

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The object of the Society is to obtain the Parliamentary Franchise for Women on the same conditions as it is, or may be granted to men.

The Society seeks to achieve this object:—

1. By acting as a centre for the collection and diffusion of information with regard to the progress of the movement in all parts of the country.
2. By holding Public Meetings in support of the repeal of the Electoral Disabilities of women.
3. By the publication of Pamphlets, Leaflets, and other Literature bearing upon the question.

RULES.

PASSED AT THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND SUBSCRIBERS TO ITS FUNDS, HELD JULY 17TH, 1872.

1. The Central Committee shall consist of the present members and such others as the Executive Committee may, from time to time, elect.
2. The Executive Committee shall consist of members of the Central Committee, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and of single delegates, the same being members of Local Committees, appointed by Local Associations to represent them; the Executive Committee having power to add to the Central Committee, and to its own number, and to appoint the Officers.
3. A subscription of any amount constitutes membership of the National Society.
4. A General Meeting of the Central Committee shall be held once a year to appoint the Executive Committee, to receive the Annual Report and the Financial Statement, and to transact any other business which may arise.
5. The Executive Committee shall, at its first meeting, appoint the Officers.
6. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Executive Committee at any time; or, at the written request of not less than twenty-five members of the Central Committee the Secretary or Secretaries shall call a Special General Meeting to discuss such matters only as are mentioned in the notice of such meeting.
7. Eight days' public notice shall be given of all General Meetings.
8. The above rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting, after fourteen days' notice of the proposed alteration given to the Executive Committee.

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1896

 ANNUAL REPORT.

It is with regret that your Committee have to record the failure to secure during the present session any consideration by Parliament of a measure for extending the Parliamentary Franchise to women.

Shortly after the opening of the session a Conference of friendly Members was convened by Mr. George Wyndham in one of the Committee Rooms of the House of Commons.

The following Members of Parliament were present:—Mr. Jebb, Mr. Atherley Jones, Mr. Lewis Fry, Mr. C. B. McLaren, Sir W. Arroll, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Platt-Higgins, Mr. Drucker, Mr. W. Johnston, Mr. J. H. Johnstone, Major Wyndham Quin, Mr. Jacoby, Mr. Alexander Wylie, Mr. Ernest Gray, Mr. Thos. Skewes-Cox, Mr. Yoxhall, Mr. M. Vaughan-Davies, Major Pryce-Jones, Mr. Francis S. Russell, Mr. Guy Pym, and Mr. J. A. Rentoul.

The following ladies were also present by invitation:—Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Russell Cooke, Mrs. Ashworth Hallett, Mrs. Phillp, Miss Blackburn, Miss Cozens, Miss Edith Palliser and Miss Gertrude Stewart.

The announcement was made by Mr. Wyndham that, among the Members who had balloted for the Women's Franchise Bill, the best place had been secured by Mr. Faithfull Begg, M.P. for the St. Rollox Division of Glasgow. He had obtained the twelfth place out of over 400 Members who had balloted that day for numerous Bills; and it was subsequently announced that a first place on Wednesday, May 20th, had been secured.

The following is the text of the Bill, which was introduced by Mr. Faithful Begg and backed by Mr. Wyndham, Mr.

Jebb, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Maclure, Mr. C. B. McLaren, Sir Albert Rollit, Mr. Atherley Jones, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Macdona, and Colonel Cotton Jodrell.

PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE (EXTENSION TO WOMEN) BILL.

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Act, 1896.

2. On and after the *passing of this Act* every woman who is the inhabitant occupier as owner or tenant of any dwelling-house, tenement, or building within the borough or county where such occupation exists, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter in the list of voters for such borough or county in which she is so qualified as aforesaid, and, when registered, to vote for a member or members to serve in Parliament.

Provided always that such woman is not subject to any legal incapacity which would disqualify a male voter.

Hopeful prospects were entertained that the second reading of the Bill would be carried. The joint Committee which had been formed for Parliamentary action and consultation, consisting of members of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, the Central National Society for Women's Suffrage, and the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage, has co-operated with the various Women's Suffrage Societies throughout the country, and all have been active in promoting work in support of the Bill and in doing all in their power to ensure its success. Meetings were held in Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Rochdale, Halifax, Leeds, Birkenhead, Nottingham, Bristol, Leicester, Southport and other towns.

Memorials and Resolutions were forwarded to Members asking them to give their support to Mr. Faithfull Begg's Bill. Mr. Radcliffe Cooke, M.P. for Hereford, who had undertaken to move the rejection of the Bill, received a petition signed by a large number of leading residents in Hereford in favour of the Bill. But as the time drew near for the second reading, the Government announced their intention of taking the three Wednesdays before Whitsuntide for Government

business, thus precluding all chances of the Bill coming forward.

A Memorial signed by a large number of influential and representative women was forwarded to Mr. Balfour, asking that if possible the day might be preserved. In replying to a request that he would receive a deputation of ladies to ask him to reserve the day, Mr. Balfour wrote "Nothing that they could say would increase my strong desire to reserve Wednesday for the Suffrage Bill, and nothing that they can do, could, I fear, render such a consummation possible." Later, in reply to a question put to him in the House, Mr. Balfour said that it was a "matter of lively regret" to him that the Bill could not be brought forward.

Though disappointed by the loss of the day for the second reading of the Bill this Session, your Committee feel that there is much ground for encouragement and hope in the future. The result of the General Election has been to return to the House of Commons over 300 members who are known to be friendly to the movement; while on the other hand the number of known opponents in the House has diminished.

The increased activity of women in practical political work was strikingly manifested during the General Election of last year. Members and candidates of all parties have given cordial testimony to the usefulness and efficiency of the electoral work done by women, and have also given full recognition to the fact that women are immediately concerned in all matters relating to the good government of the country.

The Prime Minister speaking on this point on April 29th, at the meeting of the Grand Habitation of the Primrose League, at Covent Garden, said that the active work of women in politics represented "the discovery of a latent force never before used in support of the institutions of the country." He said that the quiet influences of private life, the influence of mind acting on mind in conversation, had recently become one of the most potent factors in determin-

ing the political history of the country, and that this had made available in political life the influence of those who were most deeply interested in the fundamental institutions of society, *viz.*, the women of England.

He also once more expressed the opinion "that women had not that voice they ought to have in the selection of the representatives of the English people."

There is further cause for congratulation in the presentation this session of the Appeal from women in favour of the Suffrage. This Appeal, of which mention was made in our Annual Report last year, was signed by over a quarter of a million of women of all ranks and classes from nearly every constituency of Great Britain. It contained the signatures of many women of note engaged in social work; of leading women in Education, Literature, Art and Medicine. It was placed in Westminster Hall on Tuesday, May 19th, for inspection by members of the House of Commons.

The general interest created by the presentation of this Appeal will it is hoped tend to dispel the idea that women do not desire the Suffrage.

Invitations to a *Conversazione* were issued by the Executive Committees of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage and the Central National Society for Women's Suffrage, on Monday, May 18th, at the Galleries of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours.

The following ladies formed the reception Committee:—The Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Faithful Begg, Mrs. Russell Cooke, Mrs. Fawcett, Lady Penrose Fitzgerald, Mrs. Haweis, Mrs. Priscilla Bright McLaren, Mrs. Charles McLaren, Mrs. Wynford Philipps, Mrs. Roller, The Countess of Selborne, Mrs. Sterling, Miss Louisa Stevenson and Mrs. Henry Sidgwick. A large number of friends and workers attended. In the course of the evening the Countess of Selborne took the chair, when short speeches were made by Mr. Faithfull Begg, M.P., Mrs. Fawcett and Mrs. Russell Cooke.

Your Committee note with satisfaction the passing into law in the early part of this session, of the Poor Law Guardians (Ireland) Bill which renders women eligible to act as Poor Law Guardians in Ireland. The Bill was introduced by Mr. W. Johnston (Belfast) and passed through both Houses of Parliament, practically without opposition.

In South Australia the first General Election in which women took part as voters was held on April 25th, 1896. The women voted in very large numbers, and the utmost order and good feeling prevailed. *The South Australian Register* of April 27th stated that the gloomy forebodings of those who had opposed Women's Suffrage had proved entirely groundless. The result of the election indicated that the weight of the women's vote had been cast in support of the Government which had enfranchised them. On June 11th, at the opening of the South Australian Parliament, the Governor's speech referred to the successful working of the Women's Suffrage Act (see *Times*, June 12th).

The second General Election since the passing of the Women's Suffrage Act in New Zealand will take place in November next.

Your Committee have to record with sorrow the loss they have sustained by the death of Miss Boucherett (Louisa), who was a valued and life-long supporter of the cause of Women's Suffrage. The death of Lord Knightley of Fawsley has also deprived the cause of an earnest supporter in the House of Lords.

In conclusion, your Committee observe with satisfaction that there never was a time when the various societies for Women's Suffrage were more harmonious. Steps are about to be taken still further to promote united action and co-operation between the Societies; and it is confidently anticipated that this will lead to a wide extension of active and efficient work throughout the autumn and winter, and will produce practical political results of a satisfactory character in the near future.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
10, GREAT COLLEGE STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1ST JULY, 1895, TO JUNE 30TH, 1896.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance brought forward,			By Rent		40 0 0
July 1st, 1895.			Office Expenses		3 18 2
General Fund	23 5 7		Salaries		124 1 6
Election Fund	65 14 6		Meetings & Advertisements		61 16 9
		89 0 1	Stationery, etc.		4 7 7
Subscriptions		216 8 6	Printing & Publications		84 3 3
Donations			Postage and Telegrams		36 5 4
General Fund	67 4 0		Newspapers & Parliamentary Papers		10 15 4
Election Fund	85 8 0		Election Expenses		70 7 4
Sale of Publications		152 12 0			435 15 3
		4 2 9	Balance at Bankers	22 14 1	
			Cash in hand	3 14 0	26 8 1
					462 3 4
		<u>£462 3 4</u>			<u>£462 3 4</u>

Examined, compared with the books and vouchers, and found correct.

M. HARRIS SMITH, Auditor.
(Public Accountant.)

13, Victoria Street,
Westminster, S.W.
June 30th, 1896.

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NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE,

Office—10, GREAT COLLEGE STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

PRESENTED AT THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

HELD IN THE

WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL,

July 15th, 1897.



London:

PRINTED BY VACHER & SONS,

MILLBANK STREET, WESTMINSTER.

1897.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.
CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

To obtain the Parliamentary Franchise for Women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men.

Office:—10, GREAT COLLEGE STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Miss GRAY ALLEN.	LOUISA, LADY GOLDSMID.
Miss GERTRUDE ANDREWS.	Mrs. ASHWORTH HALLETT.
Mrs. ASHFORD.	Mrs. HASLAM.
The Lady FRANCES BALFOUR.	Miss HOLLAND.
Miss HELEN BLACKBURN.	Hon. Mrs. ALFRED LYTTTELTON.
Miss JESSIE BOUCHERETT.	Miss MORDAN.
Colonel COTTON-JODRELL, M.P.	Mrs. J. E. MYLNE.
Miss COURTENAY.	CLARA, LADY RAYLEIGH.
The Rt. Hon. L. COURTNEY, M.P.	T. W. RUSSELL, Esq., M.P.
Miss EMILY DAVIES.	Mrs. STEPHEN SPRING-RICE.
Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT.	Mrs. STERLING.
Miss I. O. FORD.	Miss VERNON.
Mrs. ARTHUR FRANCIS.	GEORGE WYNDHAM, Esq., M.P.

And Delegates of Associated Societies.

President—The Lady FRANCES BALFOUR.

Hon. Treasurer—Mrs. STERLING.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. FAWCETT, and Miss HELEN BLACKBURN.

Sec.—Miss EDITH PALLISER.

Bankers—LONDON & COUNTY BANK—NEW OXFORD STREET BRANCH.

Auditor—Miss M. HARRIS SMITH, Public Accountant.

ASSOCIATED SOCIETIES.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Established 1868.

Hon. Treas.—Rev. S. A. STEINTHAL. President—Hon. Mrs. A. T. LYTTTELTON.

Secretary—Miss E. G. ROPER, B.A.

Office—Queen's Chambers, 5, John Dalton Street, Manchester.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Established 1868.

Hon. Treasurer—Mrs. ASHWORTH HALLETT.

Hon. Secs.—Miss EVA TRIBE and Miss DANGER.

Office—69, Park Street, Bristol.

NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Established 1871.

Hon. Sec.—

DUBLIN SOCIETY.—Established 1874.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Haslam, 91, Rathmines Road, and Miss McDOWELL.

EDINBURGH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.—Established 1867.

President—Mrs. PRISCILLA BRIGHT McLAREN. Hon. Sec.—Miss METHVEN.

LUTON COMMITTEE.—Established 1879. Hon. Sec.—Miss LOUISA BIGG.

LEEDS NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Established 1889.

President—Mrs. EDWARD WALKER. Hon. Treas.—Mrs. RAWLINSON FORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss CLARK, 35, Mount Preston, Leeds.

HALIFAX WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.—Established 1894.

President—Mrs. BROOKE.

Vice-President—Mrs. CROSSLEY. Hon. Sec.—Miss TILLOTSON.

LIVERPOOL WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.—Established 1894.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. BOULNOIS.

BIRKENHEAD WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.—Established 1895.

Hon. Sec.—Miss MELLOR.

CHELTHENHAM WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

Hon. Sec.—Miss J. McLEA.

ANNUAL REPORT.

YOUR Committee have great satisfaction in recording the marked progress made this Session in the Women's Suffrage movement. On February 3rd, the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill passed Second Reading in the House of Commons by a majority of 71, and although the Bill failed to reach Committee stage later in the Session, yet the means adopted by opponents to prevent its being considered by the House, have but served to encourage the friends of the measure in the belief that ultimate success can be obtained only by continual effort in pressing for a direct vote on the subject on its merits in the House of Commons.

The usual steps were taken at the beginning of the Session by the combined Sub-Committee, in conjunction with their Parliamentary leaders, to arrange for the ballot for a day for the Bill. The best place, to the great satisfaction of all concerned, was again secured by Mr. Faithfull Begg, who obtained a first place on February 3rd for the Second Reading.*

* The text of the Bill is as follows:—

PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE (EXTENSION TO WOMEN) BILL.

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

(1) This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Act, 1897.

(2) On and after the passing of this Act every woman who is the inhabitant occupier, as owner or tenant, of any dwelling-house, tenement or building within the borough or county where such occupation exists, shall be entitled to

As full particulars of the debate and division list were given in the Occasional Paper published by the Committee, it is unnecessary here to enter into further details than to record that the Opposition was led by Mr. Radcliffe Cooke and Mr. Labouchere; the Bill was seconded by Mr. Atherley Jones, followed by Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. George Wyndham, Professor Jebb and Mr. Leonard Courtney. The division list showed that those who voted in favour formed a majority of each party in the House.

The Bill was passed into Committee on February 7th, and set down for progress on June 23rd. That date was, however, absorbed by the Jubilee celebrations and the Bill was transferred to July 7th, when it was placed first on the orders of the day, hopes being entertained of its further progress. After Whitsuntide, however, Private Members Bills by the rules of the House proceed in the order of the advance they have made. Government had announced its intention to take Wednesdays after July 7th, therefore it was open to the Opposition to so prolong the Bills set down for Committee on June 30th, as would necessitate their being carried on to the following Wednesday, thus taking precedence of the Women's Franchise Bill. By the tactics of the Opposition, when July 7th came, the Bill stood fourth instead of first on the orders of the day. The first of these applied to a very minute fraction of the community, the second applied only to one particular trade (the Plumbers' Registration Bill). Neither of these Bills would have called forth any great amount of discussion were it not for the transparent device of preventing the discussion

be registered as a voter in the list of voters for such borough or county in which she is so qualified as aforesaid, and, when registered, to vote for a member or members to serve in Parliament.

Provided always that such woman is not subject to any legal incapacity which would disqualify a male voter.

The Bill was backed by Mr. Faithfull Begg, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Jebb, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. MacLaren, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Maclure, Mr. Griffith Boscawen, Mr. William Johnston, Mr. Atherley Jones and Mr. Justin McCarthy.

of the Women's Franchise Bill. As it was, however, the debate upon the two Bills was so prolonged as to occupy the whole day, and all hope of further progress therefore was frustrated for this session.

On March 8th, a Bill was introduced for the enfranchisement of women by Lord Templeton in the House of Lords, contrary to the expressed wishes of the Women's Suffrage Societies. The rejection of the measure must not, however, be taken as in any way representing the opinions of the Lords. Any expression of their opinions must await the arrival of the Bill from the Commons in the ordinary course.

Preparations for the work of the Session of 1897 was opened by a Conference of the Women's Suffrage Societies, held at Birmingham on October 16th, 1896, which was attended by representatives from the following Societies:—The Central National Society, the Central Committee, the Manchester National Society, the Bristol, Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, Luton, Nottingham, Leicester, Mansfield, Southport, Birkenhead, and Cambridge Women's Suffrage Societies, the Franchise League, the Edinburgh National Society, the Dublin and Belfast and North of Ireland Societies, and the Parliamentary Committee for Women's Suffrage.

The result of this Conference was that the principal Societies agreed to concentrate their work in a particular geographical area. The object was to prevent overlapping, and to lead to greater co-operation between the several Societies.

The combined Sub-Committee, formed in the preceding session for the purpose of carrying on the Parliamentary work of the movement, has been strengthened by the adhesion of the Edinburgh and West of England Societies, and now consists of the following:—

Central Committee National Society for Women's Suffrage—

The Lady Frances Balfour,

Miss Helen Blackburn,

Mrs. Fawcett.

Central National Society for Women's Suffrage—

Mrs. Russell Cooke,
Mrs. Broadley Reid,
Mrs. Wynford Philipps.

Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage—

Hon. Mrs. Arthur Lyttelton,
Miss Roper,
Mrs. Thomas Taylor.

Edinburgh National Society for Women's Suffrage—

Mrs. Priscilla Bright McLaren,
Miss Louisa Stevenson,
Miss Wigham.

*Bristol and West of England Branch of the National Society
for Women's Suffrage—*

Mrs. Ashworth Hallett,
Mrs. Beddoe.

Marie Louise Baxter,
Edith Palliser,
Esther Roper,
Secretaries.

Further steps are in contemplation, which will be laid before the Annual Meeting, for drawing the relations of the Societies into yet closer union.

A scheme for forming local Women's Suffrage Associations, forming part of your Society, in each constituency in the area allotted to it was started, with the approval of your Committee, by some Members of your Society. The work was begun in June in South Kensington, and the last report from the local Hon. Secretary in that constituency shows that 203 persons have already joined the Association. Work has been begun in St. George's, Hanover Square, where Petitions were collected and sent up with letters from the inhabitants to the Member.

The friends of the movement in every part of the United Kingdom were inspired by the Second Reading with renewed energy, much of which took the direction of Petitions in favour of the Bill.

The number of Petitions received by Members for presentation, according to the last Report of Public Petitions, up to July 12th, amount to 1,225, the total number of signatures being 42,442.

A number of Meetings have been addressed by Members of the Committee, and on May 26th a large Meeting was held at the Queen's Hall under the auspices of the combined Subcommittee. Mr. Leonard Courtney presided, and The Hon. W. P. Reeves, The Lady Henry Somerset, Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Russell Cooke and Mr. Faithfull Begg addressed the Meeting. Delegates were present from the various Women's Suffrage Societies. The following Resolutions were passed:—

RESOLUTION I.

“That this meeting rejoices that the House of Commons has so reflected the growth of public opinion in favour of the claims of women to Parliamentary representation as to have passed the Second Reading of the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill, on February 3rd, by a large majority, and thanks Mr. Faithfull Begg, and all who worked with him, for the skill and energy which they showed in the conduct of the measure.”

RESOLUTION II.

“That this meeting feels it would be particularly appropriate if the Bill for the enfranchisement of women could be entered on the Statute Book in this year, when Her Majesty's subjects are celebrating a woman's reign, the longest and most glorious in the history of our country; the meeting, therefore, prays the House of Commons not to adjourn over the 23rd of June, the

day on which the Bill is the first order on going into Committee, and to give, later in the session, opportunities for its further stages."

A Parliamentary Return was issued at the beginning of the present month, giving the number of electors on Local Government Registers in the Counties and Boroughs of England and Wales, distinguishing men and women electors. This return publishes statistics which will be of value as showing with precision the number of women who would be entitled to be registered for Parliamentary elections by any occupation franchise. A table showing the percentage of women in each county will be found in the Appendix (A) of this Report.

Your Committee have met with a severe loss in the death of one of the early band of workers, Miss Isabella Tod, of Belfast, which took place on December 8th. An eloquent and convincing speaker, as well as a most energetic and careful worker, her loss is one which is deeply felt by the friends of women's suffrage in every part of Great Britain.

Our Society has lost an early and most valued supporter in Mr. Frederick Hill, who was formerly an active Member of the Executive Committee.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS from July 1st, 1896, to June 30th, 1897.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward, July 1st, 1896...	26 8 1	By Rent ...	56 13 4
" Subscriptions ...	205 19 0	" Office Cleaning, Fuel, Lighting and Removing ...	14 5 8
" Donations ...	172 14 6	" Furniture and Fittings ...	3 11 3
" Sale of Publications and Tickets	7 16 4	Salaries, &c. ...	17 16 11
" C. N. S. for W. S. Share of Expenses of Meeting at Queen's Hall ...	24 18 9	" Meetings and Advertisements ...	147 11 6
" Edinburgh W. S. Society ditto ...	16 9 2	" Stationery, &c. ...	46 11 5
ditto ...	41 7 11	" Printing and Publications ...	14 15 3
		" Postage and Telegrams ...	43 8 7
		" Newspapers and Parliamentary Papers ...	58 10 4
		" Bank Charges ...	11 11 0
			1 9 6
			*398 7 10
		Balance at Bankers ...	49 19 4
		" Cash in Hand ...	5 18 8
			55 18 0
			£454 5 10

Examined, compared with the books and vouchers, and found correct.

M. HARRIS SMITH, Auditor.
(Public Accountant.)

13, Victoria Street, Westminster,
London, 12th July, 1897.

* Accounts unpaid and due at this date, £95 8s. 5d.

SPECIAL FUND FOR FORMING WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS, 30th JUNE, 1897.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Donations ...	33 16 6	By Organising Expenses ...	9 9 6
		" Cash at Bankers ...	24 7 0
			£33 16 6

Examined, compared with the books and vouchers, and found correct.

M. HARRIS SMITH, Auditor.
(Public Accountant.)

13, Victoria Street, Westminster,
London, 12th July, 1897.

National Society for Women's Suffrage.

(CENTRAL COMMITTEE.)

*The Annual General Meeting was held at Westminster Town
Hall, on July 15th,*

THE LADY FRANCES BALFOUR IN THE CHAIR.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by calling upon Mrs. Fawcett to read letters of apology for non-attendance. Mrs. Fawcett said that one of the most interesting was from Mr. Kingston, Prime Minister of South Australia. It was as follows:—

“Your Society has my heartiest sympathy, and I reflect with pardonable pride on the fact that the present South Australian Government has been instrumental, through the goodwill of Parliament, in securing the franchise to all adults in South Australia. Our women, too, appreciate the privilege, and exercise it diligently and well.”

The Hon. Mr. Seddon, Prime Minister of New Zealand, had also repeatedly expressed himself in favour of Women's Suffrage. Mr. Woodall, M.P., the former leader of the cause in the House of Commons, wrote as follows:—

“I hope that your meeting will be, as you say, ‘inspiring.’ The conduct of the campaign, which will some day end in the removal of the greatest of the political disabilities under which women continue to suffer, will make further demands upon the patience, sagacity and discretion that have so remarkably contributed to the growth of public and Parliamentary

opinion, upon which we have to congratulate ourselves. The acknowledgment in the *abstract* of the justice of the claim by a majority of this House is an important and helpful fact, but it is by no means the end of the conflict.”

Mr. Faithfull Begg, M.P., who had been announced to take the chair, wrote that he was prevented by important business, and added—“the sooner it is understood that the campaign for *next* Session must be begun the better.”

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

Lady Frances Balfour said:—We are met here once more in undaunted, if somewhat thin array. The facts of this year are known to all of us. We had a great success early in the year, and a majority for the Second Reading of our Bill so great that it startled even the House of Commons itself. This Parliament has, by that vote, affirmed the principle of Women's Suffrage. There are many who think we ought to be severely discouraged by the event of the last few days. But I never felt in better heart. I believe the policy of the House of Commons towards the Bill was not so injurious to the measure as to the House itself, because of the methods it pursued towards a Bill, the principle of which they had affirmed earlier in the year. I heard from a very strong opponent of our Bill that he had been so disgusted by what happened in those few hours of Wednesday that he had resolved to vote for the measure next time it came up. And it will come up. Our best advisers tell us that we have only to bring in a Bill steadily, and pass it by such majorities as we did this year, and no Government can disregard it. It takes time, like all other things; and we have a very divided Cabinet on the question, whatever Government is in. Two members of the present Opposition are opposed to the measure to an extent which in a woman would be called hysterical.

But I have no objection to divergencies of opinion in the Cabinet; we have only to be of good heart, and work earnestly, and with a strong resolution not to leave off till we get the measure through. The power of women in politics is increasing daily. To some who watch the signs of the times it appears that the present Government has need of all its friends. But we are here purely as Suffragists, and are all united on the point that the men we desire to work for are those who will grant this right of the vote to the women of their constituencies. I move the following Resolution for the adoption of the Report, and the election of the Executive Committee:—

“That this Meeting adopts the Report and Financial Statement, and directs that they be printed and circulated.”

“That the Executive Committee for the ensuing year consist of the following persons, with power to add to their number, and of delegates of Associated Societies:—

“Miss Gray Allen; Miss Gertrude Andrews; Mrs. Ashford; The Lady Frances Balfour; Miss Helen Blackburn; Miss Jessie Boucherett; Colonel Cotton-Jodrell, M.P.; Miss Courtenay; The Right Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P.; Miss Emily Davies; Mrs. Henry Fawcett; Miss I. O. Ford; Mrs. Arthur Francis; Louisa, Lady Goldsmid; Mrs. Ashworth Hallett; Mrs. Haslam; Miss Mabel Holland; Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton; Mrs. J. E. Mylne; Miss Mordan; Clara, Lady Rayleigh; T. W. Russell, Esq., M.P.; Mrs. Stephen Spring-Rice; Mrs. Sterling; and Miss Vernon.”

COLONEL COTTON-JODRELL.

I have been asked, said Colonel Cotton-Jodrell, to second the adoption of the Report and the re-election of the Committee. I only came here, however, to try and show my continued sympathy at a time when it behoves every earnest Member of

the House of Commons to support women in their efforts to get the suffrage. It would be beside the mark now to advocate the claims of the suffrage. But it might not be out of place if I gave you from a Member of the House of Commons point of view what I consider ought to be the practical policy of those who support Women's Suffrage. I quite agree with what the Chairman has said that strong resolution is necessary at the present time. I know as a matter of certainty that this measure has a great many very weak friends in the House; and we ought to ascertain who are our real friends, and who those are who will give their support year by year to the Second Reading of the Bill, but who would be precious sorry if it went any further. The machinery of the House lends itself to the advance of these people's views. There were two Bills which were placed perfectly fairly, in accordance with the rules of the House, to occupy a premier place before the Women's Suffrage Bill on Wednesday, July 7th, but they were discussed at such a length that there was no chance of our Bill coming forward. It was not, however, done all last Wednesday, but the Wednesday before. I kept my ears open, and I found out that a definite effort would be made to prolong the discussion on the two first Bills to such a length as would keep off Women's Suffrage. I know that several Members who supported the Second Reading were very glad that these other Bills should be discussed long enough to prevent the Suffrage Bill going beyond the Second Reading. You must be prepared to meet this kind of opposition, and hope for a better chance in future for the Bill. I have been asked whether I am in favour of a Bill being introduced into the House of Lords. On the whole I am against this course. I think we have a better chance of showing in the House of Commons that strong resolution of which Lady Frances spoke, and that we shall better bring public opinion to bear if we keep hammering on in that House. I think that is a sound course to pursue. A Bill that is brought

forward year after year in the House of Commons and obtains some place in the year's proceedings of the House, is kept before the notice of the public, and that is a great thing to secure. Attention has been drawn to the fact on several occasions that neither the Government nor the Opposition can be counted upon as entire supporters of the Bill, and I am afraid we must expect a good deal of discouragement until some Government takes the measure up. We all know the difficulty of getting even a non-contentious Private Member's Bill through the House; and you have much greater difficulty with a Bill like this about which there is considerable difference of opinion. Besides, it is an open constitutional question whether, whenever any large extension of the franchise is made, it is considered that the House of Commons does not any longer represent the people, and that it cannot do so until a General Election takes place. Now no Government on coming into power is likely to wish to precipitate a General Election, at least for the first few years of its existence. It seems to me the best way of emphasizing our wish to bring the unfair position of women before the mind of the public is to keep on hammering in the popular Chamber. The Bill is more *en evidence*, and has more chance in the Lower than in the Upper House.

You will excuse me if I say something now you may not quite like. I say it from purely a man's standpoint. I would not presume to understand the other sex, but I may claim to have had some experience of men's nature. Do not let us have any more Petitions framed in the language of the one which Mr. Courtney presented the other day. The effect of that Petition was bad. You can never do anything in the House of Commons by showing temper. You must restrain yourselves as regards these Petitions. The more serious you are, the more quiet is your strength, the greater the attention that will be paid you by the House. We have a great future before us. The movement is being started in various parts

of the country with much more vigour than a few years ago. Eight or nine years ago my wife and I had great difficulty in getting women to be active in the matter in my constituency. But the number of Petitions I now receive for presentation is very considerable. There is a strong section of our Society established in Birkenhead, which is doing a great deal to get Petitions signed, and to stir up a practical interest in this movement. I am very hopeful, and the more support we can get in the country districts, the more likely are we to bring the pressure of our opinions to bear on the House of Commons, and upon the public generally.

The Chairman :—No one connected with this Society had anything to do with that Petition. The first I knew of it was seeing it in the newspapers.

The Resolution was carried unanimously.

The next Resolution, which was in the following terms, was moved by Miss Mordan :—

“That this Meeting expresses its gratitude to Mr. Faithfull Begg and to the Members who backed his Bill and supported him in the House of Commons. The fact that the House of Commons passed the Second Reading of the Women's Suffrage Bill on February 3rd, by a large majority, and at a later period used all means in its power to avoid making further progress with it, has if possible strengthened the conviction of this Society, that representation is the only means through which any section of the community can secure just attention to its wants and wishes from the House of Commons.”

Miss Mordan said that of course we were very grateful to the Members of Parliament who helped us, and the reverse to those who did not. Her own friends Miss Mordan divided into sheep *v.* goats, according as they helped or not in Women's Suffrage. We did not need any more instruction on the subject, for we were always receiving it, but we wanted more heat ourselves, and more light in the public.

Dr. Beddoe supported. He wished to say a few words on tactics. He would ask what kind of countries those were which had adopted the principle of Women's Suffrage? They were democracies, but educated democracies; the population of New Zealand was of middle-class descent, and anything but a mobocracy. South Australia was a Conservative democracy. Now these countries had deliberately adopted and meant to stick to Women's Suffrage. The upper portion of the working classes, male and female, would, no doubt, be right on the question, but the speaker did not expect much from the upper classes. The married society woman had everything in this life she could desire, and she did not take the matter of the suffrage seriously, and she was the kind of woman with whom Members of Parliament consorted. Thus they did not hear the opinions of the vast body of women to whom it was a matter of livelihood. We who were pushing forward this question did certainly need a little more heat.

Miss Curry supported the Resolution as a worker at an extreme distance from London, and was very glad to have an opportunity of expressing the gratitude they felt to Members of Parliament who supported Women's Suffrage. She often felt—as only very thin-skinned people could feel—how trying it must be to bear the criticism directed against them in the House of Commons. Miss Curry found that many who had previously refused to sign Petitions were now doing so readily.

The Resolution was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fawcett moved the following Resolution:—

“That this Meeting approves of the proposed National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and empowers its Executive Committee to take steps, including, if necessary, a modification in the name of its own Society, for giving effect to it.”

In speaking to the Resolution, Mrs. Fawcett said:—I am not in the least depressed by what has taken place. We

have had a serious rebuff, but “the blood of the Martyrs is the seed of the Church.” Our policy must be renewed effort to push this question to a direct vote of the House at every available opportunity. Outside Parliament our policy must be closer union and co-operation between the various societies. Last autumn there was a Conference at Birmingham at which all Societies were represented. We decided then on what we may call a geographical distribution of the work till the whole of England should be covered. We then formed a combined sub-committee of Women's Suffrage Societies, and we now want to put that organisation on a more permanent footing. We propose to modify our name, and call ourselves the Central and Eastern Society for Women's Suffrage, because we work especially in that part of England. The Victoria Street Society proposes to call itself the Central and Western Society, because they take a part of the West of England, Birmingham will be the Midland, and Manchester the Northern Societies. I feel very strongly that we should show union among ourselves for the object we all have in view.

Miss White (Ireland) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Meeting closed with the usual compliment to the Chair.

APPENDIX A.

The following Table, compiled from the Return of Local Government Registered Electors in England and Wales, gives the total of women for each county and county borough— together with the percentage of women to men:—

COUNTY. Municipal Boroughs which are also County Boroughs are included in these totals.	Total of Women on Register.	Percentage of Women.
Bedfordshire	4,663	14·4
Berkshire	4,297	13'
Buckinghamshire	4,306	13·3
Cambridge	4,862	12·8
Cheshire	14,848	14·6
Cornwall	9,093	15·3
Cumberland	8,251	16'
Derby	8,359	9·9
Devon	12,172	14'
Dorset	4,596	12'
Durham	11,286	8·1
Essex	11,480	10·3
Gloucestershire	9,506	12'
Herefordshire	3,053	12·8
Hertfordshire	6,140	13'
Huntingdon	1,506	13·2
Kent	17,503	13·7
Lancashire	42,512	13·4
Leicestershire	4,813	11·7
Lincolnshire	9,114	10·9
London	85,075	14·7
Middlesex	12,446	12·9
Monmouth	3,806	9'
Norfolk	6,456	10'
Northamptonshire	5,462	10·6
Northumberland	7,486	11·6
Nottinghamshire	4,901	10'
Oxfordshire	3,234	11·6

COUNTY. Municipal Boroughs which are also County Boroughs are included in these totals.	Total of Women on Register.	Percentage of Women.
Rutland	596	13·4
Shropshire	7,188	14·8
Somerset	10,290	13'
Southampton, County	8,009	12·8
Isle of Wight	2,284	14·8
Staffordshire	16,620	10·6
Suffolk	6,797	11'
Surrey	10,305	13·7
Sussex	9,081	13'
Warwick	8,368	13·4
Westmoreland	2,199	16'
Wiltshire	5,790	12·3
Worcestershire	7,851	13'
Yorkshire, E. Riding	3,727	13·5
" N. Riding	7,641	14'
" W. Riding	36,164	13'
WALES (Counties).		
Anglesey	1,837	16'
Brecon	1,822	17'
Cardigan	4,083	26'
Carmarthen	26,627	63'
Carnarvon	3,957	15·9
Denbigh	2,945	12'
Flint	2,345	15'
Glamorgan	9,084	10'
Merioneth	1,605	15'
Montgomery	1,744	14·5
Pembroke	1,901	10·3
Radnor	513	11'
Total Counties and Boroughs in Counties.	525,467	13·4

County Boroughs.	Number of Women on Register.	Percentage of Women.
Barrow-in-Furness	546	7.3
Bath	1,980	24.
Birkenhead	2,593	15.
Birmingham	12,818	13.4
Blackburn	3,532	15.3
Bolton	3,588	16.
Bootle	772	10.
Bradford	7,504	12.9
Brighton	3,597	20.9
Bristol	4,696	13.6
Burnley	2,337	14.
Bury	1,879	18.
Canterbury	719	18.7
Cardiff	1,753	8.7
Chester	1,305	9.
Coventry	1,541	14.
Croydon	2,798	15.4
Derby	2,348	12.3
Devonport	631	11.
Dudley	778	11.8
Exeter	1,401	19.0
Gateshead	2,158	12.8
Gloucester	925	12.2
Great Yarmouth	1,823	19.
Grimsby	1,224	11.2
Halifax	3,685	19.
Hanley	1,318	13.3
Hastings	1,774	24.
Huddersfield	3,368	18.
Ipswich	1,770	15.5
Kingston-upon-Hull	5,985	14.
Leeds	10,302	14.
Leicester	4,786	13.4
Lincoln	946	11.
Liverpool	15,120	15.
Manchester	13,285	15.
Middlesborough	1,351	10.3
Newcastle-on-Tyne	5,635	15.7
Newport (Mon.)	873	10.4
Northampton	1,624	12.2
Norwich	3,176	15.

County Boroughs.	Number of Women on Register.	Percentage of Women.
Nottingham	6,558	15.
Oldham	4,199	16.7
Oxford	1,679	18.
Plymouth	2,293	16.5
Portsmouth	3,818	13.4
Preston	3,494	17.7
Reading	1,446	12.7
Rochdale	3,112	20.2
St. Helens	1,064	9.1
Salford	4,938	14.5
Sheffield	7,837	12.9
Southampton	1,208	12.7
South Shields	1,984	11.4
Stockport	2,635	18.0
Sunderland	3,230	13.1
Swansea	2,288	14.5
Walsall	1,400	16.4
West Bromwich	1,148	10.8
West Ham	2,826	8.4
Wigan	1,206	13.6
Wolverhampton	1,920	13.1
Worcester	1,583	17.4
York	2,181	20.
Total County Boroughs	204,291	14.5
Grand Total	729,758	13.7

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Adair, Mrs. H.				5 0
Allen, Miss Gray			1 0	0 0
Anderson, Miss A. M.				5 0
Anderson, Miss S.				2 6
Anonymous				10 0
Atkinson, Mrs. Bevington				5 0
Austen, Mrs. Roberts	2	2 0		
Aves, Miss				5 0
Aylmer, Miss (2 years)			2	1 0
Babb, Miss	5	0		
Bailey, Miss				5 0
Bailey, Mr. Herbert				5 0
Balfour, The Lady Frances				2 2 0
Bannerman, Colonel				2 2 0
Bateson, Miss Mary				1 0 0
Baker, Miss				5 0
Baxter, Mrs. Fleming				1 0 0
Baxter, Miss				5 0
Beale, Miss E. A.				1 1 0
Begg, Mr. Faithfull, M.P.	1	1 0		
Behrens, Mrs.				2 6
Bertram, Mrs.				5 0
Biggs, Miss Ashurst				1 0 0
Biggs, Miss Maude				2 0 0
Birkenhead Women's Suffrage Society				5 0
Birt, Miss				2 6
Birt, Miss E.				2 6
Boddy, Miss M. D.	3	5 0		5 0
Bostock, Miss (2 years)				1 1 0
Boucherett, Miss	15	0 0		
Bridges, Mrs.				1 0 0
Bright, Mrs. A. H.		10 0		5 0
Burne, Miss				5 0
Byres, Mrs.		10 0		
Carter, Miss				1 6
Charlesworth, Mrs.				5 0
Chickall, Miss				2 6
Cheltenham Women's Suffrage Society				5 0
"Clonroche"		10 0		
Colborne, Hon. Mrs.				10 0
Cooke, Miss	2	2 0		
Cotton, Mrs.				1 1 0
Courtney, The Right Hon. L., M.P.				1 0 0
Cowell, Mrs.				1 0 0
Carried forward	25	5 0	23	17 0

	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought forward	25	5 0	23	17 0
Crawford, Mrs.				2 2 0
Crawford, Miss				5 0
Creewell, Miss				2 6
Crook, Mrs.				1 1 0
Curry, Miss				5 0
Curtois, Miss M.		5 0		
Dalby, Miss				5 0
Darwin, Mrs. Francis				1 0 0
Davenport Hill, Miss F. M.				1 1 0
Davenport, Hill, Miss R.				1 1 0
Davies, Miss Emily				1 1 0
Davis, Mrs. Israel				10 6
Davis, Mrs.				2 6
Debenham, Mrs.				10 0
De Vesian, Mrs. Ellis				1 1 0
Dimock, Miss				1 1 0
Dimsdale, Baron				3 3 0
Donkin, Miss				5 0
Dougall, Miss L. (3 years)				7 6
Dublin Women's Suffrage Society				1 0 0
Du Port, Miss				5 0
Eaton, Mrs. Lauder				5 0
Eccles, Miss				5 0 0
Edinburgh Women's Suffrage Society				1 0 0
Ellis, Miss				2 6
Ellis, Miss R.				2 6
Ellis, Miss D.				2 6
Ely, Miss				10 0
Eyre, Miss				3 0
Fairthorne, Mr. B. W.				3 0
Fawcett, Mrs.				5 0 0
Fawcett, Miss				10 0
Finch, Mrs.		10 0		
FitzGerald, The Misses				5 0
Flower, Lady		10 0		2 6
Ford, Miss I. O.		5 0 0		5 0 0
Ford, Miss E. H.				3 0 0
Ford, Mr. Rawlinson				1 1 0
Ford, Mrs. Rawlinson				5 0
"Found"		6		
Franks, Miss				5 0
Freeman, Miss				2 6
"Friend," A		15 0 0		
Frith, Miss				2 6
Garrett, Mrs. Newson		11 1 0		
Gavin, Miss Ethel				5 0
Gilliat, Mrs.				1 1 0
Godson, Mr. E. Probyn		5 0 0		
Carried forward	82	11 6	64	14 0

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.			SUBSCRIPTIONS.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Goff, Miss A.		82	11	6	64	14	0
Goldsmid, Louisa Lady					5	0	
Gordon, Miss					2	2	0
Gow, Miss					10	0	
Graves, Mrs.					2	6	
Green, Miss H. E.					2	6	
Grey, Mrs. Wm.					10	6	
Griffiths, Dowager Lady Waldie					1	1	0
Grove, Miss Eleanor		1	5	0	2	0	0
Gurney, Miss A.					10	0	
Gurney, Miss Mary					1	0	0
Hallett, Mrs Ashworth					5	5	0
Hamilton, Miss (Ayr)					5	0	
Hamilton, Miss C.					2	0	0
Hamley, Miss B.					2	6	
Harberton, Viscountess		10	0	0	1	0	0
Harding, Miss					2	6	
Harvey, Miss					2	6	
Hawkins, Mrs.					2	6	
Haynes, The Rev. R. J.		2	2	0			
Herringham, Mrs. Wilmot					1	1	0
Higgins, Mrs. Napier					2	0	0
Hill, Mr. Frederick (the late)					1	1	0
Hill, Miss Emily					2	6	
Hill, Miss Georgina					2	6	
Hitchcock, Miss					5	0	
Hodgson, Mrs.		10	0	0	3	3	0
Holland, Miss Mabel		10	0	0	2	2	0
Howse, Mrs.					5	0	
Hubbard, Mrs.					5	0	
Hughes, Miss					2	0	
Hunter, Miss					5	0	
Irby, Miss					5	0	
Jeffock, Mrs. (2 years)					10	0	
Johnson, Miss Lucy		6	1	0	1	1	0
Johnson, Miss Agnes					1	0	0
Jones, Miss Mabel M. B.					10	6	
Joy, Mrs. Algernon					1	1	0
Kensington, Miss					5	0	
Lacey, Mrs. Bolton					10	6	
L. A. J.		10	0	0	1	0	0
Lance, Miss					2	6	
La Touche, Miss A.					2	6	
Lawrence, Miss P.					1	1	0
Lawrence, Miss D.					1	1	0
Lawrence, Miss M.					1	1	0
Leeds Women's Suffrage Society					10	0	
Carried forward		131	19	6	101	14	6

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.			SUBSCRIPTIONS.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ledsame, Miss Marie		131	19	6	101	14	6
Lefroy, Mrs.					1	0	0
Lewin, Miss							
Lister, Miss Emma					4	0	
Liverpool Women's Suffrage Society					5	0	
Longbourne, Miss					5	0	
Lowe, Miss E. J.					10	6	
Lupton, Miss E.					2	6	
Lyttelton, The Lady					1	1	0
Lyttelton, Hon. Mrs. Alfred		1	1	0			
Lyttelton, Hon. and Rev. Ed.					1	1	0
Lyttelton, Hon. Mrs. Ed.					1	1	0
Manning, Miss E. A.					1	1	0
Makovski, Mr Stanislaus (2 years)					2	2	0
Makovski, Mrs. (2 years)					2	2	0
Marshall, Mrs. John					2	2	0
Marshall, Mrs. Stephen (2 years)					3	0	0
Martineau, The Rev. Dr.					1	1	0
Martineau, Miss					10	0	
Meinertzhagen, Miss					5	0	
Mitchell, Mrs.					1	0	0
Mitchell, Mrs. (Monmouth)					1	0	0
Mitchell, Miss Alice					3	0	
Moncrieff, Lady Scott		1	0	0			
Montague, Lady, of Beaulieu		1	0	0			
Mordan, Miss		5	0	0	5	0	0
Mordan, Mr. Augustus					1	0	0
Morison, Miss		1	5	0			
Mosley, Miss M.					2	6	
Muller, Mrs.		5	5	0			
Mylne, Mrs.		15	0	0	1	0	0
Oakley, Mrs. E. (2 years)					15	0	
Oakley, Mrs. (Willesden)					2	6	
Page, Miss					10	0	
Paine, Mrs. Lewis					5	0	
Paley, Hon. Mrs.					2	0	0
Palliser, Miss Edith					1	0	0
Palliser, Mrs.					5	0	
Park, Miss Austin					5	0	
Phillips, Mrs.					2	6	
Pierpoint, Miss					2	6	
Poole, Mrs.					2	6	
Pollock, Mrs.					10	6	
Porter, Miss					5	0	
Pym, Mrs. Guy (2 years)					2	2	0
Rayleigh, Clara Lady		3	0	0	2	0	0
Richardson, Miss					1	0	0
Ridley, Miss A.					2	6	
Carried forward		165	10	6	140	8	0

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Ritter, Miss J.		165	10 6	140	8 0
Robertson, Miss				10	6
Robertson, Miss (Ipswich)				1	0 0
Robinson, Mrs. Newton				2	6
Rogers, Mrs.				10	6
Rolleston, Miss (2 years)				5	0
Roller, Mrs. (the late)				2	0
Rothwell, Mrs.				1	1 0
Ruth, Miss				2	6
				1	0 0
Sanderson, Mr. and Mrs.				1	1 0
Saxton, Miss				1	0 0
Scott, Mrs.				10	6
Scholefield, Mrs.				10	0
Seakins, Mrs. (2 years)				10	0
Selborne, The Countess of				1	1 0
Seymour, Mrs. Culme	1	1 0	1	1 0	
Seymour, Mrs.				10	0
Shadwell, Miss B.				10	0
Shaen, Mrs.				1	1 0
Shaen, Miss				1	1 0
Shedden, Mrs. E.				2	6
Shove, Miss E.				5	0
Sidgwick, Mrs.				2	2 0
Sidney, Miss A.				1	1 0
Simpson, Mrs.				10	0
Skinner, Miss				2	6
Smith, Mrs. St. Osythe				1	1 0
Smith, Mrs. F. P.				5	0
Smith, Miss M. Harris	1	1 0	10	6	
Snoad, Mrs. Warner				10	0
Spring Rice, Mrs. Stephen				1	1 0
Stanley, Mrs. H. M.				5	0
Sterling, Mrs.				2	0 0
Sterling, Miss Frances				2	0 0
Stevenson, Miss Ethel				1	1 0
Strange, Miss L.				1	1 0
Streatfield, Mrs.				2	2 0
Stone, Miss				1	0 0
Suft, Miss	10	0			
Sunter, Miss				2	6
Swanwick, Miss Anna				1	1 0
Symonds, Miss	10	0			
Tabor, Miss M. C.				5	0
Tacey, Miss (2 years)				4	0 0
Tacey, Miss Alice (2 years)				4	0 0
Tacey, Miss Annie (2 years)				4	0 0
Tapson, Mrs.				2	2 0
Tatlock, Miss				10	0
Taylor, Mrs. Thomas				2	0 0
Temple, Sir Richard, Bart.				10	0
Carried forward	168	12 6	189	7 6	

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Thomas, Mrs. Charles		168	12 6	189	7 6
Thorne, Mrs.				1	1 0
Tubbs, Mrs.				5	0
Tuckey, Miss Janet				1	1 0
Twining, Miss Louisa		2	0 0	5	0
Vickery, Dr. Alice				5	0
Vernon, Miss				10	6
Wagstaff, Miss				2	6
Walker, Miss Abney				10	0
Walker, Mrs. Ingram				10	6
Walker, Miss J. H., M.D.				1	1 0
Walsh, Miss				2	6
Wardale, The Rev. J.				2	0 0
Wedgewood, Miss Julia				10	0
Welsh, Miss				1	0 0
Wetton, Miss				2	6
Wild, Mrs.				10	0
Wilkinson, Miss F.				1	1 0
Wilkinson, Miss L. M.				1	1 0
Williams, Miss M. D.				5	0
Wilkins, Miss				2	6
White, Miss C. E.	2	2 0			
Wright, Mrs. Almroth				2	2 0
Wyndham Quin, Lady Emily				1	0 0
Youngman, Miss				2	6
Zimmerman, Miss Agnes				1	1 0
Total		£172	14 6	£205	19 0

SPECIAL FUND FOR FORMING WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS, 30TH JUNE, 1897.

DONATIONS.		£	s. d.
"Anonymous," per Miss Palliser		9	9 6
"Anonymous," per Miss Frances Sterling		1	0 0
Dimock, Miss		10	6
James, Miss		2	2 0
Sterling, Miss Frances		10	0 0
Strange, Mrs.		2	6
Stone, Miss		10	0 0
Tacey, The Misses		10	0 0
Turner, Mrs.		1	0
Turner, Miss		1	0
		£33	16 6

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Abbott, Rev. Edwin A., D.D.
 Adair, Mrs. H. (Oxford)
 Adamson, Professor
 Agg-Gardner, J. T., Esq.
 Allen, Miss Gray (Londonderry)
 Armstrong, Rev. R. A.
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 Anderson, Mrs. Garrett, M.D.
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 Balfour, The Lady Frances
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 Beddoe, Mrs.
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 Bevan, Mrs. Wm.
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 Biggs, Miss Ashurst
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 Blackburn, Miss Helen
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 Meltham)
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 Butterfield, Mrs. (Northampton)
 Byers, Mrs. (Belfast)
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 bishop of
 Cayzer, C. W., Esq., M.P.
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 Clayton, Mrs. N. G. (Hexham)
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 Courtney, Rt. Hon. Leonard, M.P.
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 Cross, Mrs. Joseph
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 Davenport-Hill, Miss F.
 Davies, Rev. Llewelyn
 Davies, Miss Emily
 Dimsdale, Baron
 Donkin, Miss
 Drew, Miss Catherine
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 Dunsany, Lord
 Durham, Very Rev. Dean of
 Eastwick-Field, Mrs.
 Eaton, Mrs. Lauder
 Eccles, Miss
 Edwards-Heathcote, Capt.
 Ede, Rev. Moore
 Egerton, The Hon. Lady Grey
 Eiloart, Mrs.
 Elder, Miss Constance
 Ellaby, Miss, M.D.
 Ellis, Miss
 Ewart, Lady (Belfast)
 Fawcett, Mrs. Henry
 FitzGerald, Sir R. U. Penrose, Bt.,
 M.P.
 FitzGerald, Lady Penrose
 FitzGerald, Miss Geraldine Penrose
 FitzGerald, Miss (Valencia Island)
 FitzGerald, Mrs. Robert (Tralee)
 FitzWygram, Lt.-Gen. Sir F., M.P.
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 Ford, Miss Isabella O.
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Gurney, Miss Mary
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 Harberton, Viscountess
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 Harle, Mrs. (Falfield)
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 Herringham, Mrs. Wilmot
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 Hill, Mrs. Frank
 Hodgson, Mrs. C. H.
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 Hunter, Lady R.
 Huskin, Mrs.
 James, Captain
 Jex-Blake, Dr. Sophia
 Johnson, Miss Lucy (Bath)
 Johnson, Mrs. Arthur H. (Oxford)
 Johnston, Wm., Esq., M.P.
 Jones, Rev. Harry
 Jones, Miss H. M. (No'ting Hill
 High School)
 Joy, Mrs. Algernon
 Kensington, Miss
 Kenyon, Hon. Geo.
 Kerr, Miss Malcolm
 Kinnear, J. Boyd, Esq.
 Kinnear, Mrs. J. Boyd
 Knightley, The Lady (of Fawsley)
 Lafone, Alfred, Esq., M.P.
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 Lang, Rev. J. Marshall (Glasgow)
 Laurie, Lieut.-Gen. John W., M.P.
 Lecky, Mrs. W. E. H.
 Lee, Miss (Bath)
 Lee, Miss (Sale)
 Lees, Rev. J. Cameron (Edinburgh)
 Lethbridge, Sir Roper
 Lethbridge, Lady
 Lindsay, Rev. Thomas (Glasgow)
 Lister, Miss Emma
 Lynd, The Rev. R. I., D.D.
 Lyttelton, Hon. & Rev. Arthur J.
 Lyttelton, Hon. Mrs. Arthur
 Lyttelton, The Hon. & Rev. Ed.
 Lyttelton, The Hon. Mrs. Ed.
 Lyttelton, The Hon. Mrs. Alfred

Macdona, J. Cuming, Esq., M.P.
 Mackennal, Rev. A.
 Maclure, J. W., Esq., M.P.
 Maclure, Mrs. J. W.
 McLagan, Peter, Esq.
 McLaren, Walter, Esq.
 McLaren, Mrs. Eva
 Madden, Rt. Hon. D. H.
 Manfield, Sir Philip
 Manning, Miss E. Adelaide
 Marshall, Mrs. Mary, M.D.
 Marshall, Mrs. Emma
 Marshall, Mrs. John (Derwent Is.)
 Marshall, Mrs. Stephen
 Meath, The Countess of
 Mele, Barese, Princess
 Mitchell, Mrs. (Llanfrecfa)
 Mordan, Miss
 Mylne, Mrs. J. E.
 Newman, Prof. F. W.
 Nottage, Lady
 Oliver, R., Esq.
 Oliver, Mrs.
 Paley, The Hon. Mrs.
 Parry, The Lady Maude
 Passmore Edwards, J., Esq.
 Patton, Mrs. Arthur
 Pender, Mrs. (Thornby Hall)
 Ponsonby, The Hon. Mrs. Chambre
 Portsmouth, Evelyn Countess of
 Prideaux, Miss S.
 Puleston, Sir J. H.
 Pym, Guy, Esq., M.P.
 Pym, Mrs. Guy
 Rayleigh, Clara, Lady
 Reeves, Miss
 Reeves, Miss (Tramore)
 Reid, Miss A. M. (Hammersmith)
 Ridley, Miss
 Ridgway, Rev. C. J.
 Roberts, Sir Owen, F.S.A.
 Roberts, Lady
 Roberts, Miss Dorothea
 Robertson, Miss
 Robinson, Rev. A.
 Rollit, Sir A. K., M.P.
 Round, James, Esq., M.P.
 Russell, T. W., Esq., M.P.
 Sanderson, J. S., Esq.
 Sawyer, Lady
 Scholefield, Mrs.
 Selborne, Earl of
 Selborne, Countess of
 Severne, Mrs.
 Shaen, Mrs.
 Sidgwick, Prof. Henry, D.Litt.
 Sidgwick, Mrs. Henry

Singleton, Mrs. (Derby)
 Spring Rice, Mrs. Stephen
 Stapleton, Miss (Tunbridge Wells)
 Still, Major-Gen.
 Stopes, Mrs. Carmichael
 Sturge, Miss M. Carta
 Sterling, Mrs.
 Stevenson, Miss Flora (Edinburgh)
 Stevenson, Miss Louisa (Edinburgh)
 Stone, Miss
 Swanwick, Miss Anna
 Tabor, Miss M. C.
 Taylor, Mrs. (Chipchase)
 Taylor, Mrs. Thos.
 Taylour, Miss Jane E.
 Thew, Mrs. A. (Birkdale)
 Thomas, Rev. Urijah R. (Bristol)
 Temple, Sir Richard, Bt.
 Thomas, Mrs. Charles (Bristol)
 Thorne, Mrs.

Toynbee, Miss
 Tribe, Miss Eva (Bristol)
 Turner, The Lady Frances
 Turner, Mrs. Hugh Thackeray
 Twining, Miss Louisa
 Vernon, Miss
 Vincent, Maria, Lady
 Walker, Mrs. Edward (Leeds)
 Ward, Mrs. E. M.
 Wedgwood, Miss Julia
 Welsh, Miss (Girton College)
 White, Miss (Alexander College)
 White, Miss C. E.
 Wilberforce, Rev. Canon Basil
 Wilkinson, Miss
 Wilkinson, Miss L. M.
 Wilson, Ven. Archdeacon (Manchester)
 Wright, H. Smith, Esq.
 Wyndham, George, Esq., M.P.

APPENDIX B.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The Times.—The factitious and insincere character of the second reading vote is sufficiently proved by the undignified shuffle resorted to by common consent in order to reduce it to a nullity.

Daily News.—We have a great deal of sympathy with the irregular language of the ladies' petition presented by Mr. Courtney on Tuesday. The House of Commons has the power, and therefore the right, of refusing women's votes. But it should do so honestly and openly. It should fight fair.

Star.—Political parties will all the more rapidly, as a consequence of yesterday's debates, learn that they will have to reckon at the elections with women's influence, and that in politics there cannot be "take" without "give." It is on the firmness of women themselves in this matter that the future of their Suffrage really depends.

St. James's Gazette.—Women's Suffrage may come some day, but only when it is deliberately brought forward and pressed to an issue by a responsible Government. In a sense this is true of almost any Bill, but it is especially so in the case of one so full of unknown possibilities as that of Mr. Faithfull Begg. The day of the private member is gone; a Bill is not seriously taken unless it is a Government measure.

Spectator.—During the week the House of Commons have been engaged in the usual, but by no means dignified tactics employed for avoiding the redemption of pledges in regard to female suffrage. . . . We are devoutly thankful the Bill was defeated, but the spectacle of the House performing monkey tricks over the Verminous Persons Bill, in order to dish the women, was not an agreeable one.

Churchwoman.—The whole secret—and it is no secret—of the contempt exhibited by Parliament for this Woman's Suffrage Question is the fact that those who are seeking the attention of Parliament are unrepresented in Parliament. It is a good illustration of the old doctrine that you cannot ensure justice or a fair hearing unless you are represented; and that to prevent taxation being unjust those who are taxed must be represented amongst those who tax. We trust, therefore, that women will not forbear to urge a moderate Bill for the concession of the principal of women's right to representation. It would be a good thing, since we are governed by party rather than by principle, if women would make this a question affecting adherence to party. Let them make themselves united on this point, that at the next election their weight, influence, and work will be given to that party which will make Woman's Suffrage a Government question. That would work wonders!

The Economist.—In the debate on this Bill (Plumbers' Registration) little or no attempt was made to conceal the fact that the Bill, which under ordinary circumstances would have evoked little or no comment, was being discussed at length in order that the bogey of female suffrage should not be allowed to spring out of its box. Member after member devoted his abilities to spinning out the time by an exhibition of his skill in Parliamentary "clowning."

To our minds there is something extremely degrading in the adoption by the House of Commons of these unworthy tactics. If the House does not mean the Bill to pass, as clearly it does not, it should say so plainly and firmly, and not destroy the measure by a series of subterranean devices.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The object of the Society is to obtain the Parliamentary Franchise for Women on the same conditions as it is, or may be granted to men.

The Society seeks to achieve this object :—

1. By acting as a centre for the collection and diffusion of information with regard to the progress of the movement in all parts of the country.
2. By holding Public Meetings in support of the repeal of the Electoral Disabilities of Women.
3. By the publication of Pamphlets, Leaflets, and other Literature bearing upon the question.

RULES

PASSED AT THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND SUBSCRIBERS TO ITS FUNDS, HELD JULY 17TH, 1872.

1. The Central Committee shall consist of the present members and such others as the Executive Committee may, from time to time, elect.
2. The Executive Committee shall consist of members of the Central Committee, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and of single delegates, the same being members of Local Committees, appointed by Local Associations to represent them; the Executive Committee having power to add to the Central Committee, and to its own number, and to appoint the Officers.
3. A subscription of any amount constitutes membership of the National Society.
4. A General Meeting of the Central Committee shall be held once a year to appoint the Executive Committee, to receive the Annual Report and the Financial Statement, and to transact any other business which may arise.
5. The Executive Committee shall, at its first meeting, appoint the Officers.
6. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Executive Committee at any time; or, at the written request of not less than twenty-five members of the Central Committee the Secretary or Secretaries shall call a Special General Meeting to discuss such matters only as are mentioned in the notice of such meeting.
7. Eight days' public notice shall be given of all General Meetings.
8. The above rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting, after fourteen days' notice of the proposed alteration given to the Executive Committee.

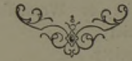
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(NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.)

Central and East of England Society for
Women's Suffrage.

Office—20, GREAT COLLEGE STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

REPORT
OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
PRESENTED AT THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
HELD IN THE
WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL.
July 15th, 1898.



London:
PRINTED BY VACHER & SONS,
MILLBANK STREET, WESTMINSTER.
1898.

(NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.)
CENTRAL AND EAST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY
FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

To obtain the Parliamentary Franchise for Women on the same
terms as it is or may be granted to men.

Office:—20, GREAT COLLEGE STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Miss GRAY ALLEN.	LOUISA, LADY GOLDSMID.
Sir WILLIAM ARROL, M.P.	Mrs. ASHWORTH HALLETT.
Mrs. ASHFORD.	Mrs. HASLAM.
L. ATHERLEY-JONES, Esq., M.P.	Miss HOLLAND.
The Lady FRANCES BALFOUR.	Hon. Mrs. ALFRED LYTTTELTON.
Miss HELEN BLACKBURN.	Miss MORDAN.
Mrs. PERCY BOULNOIS.	CLARA, LADY RAYLEIGH,
Colonel COTTON-JODRELL, M.P.	T. W. RUSSELL, Esq., M.P.,
Miss COURTENAY.	ERNEST SPENCER, Esq., M.P.,
The Rt. Hon. L. COURTNEY, M.P.	Mrs. STEPHEN SPRING-RICE.
Miss EMILY DAVIES.	Mrs. STERLING.
Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT.	Miss VERNON.
JOSEPH T. FIRBANK, Esq., M.P.	SIR W. WEDDERBURN, Bart., M.P.,
Miss I. O. FORD.	GEORGE WYNDHAM, Esq., M.P.,
Mrs. ARTHUR FRANCIS.	

President—The Lady FRANCES BALFOUR.

Hon. Treasurer—Mrs. STERLING.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. FAWCETT, and Miss HELEN BLACKBURN.

Sec.—Miss EDITH PALLISER.

Bankers—LONDON & COUNTY BANK—NEW OXFORD STREET BRANCH.

Auditor—Miss M. HARRIS SMITH, Public Accountant.

The following Societies are included in the National Union:—

Central and East of England Society for Women's Suffrage (20, Great College Street, Westminster).
Central and Western Society for Women's Suffrage (39, Victoria Street, S.W.).
North of England Society for Women's Suffrage (Manchester).
Birkenhead and Wirral Women's Suffrage Society.
Birmingham Women's Suffrage Society.
Bristol and West of England Society for Women's Suffrage.
Cambridge Women's Suffrage Society.
Cheltenham Women's Suffrage Society.
Edinburgh National Society for Women's Suffrage.
Leeds Women's Suffrage Society.
Leicester Women's Suffrage Society.
Liverpool Women's Suffrage Society.
Luton Women's Franchise Association.
Nottingham and District Women's Suffrage Society.
Sligo Women's Suffrage Society.
Southport and District Women's Suffrage Society.

The Societies in Ireland unite work for Women Poor Law Guardians with
Suffrage work and act in co-operation with the Union.

ANNUAL REPORT,

MUCH in accordance with the anticipations of your Committee, no further progress was made in Parliament this Session. On the opening day of the Session, a Conference of Members of Parliament favourable to Women's Suffrage was held in Committee Room 13 of the House of Commons, to decide on the policy of the Session. Mr. George Wyndham, M.P., presided. After some discussion, in which Mr. Faithfull Begg, Mr. William Johnston and Mr. Atherley-Jones stated their views of the importance of some Parliamentary action being taken, it was decided to ballot for a day, and to proceed by Bill or Resolution according to the result.

The following ladies, representing the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, were present:—Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Blackburn (Central and East of England Society for Women's Suffrage), Mrs. Russell Cooke, Mrs. Broadley-Reid (Central and Western Society), Miss Roper (North of England Society), Mrs. Arthur Francis (Bristol and West of England Society), Miss J. McLea (Cheltenham), Mrs. Enfield Dowson (Nottingham and District), Mrs. Gray Heald (Leeds), Miss Louisa Stevenson and Miss S. E. S. Mair (Edinburgh), Mrs. Charles Baxter and Miss Edith Palliser (Secretaries of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies).

Mr. Joseph T. Firbank (M.P. for Hull, East), was the most successful of those who balloted for a Women's Suffrage

Bill; he however, only obtained twenty-sixth place, and no hope was therefore entertained of the Bill being reached this Session. Our Parliamentary leaders purposed to withdraw the Bill and substitute a Resolution, but were prevented from taking this action by the presence of two other Bills on the Order Book dealing with the same subject, set down by Mr. Ernest Spencer (M.P. for West Bromwich) and Sir Charles Dilke, Bt., (M.P. for Gloucester, Forest of Dean).

It is a matter of regret to your Committee that Mr. Ernest Spencer should not have acted in conjunction with the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, because his Bill was one to which they could have given their hearty support.

Mr. Firbank kept his Bill down for March 9th, when it stood third on the Orders of the day. The Bills which preceded it, however, occupied the whole time of the House.

The Bill was next set down for June 15th, when it had second place, but when that date was reached, nine measures, which had made progress before Whitsuntide, had precedence, and, consequently, the Bill was not reached.

The text of the Bill was the same as that introduced by Mr. Faithfull Begg last Session,* and was backed by Mr. J. T. Firbank, Mr. Faithfull Begg, Mr. George Wyndham, Sir John Maclure, Bt., Mr. Griffith Boscawen, Mr. William Johnston, Mr. Jebb, Mr. Courtney, Mr. McLaren, Sir James Rankin, Bt., Mr. Atherley-Jones, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Sir William Arrol and Sir Albert Rollit.

* (1) This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Act, 1897.

(2) On and after the *passing of this Act* every woman who is the inhabitant occupier, as owner or tenant, of any dwelling-house, tenement or building within the borough or county where such occupation exists, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter in the list of voters for such borough or county in which she is so qualified as aforesaid, and, when registered, to vote for a member or members to serve in Parliament.

Provided always that such woman is not subject to any legal incapacity which would disqualify a male voter.

Your Committee are now glad to be able to state that the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, of which preliminary mention was made in last year's Report, is now fully established.

The arrangement has led to changes in the names of some of the old societies, in order that the title should better indicate the geographical area undertaken by the Societies respectively. Thus the Central Committee, at 20, Great College Street, has become the Central and Eastern Society; the Central National Society, at 39, Victoria Street, has become the Central and Western Society; and the Manchester Society has become the North of England Society.

The Executive of the Union will pursue the policy of promoting a Bill in the House of Commons, until such time as the Government of the day will make the question a part of one of their own measures, in accordance with the policy announced by the Executive of the National Union in November of last year.

Although the Women's Suffrage Bill was not debated in Parliament, your Committee have satisfaction in recording that the question has not been without public discussion. At the Meeting of the National Liberal Federation at Derby, a Resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage was carried by a majority of 58, thus re-affirming, on the part of the Liberal Party, the Resolution passed at the Parliamentary Reform Conference at Leeds in 1883.

Your Committee have also pleasure in stating that the scheme for local work which aims at more widely extending the influence of this Society and the interest in its work, to which a brief allusion was made in our last Annual Report, has now passed beyond the initial stage, and made most satisfactory progress: and they are glad to be able to announce that it has been adopted by nearly all the Societies represented on the National Union.

The necessity for this work arose from the importance of gaining a foothold in every constituency within your Society's area, and from the desirability of keeping in touch with the countless friends, who, from time to time, had shown some active sympathy (such as signing petitions, distributing tickets for meetings, &c.), but who were constantly lost sight of from their not being subscribers.

Such undertakings would clearly throw a great additional burden of work on the office, which it could not effectually carry out, even were the necessary funds available. Some kind of local machinery was, therefore, required, which should be simple and easily set in motion.

The plan adopted is for your Committee to appoint a Local Hon. Secretary in each constituency, who shall work directly under the central office and be responsible for a complete record of all friends of the cause living in her constituency, and for the distribution of literature and information as to local work. To enable her to keep an exact and reliable list of supporters, all friends who are not already members (*i.e.*, subscribers) are asked to become associates, by signing their names and addresses in a book kept specially for the purpose by the Local Hon. Secretary.

The rules for associates are extremely simple. They are as follows:—

- (1) Any person who has attained the age of 18 years, and who is in favour of any extension of the Parliamentary Franchise to women, may become an associate of the Central and East of England Society for Women's Suffrage.
- (2) No money contribution is required from any associate, but annual subscriptions or donations being necessary for the carrying on of the work, may be sent, if desired, to the Secretary of the Suffrage Society, 20, Great College Street, Westminster.
- (3) Any associates changing their address should inform

the Local Hon. Secretary of the change. If they remove into a different constituency, the Local Hon. Secretary will forward their name and address to the Local Hon. Secretary of the new constituency.

Though the main object of the local associates' scheme has been to unite all friends with your Society, whether they could give pecuniary help or not, yet, in the present low state of the exchequer, and particularly in view of the very small steady income (in the shape of annual subscriptions) on which your Committee can rely, it has been a source of great satisfaction to find that the scheme, from a financial point of view, yields satisfactory results.

In the last twelve months £45 9s. has been spent in the work of organisation, while £28 of fresh *annual subscriptions* have been already obtained directly through the work of the scheme. Seven hundred and sixty-seven supporters have been enrolled in the three constituencies where work has been carried on. In these constituencies we had formerly considerably less than fifty members. Drawing room meetings in furtherance of the scheme have been held by Mrs. Sterling, 18, Sheffield Terrace, Kensington, Mrs. Scott, 18, Church Row, Hampstead, Mrs. Annan Bryce, 35, Bryanston Square, Mrs. Murray Macdonald, 15, Thurlow Road, Hampstead, and by Mrs. Russell Scott, Lyndhurst Gardens, Hampstead. The speakers at these meetings have been Mr. Faithfull Begg, M.P., Mr. Brynmôr Jones, Q.C., M.P., Sir W. Wedderburn, Bt., M.P., Mr. Murray Macdonald, M.L.S.B., Miss Davenport-Hill, Miss Florence Davenport-Hill, Hon. John Wallop, Mr. Fletcher, L.C.C., Mrs. Arthur Francis, Lady Cecilia Roberts, Mr. C. E. Maurice, Mrs. Percy Boulnois and the Rev. Henry Rawlings, M.A.

Your Committee would like to call attention to the fact that they have been enabled to start this scheme solely through the kind generosity of a few members of your Society, and that the results obtained represent the work of one paid worker, supported by a voluntary organiser, with most efficient

volunteer help. With more funds available the results would have been far greater, and your Committee hope, therefore, that contributions will be sent in to this fund which is carrying out work of the utmost value to your Society.

They would here like to call to your recollection that last year's balance sheet, although showing a balance in hand of £55 18s. 1d., also showed that accounts were at the time due and unpaid amounting to £95 8s. 5d. Therefore, instead of there being a balance of £55 18s., there was in reality a deficit of £39 19s. 5d., with which your Committee had to begin the year's work. The Committee wish to point out with the greatest gratitude that Mrs. Fawcett came forward and lectured twice, giving the proceeds of these lectures, amounting to £48 7s. 2d., to your Society's funds. In addition, there were other donations from members and friends amounting to £60 12s. 6d. With this timely help your society has been able to free itself from debt, and to show this year a genuine balance of £38 16s. 3d. They would also like to call special attention to the fact that the recurrence of such help cannot be relied upon in the future.

Other Meetings to further the objects of your Society have been held in different parts of the country, and were addressed by Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Arthur Francis, and Miss Edith Palliser.

At the invitation of the Political Committee of the Junior Constitutional Club, Mrs. Fawcett gave an address at that Club, in November last, on Women's Suffrage.

This year your Committee have with great regret to record the loss of many old and valued supporters of the Women's Suffrage movement. By the death of the Rt. Hon. C. P. Villiers (Wolverhampton), Mr. George Dixon (Birmingham, Edgbaston), Sir Frank Lockwood (York) and Mr. Abel Smith (Herts, E.) your Committee have lost constant and steady supporters in Parliament of measures for the enfranchisement of women. The Rt. Hon. C. P. Villiers voted for the measure from

1870 to 1892, and Mr. George Dixon also voted constantly for the Bill, though not so frequently, owing to his absence from the House. They have also lost, through the resignation of their seats, the support in Parliament of Mr. Dampier Palmer (Gravesend) and of the Hon. Harold Finch-Hatton (Notts, Newark).

Among their supporters outside Parliament, your Committee have further to record the loss of an old and valued friend in Sir James Stansfeld. Sir James Stansfeld voted with Mr. John Stuart Mill in 1867, and backed Bills for the enfranchisement of women through a long series of years.

The following resolution was forwarded to Lady Stansfeld by your Committee :—

Resolution—

“That this Committee is very sensible of the steadfast, self-sacrificing support given throughout his life by Sir James Stansfeld to further the claim of women to political enfranchisement. They desire to express their sympathy to Lady Stansfeld in this heavy loss.”

Our Society has also met with the loss of an old member and former supporter in the House of Commons in Baron Dimsdale, of Essendon, Herts.

The following Resolution was forwarded by this Committee to Baron Dimsdale's family :—

“That this Committee remember with gratitude the steady support and many services rendered to the cause of Women's Suffrage by Baron Dimsdale, both in and out of Parliament, through a long series of years. They deeply deplore the loss they have sustained by his death, and they desire to tender their sincere sympathy to the members of his family.”

Your Committee have satisfaction in recording that at the bye-elections which have taken place since our last Annual Report was presented, ten of the successful candidates are known to be friends of Women's Suffrage. These are :—

Mr. Mendl (Plymouth), Mr. Wynford Philipps (Pembroke), an old supporter, Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice (Wiltshire, Cricklade), President of the Bristol Women's Suffrage Society, Captain Oliver Young (Berkshire, Wokingham), Mr. Steadman (Stepney), Mr. A. H. Morton (Deptford), Mr. Joseph Walton (Yorkshire, Barnsley), Mr. MacArthur (Liverpool, Exchange), Mr. Moss (Denbigh, E.), and Alderman Duckworth (Lancashire, Middleton).

Your Committee look forward with every hope to the prospects of an active and vigorous campaign of work in the autumn throughout the country. No efforts will be spared to increase interest and spread the knowledge of the aims of this Society by means of the Local Scheme, and by work at election times, when the claims of duly qualified women to the Parliamentary franchise can be most effectually brought before the electorate of this country. They feel, however, that success in carrying on such work will greatly depend on the amount of the funds at the disposal of your Society. They would, therefore, earnestly beg that all who look forward to the advancement of the claims of women to political enfranchisement will contribute to the funds of your Society.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE from July 1st, 1897, to June 30th, 1898.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward, July 1st, 1897...	55	18	0
Subscriptions ...	254	18	6
Donations ...	6	3	0
Sale of Publications and Tickets ...	4	13	6
Bristol W. S. Society's Share of Expenses, Queen's Hall Meeting...	16	9	0
North of England W. S. Society ditto ...	16	9	2
Ditto, ditto, Printing Expenses	5	1	8
Collection at Meetings ...	3	13	6
Proceeds of Mrs. Fawcett's Lecture ...	48	7	2
	37	19	10
	52	0	8
	£466	13	6
	By Rent ...	60	0
	Office Cleaning, Fuel, Lighting	10	5
	Salaries, &c. ...	147	11
	Meetings and Advertisements ...	80	3
	Stationery, &c. ...	5	10
	Printing and Publications ...	82	0
	Postage and Telegrams ...	24	10
	Newspapers and Parliamentary Papers ...	11	6
	Bank Charges ...	1	0
	Travelling Expenses in connection with Election work ...	4	2
	Balance at Bankers ...	426	12
	Cash in Hand ...	1	4
	£466	13	6

Examined, compared with the books and vouchers, and found correct.

13, Victoria Street, Westminster,
London, 6th July, 1898.

M. HARRIS SMITH, Auditor.
(Public Accountant.)

SPECIAL FUND FOR ENROLLING LOCAL ASSOCIATES OF THE CENTRAL AND EAST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, 30th JUNE, 1898.

£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward, July 1st, 1897 ...	24	7	0
Donations, Subscriptions and Collection at Meetings ...	39	12	3
	£63	19	3
By Organising Expenses ...	...	...	...
Cash at Bankers ...	...	...	...
	£63	19	3

Examined, compared with the books and vouchers, and found correct.

13, Victoria Street, Westminster,
London, 6th July, 1898.

M. HARRIS SMITH, Auditor.
(Public Accountant.)

Central and East of England Society for Women's Suffrage.

*The Annual General Meeting was held at Westminster Town
Hall, on July 15th.*

THE LADY FRANCES BALFOUR IN THE CHAIR.

RESOLUTION I.

"That this Meeting adopts the Report and Financial Statement, and directs that they be printed and circulated."

Moved from the CHAIR.

Seconded by Mrs. STERLING.

RESOLUTION II.

"That the Executive Committee for the ensuing year consist of the following persons, with power to add to their number:—

Miss Gray Allen; Sir William Arrol, M.P.; Mr. L. Atherley-Jones, M.P.; Mrs. Ashford; The Lady Frances Balfour; Miss Helen Blackburn; Mrs. Percy Boulnois; Colonel Cotton-Jodrell, M.P.; Miss Courtenay; The Right Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P.; Miss Emily Davies; Mrs. Henry Fawcett; Mr. J. T. Firbank, M.P.; Miss I. O. Ford; Mrs. Arthur Francis; Louisa, Lady Goldsmid; Mrs. Ashworth Hallett; Mrs. Haslam; Miss

Mabel Holland; Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton; Miss Mordan; Clara, Lady Rayleigh; T. W. Russell, Esq., M.P.; Mr. Ernest Spencer, M.P.; Mrs. Stephen Spring-Rice; Mrs. Sterling; Miss Vernon; Sir William Wedderburn, Bt., M.P., and Mr. George Wyndham, M.P."

Moved by Mr. CECIL WALSH.

Seconded by Mrs. NEWTON ROBINSON.

RESOLUTION III.

"That the experience of this Session having strongly exemplified the difficulty of attaining to any legislation for the enfranchisement of women by a private member's Bill, this meeting is of opinion that, in the light of the second reading of last Session, the time has now come to urge the Government to provide for the inclusion of duly qualified women on the Parliamentary Register in the next measure they introduce dealing with electoral questions."

Moved by Mr. J. S. FLETCHER, L.C.C.

Seconded by Mrs. FAWCETT.

In speaking to the Second Resolution, the Hon. J. A. COCKBURN (Agent-General for South Australia), after a few preliminary remarks, said:—

All are now agreed as to the justice of Women's Suffrage. The only question is, how will it work in practice? An ounce of experience is worth a ton of theory, and, as until a few weeks ago I was a member of a Parliament elected by the votes of both men and women, I will give you my pennyweight of experience on the subject. Formerly, the women of South Australia were, in common with criminals, lunatics and minors, debarred from the exercise of the franchise. Now they are placed on an absolute equality

with their brothers, husbands and sons, and have exercised the franchise during the last four years with the approval of the entire community. They have voted at general elections for both Houses of Parliament, and have just taken an equal share in deciding one of the most important and political issues—the question of Australian Federation.

The fact that women are entitled to vote is now viewed with general satisfaction, and no one would advocate a return to the old system. The opposition—for opposition of some kind there always is to every reform—has completely disappeared. Last mail, one of our intimate friends, who was against the reform, wrote to my wife to say how much she regretted not having registered on the roll in time to record her vote in favour of the new federal constitution. Former opponents, you will often find, eventually become your warmest supporters. Once overcome the *vis inertiae* of existing conditions, and those who were once hostile will come forward to congratulate you, and will even, in some cases, declare that they have all along been quietly on your side.

What as to the result of the emancipation of women? The influence of women has, we have found, quietly pervaded the realm of politics. All the great forces of nature are gentle in their operation. The change that has taken place is a very great one; it is nothing less than doubling the power of the franchise; yet this peaceful revolution has been effected without the slightest disturbance. As a rule families vote together. Not that the women vote under the dictation of the men of the family. I think that the common sense and good judgment of the women have influenced the opinion of their husbands as often as the other way. But as a rule the husbands and wives vote together.

One result of the women's vote has been that greater attention has been paid to subjects of social, sanitary, domestic and industrial legislation. We have observed that

the cause of temperance has received an accession of strength, for women are naturally anxious that as few snares as possible should be set for the feet of those who are near and dear to them. Anything that affects the general health of the community now receives great attention. The influence of women in politics has thus been in the direction of moral and physical soundness for the whole of the people. A greater stress has also been laid on questions of inheritance; for our laws in this respect are not yet quite fair to women. Industrial questions such as factory legislation have received increased attention. Nothing sudden has been done, but we have been able to trace the influence for good of women throughout the political atmosphere.

A few words as to the manner in which the reform was carried into effect:—Thirteen years ago the matter was first brought forward in Parliament. A resolution in favour of the franchise was moved by Dr. Stirling, a professor in our university, and so convincing were his arguments that never since then has a single voice been raised against the absolute justice of the claim. The resolution was carried unanimously. I voted in the affirmative on that occasion, and have similarly voted in every division on the subject that has taken place since, and I am proud to say I was the minister in charge of the Bill when it became law. The next session, after the passing of the resolution, a Bill was introduced, but it did not gain the absolute majority required before an amendment of the constitution can become law. For several succeeding years Bills were brought in by private members, but it is very difficult for a private member to get a Bill of this importance through both Houses of Parliament. Somebody always wants to adjourn the debate for further information on the subject and so the session passes by.

In 1893 the Bill was brought in as a Government measure by the Kingston Government, and the following year our efforts were crowned with success, and since then Women's Suffrage has become established as the law of the land.

New Zealand passed the measure some years before. The rest of Australia will not be far behind us. The women of Victoria do not like to feel that they have not got what the women of South Australia possess. Every influence is being brought to bear in that Colony, and a measure has twice been carried through the House of Assembly. New South Wales is also viewing the reform with favour, and the day is not far distant when all the Australian Colonies will have joined hands in this respect.

When first proposed in South Australia, there were certain limitations to the measure. No married woman was to have a vote. But we thought it was unfair to offer a woman any advantage by becoming a widow. A second limitation was that the voter must be over 25 years of age; but we thought it cruel to require a declaration of age, and we felt that what was needed was a wide measure of justice for the whole sex. In South Australia the Electoral Act has become blind to the question of sex, and the conditions of registration and voting are the same for all adults. The refining influence of women has made itself felt in this sphere as in every other: they have elevated the whole realm of politics without themselves losing a jot of their innate purity. "No poorer they but richer we," by their addition to the Electoral Roll.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

		DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Adair, Mrs. H.	.. .. .				5 0
Adey, Miss	.. .. .				2 6
Allen, Miss Gray	.. .. .			1	0 0
Allen, Miss..	.. .. .				2 6
Anderson, Miss S.	.. .. .				3 0
Ashford, Mrs. (2 years)	.. .. .				2 2 0
Austen, Mrs. Roberts	.. .. .	2	0 0	1	0 0
Aylmer, Miss	.. .. .			1	1 0
Bailey, Miss	.. .. .				5 0
Bairdsmith, Mrs.	.. .. .				10 6
Baker, Miss	.. .. .				2 6
Bakewell, Miss	.. .. .				5 0
Balfour, The Lady Frances	.. .. .	1	0 0	2	2 0
Balkwill, Miss M. E.	.. .. .				2 2 0
Bannerman, Colonel	.. .. .			
Barratt, Mrs. Layland-	.. .. .	1	0 0		
Bateson, Miss Mary	.. .. .			1	1 0
Baxter, Mrs. Fleming	.. .. .			1	0 0
Baxter, Miss	.. .. .				5 0
Beale, Miss E. A.	.. .. .			1	1 0
Bell, Miss R.	.. .. .				2 6
Bertram, Mrs.	.. .. .				5 0
Biggs, Miss Ashurst	.. .. .			1	0 0
Biggs, Miss Maude	.. .. .				2 0 0
Bird, Miss Lucy (2 years)	.. .. .			1	0 0
Birt, Miss	.. .. .				2 6
Birt, Miss E.	.. .. .				2 6
Blackburn, Miss Helen	.. .. .	2	2 0		
Blacker, Mrs. Louis (2 years)	.. .. .			1	0 0
Blake, Miss M. M.	.. .. .				5 0
Boddy, Miss M. D.	.. .. .	1	0 0		10 0
Bolton, Mrs.	.. .. .			1	1 0
Bostock, Miss	.. .. .				10 6
Boucherett, Miss Jessie	.. .. .			5	0 0
Boulnois, Mrs. Percy	.. .. .				10 0
Bousfield, Mrs.	.. .. .				5 0
Bridges, Mrs.	.. .. .			2	0 0
Bright, Mrs. A. H.	.. .. .				5 0
Bruce, Mrs. W. Wallace	.. .. .				10 0
Buckland, Miss A. W. (2 years)	.. .. .				5 0
Burbury, Mrs. H.	.. .. .				5 0
Burne, Miss	.. .. .				5 0
Carried forward		7	2 0	31	16 6

	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought forward	7	2 0	31	16 6
Cambridge, Women's Suffrage Society			1	1 0
Cameron, Mrs.				2 6
Charlesworth, Mrs.				5 0
Chickall, Miss				2 6
Christie, Miss				5 0
Clayden, Mrs.				1 0
Clerihew, Mrs.				2 6
Clarkson, Miss				
Clarke, Miss E. Stanley	2	6		2 6
Codd, Mrs.				2 6
Colborne, Hon. Mrs.				10 0
Cole, Mrs.		6		2 0
Connah, Mrs. Jessie				10 0
Cotton, Mrs.			1	1 0
Cowell, Mrs. H.			1	0 0
Cox, Mrs.				5 0
Coxhead, Miss (2 years)			1	0 0
Crawford, Mrs.			2	2 0
Creewell, Miss				2 6
Crook, Mrs.			1	1 0
Crowe, Miss			1	0 0
Cross, Mrs. Joseph	2	2 0		
Crump, Mrs.				2 6
Curry, Miss (2 years)			1	0 0
Dalby, Miss				5 0
Darwin, Mrs. F.			1	0 0
Davenport-Hill, Miss			1	1 0
Davenport-Hill, Miss F.			1	1 0
Davies, Miss Emily			1	1 0
Davis, Mrs.				2 6
Debenham, Mrs.				10 0
De Merrifield, Miss F. G.				2 6
Denny, Miss				5 0
Dent, Mrs.			1	1 0
Dimock, Miss	1	1 0	1	1 0
Dimsdale, the late Baron			3	3 0
Donkin, Miss				5 0
Dryhurst, Miss				2 6
Dublin Women's Suffrage Society			1	0 0
Dunn, Miss				10 6
Du Port, Miss				5 0
Durham, Mrs.			3	0 0
Durham, Miss M. E.		5 0		5 0
Eaton, Mrs. Lauder				5 0
Eccles, Miss				5 0 0
Edwards, Miss				10 0
Edinburgh Women's Suffrage Society			1	0 0
Egerton, The Hon. Lady Grey			2	0 0
Ellis, Miss				2 6
Ellis, Miss R.				2 6
Carried forward	10	13 0	68	18 6

	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought forward	10	13 0	68	18 6
Ellis, Miss D.				2 6
Ely, Miss				10 6
Evans, Miss				2 0
Eve, Mrs.				10 0
Eyre, Miss				3 0
Fairthorne, Miss M.				2 0
Farnell, Miss				2 6
Fawcett, Mrs.			5	0 0
Fawcett, Miss				10 0
Fearon, Miss				2 6
Fenwick, Miss. L..				5 0
FitzGerald, The Misses				5 0
Flower, Lady				2 6
Ford, Miss I. O.				5 0 0
Ford, Miss E. H.				3 0 0
Ford, Rawlinson, Esq.				1 1 0
Ford, Mrs. Rawlinson				2 6
Fox, Mrs. Bridell				2 6
Francis, Mrs. Arthur				10 0
Franks, Miss				5 0
Freeman, Miss				1 0 0
"Friend, A"	10	0 0		
Frith, Miss				2 6
Fullarton, Mrs.				7 6
Fullerton, The late Mrs.	3	0 0		
Gardner, Mrs.				2 6
Garrett, Miss Agnes				5 0 0
Gavin, Miss Ethel				5 0
Gibbs, Mrs.				5 0
Gibson, Miss Eliza				5 0
Gilliat, Mrs.			1	1 0
Giles, Mrs Oughton				2 2 0
Glover, Mrs.				5 0
Goff, Miss A.				5 0
Goldsmid, Louisa Lady			2	2 0
Gompertz, Miss Alice				5 0
Goodliffe, Mrs.				2 0
Goodliffe, Miss				2 6
Gordon, Miss				10 0
Gow, Miss				2 6
Grant, Miss				2 6
Graves, Mrs.				2 6
Green, Miss H. E.				10 0
Grey, Mrs. Wm.			1	1 0
Grey, Mrs. G.				2 6
Greville, Mrs.				1 0
Griffiths, The Dowager Lady Waldie				2 0 0
Grossmith, Mrs. George				1 0 0
Grove, Miss				10 0
Carried forward	23	13 0	106	10 6

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Gudin, Baroness		23	13 0	106	10 6
Gurney, Miss M.				10	0 0
Gurney, Miss A.				1	0 0
Hagermann, Miss				2	6
Halifax Women's Suffrage Society (2 years) ..				2	2 0
Hall, Mrs. Winslow				2	6
Hallam, Mrs.				5	0
Hamilton, Miss				5	0
Hamilton, Miss C. J.				5	0
Hamley, Miss B.				2	6
Hammond, Mrs. J. Hayes (2 years)				6	0
Harberton, Viscountess				1	0 0
Harrison, Miss Jane, LL.D., D.Litt.				2	6
Hart, Miss R. M.				2	6
Harvey, Miss				2	6
Hawkins, Mrs.				2	6
Haynes, The Rev. R. J.		2	2 0		
Hayward, Miss				2	0
Heberden, Mrs.				2	6
Herringham, Mrs. Wilmot				1	1 0
Higgins, Mrs. Napier				2	0 0
Hickson, Miss M.				5	0
Hickson, Miss Annie				2	6
Hickson, Mrs. E. L.				2	6
Hicks, Mrs.				5	0
Hill, Mrs. James S.				5	0
Hill, Miss Emily				2	6
Hill, Miss Georgina				2	6
Hitchcock, Miss				2	6
Hodgson, Mrs.				3	3 0
Holland, Miss Mabel		20	0 0	2	2 0
Hopkins, Miss Alice				2	6
Howse, Miss Muriel				1	0
Hubbard, Mrs.				5	0
Hughes, Lady				1	0 0
Hughes, Miss				2	0
Hunter, Miss				5	0
Irby, Miss				5	0
Jenner, Miss				1	0 0
Jervis, Miss Elizabeth				2	6
Jevons, Mrs. Stanley				5	0
Jex-Blake, Dr. Sophia (2 years)				2	0 0
Johnson, Miss Agnes				1	0 0
Johnson, Miss Lucy				1	0 0
Johnson, Miss Alice				2	6
Jones, Miss Constance (2 years)				2	2 0
Jones, Miss Lewis				1	1 0
Jones, Miss Mabel M. B.				10	6
Jones, Miss H. M.				5	0
Carried forward		45	15 0	135	8 0

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Joy, Mrs. Algernon		45	15 0	135	8 0
Julian, Miss E. M.				1	1 0
Kearney, Mrs.				2	6
Kearney, Elfric, Esq.				1	0
Keeling, Miss Julia M.				1	0
Kensington, Miss				5	0
Kindon, Miss				5	0
Kinnaird, Lord				2	6
Lacey, Mrs. Bolton				1	1 0
Lafone, Alfred, Esq., M.P. (2 years)				10	6
Lance, Miss				4	4 0
Lang, Miss Campbell				2	6
La Touche, Miss A.				2	6
Lawrence, Miss D.				2	6
Lawrence, Miss M.				1	1 0
Lawrence, Miss P.				1	1 0
Lawrence, Miss (Hampstead)				1	1 0
Ledsame, Miss				2	6
Leeds Women's Suffrage Society				1	0 0
Legge, Miss Leila				10	0
Lister, Miss E. L.				5	0
Little, Mrs.				5	0
Little, Mrs.				2	6
Lloyd, Mrs. Morgan				3	3 0
Longbourne, Miss				3	0
Long, Miss				2	2 0
Lyndon, Miss				2	6
Lyons, Mrs. Edward				2	6
Lyttelton, The Lady				10	0
Lyttelton, The Hon. and Rev. Ed.				1	1 0
Lyttelton, The Hon. Mrs. Ed.				1	1 0
Macdonald, Mrs.				5	0
Macdonald, Mrs. Murray				2	6
Macdonald, Mrs. FitzCharles				5	0
Mackintosh, Mrs.				2	6
Malleson, Mrs. Frank				10	0
Manley, The Misses				4	0
Manning, Miss E. A.				1	1 0
Makovski, Mrs.				1	1 0
Marshall, Mrs. John				2	2 0
Martineau, Miss				10	0
Martineau, The Rev. Dr.				1	1 0
Marten, Miss				5	0
Massey, Miss				5	0
Meinertzhagen, Miss				5	0
Methven, Miss		2	6		
Mitchell, Mrs. C. B.				1	0 0
Mitchell, Mrs. E. H.				1	0 0
Carried forward		45	17 6	168	4 0

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Moir, Miss M.		45	17 6	168	4 0
Moore, Mrs. Julia			5 0		
Mordan, A., Esq.				2	6
Mordan, Miss				1	0 0
Morgan, Miss				5	0 0
Mosley, Miss M.				1	1 0
Moseley, Miss Gertrude E.					2 6
Muller, Mrs.		2	6		
Mylne, Mrs.				2	2 0
Nottage, Lady				1	1 0
Notcutt, Miss					5 0
Overy, Miss Emily					2 6
Osterberg, Mme. Bergmann				1	0 0
Oakley, Mrs.					2 6
Page, Miss				10	0
Paine, Mrs. Lewis				5	0
Paley, Hon. Mrs.				2	0 0
Park, Miss Austin				5	0
Parker, Mrs.				5	0
Paul, Miss Lillie (2 years)				5	0
Pearson, Mrs. C. H.				2	6
Pearson, Miss Maud				2	6
Pearson, Mrs. Sharpe				10	6
Pearsall, Mrs.				2	6
Phillips, Mrs.				2	6
Pierpoint, Miss				2	6
Pollard, Mrs. (2 years)				5	0
Pollock, Mrs.				10	6
Ponsonby, Hon. Mrs. Chambre (3 years)				3	3 0
Porter, Miss Mary E.				5	0
Portsmouth, Evelyn, Countess of		5	0 0		
Powell, Miss Rosanna				2	6
Pridham, Miss				2	6
Rawlings, Miss				1	1 0
Rawlings, The Rev. H. & Mrs.				4	0
Rawlinson, Mrs.		10	0		
Rayleigh, Clara Lady				2	0 0
Ray, Miss Catherine				1	0
Reade, Captain				1	0
Reed, Mrs.				1	0
Reid, Miss				2	6
Reynell, The Rev. J.				2	0
Richardson, Miss				1	0 0
Ridley, Miss				2	6
Roberts, Sir Owen and Lady (2 years)				2	2 0
Robertson, Miss				1	0 0
Robinson, Mrs. Newton				10	6
Robinson, Miss				2	6
Carried forward		51	15 0	198	14 6

	Brought forward	DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Robson, Miss					
Russell, Miss					
Ruth, Miss					
Sanderson, Miss Burdon					2 6
Sandwith, Miss Grace					5 0
Saunderson, J., Esq.				1	1 0
Saxton, Miss H.				1	0 0
Scott, Russell, Esq.				1	0 0
Scott, Mrs.					10 6
Scott, Miss					5 0
Selborne, The Countess of				1	1 0
Seymour, Mrs.					10 0
Shadwell, Miss B.					10 0
Shaen, Mrs.				1	1 0
Shaen, Miss				1	1 0
Shedden, Mrs. E. C.					2 6
Shove, Miss Edith					5 0
Sidgwick, Mrs.					2 2 0
Sidney, Miss A.				1	1 0
Silly, Mrs. G. M.					2 0
Simpson, Mrs.					10 0
Singleton, Mrs.					2 6
Skinner, Miss					2 6
Smith, Mrs. St. Osythe				1	1 0
Smith, Mrs. F. P.					5 0
Smith, Miss M. Harris		10	6	1	1 0
Smith, The Misses (Hampstead)					5 0
Smith, Miss (2 years)					5 0
Spring-Rice, Mrs. Stephen				1	1 0
Stanley, Mrs. H. M.					5 0
Steele, Miss					5 0
Sterling, Mrs.		5	0 0	2	0 0
Sterling, Miss Frances					2 0 0
Stevenson, Miss Ethel				1	1 0
Stone, Miss					2 0 0
Stopes, Mrs. (2 years)					5 0
Strange, Miss L.				1	1 0
Streatfield, Mrs.				2	2 0
Sunter, Miss E.					2 6
Swanwick, Miss Anna				1	1 0
Tabor, Miss M. C.					5 0
Tacey, The Misses		1	0 0		
Tatlock, Miss					10 0
Taylor, Mrs. Thomas				2	0 0
Taylor, Miss Mabel				0	1 0
Temple, Sir Richard, Bart.					10 0
Thomas, Mrs. Charles				1	1 0
Thompson, Mrs. A. H.					10 0
Thorbjörn, Miss (2 years)					5 0
Thorne, Mrs.					5 0
Carried forward		59	15 6	233	19 0

		DONATIONS.		SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Brought forward	..	59	15 6	233	19 0
Tracey, Miss Frances	..				2 0
Tubbs, Mrs.	..			1	1 0
Tuckey, Miss	..				5 0
Veigelé, Madame	..				2 6
Venning, Miss	..	1	0 0		
Vernon, Miss	..			10	6
Vickery, Dr. Alice	..			5	0
Viner, Miss F. A.	..			1	0 0
Wagstaff, Miss	..				2 6
Walker, Miss J. H., M.D.	..			1	1 0
Walker, Miss Abney	..				10 0
Walker, Mrs. Ingram	..				10 6
Wall, Miss Mack	..				10 0
Wallis, Mrs. John	..				10 0
Wallop, The Hon. John	..			1	1 0
Walsh, Miss	..				2 6
Wardale, The Rev. J.	..				2 0 0
Warren, Mrs.	..	2	6		
Waugh, Miss	..				5 0
Wedgewood, Miss Julia	..			1	1 0
Welsh, Miss	..			1	1 0
Westlake, Professor and Mrs.	..			1	1 0
Wetzlar, Mrs.	..			1	1 0
Whitehead, Mrs.	..	5	0		
Wilkins, Miss	..				2 6
Wilkinson, Miss F. R.	..			1	1 0
Wilkinson, Miss L. M.	..			1	1 0
Wolfe, Miss F. R.	..				2 0
Woodward, Miss	..				5 0
Wright, Mrs. Almroth	..			2	2 0
Wyndham-Quin, Lady Emily	..			1	0 0
Youngman, Miss	..				2 6
Zimmerman, Miss	..			1	1 0
Total	..	£61	3 0	£254	18 6

SPECIAL FUND FOR ENROLLING LOCAL ASSOCIATES OF
THE CENTRAL AND EAST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY OF
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, 30TH JUNE, 1898.

DONATIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, AND COLLECTIONS AT MEETINGS.

		£	s. d.
Adey, Miss V.	..		5 0
Arcott, Mrs. F.	..		1 0
Bailey, Mrs.	..		1 0
Chadwick, Miss	..	1	1 0
Clark, Miss C. E.	..		2 6
Carried forward	..	1	10 6

		£	s. d.
Brought forward	..	1	10 6
Corkhill, Miss Mary	..		2 0
Davenport-Hill, Miss F. (1st donation)	..	1	0 0
Davenport-Hill, Miss F. (2nd donation)	..	5	0 0
Durham, Miss A. L.	..	2	0 0
Dryhurst, Miss	..		7 6
"Friend, A"	..	10	0 0
Lawrence, Mrs. M. A.	..		2 6
Lillie, Miss Louisa	..		2 6
Lloyd, Mrs. Morgan	..	1	10 0
Martindale, Mrs.	..		10 0
Robertson, Miss	..	1	0 0
Shillitoe, Miss	..		1 0
Swiney, Mrs. (for literature)	..		2 11
Smith, Mrs. Murray	..	1	1 0
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The Society seeks to achieve this object :—

1. By acting as a centre for the collection and diffusion of information with regard to the progress of the movement in all parts of the country.
2. By holding Public Meetings in support of the repeal of the Electoral Disabilities of Women.
3. By the publication of Pamphlets, Leaflets, and other Literature bearing upon the question.

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1. The Central and East of England Society shall consist of the present members and such others as the Executive Committee may, from time to time, elect.
2. The Executive Committee shall consist of members of the Central and East of England Society, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and of single delegates, the same being members of Local Committees, appointed by Local Associations to represent them; the Executive Committee having power to add to the Central and East of England Society, and to its own number, and to appoint the Officers.
3. A subscription of any amount constitutes membership of the Central and East of England Society.
4. A General Meeting of the Central and East of England Society shall be held once a year to appoint the Executive Committee, to receive the Annual Report and the Financial Statement, and to transact any other business which may arise.
5. The Executive Committee shall, at its first meeting, appoint the Officers.
6. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Executive Committee at any time; or, at the written request of not less than twenty-five members of the Central and East of England Society, the Secretary or Secretaries shall call a Special General Meeting to discuss such matters only as are mentioned in the notice of such meeting.
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