there was no argument to be brought forward against extending the suffrage to women. Their movement, which was now a national one, and which found among its supporters the most intellectual, the most refined, and the most hard-working in the land, was not the outcome of one single reason, fact, or phenomenon of nature, but was the outcome of a thousand things; and from whatever point of view they surveyed the question—whether from the social, the political, the intellectual, or the philanthropic—many would find that each one would furnish at least a thousand arguments and reasons why political justice should be extended to women. (Applause.) She would conclude by quoting a very illogical and absurd reason which was sometimes urged, and that was that it was quite impossible that women should be able to exercise the vote because they showed the frivolity of their minds by being such slaves of fashion. This was a reason given by some eminent scientific and medical men. They did not say that woman's dress was unsanitary or unhealthy; but because women followed the fashions, they were not to be allowed to vote. (Laughter.) She admitted that there were a number of silly women who, no matter how extraordinary the fashion, were bound to follow it, and when it went out were quite ready for the next. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) But some fashions of men's clothes were just as changeable, extravagant, and silly as those of women. (Laughter.) Only the other day she was looking over Luard's "History of the Dress of the British Army;" and this was what she saw. There was one whole page of illustrations showing the different helmets used only in one regiment—(laughter)—and illustrating the changes that had been made in them. Anything more extravagant and unnecessary than those changes there could not be. ("Hear, hear," from several officers, and applause.) It seemed to her that if the argument of dress proved anything, it proved too much. She thought if women were disfranchised because of this, men should not have a vote, too. She would ask their forgiveness for bringing up this frivolous argument, but it was an argument which was gravely and seriously advanced by their opponents. (Laughter and applause.) She then moved the following resolution:—

"That the following memorial to Her Majesty's Government be adopted, and signed by the President on behalf of this meeting, and forwarded to Mr. Gladstone:—

"To the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., First Lord of Her Majesty's Treasury.

"The memorial of the inhabitants of Southsea and others in public meeting assembled, on May 30th, 1882, in the Portland Hall, Southsea, sheweth,—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. Wherefore, your memorialists earnestly pray that you will, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, give your support to any measure that may be submitted to the House of Commons for enabling women qualified according to the statutory condition to be registered as voters and to vote in the election of members of Parliament. And your memorialists will ever pray."

Miss COBDEN, a daughter of the late Richard Cobden, who was very heartily received, said she had great pleasure in seconding the resolution—in the first place because she was so very near home at Southsea; and secondly, because that meeting was so enthusiastic that it was a pleasure to anyone to take part in it. She found that in discussing the question of women's suffrage with Liberals it was argued that all women were Conservatives, and that if they had the vote in England they would all vote Tory. She did not believe that would be the result, as the ladies she talked to on the subject seemed to have minds as varied as the men on political matters—(hear, hear)—and she did not think that until the question became law people would know or could prove whether women would vote Conservative or Liberal. (Hear, hear.) She thought that the arguments in favour of the movement were very strong, and as the other speakers could give them better than she could, she would content herself by expressing her entire concurrence with the resolution before the meeting. (Applause.)

Mrs. FENWICK MILLER, also a member of the London School Board, said that whether they belonged to the one political party or the other they should work to get women their share in political affairs. (Applause.) Taking the Conservative side first, to Tories the property qualification had two justifications. It was considered a test of general capacity that a man was able to maintain himself in a certain position, and keep a house over his head. If he did not, and went into the workhouse, or sunk lower in the scale, then he lost his vote. The other reason was that people who had a certain amount of property had what was called a stake in the country, and had, therefore, an interest in guarding the country against revolution and danger. Now, if there were any reason in the property qualification, and if it proved any capacity at all, it must be a proof of the capacity of women as well as of men. When Mr. Gladstone's son—(applause)—was a candidate at Whitby, she (Mrs. Miller) heard him reminded that he went to the servants of the lady of the manor, to her gardener, and to her coachmen, to the ostlers of the landladies of the three principal hotels, and he did not go to the proprietors of these places, who, although they had so much the largest property qualification, yet had no vote. (Laughter.) With regard to the stake in the country, she believed that women had more to lose there than men, as they suffered more in times of war than men, and had therefore a greater stake in the peace of the country and the security of property than men could possibly have. (Applause.) She was astonished that anyone who called himself a Liberal would not give the suffrage to women as well as men. (Applause.) They said that all women would vote Conservative if they had the franchise; but assuming that to be the case, was that any reason why they should not give it to them? They were told very seriously that women would be so Conservative that if they had the franchise, a barrier would be placed in the way of progress, and that we should not be able to advance. Some people really held these opinions; but she did not believe that any real judgment could be formed of what women were, or what they would do. (Hear, hear.) But suppose it were true that women naturally shrank from change, then they should let women be the skid on the wheels of progress; let them make progress slowly, but none the less certainly, when the right was shown to them. Let those who recognised that change was necessary, and who knew that to obstruct progress would be a misfortune and an injury, look at the times when change had been sudden and violent, and see what had been the consequence of that suddenness and violence. (Applause.) Let them remember that if they endeavoured foolishly to make changes by unworthy means, and especially if they let violence come into their attempts to get change, the final result would be

that their cause would be overthrown, and they would come back as the French did, to a military dictatorship. Finally, Liberals should remember that their principles of justice and freedom must be worth more than any special legislation, and those principles demanded the enfranchisement of women. It was well said by the late John Stuart Mill that "Every reason which existed for granting the suffrage to anybody demanded that it should not be withheld from women." (Hear, hear.) If they thought over that exceedingly terse sentence, they would find it an exact representation of their case. The laws relating to women were very unjust; and until this agitation began, they could not hold property in their own right while they were married. They had no right at the present time to their own children unless it could be proved that it was to the advantage of the children that they should be taken away from their father, in the event of the parents being separated, no matter how bad that father might have been to his wife. Many a mother's heart was now breaking at the thought that to leave cruelty and brutality on the part of the husband meant to be also cut off from the children she had borne and nursed. They had, too, in their midst, violent assaults on women, which were insufficiently punished—"hear, hear," and applause—and which probably at their extreme root took their rise from the fact that men were taught that the women were their inferiors. When they thought of the misery and degradation of the larger portion of the lives of individuals on the face of the globe; of the tyranny and cruelty which there was in the dark places of the earth; of the grievance and wretchedness, growing up almost unchecked, in good soil, from which fruit might have been borne, then she did not know how any could say, however little they knew of the state of society, or however much their own lives might be guarded from ill, that there was no need of improvement in society. (Applause.) They had been trying hitherto by means of legislation to secure some improvement, with only one-half of the power of the human race. They had women forcibly driven from the consideration of public affairs, and from practically exercising their judgment when they had formed an opinion, and the consequences were before them. They had at the present time pauperism, crime, ignorance, and misery. Yet was it not certain that there existed in many women great intellectual capacity which might be usefully employed upon devising plans for improving society? Women would devote to public work a deep desire to do something to help their fellow-creatures. (Applause.) Could they say they were doing no harm to society in keeping all that power out of work? They would have a much better chance of benefiting society when they taught woman to take her part in public affairs; and they would make happier homes when they taught husband and wife to work together for one common good. (Applause.)

The resolution was carried, with but one dissentient. Count METAXA then moved: "That a petition to the House of Commons, based on the foregoing resolution, be adopted and signed by the president on behalf of this meeting, and that memorials to the Hon. Thomas C. Bruce and Sir H. Drummond Wolff, members for the borough of Portsmouth, and to Lord Henry Scott and Francis Compton, Esq., members for the Southern Division of the county of Hants, asking them to support the resolution to be moved in the House of Commons by Mr. Mason, be also adopted and forwarded to them."

Miss BIGGS, of London, seconded the resolution, pointing out the various measures which had been effected by the continued agitation—more especially the opening of colleges to women. They had seen the growth of higher schools for girls; and she was glad to find that the one in Portsmouth was so well attended. She believed that as soon as women were enfranchised, the moral force and religious feeling of the country would go forward with still greater effect than it had; and she called upon those present, therefore, who felt that national responsibility was not confined to a few, to show that it ought to be the bounden duty of all citizens to do their best to get the vote for women, and to get general aid to carry forward those principles. (Applause.)

The Rev. Dr. H. NICHOLSON (Vicar of St. Paul's, Southsea) said the more he read of that good cause, the more he was satisfied it was gaining ground. He believed it would prosper because it was just; and justice, in the long run, always succeeded in this country. He thought it was a mistake to import politics into a question of that kind. (Hear, hear.) They had to surmount apathy and prejudice; but if the concession were granted, the refined influence in

home life would not disappear. The great body of women would pay equal respect to their home duties as they had in the past. They allowed women to vote for and be elected on School Boards; they gave them power to vote for municipal representatives; and they also gave them power to possess property and to sit on the Throne—the latter being dignified by a woman sitting on it—(applause); and that power ought to be supplemented by the Parliamentary suffrage. (Applause.)

Miss BECKER also supported the resolution, urging them to write to their members, to join their societies, and to help them in their work.

The resolution was then carried; and a vote of thanks to the President, proposed by Mrs. REEVE LAY, and seconded by Miss FANNY LUSCOMBE, concluded the meeting.

BECKENHAM.

On May 16th a meeting was held in Christ Church Lecture Hall, Beckenham, the Rev. C. Green, of St. Paul's, New Beckenham, in the chair. Amongst those present were:—Rev. C. Green, Mrs. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Smith, Mrs. C. B. McLaren, Mr. Crowther, Miss Orme, Rev. Y. A. Barrington and Mrs. Barrington, Mrs. Imray, Mrs. Chater, Mr. W. H. Bosanquet, Mrs. Atkinson, Rev. W. C. Parr and Mrs. Parr, Mr. John Hullah, and Mrs. Thomasson (of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage), Rev. C. P. Hutchinson, Mr. Saxton, Mr. Kressman, Mr. J. B. Brown, Rev. T. Lloyd Phillips, Miss Phillips, and many other well-known residents of Beckenham, Bromley, and the neighbourhood. Mrs. McLaren proposed "That in the opinion of this meeting it is only fair and reasonable that the Parliamentary suffrage be extended to women on the same conditions as it is, or may be, extended to men." Mr. W. H. Bosanquet seconded the resolution, which was carried with two dissentients. Mrs. Orme moved the adoption of a petition. Mr. E. O. Saxton objected to the resolution. Mr. Crowther supported the resolution in a short speech, after which it was put to the meeting and carried. The usual vote of thanks brought the proceedings to a close.

BERMONDSEY.

On June 12th a large open-air meeting took place in Bermondsey Square. Miss CRAIGEN addressed the meeting, and moved the adoption of a petition for the extension of the franchise to women on equal terms with men. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Fairburn, and carried unanimously.

On June 14th a great mass meeting was held in the same place, when a resolution in favour of adult suffrage was moved by Miss CRAIGEN, seconded by Mr. Taylor, and carried by acclamation without dissent. Copies of the resolution were forwarded to Mr. Gladstone and to each of the members for Southwark by the chairman, Mr. Davis.

DRAWING ROOM MEETINGS.

HOLLAND PARK.

An influentially-attended drawing-room meeting was held, by the kind invitation of Sir William and Lady Tyrone Power, at 25, Holland Park, Kensington. The chair was occupied by the Right Hon. JAMES STANSFELD, M.P. The first resolution was moved by Mrs. ARTHUR ARNOLD, seconded by Miss TOD, and supported by Mr. BENJAMIN WHITWORTH, M.P., who said that though this was the first time he had spoken in favour of the movement his sympathies and vote had been with it for many years. Since that time the cause had made immense strides, and he hoped it was one of the first reforms which would have the approval of the House of Commons. He alluded to the fear entertained by some Liberal members that the effect of the women's vote would cause the Conservative party to preponderate; but even if this should be the case, he, as a Liberal, knew that the women would be in company with them on most social questions. There was in particular one social question which he believed would gain immensely by the women's vote, and that was the question of temperance.

Mr. STANSFELD, in putting the resolution, said that as no opponent to the measure had the courage to address the meeting that day, he would like as chairman to hold the balance with an even hand, and represent the opposite party. There were two sides to every question, and he then quoted some of the objections which were made to the exercise of the suffrage by women, not to the suffrage as such, but to what it brought with it—the coming to the front of women on an equal footing with men. There were indeed

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE UNREPRESENTED.

To the Editor of the Women's Suffrage Journal.

Madam,—Being unable either by talent or opportunity to join those ladies who appear so bravely on the platform as advocates for women's suffrage, may I be allowed room in your journal for a few observations. The *Daily News* stated lately that "the franchise will be given to women when they show a desire to have it, and evince resolution enough to get it." Under such impression it therefore becomes the few to double their exertions on behalf of the many whose circumstances, indolence, or narrow-minded husbands, prevent their venturing to openly uphold and assist our cause. We should always be willing to tolerate the reasons which induce individual suffering to refrain from a ready demonstration of its own sorrow; and we should be free to admit that action may be especially retarded in the case of women, whose physical frame is unequal to their mental capability, and who are therefore often unable to confront the various consequences of masculine displeasure which attend such amount of self-assertion as alone can give freedom from political subjection. The mind of a wise man has no excuses for withholding benefits which have been evidenced to be of undoubted magnitude; and the most true and merciful of our legislators, conscious of the advantage possessed by themselves in a fixed position, feel in honour bound to meet with encouraging aid, instead of with empty jeers, the labours of a weaker party, who, although forming the large majority of Her Majesty's subjects, are (being women) entirely without representation in the government of the country. The question I would earnestly submit for Parliamentary consideration is this: Are the silence and timidity of the ruled any justification on the part of the ruler for the maintenance of a principle so degrading to human nature as that of "Suffer and let suffer?" Were the eyes, heart, and speech of Wilberforce sealed until the House was beset by dark races? Did the late Czar wait for his palace windows to become mobbed with distressed serfs before his issue of the benign act for which his name is revered? Although the pressure and anxieties of the present session are almost without precedent, this home matter of such paramount importance should not be indefinitely set aside. For one sitting of the House only, taking as its standpoint the above ground for discussion, would, we believe, quickly determine on giving women the franchise, thereby meeting the prayer of those who are without the privilege of being represented.—I am, madam, yours truly,

ONE OF ENGLAND'S MAJORITY.

To the Editor of the Women's Suffrage Journal.

Madam,—I beg to thank you for your letter and the papers sent by the same post. I hope your meeting will be successful, but I am unable to attend it. I am not a man, as you thought, but a woman, above fifty years of age. By teaching, or writing, or art, I have managed to earn my own living since I was eighteen; and I have saved enough to keep me from want, should I now be disabled by sickness. Though poor myself and always likely to be, I have a considerable number of friends and acquaintances among the upper and middle ranks of life, and among them I can with ease count thirty-seven widows and forty-three single women, all of them either owners of property or heads of families,—many of them highly educated and possessed of good judgment,—many employing several servants, forward in good works, benevolent, public spirited, and in every way capable of giving an intelligent vote, yet by a most unjust law disallowed from letting their opinions have any effect, or aiding the cause which they deem to be that of patriotism and good government. Among the eighty women (mostly ladies in every sense) above mentioned, I have not reckoned any living only in lodgings, or living with an adult son or brother (except in two or three instances), who might be reckoned head of the household, and exercising the franchise for the household, but only *bona fide* owners of property and heads of families. In the case of a widow living with her daughters, or a lady with other single sisters, I have omitted counting either daughter or sisters. Yet, with these restrictions, and in my limited circle of acquaintance, I can reckon eighty. Now these women have a stake in the country; often they have strong opinions; they have some knowledge of history; they read the daily papers; many of them are

no two sides with respect to the right and utility of a share in public work by women, and he thought they were now very near success. Success was foreshadowed by many things, of which public feeling was one; the common opinion among people, even among opponents, was that a change was coming, and that it would be at no far-off time, but was coming at a measurable distance. Then there was a general advance along the line; women, whether actively working for the suffrage or not, were becoming conscious of powers and duties in the service of the public, and every other movement, such as the appointment of women as School Board officers, Poor-law Guardians, inspectors, or registrars, brought nearer the hour of success. The only advice he could give to the ladies was to keep this matter well before the attention of the public. Lord Sherbrook once said that an Englishman shies at a new idea like a nervous horse at a perambulator, and the only way was to walk him round and round it. He hoped the ladies would keep walking the public mind round this question till it got fairly accustomed to it.

The second resolution, that the chairman should sign a petition, was proposed by Mrs. CHARLES McLAREN, seconded by Miss MULLER, and supported by Miss C. A. BIGGS, and was, like the first, carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to their kind hosts for their exertions in summoning the meeting was proposed in a few words by Mrs. DUNCAN McLAREN, and was responded to by Sir WILLIAM TYRONE POWER.

DEBATING SOCIETIES.

BEDFORD PARK: RE-UNION.

At the first regular meeting of this society, held at the club, Bedford Park, Turnham Green, Moncure D. Conway, Esq., in the chair, Mr. Sirne (author of the admirable biographies of Lessing and Schiller) opened the discussion by giving an able and thoughtful paper on the relation of women to the State, in which he advocated their right to the Parliamentary franchise. In the discussion which ensued, Miss Becker, Mr. Jonathan Carr, Mr. Fox Bourne, Mr. Bowdler Sharpe, Miss Blackburn, Mr. Keith, Dr. Beckingsall, Rev. J. W. Horsley (chaplain of Clerkenwell Prison), and the chairman took part. There was unanimous assent to the principle of the political rights of women.

SOMERVILLE CLUB.

On May 2nd, Miss Lynch read a paper in the discussion society connected with the Somerville Club, 51, Mortimer-street. Miss Hamilton occupied the chair. Among those present were Lady Harberton, Miss M. Richardson, Miss E. Orme, Mrs. Harrison. A petition in favour of the franchise for women was adopted.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND THE DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION.

At the annual conference of the Democratic Federation, held on May 31st, in Paton Chambers, Westminster, Mr. W. Morgan proposed that "Manhood" should be substituted for "Adult" suffrage in the requirements of the Federation. He did so on the ground that the women's suffrage movement directly supported property qualifications for electoral power, which was just what Democrats had been fighting against all their lives. Mr. John Clark seconded the motion, but after a short discussion, in which Miss Helen Taylor, Mr. H. Burrows, Miss Craigen, and others took part, it was withdrawn.

SCOTLAND.

On May 26th an amateur concert was given in the Queen Street Hall, in aid of the Edinburgh National Society for Women's Suffrage. Miss Simpson, who appeared in the double rôle of conductor and solo vocalist, was assisted by a choir of ladies, and solos were given on the pianoforte and violin by a lady amateur and Madame Woycke respectively. The vocal portion of the programme consisted of a cantata by Roedel, entitled "The Sea Maidens," four selections from "Judas Maccabæus"—all having "liberty" for the burden of their song—a scena from Gluck, and Dr. Arne's "Rule Britannia." A large audience filled the hall, probably attracted by the unusual spectacle of a lady wielding the baton, and it is only fair to Miss Simpson to say that her ability, in this capacity, was at any rate on a par with that of many conductors of the other sex.

struggling hard to bring up a family of young sons and daughters to be useful and intelligent members of the commonwealth. Why should not their voices be heard? Why should all this property be unrepresented? At one time I had a small house, and paid plenty of rates and taxes; but whilst I of course had no vote, dozens of illiterate, narrow-minded, drunken men around me had votes, and such men give and take bribes and bring discredit upon a whole town. It appears to me also very unreasonable to allow women householders to vote for poor-law guardians, &c., when in the far wider and more interesting question of political elections they are debarred from voting. A large proportion of the men now voting in town constituencies are (as has been amply proved) little more than roughs and scamps. The crying need of the times is some measure that would refine and elevate the constituencies, and surely the admission of women householders would have this tendency.—Yours faithfully,
J. R.

THE WILL OF MR. J. S. MILL.

To the Editor of the *Women's Suffrage Journal*.

MADAM,—In looking over some newspaper clippings, I have found one about Mr. John Stuart Mill's will, of which I enclose a copy. I cut it out at the time of Mr. Mill's death, and wonder now why the newspapers made no reference to it when at length a university did open its degrees to women, and so become entitled to his legacy of £3,000. Can you tell me whether the London University has claimed and received the £6,000? And if so, what are the subjects for the women's scholarships? I do not hesitate to trouble you with these questions, because I am sure that an explanation will interest very many of the readers of the *Women's Suffrage Journal*.—I remain, yours sincerely,
M. STEPHENSON HUNTER.
Oxford.

EXTRACT FROM A NEWSPAPER.

"MR. JOHN STUART MILL'S WILL.—To members of his wife's family and his own he leaves legacies to the amount of £9,000; to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, £500; to the Land Tenure Reform Association, £500; to any one university in Great Britain or Ireland that shall be the first to open its degrees to women, £3,000; and to the same university a further sum of £3,000 to endow scholarships for female students exclusively. The property left by Mr. Mill is sworn under £14,000."

A CURIOUS QUESTION.

The question has often been asked, but never satisfactorily answered, Why should a man be permitted to marry his deceased wife's sister, and a woman forbidden to marry her deceased husband's brother? Here is an example of what may well happen, if the measure which is being so assiduously pressed upon Parliament should be carried:—Two brothers, John and William, respectively marry two sisters, Mary and Sarah. William and Mary die, and John and Sarah marry. John's marriage with Sarah will be legal, but Sarah's marriage with John will be illegal; and the children will in one case be legitimate and in the other illegitimate.—*Globe*.

PRESIDENT GARFIELD ON WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Laugh as we may, put it aside as a jest if we will, keep it out of Congress or political campaigns, still the woman question is rising in our horizon larger than the size of a man's hand, and some solution, ere long, that question must find.—*Address before Washington Business College*.

"Queen Mary, having overcome the repugnance of the English to be governed by a Sovereign Lady, was desirous to place her own sex in stations of authority, of which there have been few examples before or since. She made Lady Berkeley a Justice of the Peace for Gloucestershire, and Lady Rous she appointed of the quorum for Suffolk, who did usually sit on the bench at assizes and sessions among the other justices, *cincta gladio*, girt with the sword." (Miss Strickland's *Life of Mary*, pp. 424-425 in vol. 5 of *Queens of England*, 1842.) For this assertion Miss Strickland in the note cites, "Harl. MS., 980, 1 In MS. notes of Mr. Attorney-General Noy."

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE RETURN OF WOMEN AS POOR-LAW GUARDIANS.

The members and friends of this society were most fortunate in securing as chairman at their second annual meeting the Rt. Hon. J. Stansfeld, M.P., whose wise and kindly words were full of encouragement and counsel. The meeting was held at the Steinway Hall, Portman Square, on the 8th instant.

The HON. SEC. (Mrs. L. V. Chamberlain) read the report, the main points of which were as follows: The increase in the number of ladies elected as Guardians; there being twelve in London as compared with seven last year, and fifteen in the country instead of five. The favourable tone of opinion in the press, among the public and the male guardians, both in London and the Provinces. The state of the law which prohibits women from serving in Ireland, but which it is hoped may be altered by the adoption of Mr. Dickson's amendment to Mr. Leaky's motion relative to the election of guardians, now before the House. The qualification required in England, which practically excludes married women from office. The balance sheet showed that the expenses for the year were £28. 2s.

The Rev. BROOKE LAMBERT moved the first resolution for the adoption of the report and the election of the executive committee.

The motion was seconded by Fräulein CALM, from Cassel. In excellent English, that lady referred to the state of the question in Germany. We are very much behind you, said Fräulein Calm, in the matter of women's rights; the suffrage we dare not speak of, and no ladies sit on School Boards. They are, however, Poor-law Guardians. Hamburg set the good example, twelve or fifteen years ago; and in Elberfeld they have long worked as such. The Vaterländischer Frau Verein, founded by the Empress for succouring the soldiers during the war of 1870, brought forward ladies to do this work, for which married ladies are equally eligible. By the knowledge thus acquired a great check has been given to indiscriminate almsgiving, and the work and counsel of women has been a great blessing.

Mr. BARING-SUTTON thought the report afforded great cause for congratulation. The very success of the movement had, however, stirred up opposition, especially in St. Pancras. The speaker could not understand what made gentlemen so afraid of ladies; one lady present had made more attendances at the Board than any other member, but he cautioned the ladies not to over-work themselves.

The CHAIRMAN then said he congratulated them on the successful work of that Association. He might say its progress was very satisfactory. Mr. Dodson was sympathetic and desired to appoint ex-officio lady guardians, but the difficulty was to find them. Far from being discouraged by opposition, he should be disheartened if there were none, for there was always a stage in which opposition was helpful. The Poor-law question was a progressive one, and the time was coming when the whole question of the election of local government bodies would be considered, and then the question of qualification would come on. He did not see why there should be any qualification for guardians more than for Parliament and the School Board. He knew nothing whatever to be compared to the progress of the woman question during the last twenty years. It was the duty of women to take their part in any public work for which they were fitted, and society could not do without them. For generations people had been content that men should monopolise this work, but it was very absurd, for in every workhouse women were in the majority, and there were the girls and infants besides. His advice was to choose only those women who felt especially fitted for that work.

Miss EVA MULLER moved the second resolution: "That in the opinion of this meeting the work done by this society during the past year has been such as to fully show the advantage of this Association." The speaker said that she was glad to have the opportunity of testifying to the value of this Association, without which neither she nor her colleagues would have come forward. As a guardian of only six weeks' standing she had some diffidence in addressing the meeting, especially in the presence of those of long experience. But boards differ so much that the smallest experience is valuable. Ladies are perhaps most valuable in the department of the Union Schools. At the Norwood Schools the results of a good system are very apparent. The children are not treated as

paupers but as belonging to a large family; the boys are taught various industries, the matron visits the girls placed out, for whom there is a constant demand. The proportion who return to the House is small. The other day two of the Lambeth officers were over-heard conversing: "You seem very busy," said one. "Yes," replied the other, "there's a deal for everyone to do now the ladies are always around." Nothing could have exceeded the kindness with which the gentlemen of the Lambeth Board had received the ladies, and the courtesy with which they had initiated them into its ceremonies. Scarcely any other field offers so wide a scope, and it is to be hoped that those who have not too many children of their own will come forward and work for those of the State.

Miss ANDREWS, in seconding the motion, said that two years ago she was the only lady guardian in London. In dealing with pauper children, the great difficulty was how to give them ideas of thrift and independence, brought up as they are at other people's expense. Ladies were also wanted to help girls and women who go into the union to earn a living out of it.

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the motion, which like the first was carried unanimously, reminded his hearers that in the country guardians were also the sanitary authority, and that this would open to women another sphere for which they were scarcely less fitted.

Miss BIGGS regretted that Miss Tod, who first brought forward the necessity of making women eligible as Poor-law Guardians in Ireland, was not present. The Social Science Association had passed a resolution that their election was desirable. The difference between the two countries arises from the fact that English Poor Laws date from a time when the law made no distinction between men and women, but the Irish only date from 1830, and the words "any male person" were put in. The resolution moved by Miss Biggs was "That this meeting views with great satisfaction the effort now being made by our Parliamentary friends to alter the qualification for Poor-law Guardians in Ireland, and expresses an earnest hope that this measure may become law this session."

Mrs. CHANT seconded this motion in feeling and well-chosen words. She thought nothing could be more absurd than the wording of the Irish Poor Law that "any male person over twenty-one" was able to take the management of hundreds of women and children.

Miss MULLER proposed, and Mr. V. L. Chamberlain seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Mr. STANSFELD having returned thanks, Miss LOUISA TWINING rose from the body of the meeting to express her best wishes for a movement which she had advocated for the last twenty years.

KING'S COLLEGE EXTENSION SCHEME.

On June 13th, a large meeting assembled at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the LORD MAYOR, for the promotion of the scheme put forward by King's College for extending their operations to the education of women. Before calling on Canon Barry to make his report, the Lord Mayor observed that the acceptance of the principle of the necessity for the higher education of women marked a new era, and one of the most happy.

Canon BARRY then briefly reviewed the facts already made known at the meeting last year at Willis's rooms. The work which they had met that day to promote was already begun. After half a century of existence King's College had taken up female education, and there being neither room nor appliances at the College itself, they had started a branch at Kensington. This had met with a success greatly beyond their expectations; the average attendances were 500 a term. But what they wanted was money support. They had to buy a site, and the £6,000 raised last year would have to be doubled. Wealth was not a virtue of King's College; they had no endowments, and though they had a large income, it was used up in working expenses.

The Bishop of MANCHESTER then moved the following resolution:—"That regarding education as the right cultivation of the individual nature, and the right preparation for the performance of all duties to human society, the promotion of the higher education of women is a work deserving the strongest and most cordial support."

Mr. J. G. HUBBARD, M.P., spoke of the higher education of women as connected with the greatness or the decline of England.

As were the mothers, so were the sons. Great strides had been made in science and art, and Englishwomen must be educated up to their day; the mothers must keep abreast of their children.

Alderman Sheriff HANSON said the time had passed for apologising for letting women have as much education as they could get. If men opposed them now, it would be a confession that they owed their superiority to their education, and were afraid of being supplanted. Far from unfitting women for the duties of life, a woman with a knowledge of classics and mathematics would make a better wife and mother.

The Bishop of PETERBOROUGH then moved:—"That the principles on which King's College was founded, and the educational work which it has done during the last fifty years, entitle it to general confidence and support in the extension of its operations to the education of women." Education his Lordship defined as training, instruction as equipping. There never was a time when women were not educated, but in all stages of society they were educated on the principle that woman was man's helpmeet. In savage countries the woman performed all the meaner offices of life, for which she was educated by man; in the east she was the slave and toy of man. In Christian lands she was still educated according to man's idea of what a helpmeet should be, but the Christian man's ideal was a higher and purer one, and so woman's education was proportionately elevated. In past generations woman had done her duty faithfully in the station in which society had placed her, but she had not risen to a higher level of her own accord. It behoved men to see that women rose with them; nothing could be more dangerous than for the education of men to be at a high, and the education of women at a low level. This was exemplified in the case of the Greek Republics. If English society was to be pure and strong, woman's advancement must proceed with that of man.

Canon FARRAR, in a brief but eloquent speech, referred to woman's position from an historical point of view. Whole nations and ages have persisted in placing woman under unfair restriction; yet she has succeeded in making her way to the front, and playing no mean part in the drama of life. In spite of all, women of genius have asserted their true position, from Miriam and Deborah to Cornelia and Sappho. Coming to later times, have women been spoilt by the study of science and the classics? Was Queen Elizabeth the worse for being able to read Demosthenes and Sophocles in their native language, or Lady Jane Grey for reading Plato, or were Caroline Herschell or Mrs. Somerville or Mrs. Barrett Browning less womanly for being foremost among the scholars and students of their day? After speaking of the religious education of King's College as a powerful plea in its favour, the Canon said that not only for the married women, but for those who must be denied the blessings of wedded life, ought this higher education to be provided to brighten and elevate their existence.

A vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, proposed by Sir R. WILBRAHAM, K.C.B., and seconded by the DEPUTY GOVERNOR of the Bank of England, closed the proceedings.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD.

The Council of Somerville Hall have just issued their annual report. The Hall, which was founded in 1879 in connection with the Oxford Association for the Higher Education of Women, is strictly undenominational in principle. The present number of students is eighteen, which is as many as the existing buildings will hold. A new wing, however, containing twelve rooms, has been built, and will be opened in October next. Applications for admission should be made to the Principal, Miss Shaw Lefevre, and addressed to Somerville Hall, Oxford. The list of distinctions already gained by the students is very encouraging. In the final honours examination last year, one first class, two seconds, and a third fell to the five members of the Hall who entered for it; and for this year there is already a first class in natural science to be recorded. Another student gained the Gilchrist Exhibition at London University, and two more won open scholarships given by the Oxford Association.

In October next there will be an election to two Exhibitions—(1) the Clothworkers' Exhibition of £35 a year for three years, (2) an Exhibition of £25 a year for two years.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY ON MEDICAL SCHOOLS FOR WOMEN.

The annual distribution of prizes to the students of the London School of Medicine for Women took place on June 13th, at the School, 31, Henrietta-street, Brunswick Square, which is in association with the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road.

The DEAN opened the meeting with a statement of the position occupied by the School, from which it appeared that there were thirty-nine students in the School and Hospital, fourteen of whom were preparing for degrees at the University of London.

Professor HUXLEY, before presenting the prizes to the successful competitors, said: I know it is always expected of those who occupy the position which I at present hold that they should say something on the greatly vexed topic of the intellectual, moral, and physical relations of the sexes; but as I am not giving an address I may hold myself excused from any such attempt.

Miss Agnes Mary Markwick has been appointed to the following offices rendered vacant by the death of her father:—Secretary to the Uckfield Building Society; Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Isfield district; and Assistant Overseer and Collector of Poor Rates for the parish.

A Parliamentary return has been issued showing the costs of the eight Election Commissions, from which it would appear that Macclesfield was the most expensive, with a total of £5,064.

The total expenditure for Gloucester is made up as follows:—Ordinary expenditure: Payments to clerical staff, and to witnesses, attendance of police, hire of sessions-house, incidents, &c., £1,117. 15s. 6d.; stationery office charges, £545. 9s. 10d.; commissioners' remuneration, £1,139. 15s.; secretary's remuneration, £560. 14s.; shorthand writing, £788. 3s. 8d.; total, £4,161. 18s.

The Burdwan Sanjibani gives an account of the election of a municipal commissioner for a single ward of the Burdwan municipality. There were two candidates, who secured respectively 750 and 400 votes.

To the Sheffield Daily Telegraph we are indebted for a remarkably neat instance of the retort direct. A husband advertised that he, Thomas A—, would no longer be answerable for the debts incurred by his wife.

OWENS COLLEGE AND WOMEN STUDENTS.

At a special meeting of the Court of Governors of Owens College, held June 27th, the Council presented a report with reference to the admission of women students, in which the Court was invited to reconsider its decision upon this important matter arrived at in April, 1877.

WOMEN APPOINTED REGISTRARS.

At Leicester an official appointment has just been made, which has given general satisfaction. Mr. J. M. McAllister, the Registrar of Births and Deaths for West Leicestershire, died suddenly, leaving a widow and a large family of children unprovided for.

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COST OF THE ELECTION COMMISSIONS.

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A MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN INDIA.

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PETITIONS.

WOMEN'S DISABILITIES—For Removal.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes entries for Lewes (Mr. Mason), George Leaper and others (Mr. Norwood), F. W. Brewster and others, B. Cartill and others.

Total number of Petitions 391—Signatures 12,063

THIRTEENTH REPORT, 5—9 June, 1882.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes entries for Stow on the Wold, Gloucester (Mr. Yorke), Borris in Ossory and other places, Queen's County, Ireland, Dublin (Mr. Maurice Brooks), Pembrokeshire (Mr. William Davies), Goodwick, Pembroke, Rathgar and other places (Mr. Ion Trant Hamilton), Sutton, Surrey, Members of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society, John Barnes, chairman (Sir Trevor Lawrence), Brandford and other places (Mr. Portman), Ventnor (Mr. Ashley), West Kensington, Attendants at a Drawing-room Meeting held at 10, Campden Hill Gardens, Thomas Stevens, chairman (Sir Charles Dilke), G. E. Orme and others (Mr. Mason), R. K. Wilson, Baronet, and others (Mr. Mason), Southsea, Margaret Lucas, president (Mr. T. Bruce), Mrs. Catharine Hamilton and others (Mr. W. Corbet), Atson Rowant and Kingston (Mr. Harcourt), Wilmslow and other places (Mr. W. C. Brooks), Mary Tweedie and others (Baron Henry De Worms).

Total number of Petitions 408—Signatures 12,471

FOURTEENTH REPORT, 12—15 June, 1882.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes entries for Lucy Massingberd and others (Sir Charles Dilke), Ada Mawby and others (Mr. Master), Thomas Dale and others (Mr. Slagg), Sarah C. Sharmar (Mr. Spencer), Penzance (Sir John St. Aubyn), Portsmouth (Mr. Thomas Bruce), Glasgow Women's Suffrage Committee, Members of, John Burt, chairman (Mr. Charles Cameron), Plymouth (Mr. Macliver), Bromley, Brompton, and Shortland Branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, Members of the Executive Committee of, Charles Green, chairman (Sir Charles Mills).

Total number of Petitions 419—Signatures 12,834

FIFTEENTH REPORT, 16—20 June, 1882.

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes entries for Ilkeston (Mr. Evans), Penrith, C. Fairer, chairman (Mr. Stafford Howard), London (Sir Andrew Lusk), Meath, County of (Mr. Metge), M. F. O'Kuffe and others, Tyldesley, near Manchester (Sir Richard Cross), Gloucester (Mr. Monk), New Cross and other places (Mr. Board), Owthorne and Withersea (Mr. Broadley), London (Mr. Daniel Grant), Allerton, near Bradford (Mr. Illingworth).

Total number of Petitions 430—Signatures 13,221

The Petitions marked thus (*) are similar to that from W. P. Snell and others [APP. 6.] The Petitions marked thus (†) are similar to that from Dunshaughlin [APP. 33.] The Petitions marked thus (©) are from public meetings, and are signed officially.

SPECIAL FUND OFFERED BY MR. R. B. KENNETT.

Miss Becker received, on the 24th of April, a letter from Mr. R. B. Kennett, in which he offered £50 if she would collect three other fifties, or £100 if she would collect three other hundreds within a month.

Miss Becker has now the pleasure of announcing that the following sums have been contributed in answer to her appeal. Manchester Society: "Popgun," £100; Mr. J. P. Thomasson, M.P., £50 (promised); Mrs. Smithson, £5; Mrs. Jones, 10s. Central Committee: Mrs. Garnett, £50 (£25 paid, £25 promised for August); Mrs. Pennington, £30; Mrs. F. Morrison, £25; Mr. Pochin, £25; Mrs. Chas. B. McLaren, £20; Mrs. Thomasson, £5; Miss Williams, £3; Mrs. Lynch, 13s.

The Committees beg to tender their warmest thanks to Mr. Kennett for his generous donation, and to the friends whose liberality has enabled them to take advantage of the conditions on which it was offered.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

GENERAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, JUNE, 1882.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries for "Popgun" (special fund), Mr. Hugh Mason, M.P., Mrs. Smithson (special fund), Mr. Joseph E. Field, Mrs. Hetherington, Mrs. Thomas Taylor, Mr. Wm. Lawson, Miss F. M. Buss, Mrs. Every, Mrs. Henry Taylor, Mrs. Craigie, Miss Dick, Mrs. Jones (special fund), Mrs. Rowland.

S. ALFRED STEINTHAL, TREASURER, 28, JACKSON'S ROW, MANCHESTER.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS from MAY 28 to JUNE 28.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries for Mrs. Pennington (special fund), Mrs. Garnett, Mrs. Frank Morrison, Mr. Pochin, Mrs. Charles B. McLaren, Count Metaxa, Mrs. Thomasson (special fund), Miss Williams, Miss Bostock, Mr. Wm. Shaen, Miss Ellen Stone, Mrs. Henry Taylor, Mrs. Peab Newcombe, Mrs. Lindley, Mrs. Emma Wood, Mrs. Edwin Ransom, Mrs. Leach, Miss Mabel Holland, Miss J. Cobden, Mrs. Sterling, Miss Clara Mordan, Mrs. F. D. Askey, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Miss Ruth, Mr. F. Hill, Mrs. Lynch (special fund), Mrs. Henry Roberts, Miss Waine, The Misses Stapcoole, Mr. T. F. Brooke.

LAURA M'LAREN, TREASURER, 64, BERNERS-STREET, W.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND.

SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS from MAY 21 to JUNE 20.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries for C. L., Mr. Herbert Thomas, Mrs. W. H. Budgett, Mrs. Beddoe, Mrs. Grenfell, Mrs. Grenfell, Mrs. Holroyd, Mr. Richard Cory, Mr. J. T. Grace, Mr. Greenwell, Misses Marjott, Mrs. Eubulus Williams, Mrs. S. N. Price, Mrs. Harding.

ALICE GRENFELL, TREASURER, 1, CECIL ROAD, CLIFTON.

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DO NOT UNTIMELY DIE.
Sore Throats Cured with One Dose.

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BOWEL COMPLAINTS cured with One Dose.
 TYPHUS or LOW FEVER cured with Two Doses.
 DIPHTHERIA cured with Three Doses.
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FENNINGS' Children's Powders Prevent Convulsions.

ARE COOLING AND SOOTHING.
FENNINGS' Children's Powders.

For Children Cutting their Teeth, to prevent Convulsions.

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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.

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