

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

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The Executive Committee of the above Society desire respectfully to call attention to its object and operations, and to make an appeal for subscriptions in view of the present critical period of the movement.

The Bill for extending the Parliamentary franchise to women will be introduced by Mr. Woodall immediately on the opening of the next session of Parliament, and there is reason to hope that, if the action of the Parliamentary leaders be vigorously supported, the measure may soon become law.

In order to enable the Committee to carry on the work at this juncture with an energy adequate to the occasion, it is desired to materially increase the funds of the society. Donations and promises of annual subscriptions are very earnestly and respectfully invited. Donors and Subscribers are entitled to receive the *Women's Suffrage Journal* monthly, and the Annual Report of the Society.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Manchester, on Wednesday, November 3rd, 1886, at three o'clock, to receive the Report and Financial Statement, and to elect the Executive Committee for the ensuing year. Further particulars in future announcements. The attendance of Members and Friends is invited. Doors open at 2-30. Admission Free.

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

CONTENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1886.

1. Jeannette Wilkinson, by Eliza Orme.
2. A Woman's Organization.
3. Olympia Morata; a Learned Italian Lady of the 16th Century, by G. S. Godkin.
4. The Cama Hospital for Women and Children in Bombay.

Passing Notes:—Reform of the Royal Academy—"Strong Maternal Feelings."

Poetry:—Dr. Withers Moore, by Mrs. Snoad.

Record of Events.

Foreign Notes and News.

Paragraphs.

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

In Preparation.

A WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CALENDAR for 1887. Edited by Helen Blackburn. The information relating to Technical Classes, Examinations and Scholarships for Women, and Registered Medical Women, will be brought to date; a summary of Legislation affecting Women in the past year, and other fresh matter, will be introduced. Price 3d. Bristol: J. W. Arrowsmith; London: Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.

"We can cordially recommend the little brochure to all who wish for a great deal of interesting information about women's interests in a concise and convenient form."—*Women's Suffrage Journal*.

"The information given is varied, and is just what every intelligent woman wants to know."—*Cambrian News*.

"Is a useful little publication."—*Literary World*.

"It is a treasure-house of information as to the political, educational, and industrial opportunities now open to women."—*Women's Journal*, Boston, U.S.A.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.—Communications for the Editor and Orders for the Journal to be addressed to the Office, 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester.

"WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL" PRIZE COMPETITION PUZZLE, No. 2.
ANAGRAMMATIC SENTENCE.

A Prize of Two Guineas will be given to the person who shall send the best anagrammatic sentence formed out of the letters in the sentence, "The Parliamentary franchise for duly qualified women."

By the term anagrammatic sentence is meant a sentence in which all the words are composed of letters to be found in the original sentence, but not necessarily containing the whole of them.

The following rules must be observed :-

1. No word in the original sentence must be used as a whole in the anagrammatic sentence.
2. No letter must be used in the anagrammatic sentence which does not occur in the original sentence, and no letter must occur a greater number of times in the anagrammatic sentence than in the original sentence.
3. The anagrammatic sentence must bear some reference to the subject of the original sentence.
4. Every answer must contain the sum of one shilling and sixpence, in return for which the *Women's Suffrage Journal* will be forwarded by post for twelve months to any address indicated by the competitor, whether such competitor win the prize or not. Competitors may send more than one sentence in the answer.
5. Answers should be sent on or before October 25th, addressed to the Editor, *Women's Suffrage Journal*, 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester. Answers may be signed by a *nom de plume*, but the real name and address must be sent for registration. The result of the competition will be announced in the November number of the *Journal*.

In awarding the prize regard will be had to the greatest number of letters of the original sentence which are used in the anagrammatic sentence; also to the construction of the sentence and its aptness to the subject.

The right is reserved of dividing the prize, if necessary, between two or more competitors.

The prize will be given in money, subject only to the condition of the publication of the winner's real name and address in this *Journal*.

On the announcement of the prize winner's name or *nom de plume*, the successful competitor must write and make formal application for the prize, stating the address to which the cheque must be sent. Any competitor failing to do so within one month from the announcement of the award will forfeit all claim to the same.

The decision and award once announced must be considered final and irrevocable.

OUR HOLIDAY COMPETITION PRIZE PUZZLE.

In our issue of September a prize of two guineas was offered for a list of 500 words to be formed from the letters in the word "spreading." Answers have been received from the following competitors. The figures after each name indicate the number of words claimed :-

F. E. Bayley, 296; Adelaide Baxter, 514; S. P. Judge, 290; S. Rosamond Praeger, 519; *E. M. Edmonds, 502; Mrs. Massey, 501; E. D. Ponder, 178; Cecil Savile, 336; Satis verborum, 342; Emily Cooke, 326; Kate Mills, 509; Semloh Byram, 540; Dorothy Forster, 471; Ebor, 445; G. H. Wilkinson, 428; H. S. C., 522; Jessie E. Barrett, 435; Miss Hyllyard, 356; Mrs. Shelley, 341; Mary Hibbert, 505; Mrs. R. Burn, 334; Snarker Pike, 300; Mary Lowndes, 242; Cassandra, 338; Phenie, 501; A. P. Johnson, 521; Mrs. Keating, 560; W. H. Ade, 347; C. Brown, 586; Alpha, 421; Mrs. du Sautoy, 346; G. Gasson, 435; Beanie, 317; W. G. Farr, 501; Thros. Chapman, junr., 478; Fred Pownall, 530; *Fidelo, 493; Miss S. Turle, 389; Eleanor Allen, 438; May Carter, 374; George Healey, 515; A. M. Allen, 306; Marguerite Morley, 513; Mrs. Reid, 421; Dorrit, 322; S. S., 501; Zar, 444; *A. Dodds, 520; E. Spender, 326; Mrs. Proudfoot, 466; Julia Mays, 310; †Arabis, 414; Rose Crofton, 406; E. Eddison, 406; Kate Doe, 511; Gertrude Jones,

*These competitors appear to have misunderstood the conditions, as they have sent lists of words containing letters not in the word "spreading."
†No address given.

406; A. M. Young, 542; Mary M'Laren, 457; Edna Beatrice Mason, 517; Madam Moon, 554; Meta Livens, 415; Miss Swanson, 448; Francis, 500; J. Caipitin, 370; Bohemian Girl, 396; Pencil, 504; Beatrice R. Jackson, 454; Eversley, 275; Sweet Seventeen, 339.

The large number of answers received is a welcome indication of the interest excited by our Holiday Prize Competition, and we congratulate our friends on the pains they have taken to send comprehensive lists. They may thank us, as we thank them, for a considerable enlargement of knowledge of the resources of the English language. One correspondent writes that it is difficult to know how far we allow English obsolete words and foreign words thoroughly anglicised. If this difficulty was felt in making up the lists, it may be imagined how much greater was the difficulty in adjudicating upon them so as to hold the balance fairly among so many competitors. No dictionary can be accepted as an absolute standard of what is an English word, for all comprehensive dictionaries contain many words avowedly not English. The terms of our competition did not absolutely exclude obsolete words, we therefore felt a difficulty in disallowing such words. But they did exclude all words not English, all abbreviations, and all dialect words, by which was meant words not in general use, but having local or partial circulation. This was held to exclude technical and scientific terms. We have also excluded some compound words not usually met with, such as re-spin, re-pad, &c. Words having different meanings have been counted only as one word where the spelling is the same.

After careful consideration we prepared a sort of *Index Expurgatorius*, or list of words to be disallowed in every list in which they occur. The list is appended, and we think our readers will agree that it does not err in the direction of excluding too many words. Possibly they may consider that some of the words in the winning list should have been excluded. Many words allowed are, in fact, obsolete and strange, but as they are used by classic writers and have been sent by many competitors they have been practically brought within the lines of the competition.

In making the award we applied our "Index Expurgatorius" to every list containing 500 words and upwards. As the same test was applied to all, this appeared the fairest mode we could devise. The result was that every list save one was reduced below 500 words. The one list that survived the test was that sent by Miss C. Brown. The number of words claimed was 586, of these sixty-nine were disallowed, leaving a balance of 517 words. Not only was this list the most numerous, it was also excellently arranged. We have therefore great pleasure in awarding the Prize of Two Guineas to Miss C. Brown, 5, Newington Villas, Anlaby Road, Hull, from whom we shall be happy to receive an application for the amount.

Competitors who desire their lists returned may send stamped and directed wrapper during October.

PRIZE LIST OF 517 WORDS, SENT BY MISS C. BROWN, 5, NEWINGTON VILLAS, ANLABY ROAD, HULL.

Sad, sag ("Shall never sag with doubt," Macbeth, v. 3), sage, sager, said, sain (Shakespeare, past part. of say), sand, sane, saner, sang, sap, sapid, sard (Nuttall's Dict. and Globe Dict), sardine, sea, sean or seine (Nuttall, Chambers), sear, searing, sedan, seg (Nuttall), send, sepia, *sepian*, *serai* (Nuttall), *si* (Nuttall), side, sider (Nuttall, Chambers), sign, signed, signer, sin, sine, sing, sander (one who sands a floor), singer, singe, singed, sip, sipe (Nuttall), siped, sir sire, sired, siren, snag, snap; *snar*, (Spenser, to snarl, Chambers), snare, snared, snead (handle of a scythe, Nuttall), sneap, ("I will not nudergo this sneap without reply," 2 Henry IV., ii. 1), sneaped, snig (a kind of eel, Chambers, Nuttall), snip, snipe, spa, spade, span, spang (Spenser, Chambers, Nuttall), spanged, spar, spare, spared, sparing, spear, spearing, sped, spend, sper (Spenser, to bolt), spider, spie (Spenser, a glance, the eye), spied, spier ("a spier-out of trouble"), *spiraea*, spin, spinage or spinach, spine, spined, spire, spired, sprad (Spenser), spread, sprag ("a good sprag memory," Merry Wives of Windsor, iv. 1), sprain, sprained, sprang, spread, spreading, *spreed* (Spenser, to cover), sprig, spring, springed, springe, pad, pads, page, paged, pager (Chambers's Dictionary), pagers, pages, paid, pain, pained, painer, painers, pains, pair, pairs, paired, paise (Spenser, same as poise), paised, pan, pans, paned, paner, paners, panes, pander, panders, pang, panged, pang's, par, *pars*, pard,

(Continued on page 143.)

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PRICE ONE PENNY.
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THE session has not been allowed to close without an attempt on the part of one member to ascertain the intentions of the Government as to introducing a Bill to extend the present electoral power of women to enable them to vote for members of Parliament. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated in reply to a question from Mr. LAFONE that as it was more than probable that a great difference of opinion existed among members of the Government it was not possible for them to take up the subject.

We trust that the enterprise of private members will, as heretofore, be found equal to the task of pressing the question for the consideration of the House of Commons, and we may assume that as the members of the Government, as well as the leaders of the opposition, are divided in opinion on the question that there will at least be no official opposition from the leaders on either side, but that members of all shades of politics will be left free to give their votes according to their own sense of the justice of the claim.

We have great pleasure in calling attention to the very able and earnest speech made by Dr. STIRLING in the House of Assembly of South Australia, on July 21st, in moving the second reading of his Constitution Amendment Bill. This Bill, which extends the Parliamentary franchise to women, is drawn precisely on the lines of the resolution passed without a division in the same House of Assembly last year. The resolution was in the following terms: "That in the opinion of this House women, except while under coverture, who fulfil the conditions and possess the qualifications on which the Parliamentary franchise for the Legislative Council is granted to men, shall, like them, be admitted to the franchise for both Houses of Parliament." In introducing the Bill, Dr. STIRLING expressed his regret that events over which he had no control had prevented him from bringing in a Bill immediately on the adoption of the resolution, but added that he trusted that the delay would not be prejudicial to

the Bill. He thought that whatever advantages might be considered to lie in precedent had been gained for the Bill, for since the subject was before the House last year a Bill of a similar character had passed its second reading in the English House of Commons, and its further progress had only been prevented by the dissolution which had taken place.

For the arguments by which Dr. STIRLING supported his proposal we refer our readers to the speech itself. The debate was adjourned until July 28th, when Mr. SCHERK opposed the measure. On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Hon. J. W. Downer), the debate was again adjourned until Wednesday, September 8th, Dr. STIRLING expressing the hope that on that day hon. members would come prepared to bring the debate to a close.

THE reply given by Mr. JACKSON in the House of Commons to the question of Captain SELWYN in reference to the taxation of the incomes of married women will be a disappointment to many who had hoped for some prospect of a change in the law. At present the profits of a married woman living with her husband are deemed to be the profits of the husband for purposes of income tax, and are charged in the name of the husband. Consequently if the wife desires to appeal against her assessment, she cannot do so in her own name; her husband must lodge the appeal; should he object to do so, the wife must submit to the assessment. Complaints have reached us on this point from wives who consider that this position is contrary to the spirit of the Married Women's Property Act.

A more serious consideration arises in cases where the separate income of the wife is less than £150. In such cases the income, being within the scale of exemption, would escape taxation altogether if the wife were separately assessed, whereas if the husband's and wife's incomes are taken together the combined sum might be above the scale, and so be liable to taxation. It is probable that the loss to the revenue that would be caused by the sepa-

rate assessment of wives' incomes renders the Treasury authorities unwilling to sanction any change of the present law.

A BILL is announced for next session for the compulsory closing of all shops except places for the sale of refreshments, intoxicating liquors, and tobacco, at the uniform hour of eight o'clock on every night except Saturday, and of ten o'clock on Saturday.

All laws of a sumptuary or social nature affect women in a very direct manner, but we do not remember any proposal that has ever been made that will have so wide-sweeping an effect in interfering with the lives and abridging the liberties of the vast masses of the women of the people as this Bill if it should pass into law. The measure would have little or no effect on the convenience of women who belong to what we may on this occasion term the "classes." Shops frequented by the class conventionally known as "ladies" are closed early, because those for whose custom they exist are in the habit of going out during the day, and of remaining at their homes in the evening. But the women of the masses are usually engaged either at their work or in their houses during the day, and turn out in the evening for their shopping and recreation. The lives of working women are hard and dreary at best, but how much more dreary would they be if, instead of the busy and brightly-lighted shops, which cheer them and supply their wants, they found the lights out and the shutters up in every place except the public-house when they are out for their evening walks?

We are not insensible to the grievous hardship of prolonged hours of work for the shop assistants, but we believe that these evils could be mitigated by some less extreme measure than the arbitrary closing of shops just when the customers most need them, and are at leisure to enter them. The exception of the drink shops and the tobacco shops from this proposed legislation is very significant. The customers of the shops to be closed are mostly women, who have no political power to influence legislation; the customers of the shops to be exempted are mostly men, who have power to resist any proposal to abridge their liberties or limit the period during which they may supply themselves with the articles they desire for consumption.

THE season approaches when members of Parliament will be attending meetings in their several constituencies.

We earnestly beg that the friends of women's suffrage will avail themselves of such opportunities of bringing the subject before their representatives, and will urge them to support the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill whenever that measure shall be submitted to the verdict of the House of Commons.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF LORDS, September 2nd.

Lord DENMAN moved the second reading of his Women's Franchise Bill.

Motion made and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time" (Lord Denman).

The LORD CHANCELLOR (Lord Halsbury): The question that I shall have to put to your lordships is, "that this Bill be now read a second time," and as I have unfortunately to vote against the question, I wish to say that the emphatic word is the word "now," because it would be impossible to say that it is desirable that the Bill should be introduced for discussion on the 2nd September. At the same time I cannot but sympathise very much with what the noble lord has said, and I believe the proposal is one upon which your lordships entertain different opinions. The only reason I address your lordships at all is that I do not wish to be understood as being against the principle the noble lord (Lord Denman) advocates. On the contrary, I think it extremely inconvenient that the Bill should be "now" read a second time.

Question, "That this Bill be now read a second time," put, and negatived.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, September 7th. MARRIED WOMEN ENGAGED IN TRADE.

Captain SELWYN asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether, for purposes of taxation, the incomes of married women who were engaged in trade or other occupations were regarded as the incomes of their husbands; and, if this were so, whether he would advise that steps be taken to enable the separate income of the wife to be separately assessed and charged.

Mr. JACKSON: Yes, sir, the income-tax law prescribes that the profits of any married woman living with her husband shall be deemed the profits of her husband for purposes of income-tax, and shall be charged in the name of her husband. I am not prepared to recommend any change in the present law.

September 9th. FACTORY INSPECTION.

In Committee of Supply, Mr. M'LAREN called attention to the want of a better system of inspection of factories and workshops. He also advocated the appointment of women as inspectors of establishments where women were employed.

The HOME SECRETARY (Mr. Matthews) said he entirely concurred with the hon. member for the Crewe Division of Cheshire as to the desirability of women inspectors being appointed to inspect milliners' and other shops in large towns where numbers of women were employed, but he was by no means prepared to say that the law permitted such appointments.

September 14th. THE POLICE AND THE FRANCHISE.

Mr. LAFONE asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he would consider the desirability of introducing a Bill next session to relieve the police force of the United Kingdom of their present electoral disabilities.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER (Lord Randolph Churchill) said the question of relieving the police force of electoral disabilities had been hitherto left in the hands of private members, and the Government had no intention to depart from that practice.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Mr. LAFONE asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he would, in the next session, introduce a Bill to extend the present electoral power of women to enable them to vote for members of Parliament.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the question of conferring the Parliamentary franchise upon women had always been left to the enterprise of private members, and as it was more than probable that a great difference of opinion existed among members of the Government on the subject, it was not possible for the Government to take up the subject.

COLONIAL PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, ADELAIDE, July 21st. CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (FOR EXTENDING THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN).

Dr. STIRLING said that in moving the second reading of this Bill he would remind hon. members that an abstract resolution having precisely the same scope as the present Bill was passed by this House last session without a single voice being raised against it, or even without a division. Under ordinary circumstances the carrying of such a resolution should have been followed by the introduction of a Bill giving effect and vitality to the resolution arrived at by the House. Had that been done he thought the Bill would have passed the Assembly at least. But unfortunately events which he could not control prevented him from taking any further action until a period late in the session, when the House found itself so fully occupied with other and perhaps more pressing business, that he did not feel justified, either in the interest of the country or of the measure itself, in bringing it forward at such a time. He ventured to hope that the unavoidable delay, so far as he was concerned, would not now be prejudicial to the Bill. As a matter of fact he saw some advantages in the delay, as it had given thoughtful persons time to think over the question, and in the event of the Bill passing, the charge of over-hasty legislation could in no wise be made. Furthermore, whatever advantages might be considered to lie in precedent would have been gained for the Bill, for since the subject was before the House last session a Bill of a similar character had passed its second reading by a large majority in the English House of Commons, and its further progress had only been prevented by the dissolution which had taken place. On the whole, therefore, he was not inclined to regret the delay, although he confessed to a keen sense of regret and disappointment in being unable to follow up immediately the success gained last session for the principle involved. That success was so decided, so conspicuous, that it permitted him to feel great confidence that the present Bill (drawn on precisely the lines of the resolution) would commend itself to the House. At the same time the very fact that not a single voice, not a single argument, was raised against the validity of the principles which he contended for was a partial embarrassment to him. He had no indication as to the direction which the arguments in opposition to the Bill would take. Consequently he had no indications as to the lines on which he should most advantageously direct his remarks. He did not presume for one moment that the measure would be similarly unopposed on this occasion, but he thought he was entitled to assume a general concurrence with its principles. Such being the case he would take that middle course, which the poet told them was the safest, but which nevertheless had its own dangers. He would advance only those arguments which were strongest, and would combat in anticipation only those objections which had some show of validity, or which had been urged most freely, leaving himself in reply to answer objections which he did not anticipate. The principles of the measure were not new. For over twenty years they had been discussed and debated in print and in Parliament with such a constantly increasing growth of public opinion in their favour, that he was confident that whether or not the House passed this measure now, it would not be long before it would do so. The growth of public opinion may be gauged by the result of divisions in the House of Commons, beginning with a large majority against the principle, and the opposition gradually diminishing until this year there was a decisive majority of fifty-seven in its favour. The arguments in favour of this measure seemed so numerous, so cogent, so unanswerable, and to have in many ways been practically admitted in principle, that he scarcely knew at which point to begin. The advocates of this measure (himself on a previous occasion) had been at some pains to refute the plea of the intellectual inferiority of women raised

by its opponents, but the undoubted intellectual successes gained by women since they had won for themselves the right to enter the highest educational establishments, and there to compete on equal terms with men, had effectually disposed of that plea. He would not, therefore, occupy the time of the house in combating a weak and untenable contention, but would rather in the first place base his arguments on the grounds that the measure was one of justice and expediency. Now, why was it that we extended the franchise to any particular persons or bodies of persons? Was it because they had views and interests which could not be adequately recognised or protected without the representation of those views and interests, or was the reason for the admission to the franchise to be found in the oft-quoted axiom of state craft that taxation and representation should go hand in hand? Then on which of these grounds, or on any other valid grounds, could it be insisted that men were entitled to the franchise, while women were not. (An hon. member: "The Bill does not provide for equality.") Not absolute equality, but that was a point which would come under the head of expediency. The hon. member must remember that compromises had to be made in legislation. Women had their interests, which were not always the same as those of men, as they knew to their sorrow, and it was a mockery to say that those very persons from whom they sometimes suffered wrong, and from whom they had sometimes to seek protection, could represent them adequately or fairly. Why the very state of the divorce laws was an instance of how laws had sometimes been made by men in the interests of men to the exclusion of the legitimate interests of women. Till quite recently the laws relating to property of married women was another instance of one-sided legislation, and he believed that anomalies still existed in the laws relating to the custody of children, and certainly they were not in the interests of women. On the other hand, if they looked on the payment of taxes as a ground of admission to the franchise, how could we with justice make any exception in the case of women, who not only had these particular obligations to fulfil, but also had every other obligation which the law imposed. Such obligations seemed to him to require corresponding and compensatory rights, and those rights were to be found in the admission of women to the full privileges of citizenship enjoyed by the other sex. If the law made no distinction between the sexes in the matter of obligations, why should it in the matter of rights? It might be answered that men, cognisant of the weakness of the female sex, and the fact that they were not represented, charged themselves sufficiently with its protection. Where was this so-called protection manifested? Did it shield women from the ever-increasing struggle for existence? Had not women rather to enter on that self-same struggle with all the disadvantages dependent on their physical weakness, and often in the face of an unreasonable prejudice on account of their sex? Had they not to work longer hours and for less pay than men? He was sure hon. members knew many such instances where women had been left alone in the world to struggle as best they could without anything in the shape of protection, which it was often said was granted to them. By their industry, sobriety, and energy they had lived a creditable and successful career. Capable and worthy citizens in every way that it was possible to measure civil capacity, yet they were deemed by the law not to be such, and were denied the rights of citizenship. Patriotic and intelligently interested in their country they were without a voice in its management. Paying their taxes and fulfilling all lawful obligations they were without a word in determining the direction of the funds which they helped to contribute. That such a state of things could exist in a country which was for ever boasting of its representative government and of its freedom and political liberty was an extraordinary anomaly, which it was not creditable to have so long maintained. He was asking, now, this House and this country to remove this anomaly as being unworthy of its high sense of justice. So much for the plea for simple justice, and it would be easy to expand the argument, but he did not think it was necessary. Anyone could see that there was an anomaly and an injustice, and he did not on this ground anticipate formidable opposition. Opposition was more likely to be offered on the ground of expediency, to which he would now apply himself. He believed if ever we had reached a time at which it was desirable that the counsels of the State should be aided by the expression of the views of the best intelligence and widest sympathies of the land it was now. This was applicable not only to this country but to the whole world, in which problems

of the greatest difficulty and complexity awaited solution. On the right solution of those questions depended the progress, prosperity, and happiness of the countries of the world. With regard to the question of the franchise, we had in this country and in others long ago cut the Gordian knot by admitting to it not every adult, but all male adults. That might or might not have been the best solution of a great difficulty. It probably was. He was not going to dwell upon the advantages or disadvantages of the suffrage. But he wished to point out that all advocates for universal suffrage or the extension of the franchise in a direction towards this had always urged that one of the first steps towards the quickening of that national intelligence with which we wished to see the masses of the people endowed was to add to their self-respect by conferring upon them the dignities and responsibilities involved in the exercise of the franchise. He believed that to be the correct view. But if it was true in the case of men, surely it was also true in the case of women. In fact every argument which had from time to time been advanced in favour of the admission of men applied with equal force in favour of the admission of women. Hon. members might say they did not and never would take any interest in politics. How could that be said unless they had some inducement—some opportunity of taking an interest? What inducement had they had hitherto? They had not been allowed to do so in an open and legal manner, and the only influence it was in their power to exercise was the underhand influence of the boudoir or backstairs; but it surely would not be considered that this was either wholesome for themselves or good for the State. Any influence they did use should be exerted in the broad light of day and the wholesome criticism of public opinion. But it was not wholly true that women took no interest in politics. He knew a great many who took a keen interest in political questions, and who were just as able to express a sound and intelligent opinion and as shrewd a judgment on current topics as most men; and it was a remarkable fact that almost every woman who had attained distinction in literature, arts, or science, had been a strong advocate of the franchise for her sex. If it came to this kind of argument, was it true that men in contrast to women always took such a great interest in politics? The motion brought forward some time ago by Mr. Caldwell, though not practicable, yet clearly recognised that men who made this charge of want of interest were not free from blame. It was only necessary in illustration of this to point to the late election for East Adelaide, at a time when perhaps above all previous times in the history of the colony the keenest interest ought to have been centred in the election, and every man should have voted according to his conviction. But what was the fact? Out of 3,200 persons on the roll only 1,116, or barely one-third, recorded their votes. (Mr. Caldwell: "A great shame.") Mr. Castine: "The women ought to have influenced their husbands." But he had better than that. There was direct evidence forthcoming that women did take an interest in this kind of matters. Hitherto we had had little evidence of the interest they took in political matters, because they never possessed the political franchise. (Mr. Smith: "They don't want it;" and Mr. Coglein: "They should not have it.") The only way in which it was possible to gauge a willingness to exercise the franchise, namely, in seeing what proportion of women exercised the only franchise to which they were entitled, proved that they did take an interest in political matters. The proportion of municipal electors who were women did exercise their privileges—(hear, hear)—and he knew more than one member of this legislature who had not thought it beneath his notice to ask the suffrages of female ratepayers in the locality in which he was seeking municipal honours. (An hon. member: "Smith." Laughter.) So much for expediency from an abstract point of view, and he thought they might derive similar arguments if they looked at the matter in a concrete way. There was no doubt that year after year there was an increasing number of matters which came before the legislature of the country of distinctly a social character, and these, to say the least of it, involved women just as much as men. Amongst these might be mentioned the divorce and marriage laws, the custody and guardianship of children, the protection of the person, property and testamentary laws, trade regulations, education, and taxation, and it must be admitted that legislation could not be perfectly satisfactory which did not take account, at all events, of the views of the persons who were concerned just as much as men, and consequently he believed that we would receive very great advantage in having represented for us the views of those who had a special knowledge

of the subjects, or whose interests were peculiarly at stake. It was impossible to say that these views are sufficiently represented—just as impossible as to say that a constituency would be adequately represented which had not its own representatives. Though from a sense of fairness we might endeavour to do justice, the strongest guarantee for such justice would be absent. He would now come to one or two objections that had been urged, and there were three principal ones to which he would allude. The first was that we would be taking women out of their sphere by conferring upon them the franchise, and that they would lose what were called womanly qualities. The second objection was that women did not want a vote, and would not exercise it. (Mr. Smith: "Hear, hear.") And the third was that if women were admitted to the exercise of the political franchise they would not stop there, but would want a seat in Parliament. (Mr. Coglein: "Hear, hear. That would never do." Laughter.) They might well ask themselves what was woman's sphere. He thought he would give to that question the same answer as he would give if the question were asked in the case of men. He would say that any person's sphere was the highest and best they could attain to. (Hear, hear.) He denied that we had any right to make any limitation short of this, or if we should do so what guarantee was there that we would be right when on other matters we were so often wrong? If it were true that the highest ambition of many women found itself realised in the possession of a husband and a home—(Mr. Smith: "Hear, hear")—surely there were also many others who, either from choice or stern necessity, were compelled to seek their careers in other directions. The number of these was ever increasing, and it was for these who had to pursue independent careers that he sought the franchise, which to them was a sort of hall-mark of citizenship. He denied that any *obiter dictum* of one half the human race should place an impassable barrier in the way of the legitimate aspirations of the other half. (Hear, hear.) What should we say to a similar *obiter dictum* of one section of mankind—using the word in its most limited sense—with regard to the other? Then, with regard to the supposed loss of feminine charms and the deterioration of female character, what was there in the exercise of the franchise to make women less womanly? How was it possible that handing a paper to a returning officer every two or three years could make so remarkable a change in female character? How also could a lively interest in public matters, leading as it must do to a widening and quickening of the intelligence, have so disastrously deteriorating an effect? He was old enough to remember that precisely the same arguments were used with regard to the higher education of women, but he was glad to say that experience had shown them the fallacy, and we did not now often hear the statement that homes would be better managed and children better reared and educated by women who were ignorant, nor did he think the household duties would be less efficiently performed by the fact that at every election a woman was enabled to express her choice in the orderly manner which the ballot permitted. The argument might have had some force before the introduction of the ballot, when at election times everything was turmoil, and violence was the order of the day, but there was no difficulty now in recording a vote in an orderly manner. He believed that the wider the scope which was given to the faculties of women as well as men, the wider their interest in human affairs, the better it would be for them and for the State. When we used arguments about women going beyond their sphere, was it true also that men never went beyond their sphere? We constantly saw men engaged in occupations that might very properly be considered to belong to women. There was a similar inconsistency in the objection to women becoming doctors, because they were going out of their sphere, though no objection was taken to their becoming nurses, which involved the performance of far more menial duties and a much greater breaking down of the barrier of what have been considered the appropriate relations of men and women. Men saw nothing derogatory in their performing for them the more menial offices, but thought it highly so that they should give advice to their own sex. If he had dwelt too long upon this argument, it was because so much had been made of the objection in question. He was unwilling to admit that any limitations short of physical ones could be placed as a barrier to the proper aspirations of any one. No nobler sentiment was ever uttered than that of J. S. Mill, which he had quoted on a previous occasion, but which he would ask permission to give again. It was:—"We

recognise and admit the principle that human beings are no longer born to their place in life, and chained down by an inexorable bond to the place they are born to, but are free to employ their faculties and such favourable chances that offer to achieve the lot which may appear to them most desirable. At present the disabilities of women are the only case, save one, in which laws and institutions take persons at their birth, and ordain that they shall never in their lives be allowed to do certain things. The one exception is that of royalty. In no other instance than this, which comprehends half the human race, are the higher functions closed against any one by a fatality of birth which no exertions and no change of circumstances can overcome." As to the question raised by Mr. Smith that women did not want the franchise, he admitted that there might be some who did not, but it was enough for him that there were some who did. If it was just, right, and expedient that women should have the right of voting, the fact that there were some who declined to exercise that right was no reason why those who wished for it should be deprived of that privilege. As a matter of fact great efforts involving considerable sacrifices, both personal and otherwise, had been made to obtain the franchise by those who felt strongly on the subject, and the number of these was increasing. If, as he readily admitted, active agitation in this country had been conspicuously absent, it was not difficult to see why it should be so. In the first place, he believed a long exclusion from political matters and the apparent hopelessness of obtaining anything in this direction had made women indifferent and many of them servile-minded. Then again, in a new country as this was, there were always before the House questions of a more urgent and pressing character which had to some extent obscured their claims and prevented them from being brought forward. But the chief reason was because the higher education of women in this country was as yet of too recent a date, and of too narrow a character to have enabled women fully to realise the issues involved. But in older countries where a high and growing intelligence had been concentrated on the question, there had been a great deal of agitation of a quiet, though forcible kind, and the orderly character of that agitation was highly creditable to the persons concerned. Far more unimportant than the question whether women wanted the franchise was the question whether they ought to have it. (Hear, hear.) He asked the House to determine the question upon the issue as to whether it was right and just for them to have it, and not as to whether some of them did not want it, or whether it might be said they had not sufficiently agitated for it. The question was whether justice and fairness required the concession of the right rather than whether it was to be gained in response to agitation and clamour. If the question whether it was right, just, and expedient could be answered in the affirmative, he said no further justification was necessary. There was no question here of compulsion. Those women who were too indifferent or too supine would, as in the case of many men, neglect or abstain from fulfilling the high duty and privilege of citizenship which had been conferred on them. And after all the question whether women would or would not vote could only be determined after the opportunity had been given them. He declined to accept any statement beforehand as valid, because we had no means of testing it. In fact all the evidence we had seemed to him to go distinctly the other way, and to point out that women, should they obtain this political franchise, would exercise it with as much interest and to as great a degree as the men. He now came to a question so full of alarm for some members, amongst whom was Mr. Coglein, that if women obtained the right to vote they would not stop there but would seek to obtain a seat in Parliament. (Mr. Smith: "Hear, hear.") Knowing the nationality of Mr. Coglein he was astonished at the position taken up by that hon. member, as he had thought this was one part of the question which would at least have gained the hon. member's approval. (Laughter.) A great deal had been said of the right of a constituency to return whomsoever it pleased. That was a liberal view to take, and it seemed to him that there was no valid reason why a woman specially fitted for the position and chosen of the people should not be here. (Mr. Burgoyne: "Hear, hear.") We raised no objections to the Sovereign being a woman, and there had been women as sovereigns before who had well and judiciously discharged the duties confided to them. Nor did we object to women holding positions with men on school boards and other deliberative bodies. He could see no insuperable objection

to women working together with men for the common good inside as well as outside that House. If the co-operation was good in one place, surely it was good in another. But that was not now the question. There had been throughout the whole of the agitation on this matter a conspicuous absence of any expressed desire on the part of women to obtain a seat in Parliament, nor did they now ask for it. The benefits which were expected to accrue from the franchise would arise, not from the possibility through it of a seat in this House, but from the possession of the right to choose who should be their representatives. (An hon. member: "One follows on the other.") Women felt that just as labour had been able to make its claims felt in the absence of direct representation, that so they would be able to assert their rights if they had the vote, even if they should not be represented directly. Moreover, the right to share in the choice of those who were to exercise a public trust was quite a distinct thing from the right to share the trust itself. If those only could vote who were fit for a seat here, surely the supreme Government of the country would be reduced to a very narrow oligarchy indeed. Besides, after all, it was a matter for that House to decide. Parliament made the laws, and it could, if it liked, withhold this right from women. That exclusion would not be unique, because as the law now stood certain persons, although they had a right to vote, were excluded from a right to a seat in Parliament. He was not advocating that that was a liberal view to take of the matter, but was pointing out that the right to vote by no means indicated that women should have a right to a seat in the House. Coming to the Bill itself, he wished to acknowledge the assistance he had received from the Government in the person of the Attorney-General. The Attorney-General had not only been good enough on previous occasions to uphold the principles of the Bill, but in his official capacity had given assistance so valuable to a young member in the direction of getting the Bill prepared in a proper manner. He would also take the opportunity of admitting that he thought the position taken up by the Attorney-General on behalf of the Government when the matter was previously before the House was perfectly justifiable. That position was one of neutrality, and the Attorney-General had for a precedent the action taken in the House of Commons with regard to a similar measure. The Bill excluded married women, and was applicable only to widows and spinsters. (Oh. Mr. Coglein: "That is its worst feature." Laughter.) For this he had received adverse criticisms from those not opposed to the general principles of female suffrage, and he admitted that the objections to the exclusion had a certain amount of force. It did seem an anomaly that a spinster should lose her vote when she became a wife, and regain it when she became a widow. (The Treasurer: "Hear, hear." Laughter.) It was said with some force that married women by their greater knowledge of the world were better fitted for the franchise than their unmarried sisters. (Hear, hear.) He would justify his position on two grounds. The first was the rooted objection that existed in the minds of many members to the idea of a wife having a vote which might be exercised antagonistically to her husband. (Mr. Burgoyne: "Why not?") He saw no reason why it should not be, but it was said that it might cause divisions and family discords. Or it might be said that the vote, instead of being exercised antagonistically, might be exercised under compulsion, and so there would arise another difficulty. (Mr. Burgoyne: "We have the ballot.") The ballot would of course be a safeguard to a certain extent, but it would not be an absolute safeguard. He had not heard the objection raised that it was possible the husband might vote under compulsion of his wife, and perhaps the strong objection in the minds of hon. members rather sprang from the fear of that taking place. (Laughter.) The law, however, permitted the marriages of persons of different religions, which were far more likely to raise up such difficulties as had been hinted at than a difference in political matters. The other ground he took was that a similar exclusion had been made in England in deference to this widely spread feeling, and women advocates of suffrage had in a large measure acquiesced in the exclusion for the sake of the benefits of the measure at large. He did not say that he acquiesced in the objections, but he was compelled to acknowledge the force of the objections. With regard to the property limitation there were sure to be objections. Why, it might be asked, in a measure which proposed to give women equal political rights with men, should any exception be made, when none was made in the case of men? (Mr. Burgoyne: "Hear, hear.") The question was a pertinent one, and logically

there could be but one answer. But here was his position—and he thought members would recognise that there was considerable force in it. That position had been well defined by the Attorney-General when he addressed the House on this subject last session. The Attorney-General, as he was, was strongly of opinion that too sudden political changes were undesirable, and that the best process of reform was often a gradual one. We had not encountered the problem with regard to the franchise before, but the principles he was alluding to had been recognised in England, where wholesale enfranchisements of bodies of persons were not made, but where successive portions of the body politic were enfranchised as they seemed to become fitted for the duties and responsibilities with which they were to be entrusted. He had been guided by a similar principle in the present Bill. He wished, as far as the measure was concerned, to be as Mr. Ward had put it recently, "cautiously progressive." ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He had, therefore, sought to pick out as a first instalment a class who, by their exceptional qualifications, seemed to be especially fitted for the enjoyment of the privileges, and to be of such a character as would gain the sympathies of hon. members. He could find no better way of drawing the line than in the manner he had indicated, and with such a limitation as he had made there was no other recourse than to make the measure applicable to the whole class of women. It seemed to him that the woman who controlled her own business, or was mistress of her own household, or who earned her own livelihood, was the most likely among her sex to be fitted with that independent judgment, that intelligence and ability which we wish to see characterising those who were to exercise the franchise. On these grounds the possession of property seemed to be the best test of fitness he could indicate—it was the outward and visible form of the inward characteristics we wished to recognise. (Mr. Smith: "No.") He had endeavoured, while seeking to obtain recognition for a principle, to present to hon. members a Bill of a character that would not excite their alarm. If the measure had proposed the granting of the franchise to all women, it would have excited alarm among hon. members on whose support he now reckoned. Being, therefore, anxious to have the principle acknowledged he had been unwilling to deck-load the measure with wholesale provisions which, however logical in themselves, might have sunk it. This might be considered a convenient form of "opportunism," but in politics, as elsewhere, it was true that half a loaf was better than no bread, and in the absence of the whole loaf, which it was impossible to obtain, he was willing to be content with the half. Such in all candour were the reasons which had induced him to accept a position characterised as illogical. He wished to disclaim any sinister design to give an undue predominance to property, but he did seek to recognise the intelligence, thrift, and independence which lay behind the acquiring and possession of property. This desire was to initiate reform in a desirable direction. If then he had to choose between a measure so framed as likely to pass, and one which, while striving after a technically logical position, was likely to encounter such objections as would ensure its rejection, as a practical politician he could not hesitate between the two—(hear, hear)—if on this the charge was made that the concession of the one right would lead to the other. He was assured that it might be so. It was impossible to say when we should have reached that Utopia in which further reforms were impossible. But he was sure that the best guarantee against too sudden innovations which might possibly dislocate our legislative machinery was to proceed warily and cautiously as became prudent men, and to test the safety and advantages as well as the dangers and disadvantages of each step in advance. The step he proposed was eminently a safe and a prudent one. (Mr. Caldwell: "Hear, hear.") No fear need be felt as to the character of those whom it was intended to enfranchise, and in the manner in which the trust reposed in them was exercised would mainly depend the further progress in this direction. (Hear, hear.) He would just say a word or two on the question of precedent. Already the political franchise existed in the Isle of Man, with precisely the same limitation with regard to married women and to property. There was female suffrage without any restriction at all—that was, every adult woman had a right to a political vote—in the territories of Wyoming, Utah, and Washington. (Mr. Smith: "Utah?" Laughter.) He admitted that the fact that the political franchise existed at Utah might not carry much weight; but he was giving hon. members the facts of the case. (Mr. Ward: "Who tells them

how to vote?" Laughter.) He had never been at Utah and was not aware. He would merely add that Washington was now applying for admission to the union as a sovereign state. In Italy women possessed what was known as the *voto amministrativo* which conferred on them the right to vote in municipal and provincial matters. That franchise was confined to all adult citizens—men and women—who could read and write. The municipal franchise existed here and in the other colonies, and had existed for some time in England. The municipal franchise had also just been extended in New Brunswick to women householders who were unmarried or widows. Nova Scotia and Ontario had a few years ago passed Bills conferring these rights. In England, besides the municipal franchise, women for many years had had the right to vote for and become members of school boards, boards of overseers of the poor, poor law guardians, churchwardens, overseers of roads and boards of health; and he believed there was a general consensus of opinion that advantage had accrued from their co-operation in these matters. And he could not learn that they had deteriorated in character, or lost any of their feminine virtues or charms as the result of having taken an increased interest in the affairs of their fellow creatures. (Hear, hear.) He had already mentioned that a similar measure to this had passed its second reading in the House of Commons, and he should not be surprised to see it become law within a short time. With regard to the number to be added to the roll if the Bill were passed, it was impossible to speak with accuracy, because statistics were not obtainable. There was no institution here that could give the information; and he was therefore obliged to make an estimate as well as he could. Taking as the basis of calculation the municipal franchise, which there as here applied equally to men and women, he found that women ratepayers were to men in the proportion of one to seven. Taking ownership of land as the basis, the proportion was one to eight. In Ireland, which in some respects was the antithesis of England, he found that the proportion was nearly the same, both as regarded women ratepayers and ownership of land. Putting these facts together he had come to the conclusion that there would be added to the roll one-seventh or one-eighth of the number now on the roll of the Legislative Council. Taking that at 30,000—the number given by the last Statistical Register—it appeared to him that about 4,000 to 5,000 names would be added to the roll. From this it would be necessary to make a further reduction, if the exception with regard to married women were observed. The estimate was the best he could make, and he thought it would be found to be pretty nearly true. Such was the nature and scope of the Bill. After what he had said he thought the clauses of the Bill required no further comment, as they embodied in legal phraseology the principles he had advocated with the limitations he had pointed out. Shortly speaking, the Bill proposed that every woman—spinster or widow—possessed of the qualifications entitling a man to vote for the Upper House, should entitle her to vote for both Houses. He trusted he had not wearied the House. (Mr. Ward: "Certainly not." Hear, hear.) He had been unwilling to dismiss too briefly a question of such importance. He was conscious that he had omitted many arguments that might be adduced in favour of the measure, and was more conscious still that he had not brought to bear on those he had put forward the perspicacity and acumen which such a question demanded. But he could not in any way reproach himself with any want of diligence or lack of endeavour to master the bearings of the question he had sought to advocate, or to present them to the best of his ability fairly, and without reservation. (Hear, hear.) Other questions might seem to have more pressing importance in the fleeting moment, but it could not and would not be denied that a question which involved the status and rights of one-half the human race, and the reputation for fair and just dealing of the other half was a matter of small importance, and lightly to be cast aside. (Hear, hear.) Whether or not his feeble efforts in such a cause were at present unavailing, he was absolutely certain that the sense of justice of the English race would soon assert itself, and would sweep away an anomaly, not to give it a harsher term, that had too long been a blot upon our boasted system of representative government. (Mr. Caldwell: "Hear, hear.") He could see no reason why South Australia should not be the first to recognise its true responsibilities. Nay, he would be proud if amongst the growing nations of Greater Britain, we should be the first to initiate a reform which was based upon grounds so dear to our

national character, namely, those of justice, reason, and freedom. (Loud cheers.)

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL the debate was adjourned till July 23rd, on which date it was again adjourned till August 18th.

August 18th.

CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.
Mr. SCHERK complimented the mover on the logical and interesting speech in which he had introduced the Bill, and regretted that while agreeing with the tone of his remarks he could not accept the measure in its present form. He agreed with all that had been said as to the rights and privileges of women, whose qualifications he allowed to be equal and even in many instances superior to those of men. He need not refer to the high degrees women have taken at universities all over the world, whether in science, theology, law, medicine, or even in such difficult subjects as astronomy and mathematics. They had proved themselves possessed of quite as much business tact and ability as men on the boards of management of hospitals, school boards, and charitable and other institutions. They had distinguished themselves in so many spheres by the careful performance of their duties that it was with deep regret that he could not go further with the provisions of the measure. It was stated that the Bill would not include married women in the exercise of the franchise, and he considered this unjust. Why should a married woman who had reached the age of twenty-one years be excluded from the franchise simply because she was married? It was said that women would be easily persuaded by their husbands, but their judgment would prevent this being the case. A much more important clause, however, was that dealing with the property qualification, and he would at all times take the strongest objection to that. It was not fair to give the franchise only to women possessed of a property qualification. We should avoid setting class against class, and the distinction drawn between women not having property and those who had property was unjust. It was suggested that the provision might be extended by-and-by, but let them have the measure in its entirety at once. It was better to ask for more than to ask for too little. Why not strike out the property qualification? If this were done he was sure it would meet with the general approval of the community. If married women would be persuaded by their husbands as to how to vote, would not single women be persuaded by their fathers, brothers, cousins, and other relatives? According to the Constitution Act, if the franchise were conferred upon women they would be able to take a seat in the House of Assembly, to become Ministers of the Crown, and to hold other offices, and though he would have no objection to their taking part in the deliberations of the Assembly, he questioned whether such a course of action would be desirable. Notwithstanding their intelligence, he doubted whether they would be able to form a sound, substantial opinion on such questions as public works and the building of railways. (Mr. Beaglehole: "Water conversation." Laughter.) They could give valuable opinions on matters such as education. (The Hon. T. Playford: "Or the marriage laws." Laughter.) It was unnecessary to refer to the great women of whom history was full. Had not Queen Elizabeth the right to rank with the greatest kings who had ever reigned in England? Did she not govern the country with a firm will, and had she not the faculty of judging men? (The Hon. T. Playford: "Oh, yes." Laughter.) Need he refer to our noble Queen Victoria and the good she had done at all times? Was not Margaret of Anjou an imposing power? (The Hon. T. Playford: "Have you read her works?" Laughter.) He could quote many cases of great women, but it would be unnecessary to do so. (Mr. Coghlin: "Hear, hear. Quite enough." Laughter.) It had been said by Dr. Stirling that the property qualification might be struck out by degrees. Great political changes, he said, might prove to be great dangers. He hoped the qualification would be struck out. He had the honour a few weeks ago of presenting to the House a petition signed by the president of the Trades and Labour Council and 28 delegates, representing 3,000 artisans and mechanics of the colony, and asking that the property qualification might be struck out of the Bill. The artisans and mechanics had done a great deal to promote the interests of the colony, and the prayer of a petition coming from them ought to have due weight. In England an agitation for women's suffrage had been going on for

the last ten years, but a Bill to carry out what was desired had not yet been carried. There had been no public agitation here, and he would point out that some of the most prominent women in England had expressed themselves against the granting of the suffrage to women. It was with the greatest regret that he opposed this measure. He had to compliment Dr. Stirling on his able and interesting speech, and any proposal coming from that hon. member, who was so highly respected, ought to meet with the fullest attention and the greatest consideration. (Hear, hear.)

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Hon. J. W. Downer), the debate was adjourned until Wednesday, September 8, Dr. STIRLING expressing the hope that on that day hon. members would come prepared to bring the debate to a close.—*South Australian Register.*

INCIDENTS IN THE REVISION COURTS.

NUNEATON.

Joseph Allton, of Hartshill, claimed as an occupier, and the application was supported by the Liberals. The mother of the claimant appeared on her son's behalf, and stated that the house was in his name, and that his name was on the rent book.—In answer to Mr. Bland, Mrs. Allton said her son had been the tenant for three years, and that in consideration of the son supporting her she had transferred the house and the furniture to him.—The Barrister called for the production of the rent book, which Mrs. Allton, however, had not brought with her. She expressed her willingness to fetch it, and later in the day produced the book, which confirmed her previous statement, and the claim was allowed; Mr. Thorpe remarking that she had well earned the vote for her son, having altogether walked twelve miles for the purpose of obtaining it.

WYCOMBE.

The Revising Barrister at Wycombe has been asked to give a decision upon a peculiar point. A man occupied a disused railway carriage which stood upon a plot of land he owned, and it appeared that the land was rated at half-a-crown a year. The claim was disallowed on the ground that the man could not be regarded as a rated occupier; but the Revising Barrister said he thought the railway carriage would be sufficient for the purpose of a dwelling-house, and had that been rated he would have allowed the claim.

CHESTER.

The Bishop of Chester has been placed on the list of those entitled to vote in municipal elections in that city. His Lordship appears on the register as plain "William Stubbs," and the Revising Barrister allowed the name to remain.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

James France and three sisters claimed the municipal franchise on account of joint tenancy of an ordinary cottage house. The claim was allowed, Mr. Blair remarking that there was no limit of the number who might thus be put on the burgess list.

WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATIONS.

CREWE.

A Women's Liberal Association has been inaugurated at Crewe, when about 130 ladies responded to an invitation to meet Mrs. Eva M'Laren, wife of the member for the Crewe division. Mrs. Mellor presided. Mrs. M'Laren, who was accompanied by Mrs. Pedley, Mrs. M'Neill, and Mrs. Hodgson, spoke at some length on the need for such a banding together of women in the interests of their sex, politically, morally, and intellectually, and to do all in their power to help Liberal members of Parliament who were striving to bring about necessary changes in laws and the removal of anomalies which pressed hardly on the female sex. Mrs. M'Neill and Mrs. Booth supported Mrs. M'Laren in urging the need of a Women's Liberal Association, and after some discussion a vote was taken in favour of the proposed scheme, which was practically unanimously accepted. Mrs. G. W. Latham, Bradwall Hall, was chosen the first president; Mrs. M'Laren, vice-president; and Mrs. Hodgson as secretary for the central committee. A large number of members were enrolled.

HYDE.

A meeting called for the purpose of forming a Women's Liberal

Association for the Hyde Division, was held on September 2nd, in Hyde. Mrs. J. Kertain Smith was voted to the chair, and was supported by Mrs. Lot Thornley and Miss Morton. Amongst the ladies present were Mrs. Joseph Hibbert, Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. E. W. Smith, Mrs. John Oldham, Mrs. Thomas Shepley, Miss Smith, Mrs. Moss, Mrs. John Swain, Mrs. John Rowcroft, Miss Hewitt, Miss Allen, Miss Oldham, Mrs. Tweedale, Miss Sutton, Mrs. George Brownson, jun., Miss Woolley, Mrs. Bunting, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Fowden, Mrs. Redfern, Mrs. Wild, and a large number of others. Very able speeches were made by the ladies who took part in the inaugural proceedings. Mrs. Moss, in proposing the election of the committee, said she thought they were doing right in imitating the Primrose League, and ventured to think the meeting would agree with her that the objection might be dispensed with on the ground that their work was quite legitimate. She had watched the Primrose League with delight, although it was on the contrary side of politics from what she admired, because she saw that women were thus taking their proper places. Some would say, "What, in advocating Toryism?" That might be the wrong channel, but it was the assertion of womanhood, the good in woman trying to assert itself in her usefulness in whatever form it might appear.

MISS STACPOOLE'S PORTRAIT OF LORD IDDESLEIGH.

The ceremony of unveiling the portrait of the Earl of Idedesleigh, painted for the Beaconsfield Club by Miss Lillie Stacpoole, took place at the club buildings, in Pall Mall, London, on September 23rd. Baron HENRY DE WORMS, M.P., presided at a luncheon given by the members. After the toast of "The Queen," and the unveiling of the portrait of Lord Idedesleigh, he said they had met to receive a portrait of one whose name had been intimately connected with politics in this country for over forty years. That portrait which had been unveiled was an admirable likeness of the Earl of Idedesleigh. In responding, Lord IDDESLEIGH said: I must thank you, and the ladies especially, for the kindness which you have shown in coming here to-day for the purpose which has brought us together. The ladies, who now for the first time get a glance at club life, will see that there are attractions and inducements to draw gentlemen to it. (Laughter.) They will observe the excellence and elegance of the arrangements of the club, and that its members do not forget that it is regarded as a duty to patronise the arts of the country. I rejoice to think that my effigies will remain among those who are to form the future generations of this club, and I cannot but take the opportunity of saying that I am very much pleased indeed that my friend Miss Stacpoole has had the opportunity of letting such a company as this see what she can do in the way of art. (Cheers.) I must bear testimony to the energy, zeal, and patience, as well as the genius and ability, with which she has performed her work, and I feel sure I am making a safe prediction when I say that it is but an earnest of the higher work she will do in the future. (Hear, hear.)

THE POSITION OF WOMEN AMONGST THE IROQUOIS.

"The common notion that women among the Indians were treated as inferiors and made beasts of burden is unfounded so far as the Iroquois are concerned, and among all other tribes of which I have any knowledge. With them, as with civilised nations, the work of the community and the cares of the family are divided. Among the Iroquois the hunting and fishing, the house-building and canoe-making, fell to the men. The women cooked, made the dresses, scratched the ground with their hoes, planted and gathered the crops, and took care of the children. On her death, her relatives and not her husband claimed them. The children were also hers; they belonged to her clan, and in case of a separation they went with her. She was really the head of the household, and in this capacity her right, when she chanced to be the oldest matron of a noble family, to select the successor to a deceased chief of that family was recognised by the highest law of the confederacy. . . . "The complete equality of the sexes in social estimation and influence is apparent in all the narratives of the early missionaries, who were the best possible judges on this point. Casual observers have been misled by the absence of those artificial expressions of courtesy which have descended to us from the time of chivalry, and which, however gracious and pleasing to witness, are, after all,

merely signs of condescension and protection from the strong to the weak. The Iroquois does not give up his seat to a woman, or yield her precedence on leaving a room; but he secures her in the possession of her property, he recognises her right to the children she has borne, and he submits to her decision the choice of his future rulers."—"The Iroquois Book of Rites," edited by Horatio Hall (see pages 64 and 66): Bimton's Library of Aboriginal American Literature, Philadelphia, 1885.

MEMORIAL TO MISS J. G. WILKINSON.

Many readers of this Journal who knew Miss Jeannette Gaury Wilkinson may be glad to be associated with the memorial which it is proposed to raise to her memory, and which, like all such memorials, will be valuable according as it records the appreciation of the many rather than the richer gifts of a few. Contributions may be sent to Miss Blackburn, 20, Park-street, Bristol; or to Miss Balgarnie, 29, Parliament-street, S.W., London. Directly it can be approximately estimated what sum is likely to be available, information will be sent to every subscriber of the scheme approved for its expenditure. A small stone to mark the grave in Forest Hill Cemetery and some assistance towards the education of a niece, for whom Miss Wilkinson had intended such assistance had she lived, will be among the objects chosen.

Obituary.

MRS. ERMINIE SMITH.—We have received with regret the intelligence of the death of Mrs. Erminie Smith, of New Jersey, U.S.A., at the age of forty-eight. This lady distinguished herself by her researches in the language and customs of the Iroquois, and held an appointment under the Anthropological Bureau of the United States Government. She was the first woman member and fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences. She had received honorary distinctions from other scientific societies for original investigation, and was engaged at the time of her death in completing a dictionary of the Iroquois language, which settles several vexed questions relating to the origin and use of words. During the meeting of the British Association at Montreal, she read a paper on this subject in the anthropological section, which was received with great interest by the English anthropologists present at the meeting. She had lived among the Indians as one of themselves, and was formally adopted as a daughter by the chief of one of the Iroquois tribes. Her death is a distinct loss to science, as few persons can again have the opportunity of acquiring the same intimate acquaintance with the rapidly vanishing customs of the aboriginal inhabitants of the North American continent.

MR. SAMUEL MORLEY.—The lamented death of Mr. Samuel Morley, which occurred in London on September 4th, has deprived the women's suffrage movement of one of its early supporters. Mr. Morley represented Bristol during the eighteen years which intervened from the first election after the Reform Act of 1867 to the first after the Reform Act of 1884, retiring from public life at the November election of 1885. During that time he steadily supported the cause in the House of Commons, pairing for Mr. Jacob Bright's Bill in 1870, and voting or pairing on nearly every subsequent occasion. His wide sympathies for his fellow men will cause him to be missed amongst institutions and associations for manifold good purposes, and amongst them the Women's Suffrage Society is one. The following resolution was forwarded to Mrs. Morley from the September meeting of the committee of the Bristol and West of England Society for Women's Suffrage: "That this committee, at its first meeting since the lamented death of Mr. Samuel Morley, hereby records its sense of the great loss which the cause of women's suffrage, in common with so many other efforts for social progress, has thus sustained. The committee would tender to Mrs. Morley and her family the expression of its sympathy with them in their bereavement, and would assure them of its grateful recollection of the invaluable aid Mr. Morley rendered the cause by his consistent support, alike as a member of the House of Commons and as a vice-president of the society."

(Continued from page 134.)

pards, pare, pared, paring, parings, pares, parse, parsed, parsing, pas (Nuttall), pea, peas, pean or pæan, peans, pear, pears, ped (Spenser, a basket, Chambers, Nuttall), peds, peg, pegs, pen, pens, pend, pends, peri, peris, pie, pied (Milton, "with daisies pied"), pies, pier (in architecture), piers, pig, pigs, pin, pins, pine, pined, pines, piner, piners, ping (noise of a bullet), pings, pinse or pinch, pined, piners or pincers, pirn (Nuttall), pirns, pise (Nuttall), pised? praise, praised, prase (a green quartz), pries, pried, prig, prigs, pride, prides, prise (a lever, Spenser, enterprise), prised, prisage (an ancient customs duty, Nuttall), *pire?* (same as pyre), *pires, ping?* *pinges*, rad (Spenser, past part. of read and ride), rade (old form of rode, also same as raid), rades or raids, rag, rags, rage, rages, raged, raid, raids, rain, rains, rained, raise, raised, ran, rand (a border or edge, Globe Dictionary, Nuttall), rands, rane (species of deer, Nuttall), ranes, rang, range, ranges, ranged, rap, raps, rape, raped, rapes, raping, rapid, rapids, rapine, rapined ("the rapined vale"), rapines or *rapine's*, rase, rased, rasing, rasp, rasped, rasping, read, reads, reading, readings, *re-aid, re-aids*, reap, reaps, reaping, reapings, red, redds, redan, redans, *re-dig, re-digs, re-dip, re-dips*, regain, regains, reign, reigns, rein, reins, rend, rends, rep, reps, *re-pad, re-pads*, re-paid, repand (Chambers, Nuttall), *re-pang, re-pangs, re-peg, re-pegs, re-pin, re-pins, re-said*, resign, resin, *re-sing, re-sang, re-sip, re-said, resp* (a disease in sheep (Nuttall), *re-spin, rid, rids, ride, rides, ridge, ridges, rie, rye* (Nuttall), rig, rigs, rind, rinds, rine (Spenser, same as rind), rines, ring, rings, ringed, rinse, rinsed, rip, rips, ripe, ripes or ripens, riped, ripen, ripens, rise, risen, ean (Shakspeare), eans, ear, earing (Bible, Nuttall), ears, earn, earns, easing, egad (ex.), *egis* or *ægis*, end, ends, *Æneid*, engird, engirds, engrasp (Spenser), enrap (Shakspeare), enraps, *ens* (Nuttall), era, erasing, ern or erne (the sea eagle), erns, *ers* (bitter vetch, Nuttall), *enpad, enpads, enrig, enrigs, ensap, ades* (Milton, used for hades), *egis, adeps* (Nuttall), age, ages, aged, ager, agers, agen (same as again), *agend* (Nuttall), agnise ("I do agnise a natural and prompt alacrity I find in hardness," Othello, i. 3), agnised, agrise (Spenser, to terrify), agrised, adrip, agrin, *ai* (the three-toed sloth, Nuttall), aid, aids, aider, aiders, aigre (a form of eagle), air, airs, aired, an, and, anes (same as awns, Nuttall), anger, angers, *angred* or *angered* (Nuttall), anise, *ansæ* (Nuttall), *anser* (Nuttall), ape, apes, aped, apeing or aping, apeings, aper, apers, *apis*, apse (Chambers's Dictionary), are, arid, *aries*, arse (Chambers), as, aside, asper (Nuttall), asp, aspen, arise, arisen, *a-spin, aric, a-grip, a-ring?* ("to set the bells a-ring," electric bells), aspire, aspired, *ades* (a kind of temple, Nuttall), dag (Globe Dictionary, Nuttall), dags, dais, dan (a small truck used in coal mines, Nuttall), Dane, Danes, danger, dangers, dap or dape (Nuttall), daps, dar (a fish, Nuttall), dars, dare, dares, daring, *darg* or *dargue* (a day's work), *dari* (a tree, Nuttall), darn, darns, dean, deans, deas (same as dais, Chambers), dear, dears, dearn ("By many a dearn and painful perch," Pericles i. Gower), deign, deigns, den, dens, deraign (to prove, Nuttall), derains, dern (same as dearn), design, despair, diaper, diapers, die, dies, dig, digs, din, dins, dine, dines, diner, diners, ding (Chambers's Dictionary), dings, dinger, dingers, dip, dips, dire, dirge, dirges, drag, drags, disgrade (Nuttall), drain, drains, drape, drapes, draping, drappings, dreg (Shakspeare), dregs, dries, drip, drips, I, idea, ideas, ides, in, indear (same as endear, Chambers), indears, ire, ires, is, *ips* (a genus of insects, Nuttall), nadir, nadirs, nag, nags, nap, naps, uape, napes, nar (Spenser, near, Chambers), nard, nards, near, nears ("How fast she nears and nears," Coleridge), neap, neaps (used as a plural noun), nep (a plant, Nuttall), neps, *nig, nigs, nide?* nip, nips, gad, gads, gain, gains, gained, gainer, gainers, gair (gair fowl), *gan* (Spenser), gander, ganders, gap, gaps, gape, gapes, gaped, gaper, gapers, gar (a fish, Chambers; a dart, Nuttall), gars, gard (same as guard and ward, Nuttall), gards, garden, gardens, gare (Nuttall), gares, *garn* or *garner*, *garns, garned*, gas, gasp, gasped, gasper, gean (the wild cherry), geans, gear, gears, *gens* (Nuttall), *gid* (Nuttall), gin, gins, gier (gier eagle), gip or gyp (also v.a., Nuttall), gips, gird, girds, gier (Nuttall), gires (v.), *gris* (a grey fur), grise ("Which as a grise or step may help their love," Othello, i. 3), gried, girn (Spenser, same as grin, Chambers), girns, girmed, gise (to pasture, Nuttall), gised, gnar (Tennyson, to snarl), gnars, grade, grades, grain, grains, grained, graip (an implement, Nuttall), graips, grand, *grap* or *grab*, *graps*, grape, grapes, grasp, grasped, *grias* (the anchovy pear, Nuttall), grid, grids, gride, grides, *grig, grigs*, grin, grins, grind, grinds, grip, grips, gripe, gripes, griped.

NOTE.—The words in italics are disallowed.

"INDEX EXPURGATORIUS."

Sadr, sai, sair, sari, sdain, sdaign, sdainer, sdein, sen, sepian, serai, serang, serin, si, sida, sig, signa, siper, snape, snaped, snar, snaged, sniped, spad, spadi, spae, spaed, spaeing, spairge, spaired, spane, spina, spireæ, spred, p, pa, pade, padre, padres, panis, pardie, parge, pars, pas, peasing, penis, pensa, pera, peras, perna, pernis, pesa, pi, pinda, pindas, pinea, pinge, pinges, pire, pirena, pre, pisan, prease, presa, r, raide, rais, randies, re, reans, reas, re-asp, re-aid, re-dig, re-dip, re-pad, re-pang, re-peg, re-pin, re-said, re-sing, re-sang, re-sip, re-sand, re-spin, regia, regina, reginas, regis, rei, reis, ren, resp, rindees, e, ead, ed, egis, en, enpad, enpads, enrig, enrigs, ens, ensap, epi, eria, erin, ers, ade, aden, adeps, ades, ai, aidg, ais, agend, agrie, agrip, agris, anes, angred, ansæ, anse, anser, apiges, apis, apsed, apside, apsing, ard, ares, arie, aril, arils, aris, arpine, arpinas, ase, d, danse, darg, dari, de, der, dering, dia, dign, digne, dinar, dis, disa, drie, id, ide, inga, inserp, ip, ips, ira, iras, isp, n, nader, nas, nase, nasi, nid, nidges, nig, niger, nigs, nipa, nis, nisan, g, gan, gari, garn, garned, garns, gen, gena, gend, gens, gid, gier, guared, grap, graps, gres.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes subscriptions and donations for September 1886. Total £26 4 0.

THOMAS DALE, TREASURER, 25, JACKSON'S ROW, MANCHESTER.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM AUGUST 28TH TO SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1886.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes subscriptions and donations for August and September 1886. Total £70 2 6.

LAURA M'LAREN, TREASURER, 29, PARLIAMENT-STREET, S.W.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM JULY 22ND TO SEPTEMBER 23RD, 1886.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes subscriptions and donations for July and September 1886. Total £20 11 0.

ALICE GRENFIELD, TREASURER, 26, COLLEGE ROAD, CLIFTON. Office: 20, Park-street, Bristol.

A WOMAN'S LIABILITY TO MAINTAIN HER HUSBAND.—At the West Riding petty sessions at Sheffield on September 21st, Hannah Hague, aged 65, was summoned by the Wortley Union Board of Guardians to contribute towards the maintenance of William Hague, a pauper, aged 85, in the workhouse. It appeared that she had been separated from him for thirty years, and in 1857 obtained an order protecting her property from her husband's creditors; but it was contended that the 20th section of the Married Women's Property Act placed her in the same position as to liability for her husband's maintenance that a man stands in with regard to his wife. It was proved that she carried on business as a carter, and the relieving officer believed she was worth hundreds of pounds. The bench said that, without deciding the point of law, they were not satisfied of Mrs. Hague's ability to contribute. The application was therefore dismissed.

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