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# THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL

A Weekly Record and Review devoted to the interests of Women in the Home and in the Wider World.

Edited by  
**MRS. FENWICK MILLER.**

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## Principal Contents OF This Issue.



Women's Electoral Disabilities:  
*By Mrs. Fenwick Miller.*

Women's Suffrage in Scotland. Interview with  
Mrs. Bright McLaren.

Test Question for Liberals: *By Mrs. Pumphrey.*

Division List on the Verminous Persons' Bill.  
Closure Resolution.

Our Short Sketch: Realities of War.

Women in India.

Mary Wollstonecraft's "Rights of Women."

Signals from our Watch Tower.

The number of Women who would be Parliamentary  
Voters; Where were our Friends in the Closure  
Division on July 7?; the Bridport W.L.F. to the  
National Liberal Club; Letter from Miss Twining;  
Sir G. O. Morgan and the Married Women's  
Property Bill; More Colorado Testimony;  
Servants Guilds; Lady Inspectors for Ships.

Signals from Friend to Friend.

Needlework of Royal Ladies. Chapter II.

The Dress Problem.

What to Wear. Illustration of Autumn Costume.

Economical Cookery: Chicken.

*By Miss L. Heritage.*

Current News, Our Open Column, &c., &c., &c.

**"STRONGEST & BEST."**

—Health.

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In replying to an advertisement in this column, when the advertiser's own address is not given, but only an office number, write your letter to the advertiser and enclose it in an envelope; close this, and write (where the stamp should go), on the outside, the letter and number of the advertisement, and nothing more. Put the reply or replies thus sealed down in another envelope, together with a penny stamp for each letter you want sent on, loose in your envelope to us; address the outer envelope "WOMAN'S SIGNAL Office, 30 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London, W.C.," stamp to the proper weight, and post. We will then take out and address and forward your replies to the advertiser, and further communications will be direct between you both. Postcards will not be forwarded.

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**THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL**  
A WEEKLY RECORD AND REVIEW FOR LADIES.

VOL. VIII., No. 192.]

SEPTEMBER 2, 1897.

One Penny Weekly.

**WOMEN'S ELECTORAL DISABILITIES.**

ONE PHASE OF THE CASE.  
By Mrs. FENWICK MILLER.

THE revising barristers are about to go to work all over the country, arranging the lists of persons who may vote for the next election of members of Parliament. A great many women have all the necessary qualifications for being placed upon these lists, except only "that attribute of masculinity which man shares with the brutes," to quote the *Westminster Review*. Yet, in face of the fact that there is to be no representation whatever of women, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, while yet called a Radical, had the audacity to claim\* that as matters stand now, "At last the majority of the nation is represented by a majority of the House of Commons." In this politician's view, then, we Englishwomen are not a part of the nation! Mr. Chamberlain is like the Chinese, who do not count their daughters in giving the number of their families. "I have four children" means, to a Chinaman and a Chamberlain) that there are four sons in the house; the girls who have a physical existence are too insignificant to be counted as part of the nation.

The revising barristers draw out their lists upon the following principles:—

A man-servant whose whole maintenance, and therefore whose whole contribution to the rates and taxes, is drawn from the wages he receives from the woman who employs him, is entitled to vote as to the rates and taxes which his employer shall pay, but she has no voice in the matter herself, because she is not part of the nation, but only a supernumerary, not worth counting. Under the "Service Franchise" numbers of ladies are being called upon to return the names of their men servants to be added to the voters' list, while the name of the mistress who pays their rent, whose orders they follow, and on whose wages they subsist, is excluded. Women who own and manage businesses, farmers, drapers, hotel-keepers and the rest, see their workmen vote, and they may not. If the possession of property—"a stake in the country"—be a reason for representation, the female employer should not be excluded while the male employed is admitted.

Paupers are being placed upon the voters' list. All over the country there may be seen upon the church doors at present little bills, signed by the overseers of the various parishes, informing men who have received relief from the rates, under the order of the parish doctors, that their pauperism is not a barrier to their voting. Thus, a man does not need to be self-supporting in order to share in the government of the country, and in the imposition of those forced contributions of all taxpayers (women included) to the State expenses, of which he receives a share in charity. The thousands of women who support themselves in proud even if poor independence are of less importance in

the nation, and are held less worthy of influence, than male paupers.

The criminal, only just out of gaol, has a vote. The burglar, the swindler, the brute whose violence has compelled his fellow-men to chain him for a while, the drunkard picked incapable out of the gutter, are all parts of the English nation, and competent to give their opinion on projected social changes. But the honest working women, the refined and cultured ladies, the women teachers of youth, and those women who have laboured for years in the reform and the prevention of crime, are one and all held to be less fit to form an opinion as to the character and conduct of would-be statesmen than are convicted male criminals.

The densest and blindest ignorance is no barrier to a man being placed upon the register of voters. On the contrary, elaborate and careful provision is made by which a man who cannot so much as distinguish between the names of the candidates printed on the voting paper shall yet be enabled to cast his ballot. The ploughman who travels in solitude day after day over the desolate fields, the labourer who bends with the hoe above the clods which know almost as much as he of the economy of society, and the history, the position amidst states, and the polity of the nation of which he is a recognised member, have a power in directing the future course of legislation, which is altogether denied to the women who take university degrees, who write books and newspapers, and who move in the very throng of cultured civilised life. The most ignorant and untutored male mind is held by male arrogance more worthy to be counted as part of the English nation than the most highly trained and the most capable brain inside the head of an Englishwoman.

The finishing touch to all this has been added. It has been decided by the Revising Barrister of Faversham that an insane person may be put on the register as a voter. The Liberals objected to the claim of one gentleman to vote because he was in the Chatham Lunatic Asylum. But the Conservative agent maintained that this was not a valid objection, because insanity was not necessarily a continuous disease. The Revising Barrister admitted the justice of the contention, and added the name to the list. In due course, therefore, when the elections take place, a Tory canvasser will call at Chatham Asylum, and take Mr. Lunatic down to express his views about the proper government of the country. I do not say this in jest. No objection can legally be made at the polling booth to any person whose name has been accepted by the Revising Barrister. So we have at last come to this, that a male madman is a part of the nation that ought to be represented in the House of Commons, while the wisest and most thoughtful woman—a George Eliot, a Florence Nightingale, a Lady Burdett-Coutts, a Mary Carpenter, a Mrs. Somerville—is not worthy to be counted as part of the English nation!

If women suffered under no actual disadvantages in unequal laws in consequence of their exclusion from representation, surely the

absurdly insulting character of their present position is alone enough to make every self-respecting woman indignant. The lady is of no electoral account, but her man-servant is her master. The pauper, the illiterate ignoramus, the criminal, and the lunatic, all have their place on the Revising Barrister's lists. Women are, as Mr. Goschen puts it, "less capable citizens" than all these; or, as Mr. Chamberlain has it, women are not "part of the nation," while paupers, ignorant labourers, criminals, and madmen are English voters, and form an important factor in making those laws which you and I must merely obey—in deciding those great questions, both social and international, in which you and I are to have no voice.

While the noblest, wisest, richest and best women are thus ostentatiously, whenever an election comes, declared inferior to the commonest, most ignorant, least independent and vilest of men, how can it be but that individual women will be despised and ill-treated by the more vulgar and coarse of the sex thus trained to suppose the other its subject? How can we wonder if Members of Parliament set aside the needs and desires of the unrepresented sex? How can we expect that women will be induced to give their brains and their hearts to the public service from which they are so scornfully set aside—or how can we doubt that thus much patriotism, wisdom and enthusiasm for the public good is lost?

When the majority of men were not possessed of the right to vote, and women were only one of many excluded classes, the indignity and the disadvantage were far less than now. For now, to be of the female sex is declared a greater disqualification for citizenship than poverty amounting to pauperism; than ignorance so absolute that the very difference between two names in print cannot be discerned; than actual lunacy; or than convicted crime. In fact, there is no real disqualification known at present except being of the mother instead of the father half of humanity. This slur on womanhood is indefensible and intolerable; it is a state of affairs created by the extensions of the franchise of the last quarter of a century, and it ought to remain not a session longer unredressed.

No such phrase as "virtual representation" is known in law or constitution. It is altogether a subtlety and illusion, wholly unfounded and absurd.—James Otis.

No man not ignorant or vicious will say that women do not need the ballot—that they have all the rights to which they are entitled; no woman can say it without proving either her ignorance or her willingness to enjoy her easy lot while other women suffer.—Elizabeth Burrill Curtis.

THERE is no more reason that men should assume to decide participation in politics to be unwomanly, than that women should decide for men that it is unmanly.—George William Curtis.

\* Preface to "The Radical Programme."

## WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN SCOTLAND.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. BRIGHT McLAREN.

(From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.)

If I had time, writes a correspondent, I might think of a pun about the Woman's Suffrage movement being "scotched" for the present. But I fear that the process of scotching will be sufficiently in evidence at the next parliamentary election, nor will it be confined to any particular locality. We have heard what certain English ladies have said on the subject, and now, I am glad to say, we may hear the view of Scotch ladies, and that direct from the fountain-head of the movement in the north. I refer, of course, to Mrs. Bright McLaren. I found her at Harrington-gardens, in a quaint house with old rose draperies and Chippendale. And while she poured tea into dainty Dresden cups, and interspersed her remarks with "cream" and "one lump," she spoke of Women's Suffrage, as it stands to-day in Scotland, with an eloquence and directness that reminded one of stories of the late John Bright.

"I understand you simply wish to know how the question of Women's Suffrage stands in Scotland. Well, I am only too pleased to tell you that it never stood higher, except in the earlier days of our agitation, when if we had had Home Rule in Scotland the suffrage would have been given us, as the majority of the Scotch members were then in favour of it. They looked at it as a question of constitutional right, 'representation accompanying taxation.' There is now great willingness, even eagerness, to sign our petitions; men of the highest position intellectually, dignitaries of the Free Church, University professors, ministers of the Gospel, and notably working men and women, have sent petitions in our favour. Within a few months up to the 12th of July petitions signed by 42,265 persons were sent to the House—440 from Scotland, many of them from town councils and parish councils; but unfortunately the newspapers give no account of the position the question holds throughout the nation. A leading Scotch paper, alarmed at the evidence those petitions gave of the growing seriousness of the question, said, 'They simply threw ridicule upon it, and steps ought to be taken to put a stop to women's petitions.'

"Strange logic, truly, in this Jubilee year, when the civilized world has been stirred to its centre to show its admiration for the Queen's womanly virtues, her great political sagacity, and her thorough comprehension of constitutional government; while fears seize the minds of our rulers as they observe the same powers developing in women and exercised in the various positions they now occupy in the State. Do you think if a question of justice to men had gained a majority in the House of Commons of 71 in its favour, as was the case when Mr. Faithfull Begg brought in his Bill for Women's Suffrage, that they would have dared to prevent the Bill from reaching the Committee stage by amusing the House with a got-up debate on the 'Verminous Persons Bill'? The enemies of Women's Suffrage chose a dirty subject for a dirty action, but it served their purpose. The late Mr. Mundella, a few days before he was so sadly stricken down, said to a friend, 'Although I am no longer an active supporter of Women's Suffrage, I consider that the most disgraceful episode I have ever seen or heard of in the House of Commons. The conduct shown to women on that occasion

every man ought to be ashamed of.' It is with mingled pain and thankfulness that I give these as almost the parting words of an old friend, who, in his earlier Parliamentary days, was such a true friend to women. I hope if my old friend Mr. Justin McCarthy is permitted to write a history of this last session of Parliament he will give a right account of the episode, and pillory the names of the members who took the leading part in it.

"Our Women's Suffrage Committee in Edinburgh has always consisted entirely of women, and we have never had any weak-kneed members who have allowed themselves to be led, as in some other associations, to believe it was noble and unselfish to work for candidates for parliamentary honours who were opposed to Women's Suffrage. We adhere strongly to making our suffrage a test question at elections, and we have never deviated from the principle that the suffrage should be granted to women on the same lines as it is given to men. I have seen it stated that because a few women sent a petition to Parliament, through the friendly hands of Mr. Courtney, objecting 'that under the present parliamentary system it was a mere chance whether a Bill should be introduced into the House, depending on a ballot,' such umbrage was taken at this plain speaking that some declared that they would never again vote for the suffrage. I cannot believe this. One member said, 'the sting of the petition lay in its truthfulness.' Would it not be more manly, then, to be thankful that women can see the truth and have the moral courage to express it? Our cause gains nothing by subserviency. I am tired of hearing of the exigencies of Parliament—these exigencies have always existed when any reform has been proposed. When will a Plimsoll arise to demand justice for women? We are tired of the old taunt that if women showed they wished for justice they would get it. What did we see when that answer was given so unmistakably in Westminster Hall a year ago? Were not those faithful women driven out of that time-honoured Hall by the very men who on the 7th of July last took fleas for their allies in their valiant fight against the women of the nation? I was in the Ladies' Gallery that night when Mr. Plimsoll stood so boldly forth in the cause of the sailor; it was a sight to have lived for, and it revealed a truth worth remembering. The fire he kindled that night on the altar of mercy and justice sent its sparks to the press throughout the kingdom, and next morning, as if under the influence of a great and noble mind, the press sent forth a demand for justice for our seafaring men. The press can be influenced into silence, but it can also be stimulated to a noble defence of the right, and this stimulus will be given some day on our question, though I may not live to see it.

"It is because every argument against Women's Suffrage has failed," Mrs. Bright McLaren added, "that our opponents dare not risk a debate upon it, and had to resort to the degrading tactics of July 7th. The House of Commons cannot fall to a lower depth, and we may hope something from this. I fear I have detained you too long. When debates in the House of Commons on our question were allowed, we women could meet in public and criticise those debates; the old spirit still lives in me, and you must forgive me if I have said too much."

A good habit is always a good helper.

## "THE TEST QUESTION FOR LIBERALS."

By Mrs. PUMPHREY.

Published by the Union of Practical Suffragists within the Women's Liberal Federation.

WHAT does Liberalism mean? The word has a meaning surely. It is not merely a convenient term under which to class everything that one of the two parties in the State happens to take up at the moment. How shall we define it? Did not Liberalism come into being in order to protest against unjust privilege?

Our opponents then are Conservatives, not merely as supporting the old against the new, but as bolstering up privilege. Is there any privilege in our political system as great and striking as that by which the law makes to half of the nation a gift of exclusive political power? The old maxim of the Liberal party was "government of the people by the people for the people"; why then should we go outside a Federation of Liberal women to work for such a distinctively Liberal principle?

But our critic's main point is that we shall "endanger other reforms for the sake of a demonstration on one particular question."

*Other Reforms!* The phrase shows a curious sense of proportion. Is a great constitutional change like Women's Suffrage to be written down in the same category as a change in the licensing laws, or a question of the amount of the grant to voluntary schools? The terms are not of the same denomination, as we say in arithmetic.

Besides, this is our own question as women. No one else has the same reason to push it. For this reason—in addition to its intrinsic weight—we give it a special place as our chief object; we do not class it with other questions however important. Luther wrote of "justification by faith" as the *articulus stantis aut cadentis ecclesiae*; and by this article of ours, we, as a political organization of women, must needs stand or fall; because, if we are not fit to exist politically, where is the sense of banding ourselves together to discuss politics or to advise men how to vote?

We have an item to contribute to the programme of the Liberal party, and how are we to get it in except by showing our strength?

How did the Irish get their question put into the programme nearly twelve years ago? Not by proving their "political capacities" to "sensible Liberal candidates," as we are advised to do. They had made themselves too formidable to be neglected.

Yet the Irish were better off than women are. To compare their case with ours, let us suppose that Ireland is not only without a separate Parliament, but has no representation at Westminster either. That is our status. If that were the status of Irishmen, could we expect them to count up "other reforms," and come over to England to canvass for the party which promised the handsomest list of "other reforms"? Would they be chargeable with overrating their own particular grievance if they said—"Your list is admirable; we sympathise with your reforms; but first of all give us leave to exist politically. So long as we are political pariahs, we shall make that question of our existence one to which all others must yield, and we will not work for the most desirable of candidates, if he refuses us representation." So women must speak.

THE demand in her behalf is, that she shall have the opportunity to make mistakes, since it is by that means she must become wise.

T. W. Higginson.

If women knew more, men must learn more—for ignorance would then be shameful—and it would become the fashion to be instructed.—*Sydney Smith*.

THE patrimony of the poor man lies in the strength and dexterity of his hands, and to hinder him from employing this strength and dexterity in what manner he thinks proper, without injury to his neighbour, is a plain violation of the most sacred property.—*Adam Smith*.

## THE VERMINOUS PERSONS' BILL, JULY 7th, 1897.

DIVISION LIST ON THE CLOSURE.

AYES 68.

Anstruther, H. T.  
Baird, John George Alexander  
Baker, Sir John  
Begg, Ferdinand Faithful  
Billson, Alfred  
Boscawen, Arthur Griffith-Brigg, John  
Burns, John  
Cameron, Robert (Durham)  
Coghill, Douglas Harry  
Colville, John  
Corbett, A. Cameron (Glasgow)  
Cox, Robert  
Denny, Colonel  
Farquharson, Dr. Robert  
Fenwick, Charles  
Field, William (Dublin)  
Fisher, William Hayes  
Gillhooley, James  
Goddard, Daniel Ford  
Gull, Sir Cameron  
Gunter, Colonel  
Hayne, Right Hon. Charles Seale-Hickman, Sir Alfred  
Hill, Right Hon. Lord Arthur (Down)  
Hobhouse, Henry  
Holburn, J. G.  
Horniman, Frederick John  
Hutton, Alfred E. (Morley)  
Johnston, William (Belfast)  
Jones, William (Carnarvonshire)  
Kenny, William  
Kenyon, James  
Kinloch, Sir John George Smyth  
Knowles, Lees  
Lambert, George  
Lawson, Sir Wilfrid (Cumberland)  
Lea, Sir Thomas (Londonderry)  
Leng, Sir John  
Leuty, Thomas Richmond  
Llewellyn, Sir Dillwyn- (Swansea)  
Loder, Gerald Walter Erskine  
Lucas-Shadwell, William  
Macdonald, John Cumming  
MacNeill, John Gordon Swift  
Mappin, Sir Frederick Thorpe  
Montagu, Sir S. (Whitechapel)  
Morgan, W. Pritchard (Merthyr)  
Morrell, George Herbert  
Mundella, Right Hon. Anthony John  
Murnaghan, George  
Price-Jones, Edward  
Russell, T. W. (Tyrone)  
Samuel, J. (Stockton-on-Tees)  
Schwann, Charles E.  
Sidebottom, William (Derbyshire)  
Souttar, Robinson  
Stanley, Lord (Lancashire)  
Tennant, Harold John  
Wallace, Robert (Perth)  
Warr, Augustus Frederick  
Wedderburn, Sir William  
Williams, John Carvell (Notts)  
Wilson, John (Falkirk)  
Wilson, John (Govan)  
Woodall, William  
Woodhouse, Sir J. T. (Huddersfield)  
Yoxall, James Henry

NOES 82.

Acland-Hood, Capt. Sir A. F.  
Allan, William (Gateshead)  
Baillie, James E. B. (Inverness)  
Baldwin, Alfred  
Balfour, Right Hon. J. Blair (Clackmannan)  
Barlow, John Emmott  
Barnes, Frederic Gorell  
Bayley, Thomas (Derbyshire)  
Bowles, T. Gibson (King's Lynn)  
Brookfield, A. Montagu  
Brunner, Sir John Tomlinson  
Caldwell, James  
Cawley, Frederic  
Chaloner, Captain R. G. W.  
Colomb, Sir John Charles Ready  
Commins, Andrew  
Cooke, C. W. Radcliffe (Hereford)  
Crilly, Daniel  
Curran, Thomas B. (Donegal)

Davies, M. Vaughan- (Cardigan)  
Fardell, Thomas George  
Ffrench, Peter  
Flannery, Portescue  
Flower, Ernest  
Folkestone, Viscount  
Fowler, Right Hon. Sir Henry (Wolver-hampton)  
Galloway, William Johnson  
Gladstone, Right Hon. Herbert John  
Gretton, John  
Hammond, John (Carlow)  
Harwood, George  
Hemphill, Right Hon. Charles H.  
Herron-Hodge, Robert Trotter  
Hunt, Sir Frederick Seager  
Hutton, John (Yorkshire, N.R.)  
Joicey, Sir James  
Jolliffe, Hon. H. George  
Kilbride, Denis  
Labouchere, Henry  
Lafone, Alfred  
Laurie, Lieut.-General  
Long, Colonel Charles W. (Evesham)  
Lowther, Right Hon. James (Kent)  
MacAleese, Daniel  
M'Hugh, E. (Armagh, S.)  
M'Iver, Sir Lewis  
M'Leod, John  
Monk, Charles James  
Morgan, Right Hon. Sir G. O. (Denbighshire)  
Morgan, J. Lloyd (Carmarthen)  
Morgan, W. Pritchard (Merthyr)  
Murray, Charles J. (Coventry)  
Newdigate, Francis Alexander  
Nicol, Donald Ninian  
Norton, Captain Cecil William  
Nussey, Thomas Willans  
O'Brien, James F. X. (Cork)  
O'Brien, Patrick (Kilkenny)  
Pease, Alfred E. (Cleveland)  
Phillipotts, Captain Arthur  
Pirie, Captain Duncan Vernon  
Powell, Sir Francis Sharp  
Renshaw, Charles Bine  
Richardson, Thomas  
Sharpe, William Edward T.  
Shaw, Charles Edward (Stafford)  
Sidebotham, J. W. (Cheshire)  
Simeon, Sir Barrington  
Smith, Abel H. (Christchurch)  
Stanley, Edward James (Somerset)  
Strachey, Edward  
Sturt, Hon. Humphrey Napier  
Sullivan, Donal (Westmeath)  
Thornton, Percy M.  
Tomlinson, William Edward Murray  
Usborne, Thomas  
Wallace, Robert (Edinburgh)  
Warner, Thomas Courtenay T.  
Welby, Lieut.-Col. A. C. E.  
Whittaker, Thomas Palmer  
Willoughby de Eresby, Lord  
Wilson-Todd, William H. (Yorks.)

[In this Division the Ayes represent the friends, and the Noes the adversaries of the Suffrage for Women, as the debate on the Verminous Persons Bill was avowedly being carried on to prevent the Enfranchisement of Women Bill coming on for third reading.—*Ed. W.S.*]

FURTHER EXPLANATION UNNECESSARY.—Husband: "I can't make out what is wrong with my meerschaum pipe. There is a very peculiar taste with it, and it won't draw."  
Wife: "That's odd; it seemed to draw all right when Johnnie was blowing bubbles with it."

A COLORED philosopher is reported to have said: "Life, my brethren, am mosly made up of prayin' for rain an' then wishin' it would cl'ar off."

"WHAT is that dog good for, anyhow?" asked Cynicus, pointing to Canis's St. Bernard, which was lying near by, looking dignified.  
"Good for!" retorted Canis; "that dog is a perfect gentleman; he's not supposed to be good for anything."

## REALITIES OF WAR:

Or Christmas in 1870, in the Church of Sainte Euvette, Orleans.

"It was late on Christmas Eve that I repaired to the Church of Sainte Euvette, and took my turn at night duty. It was bitterly cold. It had been freezing for weeks, and the snow lay deep and crisp underfoot. Let me describe what followed in the present tense.

"As I approach I hear the steady pace of the Prussian sentinel who keeps guard before the gate. The dim light of a lantern hanging above the door shows my uniform as I pass, and the soldier, checking his half-uttered 'Halt!' salutes. The door is opened by a Zouave, who also salutes; but this time in French fashion. He is an old Mexican campaigner, and wears among other decorations the war medal, given by his now deposed sovereign, who is spending Christmas at Wilhelmshohe, a broken exile. He swings open the heavy studded oak door, and I enter.

"I pause for a moment to contemplate a scene, the misery and pain of which none could realise who have not beheld it.

"Along the central aisle, to the right and left, are double rows of beds, each with its suffering occupant. On every pillar hangs a lamp, one to every four beds. Precisely the same arrangement has been made along the side aisles. Between every fourth and fifth pillar a stove is burning with the bright blaze of a wood fire. Thus a dim light is cast over the beds of the patients, but not sufficient to penetrate the gloom of the lofty roof. Every one of those 300 beds bears a wounded sufferer, and each sufferer could tell his own long history of privation and pain.

"Assuredly the saddest congregation that this old church has ever held! Around the stoves are huddled knots of soldiers, French and German, whose common affliction has changed bitter foes into sympathising friends. These poor fellows, whose wounds are comparatively light, for five or six days have not enjoyed the privilege of a bed. They lie in all postures around the fires, trying to sleep, a difficult task with a broken arm, wrist, or rib, or with severe flesh wounds; and they have no covering of any kind, and only a little straw and the hard flags to rest upon.

"Passing along the lines of beds are Sisters of Charity, who administer every comfort they can and whisper words of solace or consolation. In the stillness of the Christmas night the tones of agony and suffering echo through the church, which for centuries has resounded at that hour with the grand and solemn music of the Midnight Mass.

"What a comment on the words of the 'Gloria in excelsis,' in which these Christians say they believe! 'Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.'\* Man, I cannot but observe to myself, thou art as much a scandal as a mystery to the reflective mind!

"I begin my rounds, visiting first the more urgent cases. To some of the greatest sufferers I give morphia in pills or injections. In this manner I am compelled to silence those whose groans would disturb others. I now go on in succession, stopping at every bed to satisfy myself as to the condition of its occupant, giving medicines, arranging bandages, and soothing with hypnotics those whose wounds prevent their sleeping.

"This done, I repair to the sacristy, which serves as a surgery and waiting-room. My previous hard day's work begins to tell upon me, I grow sleepier every moment, and am soon nodding in my chair before the fire, when I am roused by an *infermier*, who tells me that two men are awake, and in their intense agony are creating a disturbance. I rub my eyes, shake myself together, and proceed to see them.

"The first I come to is a young Prussian artillery volunteer. He is only sixteen, a mere boy, with large blue eyes, fair soft complexion and fair hair, and though stoutly built, has very white and delicate hands. His graceful and engaging manner, and his developed mind, show

\* \* \* Glory to God in the highest! Peace on earth to men of good will."

that he is of a good German family. Yet he is but a private soldier. What has induced him to leave his home and country at such an age? Two reasons alone—hatred of the French, and a thirst for glory. Poor boy! His leg has been shattered by the fragment of a shell. His large tearful eyes turn to me as I approach his bed, and a kind smile comes over his face, so pale and worn with suffering. He takes my hand and begins his sad story, of a kind familiar enough by this time. He tells me the pain has become insupportable; he can neither eat nor sleep; he cannot last long. I try to cheer him with hopes which I fear can never be realised. I bid him go to sleep, and give him some morphia to help that consummation, wish him good-night, and leave him.

"My next patient is of special interest to me. I received him some weeks ago into my ward suffering from a leg very badly crushed. He gave me to understand that he came of a respectable and wealthy family in Wiesbaden, and was the only son of his mother, the last of his name; and in saving his life I should save his mother's too, for he believed she would not survive him.

"Never did I see a man cling more passionately to life, and never one so ill, and yet so incredulous of his danger. Now in the stillness of this Christmas night I come to his bedside to see him die. For days and nights I have helped him all in my power; I have denied him nothing I could give him, and he has always been so gentle and affectionate that every trouble I took for him was truly a pleasure. He speaks French and English fluently, is a graduate of the University of Bonn; young and good looking. All through his illness he has had one thought in his mind and that was his mother.

"He now complains of excessive weariness and pains in every part of his body. He is an Evangelical, and at my request the clergyman had visited him late that evening. I speak to him in a low voice and tell him I fear he is not better. His last efforts have been too much for him, he is now too weak and prostrate to do more than gasp out something about mother, home, and Fatherland. Now his lips quiver; now they cease to move; and a cold sweat stands out in large beads over his face. I smooth his pillow and wipe his forehead as I had often done before. He takes my hand, presses it feebly in his, looks earnestly into my face and becomes again unconscious.

"Several of the Sisters and one or two of the Infirmary have assembled around the bed of the dying man. His breathing becomes shorter and shorter. Suddenly he starts convulsively forward and makes an effort to rise, his eyes now fixed and glassy stare out with a vacant expression, and he falls back heavily a corpse.

"As we gaze for a second the old clock tower strikes the hour, the sentinel on watch cries out in reply to the challenge of his superior officer who is on his round, 'One o'clock and all's well.' Yes—all is well—only a poor soldier has given his life into the hands of his Maker, for his country's cause. One more German mother has lost her son—one more German heart is desolate.

"Not many minutes elapse before the fair youth of yesterday is lifted on a stretcher and conveyed to the dead house. Here the bearers tumble the body on the cold slimy floor and leave it till morning, when the mayor's cart will convey it and the other lifeless remains in that ghastly chamber, to the brink of a deep pit at the back of the church, and into that they will be roughly heaved. A little quicklime will be thrown in, then a little earth, and the burial ceremony is over.

"Thus the scene closes for this brave lad, who was my friend as well as my patient."

"*Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.*" wrote Horace. (It is sweet and graceful to die for one's country.) Here is the reality of that boast.

From "With an Ambulance during the Franco-German War.—Personal Experiences and Adventures with both Armies."

## THE SOCIAL CONDITION OF WOMEN IN INDIA.

(A Lecture delivered at Mysore, in the Wesleyan High School, in connexion with the Mysore Branch of the National Indian Association, by Mr. M. Venkata Krishnaya.)

THE greatness of a country depends to a great extent upon the physical, intellectual, and moral tone of its women; and no country whose women are backward in these respects has ever been known to hold its own against others. The social condition of women in India is anything but satisfactory. There are various evidences to show that women in ancient India used to get educated along with their brethren. Somehow or other education fell into disuse among them. It is said that many Indian ladies composed parts of the Vedas, and were the authoresses of a great deal of healthy literature. Such instances have now become past history. Ignorance has become the monopoly of women in India. They are a bundle of superstitions. The causes for this condition of women in India are not far to seek. Turn over the Hindu *sastras* (Bible); there you will find texts prohibiting the reading of the sacred writings to women. They are required to lead a perpetual life of dependence. Manu says that they are to depend in their infancy and girlhood on their parents; in their youth and womanhood, on their husbands; in their old age, on their male children. In the absence of any of these guardians they are required to be under the dominion of the relations either of their parents or of their husband.

Every woman born in India among the higher castes of the Hindus, especially Brahmmins, Vaisyas and Rajputs, is bound to get married. There is no option given to them to lead a life of celibacy. Even girls who are blind, lame or deformed, must go through the marriage ceremony. If bridegrooms are unavailable, husbands are regularly purchased to enable them to perform the only sacrament that a woman is required to undergo. A girl may be very poor and have nothing to depend upon; she may very much wish to live a single life; but she will not be permitted to do so. She must be married to some man, whether he be old or young, rich or poor, strong or weak, healthy or diseased. She is forced to enter into a marriage, even though with the prospect of soon becoming a widow. The field from which husbands and wives are to be selected is daily becoming more narrow, so much so that it is regarded as a great blessing if husbands and wives suited to each other are matched. There are many obstacles in the way of a marriage between well-suited couples. Caste is one of them. The Hindus are divided into four castes. Each of these castes is subdivided into a large number of sub-castes. Even among these four castes those from the higher sub-castes used to intermarry with girls from the lower, in times past. Now the sub-castes, of which there are about three thousand in India, think it a transgression against law and custom to marry from beyond the pale of their section. Even in the sub-castes there are a variety of sectional differences standing in the way of inter-marriages. These, too, operate as obstacles of a powerful kind. Add to these the flats of astrologers and priests, and the field of selection becomes narrower still. If all should prove favourable, the question of property, jewels and omens crops up in some cases. With so many obstacles in the selection of wives and husbands, marriages are bound to take place; and it is no wonder that so many of these marriages should prove a curse instead of blessing.

Let us now examine the system of early marriages in India. There are numerous texts in the Hindu *sastras* prescribing the age of marriage as the age at which the parties to the marriage are expected to know the gravity of the responsible step they are taking. Somehow or other this law and usage fell into disuse among the higher castes. It was superseded in favour of one prescribing the age to be eight, nine, or ten. Marriage itself is divided into two stages—viz., the betrothal and consummation. Why it was thus divided is not known. The ancient Hindus may have reduced the age of marriage to one so low as eight or ten to safeguard the moral interests of girls, so that their husbands and their relatives may take an interest in watching over their welfare. It is also said that the reduction of the marriageable age was to prevent the aggressive Muhammadan attempts at outrage on unmarried girls. Be that as it may: it is clear from the *sastras* that Manu never contemplated early marriages for the male sex. Manu says that every young man should go through a course of education from his seventh year upwards till he completes his education, that he should then obtain the permission of his teacher to enter into the married state, that after obtaining his permission he should perform the *sama-varjana* ceremony and then become a *grihastha*—i.e., a married man. It is evident from all this that the time fixed by law for the marriage of males was after they had gone through a course of education, complete in all respects—so complete as to enable them to earn a decent livelihood to maintain themselves and their family.

Let us now see what Hindu medical authorities—the authorities most competent to pronounce an opinion in the matter—say. The Hindu medical books say that the proper age for marriage is when the parties to it have become fully developed, both physically and intellectually. Coming to particulars, they have ruled that young men and women should not even think of marriage before they are 18 and 16 years respectively. We now and then hear old people say that there is a physical degeneracy in the modern races of India. This statement is made by old men and women, who form as it were a link between the past and the present generation. There is a great deal of truth in what they say. The truth, if sought for, will be found to lie in the system of early marriages which has of late years come into existence. Experience has proved that ripe seeds will sprout, grow, develop and become fruitful; but unripe seeds, if sown, will never come up at all. Even if they come up, they will be found to be unequal to the struggle for existence. They can never thrive at all. What applies to these, applies with no less force to human beings. Dr. Smyth very aptly called a large portion of the modern Hindus "a baby-born race." As a matter of fact, a large majority of Indians have for their parents undeveloped and immature boys and girls, not only in body but also in mind. The children of such parents can very well be recognised by any one blessed with observation and common sense. They are incapable of any sustained energy. They cannot concentrate their attention on any subject even for a few minutes. Their physique is an unmistakable index of their parentage. If a strong manhood and womanhood are to be created, if India is to survive in the struggle for national existence side by side with the progressive nations of the world, this blight of early marriages should be done away with. The evils that attend the early consummation of marriages are too

numerous to mention. They end in broken down lives, and in some instances also in death. Early marriage is the cancer that is eating into the vitals of our national existence. The sooner it is done away with, the better it will be for India.

(To be continued.)

## MARY WOLLSTONE-CRAFT'S

"VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN" (Published 1793).

CHAPTER II. (continued.)

CONNECTED with man as daughters, wives, and mothers, their moral character may be estimated by their manner of fulfilling those simple duties: but the end, the grand end of their exertions should be to unfold their own faculties and acquire the dignity of conscious virtue. They may try to render their road pleasant; but ought never to forget, in common with man that life yields not the felicity which can satisfy an immortal soul. I do not mean to insinuate that either sex should be so lost in abstract reflections or distant views, as to forget the affections and duties that lie before them, and are, in truth, the means appointed to produce the fruit of life: on the contrary, I would warmly recommend them, even while I assert, that they afford most satisfaction when they are considered in their true, sober light.

Probably the prevailing opinion, that woman was created for man, may have taken its rise from Moses's poetical story; yet, as very few, it is presumed, who have bestowed any serious thought on the subject, suppose that Eve was, literally speaking, one of Adam's ribs, the deduction must be allowed to fall to the ground; or, only be so far admitted as it proves that man, from the remotest antiquity, found it convenient to exert his strength to subjugate his companion, and his invention to show that she ought to have her neck bent under the yoke, because the whole creation was only created for his convenience or pleasure.

Let it not be concluded that I wish to invert the order of things; I have already granted that,

from the constitution of their bodies, men seem to be designed by Providence to attain a greater degree of virtue. I speak collectively of the whole sex; but I see not the shadow of a reason to conclude that their virtues should differ in respect to their nature. In fact, how can they, if virtue has only one eternal standard? I must, therefore, if I reason consequentially, as strenuously maintain that they have the same simple direction, as that there is a God.

It follows, then, that cunning should not be opposed to wisdom, little cares to great exertions, or insipid softness, varnished over with the name of gentleness, to that fortitude which grand views alone can inspire.

I shall be told that woman would then lose many of her peculiar graces, and the opinion of a well-known poet might be quoted to refute my unqualified assertion. For Pope has said, in the name of the whole male sex,

"Yet ne'er so sure our passion to create,

As when she touched the brink of all we hate."

In what light this sally places men and women, I shall leave to the judicious to determine; meanwhile, I shall content myself with observing that I cannot discover why females should always be degraded by being made subservient to love (or lust).

To speak disrespectfully of love is, I know, high treason against sentiment and fine feelings; but I wish to speak the simple language of truth, and rather to address the head than the heart. To endeavour to reason love out of the world would be to out Quixote Cervantes, and equally offend against common sense; but an endeavour to restrain this tumultuous passion, and to prove that it should not be allowed to dethrone superior powers, or to usurp the sceptre which the understanding should ever coolly wield, appears less wild.

Youth is the season for love in both sexes; but in those days of thoughtless enjoyment provision should be made for the more important years of life, when reflection takes place of sensation. But Rousseau, and most of the male writers who have followed his steps, have warmly inculcated that the whole tendency of female education ought to be directed to one point:—to render them pleasing.

Let me reason with the supporters of this opinion who have any knowledge of human

nature. Do they imagine that marriage can eradicate the habitude of life? The woman who has only been taught to please will soon find that her charms are oblique sunbeams, and that they cannot have much effect on her husband's heart when they are seen every day, or when the summer is passed and gone. Will she then have sufficient native energy to look into herself for comfort, and cultivate her dormant faculties? When the husband ceases to be a lover—and the time will inevitably come—her desire of pleasing will then grow languid, or become a spring of bitterness; and love, perhaps, the most evanescent of all passions, gives place to jealousy or vanity.

I now speak of women who are restrained by principle or prejudice; such women, though they would shrink from an intrigue with real abhorrence, yet, nevertheless, wish to be convinced by the homage of gallantry that they are cruelly neglected by their husbands; or, days and weeks are spent in dreaming of the happiness enjoyed by congenial souls till their health is undermined and their spirits broken by discontent. How, then, can the great art of pleasing be such a necessary study? It is only useful to a mistress; the chaste wife, and serious mother, should only consider her power to please as the polish of her virtues, and the affection of her husband as one of the comforts that render her task less difficult and her life happier. But, whether she be loved or neglected, her first wish should be to make herself respectable, and not to rely for all her happiness on a being subject to like infirmities with herself.

(To be continued.)

A FOND father and a very domestic man, blessed with seven children, tells this story: One afternoon, business being dull, he took the early train home, and after a time slipped upstairs to help put the children to bed. His wife missing him, went up to see what was going on. Upon opening the nursery door, she exclaimed, "Why, dear, what in the world are you doing?" "Why, wifey," said he, "I am putting the children to bed, and hearing them say their prayers." "Yes," said wifey; "but this is one of our neighbour's children all undressed." And he had to redress it and send it home.

## A COOK'S TALISMAN.

Just as we place labour-saving utensils in the hands of our Cooks, so ought we to allow them

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of Beef as an unfailing adjunct; permitting as it does the rapid preparation of appetizing dishes at a minimum expenditure of time, material, and labour.

Mrs. G. BEATY-POWNALL.



ALWAYS LOOK FOR THE BLUE SIGNATURE

*Jos Liebig*

THERE ARE IMITATIONS.

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SIGNALS FROM OUR WATCH TOWER.

A count has been made of the exact number of women on the register of voters for County Councils, and the result is published as a Parliamentary paper. It is of interest to us because that is an "occupation franchise," namely, it gives the vote to all women occupying premises as the heads of households or businesses, and it is precisely the same class that Mr. Faithfull Begg's Bill would have entitled to vote for Members of Parliament.

In another column we give the division list on the closure resolution, moved by Mr. M. Austin during the debate on the Verminous Persons Bill, on July 7th, by which the Woman's Suffrage Bill was crowded out of its chance of third reading.

all the rest of our nominal friends in the House of Commons when that division took place? Let our readers compare this list with the division list on the second reading, and respectfully venture to inquire of the members who voted for us on the first occasion and failed to be there for the closure division on the Verminous Persons Bill, why they were not able to renew their services to our cause on the second occasion?

It is true that had the closure on that debate been carried there was still the Plumbers' Bill in the path, and it would have been impossible for our friends, probably, to clear everything out of the way and arrive at our division. But the point is, that we failed to show on that occasion that we have any appreciable strength upon which we can rely, and which the Government, therefore, must take into account in preparing any future Reform or Registration Bill. It is extremely difficult—well-nigh impossible, indeed—for a private member to pass a Bill of first-class importance. But, on the other hand, the success of a measure in the hands of a private member up to a point at which it is made clear that it has public opinion and a Parliamentary majority in its favour, is the best plan for making it obviously necessary, perhaps even possible, for the Government to take it up.

Many most important measures—the Ballot Act for one, the Married Women's Property Act for another—were for years brought forward by private members with ever-growing success, until the time came when their progress into law was barred by mere obstruction, while it was evident that the country was in their favour; and then the ministry of the day took them up and carried them. But in order that this should be done there must be a steady and effective voting force available. Thus the mere fact that our Bill was shelved by the unworthy dodge of the enemy is of less permanent consequence than the fact that we had not enough sincere friends to hand to carry the closure against so small a force on the other side.

The Bridport Branch of the Women's Liberal Association have sent a very spirited letter in reply to a circular issued by the Political Committee of the National Liberal Club. This circular was signed by Mr. Labouchere, who so grossly insulted women in the recent Suffrage debate. The purport of the circular was to ask for opinions and suggestions on the Liberal measures that should be pressed forward, and the best means of advancing the Liberal cause amongst the people. The Bridport Women's Liberal Committee replied in part:—

"It is evident, too, that the Liberal programme to be effective must limit its scope to the more important of the many measures which we desire to see passed into law, and this degree of importance is precisely the rock on which the party is likely to split. We should place reform of the Registration Laws (including one register for Parliamentary, county and all local purposes) first in order of importance, provided that you include women among 'the many that are without votes,' and secure to them 'their share in the making of the great council of the nation.' This granted, we should cordially support the numerous reforms mentioned in your circular.

We feel we shall best meet your object in addressing us, a women's association, if we plainly and frankly state that we consider the most pressing reform to be achieved is undoubtedly Women's Suffrage. There is no reform in your list which would directly affect so large a number of the inhabitants of this country, and none for which there has been a more patient waiting or a better preparation. There are many existing laws which press hardly on women, and in the laws to be made there will surely be a woman's side of the question which ought to be directly criticised by women. In our own very conservative district, it is our association which by means of lectures and literature has kept Liberalism to some extent alive. During two elections we have worked hard for the Liberal candidate, even when we knew our most cherished convictions were not shared. But the time for this has now gone by. Earnest Liberals, as we are, we feel deeply insulted by the way in which the Bill for our enfranchisement was treated by prominent Liberals, when our friends attempted to get it passed through the House. In consequence of this, many of our best workers (while ready to do all they can to explain and spread Liberal principles in their locality) will decline in future to work for any candidate who, on this most important point, would not be their representative. We believe true Liberalism invites and welcomes the opinion of the whole people, but we should fail in maintaining that feeling of self-respect which is the outcome of trust in the people did we support any programme which ignores or sets aside the claims of women to be considered as a part of the people."

This powerful letter is signed on behalf of the committee by Mary A. Rendall. Other associations might well copy this spirited example.

Miss Louisa Twining, who has done so much for the reformation of workhouses, and especially for workhouse nursing, is, as practically all women are who work for the benefit of mankind, a Suffragist. The veteran philanthropist has addressed a letter on the subject to the Times, in the course of which she says:—

"I venture to think that I cannot be accused of urging ill-considered or rash changes in the social matters in which I have been privileged to take part. But I confess that I do feel acutely the position in which we women are placed in this matter of being denied the power and privilege of expressing an opinion, and voting for the members who are to act for us in Parliament. I cannot help asking, why are we to be classed with 'paupers and lunatics' as incapable of giving a decision and a judgment on matters of vital importance to all of us, surely as much for women as for men? Is the fact realised that the classes I have named are those alone which are thus deprived of what seems to us a duty, as well as a privilege of citizens? But, if it is so decreed by the voice of public opinion, surely the only logical conclusion, naturally following from it, is that we should retire and abstain from politics altogether, and that our services should not be demanded on all sides, as they are at present, to work hard and zealously in favour of the election of Members of Parliament. If we are unable and incompetent to form and register an opinion and a vote, it is hardly just or consistent that women should be asked to mix themselves up in politics, when all power in them is denied them. I can quite understand the opinion to which some still cling that women are only meant to be the

housekeepers and the home-managers of their children and servants, but I am quite unable to understand or believe that a majority of the advanced thought in England advocates such a theory. If women are to be excluded from politics as matters unfit and undesirable for their sex, let the fact be recognised uniformly and consistently, and not by the present arguments, which, I confess, appear to me to be not only utterly illogical, but insulting to the position of educated women in England."

Sir G. Osborne Morgan, whose death is announced, should be remembered by us as the Minister who had charge of the Married Women's Property Act when it passed into Law, after being taken up by the Government in 1882. In the previous agitation the Right Honourable gentleman had taken no active part, the truly devoted Parliamentary friends having been Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the present Lord Davey, Mr. Hinde Palmer and the Recorder of London, Mr. Russell Gurney, with others. But Sir G. O. Morgan was told off by the then Government to get the Bill through on its adoption as a Ministerial measure, and he worked hard and loyally to do so. He told afterwards how very difficult he had found it to pass this measure in which the interests of non-voters only were concerned, although it had become a Government Bill. "Night after night," said he, "I would go down to debate its details, and find the Bill blocked fore and aft by Mr. Warton and Sir G. Campbell." Again and again, too, when this subject was on the paper, the House was counted out—that is to say, 40 members could not be found to attend to vote on this subject at all, notwithstanding its vital importance to the unrepresented half of the community; and Sir G. O. Morgan described how he had to "lie in wait behind the Speaker's chair," and dash out on opportunities to advance the measure a little.

He added, "The real credit of this measure was not due to its Parliamentary advocates—least of all was it due to himself, who had merely placed the coping stone on an edifice reared by the labour of others. The real credit of the measure was due to that devoted band of earnest-minded women, who, with very slender resources at their back, and in the face of the most determined opposition, and of indifference almost worse than opposition, had determined to secure for every poor married woman in England that natural and just control over her own property, which her richer sisters had for the last 200 years been able to retain by the aid of a family lawyer and a mountain of parchment." It is worth while to recall this generous yet strictly accurate statement, for already, so short is the public memory, it is beginning to be forgotten by what efforts on the part of noble women, loving and sympathising with their less happy sisters, this and our other law reforms have been brought about. A Mr. Cleveland, who recently published a book on the laws of England with relation to women, declared therein, with either inexcusable ignorance or disgraceful mendacity, that women have had no share in effecting the law reforms already brought about for their sex. The fact is that every single reform has been first desired, inspired, suggested, initiated and made possible only by the work of women; and that all those women have been active Women Suffragists, finding their efforts for practical

reforms in Parliament hampered and made infinitely slow and laborious by the fact that the interests involved had no voting power behind them and no representation in the House of Commons.

The "Civic Federation," an association numbering thousands of women in Denver, the chief City of the State of Colorado, where women have equal rights in the State with those of men, has issued a formal protest against some misrepresentations by Mr. Goldwin Smith and others as to the results of the Franchise for Women in that State. The "Civic Federation" quotes from the two leading newspapers as follows:—

Rocky Mountain News says:—"We of Colorado who know the results which have come from the participation of women in politics are satisfied. The justice of equal Suffrage is denied by few in any State; the controversy has raged as to its expediency. Colorado may fairly claim to have tested the expediency, and its finding is that the benefits of equal Suffrage are great, while the imaginary objections disappear. It cannot be denied that primaries and conventions are higher in tone; that the amenities which prevail in other forms of social relations are applied to political gatherings; that the scrutiny of candidates is closer, and that even the political machines are compelled to choose the least obnoxious persons connected with them when making nominations, if they wish to have any hope of success. It was not to be supposed that the moment the ballot was given to women there would be a complete revolution in all departments of State, city, and county government. Political tricksters and machines die hard. Years of practice had made them adepts in the arts of deception. But with every election the influence of women in the nominations and the result of the voting has become stronger, and, looking back over the past few years, we can say without fear of contradiction that there has been improvement of a most gratifying character in the average standard of office-holders. Nor will it be seriously denied by even the most ultra machine politician, whose wishes and interests are all in the other direction, that this improvement is certain to continue, and that it is hopeless for him to long for a return to the old conditions. The magnitude of the recent victory of the non-partisan city ticket in Denver was unquestionably due to the courage and independence of the women voters, and it alone is more than sufficient answer to the usual objections to their Suffrage."

The Denver Republican bears testimony: "Intelligent and fair-minded citizens of Colorado who have closely observed the workings of equal suffrage in this State do not need to be told that the influence of women in politics has produced excellent results up to date, with the promise of even better achievements in the future."

After these quotations, the "Civic Federation" observes that "Since equal suffrage has been given a fair trial, all of our esteemed daily contemporaries in the State, as well as most of the weekly papers, have become ardent upholders of the right of women to take personal part in the selection of public officials, and we are confident that if the question of equal suffrage should be submitted to the male voters of Colorado alone at this time, it would command a large majority."

The observation on the well-worn "domestic discord" argument may be cited in conclusion from this interesting "experience testimony":—

"We hear no whisper of domestic unhappiness. The majority of husbands and wives sympathize on the subject of politics. When there is a difference of opinion it creates no illwill. The husband may vote for McKinley and the wife for Bryan with no more disturbance than if one drank tea and the other coffee for breakfast. In the house to house canvass by the Civic Federation a member reports but one case in a precinct where the husband dominated the wife, and he was an ignorant coloured man. The uniform testimony of these canvassers is that there is no interference, and that the most intelligent goodwill prevails. Many husbands take a generous pride in having the wife do exactly as she pleases. Some busy men delegate politics to their wives as they do their Church, saying, 'If you will investigate and find the best candidates, I will vote that ticket.' The simple truth is that women, as compared with men, have vastly more leisure for such work. We wish that those who bewail domestic infelicities might visit our beautiful Colorado homes, and witness all the grace of human affection, and all the amenities of cultured life. Does the exercise of political rights rob woman of her essential womanliness? In our judgment, no valuable traits are lost, but nobler powers are developed. The questions decided at the polls are, in their last analysis, moral and religious questions. On election day we go to the polls with our husbands, sons and daughters. The booths are always orderly and respectable; we meet our friends and neighbours; we experience only courtesy; we record our opinions in decorous manner, and feel no sense of immodesty or strangeness. To us 'election day is the sacrament of citizenship, a festival of solemn obligation.' Divine patience, disinterested service, faithfulness in details, loyalty to principles rather than to organisation—traits acquired by the discipline of domestic life—these are the gifts which the women of Colorado may lay on the altar of their country. Motherhood is the pledge that these qualities will never fail."

A very good suggestion for a new and practical form of Church organised work is made by Mrs. Lach Szymra in the following terms:—

"One of the great grievances of the ladies of England now is the servant question. It is an important domestic topic, and I think the clergy, especially the rural clergy, could often help its solution. Might there not be finishing classes for respectable girls who have just passed the fifth or sixth standard and are leaving our national schools? In many parishes a servants' training guild might be formed. It would do good all round. It would keep a hold on girls at a critical age, it would increase their interest in their Church, it would fit them for service, and would tend to relieve the grievances of many families by providing well-trained girls. At the present day, when the State spends so much in cookery, dairy, and laundry training, there would be little expense on the secular side of technical education, and the clergy might find a girls' guild very useful in many ways. I believe that the Church might do much more to solve the servant problem than any secular institution. What is mainly wanted is organisation."

It is rather touching to hear that "Poor Jack," as the sailor is fond of calling himself, wants to have lady inspectors to carry out the laws that are made for his benefit. He has heard of the success of lady factory inspectors, and the reforms initiated by lady guardians in workhouses, and so he thinks, poor, hard-working, ill-paid, badly-treated Jack, that a lady inspector would not be content with being told the ship's meat was stowed here and the water there, and the butter in this place and the cocoa in that, but she would take the lid off these various receptacles and see if things really were there. On paper, the sailors' fare, according to the Board of Trade regulations, leaves nothing to be desired. So much meat, so much butter, &c. All would be satisfactory if only the sailors got it; but a mean owner or captain will take care that the butter and other expensive articles run short, and then substitute the cheaper things he is allowed to do under stress of circumstances. At present the sailor occasionally finds a friend in the magistrate. At Cardiff, the other day, a sailor was charged with desertion. The cross-examination of the captain brought out that the man did not get half the rations he was entitled to, and the magistrates dismissed the case. A few lady inspectors would see every ship had a proper supply of rations.

#### SIGNALS FROM FRIEND TO FRIEND.

LOUISE writes:—Will you be good enough to tell me, through the medium of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL, what institution you consider to be the best for learning midwifery? I have a sister who is anxious to study the subject, and to obtain a certificate in order to work amongst the poor.

THE double object to be secured is to gain theoretical instruction and practice; and I should say that this would be best done by taking a course of lectures or private study in theory first, and then going into a regular lying-in-hospital for three months. The British, in Endell-street, or the City of London, in the City-road, are to be preferred to Queen Charlotte's, because the two former send their pupils out to the poor homes, as well as have the patients in the wards, and it is best to get accustomed as a student to the makeshifts and disadvantages of a poor home. Moreover, one sees a great deal of practice in a short time in the large hospitals. During the three months that I spent as a student in the British Hospital in Endell-street I saw sixty cases, in and out-door. The theoretical teaching should precede the practical, and you can either study alone from books, or take a course of lectures at the Midwives' Institute, Buckingham-street, Strand. Of course, in the hospital a certain amount of theoretical teaching is given by the matron.

ALICE CADD writes for advice as to how to obtain work, and says:—  
"I have a good sewing machine and have some knowledge of tailoring, and can make children's clothes; would also be willing to go out two or three days a week repairing under-linen, &c."

THERE is a great demand in every town for any clever household needle-woman, who will go out by the day, and help over-burdened mothers, or who will take similar work to her own home. Put an advt. in your local paper, and ask some of the neighbouring tradesmen to let you put in their windows a written announcement of your name, address and capabilities, and you will soon have plenty of work, I am sure, if you are clever.

MRS. S. WILSON.—I am sorry I cannot answer privately. You will find an outline of the changes in the laws about women in the editor's review of the Queen's reign in the Jubilee number of the SIGNAL; and we can send you some longer articles on the legal changes which appeared earlier if you send 4d. in stamps. You will find a chronological record of women's progress in Miss Helen Blackburn's "Handbook for Women," published by Arrowsmith, of Bristol, price 2s. 6d.

### NEEDLEWORK OF ROYAL LADIES.

#### CHAPTER II.

THE practice of devoting some hours to embroidery seems to have continued in the French court. When the young Queen of Scots was there, the French princesses assembled every afternoon in the queen's (Catherine of Medici's) private apartment, where "she usually spent two or three hours in embroidery with her female attendants."

It is also said that Katharine of Arragon was in the habit of employing the ladies of her court in needlework, in which she was herself extremely assiduous, working with them and encouraging them by her example. Burnet records, that when two legates requested once to speak with her, she came out to them with a skein of silk about her neck, and told them she had been within at work with her women. An anecdote somewhat more housewifely than queenly.

In this she differed much from her successor, Queen Catherine Parr, for having had her nativity cast when a child, and being told, from the disposition of the stars and planets in her house, that she was born to sit in the highest seat of imperial majesty; she was so impressed by the prediction, that when her mother required her to work she would say, "My hands are ordained to touch crowns and sceptres, not needles and spindles."

When the orphaned daughter of Queen Catherine Parr, by her marriage after the death of King Henry VIII. with the lord admiral, was consigned to the care of the Duchess of Suffolk, the furniture of "her former nursery" was to be sent with her. The list is rather curious, and we subjoin it.

"Two pots, three goblets, one salt parcel gilt, a maser with a band of silver and parcel gilt, and eleven spoons; a quilt for the cradle, three pillows, three feather-beds, three quilts, a testor of scarlet embroidered with a counterpoint of silk say belonging to the same, and curtains of crimson taffeta; two counterpoints of imagery for the nurse's bed, six pair of sheets, six fair pieces of hangings within the inner chamber; four carpets for windows, ten pieces of hangings of the twelve months within the outer chamber, two quishions of cloth of gold, one chair of cloth of gold, two wrought stools, a bedstead gilt, with a testor and counterpoint, with curtains belonging to the same."

Return we to Katharine of Arragon: her needlework labours have been celebrated both in Latin and English verse. The following sonnet refers to specimens in the Tower, which now indeed are swept away, having left not "a wreck behind."

"I read that in the seventh King Henrie's reigne,

Fair Katharine, daughter to the Castile King,  
Came into England with a pompous traine  
Of Spanish ladies which shee thence did bring.  
She to the eighth King Henry married was,  
And afterwards divorc'd, where virtuously  
(Although a Queene), yet she her days did pass  
In working with the needle curiously,  
As in the Tower, and places more beside,  
Her excellent memorials may be seen;  
Whereby the needle's prayse is dignified  
By her faire ladies, and herselfe, a Queene.  
Thus far her paines, here her reward is just,  
Her works proclaim her prayse, though she be dust."

The same pen also celebrated her daughter's skill in this feminine occupation.

Mary was skilled in all sorts of embroidery; and when her mother's divorce consigned her

to a private life, she beguiled the intervals of those severer studies in which she peaceably and laudably occupied her time in various branches of needlework. It is not unlikely the Psalter belonging to her that is now in the British Museum had its embroidered cover worked by herself; and a reference to the fashionable occupations of the day will bring to our minds various trifling articles, the embroidery of which beguiled her time, though they have long since passed away.

"Her daughter Mary here the sceptre swaid,  
And though she were a Queene of mighty power,

Her memory will never be decayd,  
Which by her works are likewise in the Tower,  
In Windsor Castle, and in Hampton Court,  
In that most pompous roome called Paradise;  
Who ever pleaseth thither to resort,  
May see some workes of hers, of wondrous price.

Her greatness held it no disreputation  
To take the needle in her royal hand;  
Which was a good example to our nation  
To banish idleness from out her land:  
And thus this Queene, in wisdom thought it fit,  
The needle's worke pleas'd her, and she grac'd it."

The gentle and excellent Lady Jane Grey was also an accomplished worker.

Ten days' royalty! Alas, how deeply fraught with tragic interest is the historic page recording the events of that brief period! Love, beauty, religious constancy, genius, and learning, were seen in early womanhood intermingling their glorious halo with the dark shadowings of despotism, imprisonment, and violent death upon the scaffold!

"In the most sequestered part of Leicestershire, backed by rude eminences, and skirted by lowly and romantic valleys, stands Bradgate, the birth-place and abode of Lady Jane Grey. The approach to Bradgate from the village of Cropston is striking. On the left stands a group of venerable trees, at the extremity of which rise the remains of the once magnificent mansion of the Greys of Groby.

"With the exception of the chapel and kitchen, the princely mansion has now become a ruin; but a tower still stands, which tradition points out as Jane's birth-place. Traces of the tilt-yard are visible, with the garden walls, and a noble terrace whereon Jane often walked and sported in her childhood; and the rose and lily still spring in favourable nooks of that wilderness, once the pleasure or pleasure-garden of Bradgate. Near the brook is a beautiful group of old chestnut-trees.

"This was thy home then, gentle Jane,  
This thy green solitude; and here  
At evening from the gleaming pane,  
Thine eye oft watched the dappled deer  
(While the soft sun was in its wane)  
Browsing beside the brooklet clear;  
The brook runs still, the sun sets now,  
The deer yet browseth—where art thou?"

In addition to her great learning, she cultivated the art of painting with the needle, and at Zurich is still to be seen, together with the original MS. of her Latin letters to the reformer Bullinger, a toilet beautifully ornamented by her own hands, which had been presented by her to her learned correspondent.

In the court of Catherine de Medici Mary Queen of Scots was habituated to the daily practice of needlework, and thus fostered her natural taste for the art which she had acquired in the convent—supposed to have been St. Germaine-en-Laye—where she was placed during the early part of her residence in France. She left this convent with the utmost regret, revisited it whenever she was permitted, and gladly employed her needle in embroidering an altarpiece for its church.

### THE DRESS PROBLEM.

EVERY woman in the world must dress, and there can be no doubt that the woman who looks neat and fresh and dainty has ten times more influence than the slattern or the dowdy, not only over men, but over women and children, too; and the woman or girl who is religious, serious, intellectual, political or emancipated, will find her chances of making converts materially increased if she does her hair well, wears clean tuckers and neat shoes, and mends her gloves. Most women have an excessive love of dress and finery, but in many of the best this instinct is altogether lacking, and to such I would say: "Assume a virtue if you have it not;" observe how scrupulously well-dressed those are whose need for influence is the greatest. Go to a grand ecclesiastical function in Paris, where women dress well and are all in their best attire, and you will come away saying, "No one looked half so nice as the nuns," for the dress of the nuns is always perfect of its kind; their habits are well hung and fall beautifully, their coifs are exquisitely made and marvelously laundried, and their veils fall straight in dignified folds about their shoulders. Who ever saw a nun with a muddy skirt frayed round the hem, a dingy collar, grimy cuffs, and her coif awry? Not I for one; nor have I ever seen an hospital nurse untidy. These people follow the noblest professions in the world; they are the servants of God, of the poor of their country, and for the dignity of the flag they fight under they take care to be always respect-worthy in appearance, knowing that squalor inspires contempt and brings discredit. Nuns, soldiers and nurses are the best dressed classes of the community, yet if you were to present to any individual of them the problem, "How to dress on £25 a year," they would laugh at you, and say that they would do it on a third of the amount excluding laundry. Yet, how to dress as a lady on £25 is by no means an easy problem. How about the governess, the high-school teacher, the lady secretary, the overworked mother of five small children, the clergyman's wife, and many another toiling woman who has to dress on five and twenty pounds a year, and who has no leisure for home dressmaking? But the problem only becomes acute when one has passed the age at which one looks nice in a skirt and blouse and sailor hat, and when a white muslin has become unwearable for ever.

Our contemporaries have now blossomed forth with sables and sealskins, and we, it may be, have still only that allowance of £25, which we revelled in as a fortune when we left the schoolroom, but which becomes a "tight fit" when we arrive at the expensive age which "pays for dressing." Between thirty and sixty the average woman depends for her good looks much upon dress, yet during these years there are often so many expenses, of children to educate and introduce into the world, that it is probable that a great many wives of professional men spend no more on their dresses than they did in their youth.

It is not possible to lay down an exact rule for the spending of this allowance. The unemployed young girl spends much in ball gowns

This predilection for needlework never forsook her, but proved a beguilement and a solace during the weary years of her subsequent imprisonment. During a part of her confinement, while she was still on comparatively friendly terms with Elizabeth, she transmitted several elegant pieces of her own needlework to the Queen of England. She wrought a canopy, which was at one time placed in the presence-chamber at Whitehall, consisting of an empalement of the arms of France and Scotland, embroidered under an imperial crown. It does not appear at what period of her life she worked it. During the early part of her confinement she was asked how, in unfavourable weather, she passed the time within. She said that "all day she wrought with her needle, and that the diversity of the colours made the work seem less tedious; and she continued so long at it, till very pain made her to give over. Upon this occasion she entered into a pretty disputable comparison between carving, painting, and working with the needle; affirming painting, in her own opinion, for the most commendable quality." No doubt it was during her confinement in England that she worked the bed still preserved at Chatsworth.

The following notices from her own letters, though trifling, are interesting memorials of this melancholy part of her life:—

"July 9th, 1574.—I pray you send me some pigeons, red partridges, and Barbary fowls. I mean to try to rear them in this country, or keep them in cages; it is an amusement for a prisoner, and I do so with all the little birds I can obtain.

"July 18th, 1574.—Always bear in mind that my will in all things be strictly followed; and send me, if it be possible, some one with my accounts. He must bring me patterns of dresses and samples of cloths, gold and silver, stuffs and silks, the most costly and new now worn at Court. Order for me at Poissy a couple of coifs, with gold and silver crowns, such as they have made for me before. Remind Breton of his promise to send me from Italy the newest kind of head-dress, veils, and ribands, wrought with gold and silver, and I will repay him.

"September 22nd.—Deliver to my uncle the cardinal, the two cushions of my work which I send herewith. Should he be gone to Lyons, he will doubtless send me a couple of beautiful little dogs; and you likewise may procure a couple for me; for, except in reading and writing, I take pleasure solely in all the little animals I can obtain. You must send them hither very comfortably put up in baskets.

"February 12th, 1576.—I send the King of France some poodle-dogs (barbets), but can only answer for the beauty of the dogs, as I am not allowed either to hunt or to ride."

It is said that one of the articles which in its preparation beguiled her, perchance, of some melancholy thoughts, was a waistcoat, which, having richly and beautifully embroidered, she sent to her son; and that this selfish prince was heartless enough to reject the offering, because his mother (still surely Queen of Scotland in his eyes) addressed it to him as "prince."

The poet before quoted wrote the subjoined sonnet in Queen Elizabeth's praise, whose skill with her needle was remarkable. She was especially an adept in the embroidering with gold and silver, and practised it much in the early part of her life, though perhaps few specimens of her notability now exist:—

"When this great queene, whose memory shall not

By any terme of time be overcaste,  
For when the world and all therein shall rot,  
Yet shall her glorious fame for ever last,  
When she a maid had many troubles past,  
From jayle to jayle by Maries angry spleene,  
And Woodstocke, and the Tower in prison fast,

And after all was England's peerlesse queene:  
Yet howsoever sorrow came or went,  
She made the needle her companion still,  
And in that exercise her time she spent,  
As many living yet doe know her skill.  
Thus shee was still a captive, or else crown'd,  
A needlewoman royall and renown'd."

(To be continued.)

#### THE CHILDREN'S CLOTHING.

THE old-fashioned notion ran that children should be as lightly clothed as possible, in order that they might not grow up delicate. Nothing could be more erroneous than this notion, for the greatest care should be taken as to the clothing of children, the constitution at that age being less able than at any other to resist cold and weather changes. We do not, of course, advocate coddling; but, in their anxiety to avoid coddling, people are too apt to run to the other extreme. Thus the "absurd delusion," as Dr. Wilson calls it, which suggests that to harden children it is essential to expose their legs and chests to the piercing blasts of winter and the cold east winds of spring, leads to many an illness which terminates fatally. Indeed, there is no doubt that the large proportion of the deaths from lung diseases, which are so very common among young children, are due to needless exposure to cold, and to the ignorance or neglect which so generally prevails on these points. Very young children ought not to be taken out in bitterly cold weather till they are able to run and walk to keep themselves warm, and then they should be comfortably clad. Flannel should be worn next the skin, and neither chest, arms nor legs should be exposed.

For INFANTS

and INVALIDS.

MELLIN'S  
FOOD

When Prepared is  
similar to Breast Milk.

Samples post free from  
Mellin's Food Works, Peckham, S.E.

or bicycle suits, the governess or a secretary must be presentable in the day time; and hats, shoes, waterproofs, and umbrellas press hardly on her. The town matron finds mantles and millinery her stumbling blocks; the country lady should have no difficulty at all. Tailor suits, a good golf cape and a felt hat meet the needs of every day; a black silk or a dark velvet, with two bodices, meet the exigencies of the little "smart" visiting that she need undertake; for much formal visiting in the country implies so large a retinue of men servants, carriages, and horses that those in a position to indulge in it have a larger allowance for dress.

Were I dressing on five and twenty pounds a year I should make the winter coat, the evening dress and many other items live through two seasons, and should apportion my expenditure more or less on these lines:—

Evening dress, or winter coat (in alternate years) ...	£4 4 0
Coat and skirt, or summer mantle (bought at sale) ...	1 1 0
Mackintosh or umbrella (bought at sale) ...	0 7 6
Walking boots, or best house shoes and sundries (in alternate years) ...	1 7 0
Walking shoes (one pair yearly) ...	0 18 6
Two pairs house shoes (at sale) ...	0 16 0
Silk for blouse, or shirt (home made, or bought ready made at sale) ...	0 15 0
Best day dress ...	4 4 0
Winter trimming for do. ...	0 10 0
Summer dress (home made) ...	1 0 0
Empire blouse for home evenings (home made), or doing up old evening dress (alternate years) ...	0 16 0
Millinery (home trimmed or bought at sale) ...	2 2 0
Underclothing ...	2 2 0
Gloves and stockings ...	1 10 0
Veils and chiffons, ties and belts ...	0 15 0
Toilet articles ...	2 2 0
Muff, or parasol (at sale) ...	0 10 0

£25 0 0

This list is compiled from the accounts of a woman who for many years dressed on less than five and twenty pounds, and who went into society about three nights a week during the season.—*Freeman's Journal, Dublin.*

A NEW CLEANSER.

GANTOLIA is a preparation for cleaning gloves, which, if used as instructed, has wonderfully good results. It is pleasant to use and has no objectionable odour. Ladies away from home, yachting or leaving for the colonies, should not be without it. Mr. J. S. Gregg, well-known glover, first floor, 92, New Bond-street, is the sole importer of Gantolia, and supplies it at 1s. the box, 2d. extra if sent by post.

THE UNDISCOVERED OCEAN OF TRUTH.—Mankind may still confess with Newton that we are but as children playing on the seashore, and gathering here and there a prettier shell or a more delicate seaweed than usual, while the great ocean of truth lies all undiscovered before us. There is no single substance, the full uses and properties of which are yet known to us. We labour from morning to night; and if we could but avail ourselves more fully of the properties of matter and the forces of Nature, it is probable that an hour or two would fully supply all our bodily and reasonable wants, and leave us ample time for the cultivation of the mind and the affections. Steam is even yet far from being fully utilised; the uses of electricity were unknown in our childhood, and we are only now beginning to understand them; the force of rivers still runs in the main to waste. No one can doubt that a thousand other discoveries lie before us, even perhaps under our very eyes. Is it not then astonishing that the so-called Christian nations waste, and worse than waste, millions of money to ruin one another, and fight like beasts for territory, "while the great ocean of truth lies undiscovered before them?"—*Sir John Lubbock.*



A PERTH photographer had a fastidious "sitter," who complained that the photos were not a bit like him; no one would recognise them, &c. The photographer took them back, refunded the money, and said "Good-day." Next morning the same sitter rushed in boiling with rage: "Why, confound you," he exclaimed, "you've got one of those photos you took of me in your show-case, labelled 'the biggest fool in Perth.'" "My good sir," replied the photographer, "you yourself told me only yesterday that nobody would take that photograph for one of yourself, and that it is quite unrecognisable. Since the picture doesn't even faintly resemble you, what on earth are you growling about." And the sitter departed to invest six and eightpence in legal advice.

\* \* \*

"JAMIE," called out his mother, sharply, "you've been loafing all day. Satan always finds some work for idle hands to do. Take this basket and bring in some kindlings."

E. 156.—WALKING COSTUME, suited for early autumn, the skirt and zouave of which is made in cloth, whilst the vest bodice is made in silk or muslin. The skirt material is pleated into the waist at the back; at the hem it is ornamented with three tucks which are put on separately, each one being edged round with a narrow band of velvet ribbon; just below the waist are three more tucks to match. The full chemisette blouse is made in silk or muslin, and is ornamented down the centre of the front with a frill of the same. The waistband is of satin; the band collar is also of satin, which is formed into a bow at the back of the neck. Over the blouse is worn a zouave of material to match the skirt; it is rounded off in the front and cut square at the back; it is made with treble front and back, each being trimmed with a band of narrow velvet. The sleeves are made tight-fitting, and are finished at the wrists with three straight frills of material, each edged round with velvet; on the shoulders it is ornamented with three epaulettes made to match. Pattern, 1s. 1½d. post free, from this office.

ECONOMICAL COOKERY.

By Miss LIZZIE HERITAGE.

(First Class Diplôme Cookery and Domestic Economy; Author of "Cassell's New Universal Cookery," &c., &c.)

SAVOURY DISHES OF POULTRY.

This paper was suggested by a taste of chicken cooked as below; for is it not true that a number of persons cling too much to the plain roast and boiled, particularly where fowls are concerned; not that there is anything to be said against such dishes; still, a little more piquancy would be acceptable to many. Then, when past its best there are better ways of ensuring tenderness in a fowl than by the modes referred to.

FOR MADRAS FOWL

out from three to five or six ounces of streaky bacon into tiny dice, and fry it a pale brown in a morsel of hot butter or good clarified dripping; then add your fowl in neat joints sub-divided. Should it be an old bird turn aside from this mode; a tender bird, as large as you please, is alone suitable. Let the fowl become brown, then add an ounce (or less to taste and in proportion to its strength) of curry powder, and half an ounce of fine rice flour, and cook for a minute, taking care to stir well; then put in the juice of an orange, a tablespoonful of lemon juice, and from half a pint to a pint of plain stock. Let the whole boil, the stock can be added warm. Then put in a large teaspoonful of red currant jelly; simmer for as long as may be needed to bring about the required tenderness, from three-quarters of an hour to nearly double the time. Skim now and then and serve in a neat pile with the sauce poured over. Salt and cayenne are items to be added at discretion.

Many may shake the head and say this is not the "real thing." It is true that there is an item omitted, viz., a glass of white wine. May I suggest that this form, without any wine, be tried; given a little more lemon juice, and if liked, a dash of white vinegar, and few will need to emulate "the Marchioness" to any great extent, for there is but little difference between the original recipe and this modification.

It is but lately that a good mode for boiling rice for curry was given; but the hint may be included that unless well (i.e., properly) cooked, the dish is spoilt. Then for those whose palates require an increased amount of tickling, a spoonful of hot pickles cut up and dotted about the rice is well borne in mind. There are, too, some hot chutneys, which, in small amounts, vastly improve the chicken mixture.

TRY THIS FOR BREAKFAST

or any other meal. It is very nice and costs but little. A spoonful or two of minced cold chicken, the white and the brown together, and the skin removed, should be moistened with white sauce, or a little thickened milk with a teaspoonful of cream, and heated nearly to the boil; this part of the business needs care. Then season a little with anchovy essence, only a few drops, the same of lemon juice, cayenne and mace to taste; and in buying ground mace go to a shop where it can be got freshly ground, for the difference in flavour is then very marked. As soon as hot through, serve on toast or fried bread cut into neat shapes, and as hot as possible, for on this a good deal depends. A morsel of chopped parsley can be put in, or some grated lemon peel, or if you like some grated orange peel, but in the latter case extra acidity must be given by the aid of vinegar.

To impart a "gamey" twang, increase the anchovy, and use too a spoonful of good store sauce with a morsel of red currant jelly. Here all brown meat, just the odds and ends left on the bones will serve, and it is all the nicer if some cooked ham or bacon be used with it. Again, should some genuine mushroom ketchup be in the house, give the dish the benefit of a good dose, omitting other seasonings, excepting a few drops of lemon juice, for this assists greatly, no matter what the main flavouring ingredient may be, in hosts of little dishes.

(Continued on Page 158.)

THE NURSES OF ENGLAND AND



Merit, and merit alone, has made the Food Beverage, Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, a Proved Success, and the remarkable unsolicited evidence from nurses in all parts of the country, herewith published, supports our statement that its merits have been recognised to an extent hitherto unknown in the history of any preparation. One thing is certain. Nothing has ever been discovered that can approach it in giving lightness of heart, joy of life, fleetness of foot, and that general feeling of comfort which only comes from a full capacity to enjoy every pleasure, moral, intellectual, and physical.

The majority of men and women have, from their very childhood, been so accustomed to fly to nauseous drugs and medicines, that it is a difficult matter to get them to believe that strength and muscular activity, rosy cheeks and health, can be obtained without the use of such aid. Yet it can be done. A food beverage such as Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, with its unique powers of nutriment and exceptional vitalising properties, is a means whereby strength and nervous energy is gained as a rational outcome of increased vitality and the pleasing consequence of greater nourishment and sustenance forces.



WHAT THEY SAY:

A REAL PICK-ME-UP.  
Nurse F. GEORGE, Devonport Hill, Congleton:  
"I have tried Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, and think it is a real 'pick-me-up,' and intend to use no other."  
GREAT BENEFIT TO INVALIDS.  
Nurse VILLAGE, Linton, near Maidstone:  
"I have proved Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa to be of great benefit to invalids, as it is so easily digested."  
RECOMMENDS IT TO PATIENTS.  
Nurse EYLES, 7, Oakfield-place, Clifton-place, Bristol:  
"I am very pleased with Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, and will continue to recommend it to my patients."  
INVALUABLE FOR NIGHT DUTY.  
Nurse WILCOX, Bradford-street, Birmingham:  
"I always take a cup of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa when on night duty."

IT HAS WORKED WONDERS.  
Nurse K. JONES, 2, York-villas, Ledbury-road, Hereford:  
"I find Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa most excellent. As a palatable, sustaining, and stimulating beverage it is invaluable. I use it regularly for myself, and amongst dyspeptic patients it has worked wonders."  
FOR NURSING MOTHERS.  
Nurse DAVIES, 35, Marquis-road, Camden-square:  
"I have taken Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa and find it very refreshing and sustaining whilst on night duty, and shall recommend it to all my patients and to nursing mothers."  
WILL CONTINUE TO RECOMMEND.  
Nurse BELL, 1, Beauline-terrace, Triangle, Bournemouth:  
"Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa is excellent, and I shall continue to use it and to recommend it wherever I can."  
Nurse PERE, 2, Hawley-street, Chalk Farm Road, N.W.:  
"Thank you for Vi-Cocoa. I like it very much, and will recommend it to all my patients. Our doctor here and my cousin, who is a public analyst, say it is very good."

DR. TIBBLES' VI-COCOA

IS

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AND FOR

BREAKFAST & SUPPER IS UNEQUALLED.

IT CAN BE TESTED FREE.

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DR. TIBBLES' VI-COCOA, LTD., 60, 61, & 62, BUNHILL ROW, LONDON, E.C.

## LET US BORROW A HINT FROM AMERICA,

and when preparing bread for sauce, use the crumbs in the orthodox fashion, reserving the coarse ones for frying and serving with the bird. Naturally, this is suited to dishes of game more particularly, but some who venture on the innovation where poultry is concerned, repeat the dose very often. But remember, after frying the coarse crumbs, to sprinkle them lightly with coriander pepper or pure cayenne. Likewise season your bread sauce well, or it is most insipid; and a spoonful of cream last thing is nowhere a greater improvement.

## A GOOD TOMATO SAUCE

flavoured nicely with curry paste, just enough to impart piquancy, not a pronounced curry flavour, is one of the best there is in which to reheat cold poultry, whether in joints, or slices, or even dice. The main point is slow heating, and the avoidance of the actual boil; this is not so easy when sauces thickened with flour are used, for unless cooked, the flour tastes raw, but it is simple enough to cook the sauce thoroughly before the meat goes in. A small dish of this sort, garnished nicely with slices of hard eggs and little rolls of bacon makes quite a brave show. Or boiled macaroni, with hard yolk of egg dredged over, is delicious to a mince of chicken, whether of the class just referred to, or in any of the white variety. A very good sauce is thus composed:—Make bread sauce rather thin, and, to a pint, add three or four hard eggs in dice, and, last thing, a mild seasoning of anchovy essence and lemon juice, with some of the grated rind. Some lean ham, boiled, is to be chopped to the finest degree, and left in long enough to heat through. This is a substantial sauce, and whether sent to table with a roast, or used in any other way, seldom fails to meet with approval; but pray remember in these cases that the seasoning must be generous. Those who understand this will find that bread sauce becomes a most useful basis for the reception of various adjuncts not commonly known: a mixture, for instance, of bread sauce and celery *purée* is excellent.

A good deal might be said as to the blending of mushrooms with all sorts of dishes of poultry, but hints thereon must be reserved for another paper. And need it be added that rabbit can be used in precisely the same ways detailed for fowls.



## THE TOP OF THE TREE.

WHEN a local firm receives unstinted local praise we may feel absolutely sure that very real merit must be plainly apparent for such an exception to be made. Histon is a pleasant country village about three miles from Cambridge, so that when the Royal Show was held in Cambridge, bringing a large number of educated visitors and critical agriculturists to it as visitors, we have ample warrant for attaching importance to the words of Mr. W. E. Wood, manager of the Cambridge Catering Syndicate and of the Culinary Department of Trinity College, Cambridge. He says: "The visitors (to the Royal Show) were loud in their praises, and I feel sure you would have been pleased to hear the very flattering remarks passed on the Jellies." This letter was written to the proprietors of Chivers' Gold Medal Table Jellies, and they are naturally and justifiably proud of such local praise. Mr. Hoare, M.P., the Member for the Division, who was present at the celebration of the coming of age of the firm, referred in his speech to two things which he said had struck him most in going through the factory in which Chivers' Gold Medal Table Jellies are produced—the good order and cleanliness that prevailed. Mr. Hoare also said: "The success of the firm was due in the first instance to the excellence of the product." Christopher Crayon, writing in the *Christian World*, says: "In these village industries there is no room for deception. You must turn out a genuine article if you would defy competition, and this is why, I take it the firm in question, after years of manly struggle and endeavour, is now at the top of the tree." Chivers' Gold Medal Table Jellies deserve these encomiums, for they are delicious, wholesome, and refreshing. They are brilliantly transparent and set quickly and firmly, and are easily made even by an inexperienced person, and their flavour is so delicate and delicious—that of the pure ripe fruit juice expressed from fruit grown in the neighbourhood itself. Get a packet of Chivers' Gold Medal Table Jellies—Strawberry, Raspberry, Orange, or Lemon—and compare it with any other, and the superiority of Chivers' Jellies will be at once noticed.

Sold by Grocers and Stores in packets. Half-pints, 2d.; Pints, 4d.; Quarts, 8d. A Free sample will be sent on receipt of postcard, mentioning this paper. Address, S. Chivers & Sons, Histon, Cambridge.

## PROGRESS IN INDIA.

(From the *Indian Social Reformer*.)

The principal defects of Hindu society are its exclusiveness—externally and internally—and its treatment of women.

It would be hardly correct to say that the Hindu regards his women as mere chattels. The wife is half the man, his priceless friend, says the Mahabharata. From the days of Visavara and other Vedic authoresses to those of the Ranees of Jhansy, India had produced from time to time women of learning and ability. Yet the utility of secular learning for women as

a rule had not been recognised, and the idea of female education was at one time ridiculed and opposed. There is no general, or even widespread enthusiasm for it yet; but it is tolerated and making steady, though slow, progress. We shall not be far wrong if we say that in the year 1897 only six out of every thousand women in India are not illiterate. The Brahmos have produced some lady graduates.

The preservation of female virtue is indeed an excellent object, but that it is necessary for that purpose to marry a girl "before she has desire for clothes to cover herself with," as an old writer has it, is a rank superstition dictated by the most absurd jealousy. People are slowly coming to recognise that girls should not be married at least before ten years of age, but nothing more definite can be said about the change which may have actually taken place in this direction.

The treatment accorded to widows is one of the darkest blots on Hindu sociology. *Suttee* had been legally abolished in British territory shortly before, but the Native States were induced to adopt that legislation after the commencement of the Queen's reign. The injustice and hardship of enforced widowhood are now generally acknowledged amongst educated men in theory, though their practical support of the cause as yet falls short of what should be expected from men of action. Perhaps there have not been more than 200 widow marriages performed in the whole of India since the movement was seriously taken up. The number of such marriages, however, is a matter of secondary importance; it is the attitude which society assumes towards the parties to them that is more important from the standpoint of the future progress of the movement. As far as we know, this attitude is one of tolerance, especially on the part of the educated portion of the society, but, we are afraid, not one of active and open support, except on the part of a small devoted band of men.

By Man, I mean both men and women. These are the two halves of one thought. I lay no special stress on the welfare of either. I believe that the highest development of the one cannot be effected without the development of the other.—Margaret Fuller.



## SUCCESS. A COCKBURN TEMPERANCE HOTEL

Telegrams: "PROMISING," LONDON.

Mrs. A. D. PHILIP, appreciating the very liberal patronage hitherto accorded to her at Cockburn House, 9 and 10, Endsleigh Gardens, and regretting her inability to accommodate many intending patrons for lack of room during the past two seasons, is pleased to announce to the public that she has secured the above Hotel premises, containing large and numerous public rooms, and accommodation for 150 guests, by which she hopes to cope with the expected large influx of visitors to London during the coming season, due to Diamond Celebrations. Bedrooms very quiet.

It will be newly and comfortably furnished throughout, and open for reception of guests early in March. Owing to its excellent position, in close proximity to the Strand, Trafalgar Square, Westminster, New Law Courts, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and all Places of Amusement and Railway Stations, Mrs. Philip hopes by her close personal attention to the comfort of guests, combined with Moderate Tariff, that she will continue to receive the very liberal patronage hitherto accorded to her. Large Halls for Public Dinners, Meetings, Concerts, &c.

It will be the finest, largest, and only well appointed HOTEL IN LONDON built from the foundation for the purpose, conducted on strictly Temperance principles. New Passenger Elevator, Electric Light, Telephone, and latest improved Sanitation. Telegraphic Address: "Promising," London. Mrs. Philip will give her general superintendence to all three of her Hotels, and will spare no effort to make all her patrons comfortable and at home.

NOTE.—In connection with, and under same management—

COCKBURN HOUSE, 9 & 10, ENDSLEIGH GARDENS, opposite EUSTON (Telegrams—"Luncheon," London).  
COCKBURN HOTEL, 42, FINSBURY SQUARE, E.C. (Telegrams—"Awfully," London).

and COCKBURN HOTEL, 141, BATH STREET, GLASGOW, and COCKBURN TURKISH BATHS.

### Current News FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

The German Empress has sent the Patriotic Women's Union of Silesia a second contribution of a thousand marks for the sufferers from the recent floods, accompanying the gift with a letter of warm sympathy.

The Property Mart and the Stock Exchange have up till now kept themselves free from the competition of women, but now they must look to it. Tokenhouse Yard will shortly be invaded, and who can say but what the sacred portals of the House itself will not become desecrated. Miss Ada Hammond is the name of the first lady auctioneer, and she commenced business a few days ago in the Myddleton Hall, Islington. Naturally she hails from America, where she has presided at the rostrum for nine years, and now she intends to give London a chance. Since her advent we hear of lady number two commencing on the same career.

BARMAIDS FOR ABROAD.—Some recent observations in our columns are borne out by the following case: A rather serious charge was preferred at Worship-street against one Richard Porter, thirty-nine, described as a ship's steward, who was brought up on a warrant charged with obtaining money by false pretences from divers persons. The prisoner was brought up from Penarth, South Wales, in custody. It was alleged at the time the warrant was granted that the prisoner had an office in South-place, Finsbury, and issued advertisements for barmaids, waiters, &c., to proceed to Johannesburg, stating that the pay would be from £10 to £15 per month. His announcement stated that he was agent for the Witwatersrand and Johannesburg Boarding House Keepers' Association, and that his agent would meet the persons engaged on their landing at Cape Town. The warrant was granted on the complaint of a waiter named Hamblin, who stated that, on representations that he would be engaged and his fare to South Africa paid, a sum of £5 had been obtained from him, and that soon afterwards the prisoner was found to have gone away, and his office closed, a note on the door requesting that all letters should be sent "Poste Restante, P.O., Manchester." Inquiries made through the police showed that no arrangements had been made for the berth aboard any ship to South Africa by the prisoner, though letters he had sent to Hamblin named a particular ship for him to start in. Detective-Inspector Morgan said there would be several cases to be gone into, barmaids and others having paid money to the prisoner, and in some instances had been sent out only to find on arrival that there was no one to meet them, and that they were stranded. A few got back to England with help. Mr. Corser said it appeared from this that the case was one for the Treasury to take up, and he would certify for legal aid. Detective-sergeant Robinson, G Division, proved the arrest of the prisoner, who was detained at Penarth. The prisoner said he could prove he had carried on a legitimate business. On this a remand was ordered, and the prisoner removed in custody.

### Our Open Columns.

[The Editor does not hold herself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents. Discussion is invited on the subjects here written upon.]

#### THE WOMEN'S CONGRESS IN BELGIUM.

To the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

MADAM.—The "Congrès des Féministes" held in Brussels from the 4th to the 7th of August is now a thing of the past. I suppose it was as successful as most Congresses are, but we cannot but deplore the absence of so many leading workers of English nationality. England is the country to which we turn our eyes in our struggle for freedom, which is still in the pioneering stage here. The president of the "Ligue des Femmes Belges," under whose auspices the Congress was held, has not the advantage of being seconded by a number of experienced and energetic women as are the English presidents of similar societies. Here two or three ladies have to do the work of twenty, and have to bear up under the almost universal ridicule or inertia of their own sex, as well as the determined opposition of the men. However, one of the results of the Congress has been to give birth to a second *féministe* society called, "Société Belge pour l'Amélioration du Sort de la Femme." The statutes of the new Society, are based on those of the "Women's International Progressive Union," of London, founded by Miss Veigé. The principal object of the society is to arouse the mind of the Belgian woman to a wish for a higher state of things in regard to themselves, and to habituate them to the idea of exercising their civil rights—when they will have got them—conscientiously. President, M<sup>me</sup>. Beckmans; treasurer, M<sup>me</sup>. Sochaczewska; the secretary is, yours faithfully,

(M<sup>de</sup>.) ROGER DE GOEY.

264, Chaussée de Pleurgat, Brussels.

[Whatever the reason or excuse, the Belgian Congress was certainly not up to the average. There were only about 50 persons present, nearly all of whom came from other countries, so that one would suppose that the "Belgian League for the Rights of Women" has no membership at all, which indeed our correspondent seems to confirm. Under these circumstances would it not be better to try to make one strong society in Brussels instead of founding a second one?—Ed. "W. S."]

### WHAT BATTLE LOOKS LIKE.

A BALACLAVA HERO'S DESCRIPTION. The *North Devon Herald* publishes an interesting chat with a veteran of Balacava, Mr. F. W. Major, in his retirement at Braunton, near Ilfracombe. Mr. Major, who wears the Crimean medal and clasps, as well as the Turkish medal, is described as of "military carriage," despite his seventy odd years of life, and over twenty of active service, in the Royal Marine Brigade, which was landed (as readers will remember) for the protection of the harbour on Balacava day. Stationed within a hundred yards of the Light Brigade, he witnessed the whole of that deadly and historic charge, and watched the Russian guns make "mince-meat" of our gallant men. In graphic language Mr. Major spoke of the difficulties and hardships endured; for nearly seven months it was impossible to obtain even a change of clothes. "There was much brilliant and deadly work," said Mr. Major, "but it had its grave side, as many men dying of neglect as from shot and shell."



"But you came off all right yourself?" Mr. Major was asked. Not quite that, he said in effect. It was but to be expected after so many years buffeting in the open that he should not escape scot free, and as a matter of fact he had now for many years, until lately, been continually troubled with nervous disorder and muscular rheumatism. In March, 1894, his sufferings were accompanied and grievously accentuated by an accumulation of water, "till my legs swelled as big as my thighs," to quote the old soldier's words, "and I was in bed for some months."

"Of course I called in a doctor," said he, "but his medicine did not cure me. So things continued, until, reading so many newspaper articles describing remarkable cures, and one case similar to my own, I decided to try a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They afforded me a little relief, and hoping to obtain further good, I decided to give them a fair trial, and, leaving off the doctor's medicine, I sent away for half-a-dozen boxes, with the result that I was speedily about again, and I have never been troubled with even the symptoms since."

"I have recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to many other sufferers. But for them," added Mr. Major, "I should not be here to make this statement now." Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are famous for the cure of rheumatism, indigestion, scrofula, anaemia, consumption, chronic erysipelas, &c. They are a splendid nerve and spinal tonic, having cured many cases of paralysis, locomotor ataxy, neuralgia, St. Vitus' dance, and nervous headache. They are sold by chemists, and by Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, 46, Holborn-viaduct, London, at 2s. 9d. a box, or six for 13s. 9d., but are genuine only with full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. These Pills are not like other medicine, and their effects are permanent.

LADY CAB-DRIVERS.—It is stated that shortly Londoners will witness the spectacle of twenty-five handsome girls driven about their city by as many handsome girls. All of the women cab-drivers will be attired in wide-fitting top overcoats, which will do service alike in dry weather and on rainy days. The gayest of red driving gloves with a small felt hat and veil will complete the natty uniform.



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"OVARICTOMY AVERTED," post free 2d., by MARY J. HALL-WILLIAMS, M.D. (BOSTON), is to show women how they may get rid of their sufferings and not undergo this dangerous operation.  
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