

# WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

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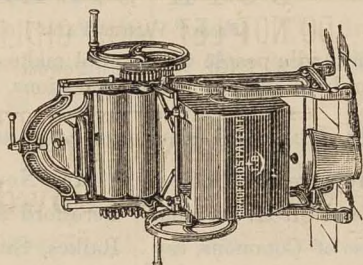
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A Public Meeting will be held immediately after the Annual General Meeting, in the same place. The chair will be taken at 4 p.m., by LEONARD COURTNEY, Esq., M.P. Sir David Wedderburn, M.P.; Miss Downing; the Rev. Brooke Lambert; Miss Becker; Dr. Rae; Mr. Atherley Jones; Mrs. Ashworth Hallett; Mr. Hopwood, Q.C., M.P.; Mrs. Duncan M'Laren; Miss Helen Taylor; Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, and others will be present.  
Doors open at 3-30. Admission free. A few reserved seats, 2s. 6d. each, to be obtained at the Society's Offices, 64, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

**ASHFORD.**—Miss Downing will Lecture at the Assembly Rooms, Ashford, on the 1st May. The chair will be taken by Mr. SMURTHWAITE, at 8 o'clock.

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### BOTH SIDES.

[From "VANITY FAIR."]

This is intended as an easy "coach" for those idle people who cannot make out "what it is all about," and as a simple abstract of the avowed arguments used on both sides of current questions. Well-informed persons are warned off.

*Should Women qualified to Vote in Municipal Elections be enabled to Vote in Parliamentary Elections?*

Mr. Courtney, Mr. Blennerhassett, Mr. Heygate, Mr. Collins, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Sullivan, and Sir H. Jackson, as spokesmen of 103 members of the House of Commons, say "Yes," because—

1. "Admit women to the franchise, and both they and the State will benefit."
2. Government is supported by force, but it rests upon the moral ideas of the people. Law and justice are the outcome not of force, but of right ideas of public morality.
3. The rights and interests of women "will never be so adequately considered as the rights and interests of men until they are admitted to the franchise."
4. The two questions are entirely distinct. The one would enfranchise a million and a half of one class of persons, the other would give votes to women who are distributed amongst every class and every constituency.
5. Women do not get a fair share of educational endowments, and the marriage laws are grossly unjust to women.
6. Women have to obey the laws, and therefore should have a voice in making the laws.
7. Women vote for, and make excellent members of, School Boards.

GIRTON COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.—At the late Entrance Examination a scholarship of £100 a year for three years, given by Mr. R. S. Wright, was awarded to Miss Margaret Meyer, a pupil of the North London Collegiate School, and at the same time two exhibitions, of the respective values of £60 and £40 a year for three years, given by the Goldsmiths' Company, were awarded to Miss Elsie Clark, of Edinburgh, and Miss Katharine Jex-Blake, of Rugby.—*Daily News*, April 19, 1879.

It is said that during the six months prior to the departure of her Majesty for Baveno nearly 17,000 boxes containing despatches from the different departments of State were forwarded to the Queen at Balmoral, Windsor, &c., for her Majesty's personal consideration. Immense numbers of the despatches necessitated her sign manual.

Mr. Newdegate, Sir S. Northcote, Mr. Hanbury, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Bristowe, Mr. Storer, Lord Percy, Mr. Raikes, Sir H. James, and Mr. W. E. Forster, as spokesmen of 217 members of the House of Commons, say "No," because—

1. "There is no precedent now for this measure in the government of any independent Government in the world, and there never has been."
2. "We must consider upon what all government and the whole administration of public affairs depends, namely, upon the force and power of men."
3. The established order of Society must be altered before such a thing could come to pass.
4. Mr. Courtney on Tuesday votes against extending household suffrage to the counties, and on Friday he advocates female suffrage—"a measure manifestly more democratic in its tendencies."
5. The demand is founded on arguments that lead straight to universal suffrage.
6. There are 900,000 more women than men in the country. What sort of legislation should we have if women's counsels are to prevail?
7. However desirable it may be to give women votes, this is not the time or the manner to enter upon the question.

THE LAWS RELATING TO WOMEN.—A series of drawing-room meetings is being organised, under the auspices of the Association to promote Women's Knowledge of Law, to discuss laws affecting women. These meetings are designed to encourage amongst women the study of the laws of their country, and thus enable them to acquire that knowledge which every citizen is by law assumed to possess, and the absence of which leads to many practical difficulties in the conduct of life, and to give them a wider and more intelligent interest in the legislation of the country, and in all matters affecting the welfare of the community. The first meeting took place in February, and the topic was the custody of children (Agar-Ellis case). Information as to these meetings can be obtained from Mr. R. Lichfield King, 10, Sussex Place, Regent's Park, N.W.

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ON the Tuesday preceding the debate on Mr. COURTNEY'S Resolution the House of Commons was engaged in discussing the kindred question of the extension of the principle of household suffrage to the householders in counties. Mr. TREVELYAN brought forward a Resolution to the effect that it would be desirable to establish throughout the whole of the United Kingdom a household franchise, similar to that now established in English boroughs. This proposal was met by an amendment by Lord CLAUD HAMILTON to the effect "that it is inexpedient to reopen the question of Parliamentary Reform at the present time; and, after a debate, the amendment was carried by 291 votes to 226—a majority of 65 against household suffrage in the counties.

The motion was opposed by the Government not on the ground that the representation of the country was incapable of amendment, but that at present it was not desirable to reopen the question. There can, however, be little doubt that at no distant period the general question of Parliamentary representation must be discussed by the Legislature. This subject includes not merely the question of qualification for the suffrage, but the redistribution of seats, and other proposals for securing a full and fair representation of all the interests and opinions of the various components of the nation.

In the present condition of things it is not probable that any single amendment, such as that for removing the disability of sex in Parliamentary elections, will be considered apart from the general question of reform. It is, therefore, to the period when this question shall be reopened for practical discussion and settlement that the claimants of the franchise for women must look for the satisfaction of their demand. In order to secure success the claim must be pressed with unceasing and increasing earnestness and force, and special care must be taken that the question shall be fully discussed in every constituency, and brought before the notice of every candidate in the forthcoming general election.

NUMEROUS meetings have been held during March and

April; of these, perhaps the most noteworthy have been the drawing-room meetings held in London for discussion. Opponents as well as supporters of women's suffrage were invited to express their sentiments, which they did freely, and the result was an exceedingly animated and interesting debate. The first of these meetings was at the residence of Mrs. LEON, Gloucester Place, Portman Square. The opponents were Mr. ANTHONY TROLLOPE and Mr. CAMPBELL FOSTER, Q.C. Miss BECKER replied to the former, and Miss TOD to the latter. Other speakers were Mrs. M'LAREN, Mrs. HOGGAN, M.D., and Miss DOWNING, and several gentlemen. Mrs. CHARLES HANCOCK had a meeting at her residence, Blandford Square, presided over by the Right Hon. JAMES STANSFELD. Mr. HUME WILLIAMS, Dr. TASKER EVANS, and Mr. JOHN BRETT were the opponents, and, in addition to the ladies who spoke at the former meeting, Mrs. FENWICK MILLER and Miss BIGGS addressed the meeting. The proposal was also ably supported by Professor HUNTER, Mr. HOPWOOD M.P., Mr. W. M. ROSSETTI, Mr. HERBERT MOZLEY, Rev. BROOKE LAMBERT, and others. Miss BECKER held a drawing-room meeting in Langham-street, Mr. PALMER, M.P. for Reading, in the chair. Mr. THOMAS HARE and other ladies and gentlemen spoke, and a Japanese gentleman spoke of the woman movement in his native country. Public meetings have been held at Luton, addressed by Miss ENRIQUETA MÜLLER, also in Lowestoft, Witney, Tunbridge Wells, Horsham, Yorkshire, and various districts in the metropolis.

Petitions in support of Mr. COURTNEY'S Resolution flowed in a constant stream while the subject was before the House. This was the result of voluntary and laborious work on the part of those interested in the movement. Paid agents were not employed, and the petitions thus form an irrefragable proof of the widespread demand for the suffrage which is the substance of their prayer.

THE Medical Bill introduced by the Duke of RICHMOND is substantially the same as the one withdrawn at the conclusion of the last Session; and, though it provides

for the bare admission of women to the Medical Register, it still treats them in an exceptional, and therefore unjust, manner.

In the first place, it authorises the medical authorities (*i.e.*, Boards composed of men only) to decide whether "distinctions" shall be made between male and female candidates with regard to examination, and though it is ordered that the examinations shall be "in all general respects equal," it is easy to see that a door is here opened for endless dispute as to the relative value of such examinations, and, in point of fact, the "uniform standard," which was supposed to be the very essence of the Bill, is sacrificed to the intense anxiety of a certain section of the medical profession that at least a semblance of inequality should be jealously preserved. Another clause of the Bill (No. 5.) is still more plainly actuated by the same feeling; and by its insertion the LORD PRESIDENT of the Council forfeits his word pledged to the deputation that waited on him last spring; for he then assured Lord ABERDARE and those whom he introduced, that the "women would be great gainers by the Bill, as previously it had been only optional for any Corporation to examine them, whereas in future, after passing the conjoint examinations, they could as a matter of right claim a diploma from any Medical Corporation in the country." So far is this from being the case that the present Bill distinctly provides: (1) That every successful candidate, after passing the Conjoint Board, *must apply* to one, at least, of the Medical Corporations for a licence or diploma; but (2) that such Corporations are *not bound* to grant the desired diplomas, but only do so at their option. The English of this is that the Corporations are determined to retain the power of obliging all male candidates to pass through their portals, but at the same time to secure the right of refusing admission to all female candidates, who must, be it remembered, have passed an examination "in all general respects equal." So the result will be, if this Bill passes, that men and women have to fulfil the same conditions, and come up to the same standard, but the men (without further examination) will go forth bedizened with various ornamental titles, while the women may be refused affiliation by every Medical Corporation, and can then only claim bare admission to the Register! Of course, in the medical world all this will be thoroughly understood, and, though it may gratify a certain class of minds to see the "reciprocity all on one side," the profession will know that the inequality is one of honours, and not of honour; but who

can expect the general public to realize that there is absolutely no distinction between the attainments of the man who goes forth with two or three fine titles, and those of the woman who is disowned by every medical college, and who, though registered, may probably find disputed even her right to the title of either "physician" or "surgeon," as both the colleges that monopolise these names refuse to admit her within their doors?

It is to be hoped that when the full bearing of the Bill is thoroughly understood, such "sex legislation" will be indignantly disowned by the Legislature, which, we are so often assured, takes equal care of the interests of all her Majesty's subjects. S. J. B.

NOT long ago we chanced to read the report of a certain school founded for the purpose of educating the children of men of a particular profession, and having therefore a side for boys and a side for girls. After reading a very glowing account of the general progress of the inmates, we came upon the information that pocket money continued to be distributed *regularly* to the boys, *occasionally* to the girls. But why this difference, we asked ourselves? Have the girls less pleasure in the possessions which pocket money brings? Have they less opportunity for finding uses for their money? or less need of learning the responsibilities of money, and how to deal rightly with that important form of power? The arrangement struck us as decidedly odd, not to say unfair. Yet practically the same thing has been done in the past month all over England, when the law of the land permitted women to have their part in the distribution of such power as comes of direct representation in every parish in the country. In a few months more it will permit them to share in a similar distribution in every municipal town, as also in every district where the momentous question of education is entrusted to the regulation of School Boards, but at another not far distant time it will deny them any share on the most important occasion of all.

Is not this to teach the people that women stand less in need of that respect for law which comes of knowledge, and which alone makes a people truly law-abiding, as distinguished from that respect which comes of a quasi-superstitious feeling that law is far out of reach of any influence or amendment as the winds and the waves?

Such eccentricities of legislation as this partial distribution of the symbol of sovereign power mischievously tend to confuse the minds of the people on a point which above all others should be clear to us—our place as citizens. To

have one principle for the city and one for the state is to diminish the sense of a noble common national tradition, the truest bond for a state as for a family. It must even tend to diminish the due appreciation of those portions of duty that are given, because they come as detached portions, not as forming part of a general all-embracing principle. H. B.

It is often gravely asserted by those who oppose the claim of women householders to the franchise, that their suffrages would extend the power of priestcraft. Cause and effect may be mistaken for each other, and the champions of liberty of conscience should beware lest, in denying to women liberty of action, they become themselves supporters of priestcraft, and resemble the miller who enforced on his wife the doctrine that men always know better what is right for women than women can know for themselves. She, poor thing, believed him, and when the pedlar came to the door, because he was a man and she was only a woman, she took all the goods he urged upon her, and her husband had to pay the bill. The miller failed to see that his wife's actions were the natural development of his own teaching. A priest is a man, and women accustomed to bow to the superiority of masculine judgment are far more likely to submit to his sway than if they had learnt to rely upon themselves. If men unwittingly prepare the way for priestcraft, they may possibly, like the miller, grumble at the bill.

A staunch Dissenter strongly objected when his daughter abandoned Nonconformity and made the priest of the parish her spiritual adviser. He did not perceive that this was the legitimate conclusion to a home training in which he had never allowed his daughter to exercise her powers of judgment. He had always expected her to submit to his will, even in the choice of her dresses. Taught by him to yield in all things to authority, she felt her need of it in religious as well as in secular life, and saw no great difference between the mancraft he practised and the priestcraft he hated. Without liberty of action liberty of conscience is a mockery. Those who will not allow women opportunity to acquire the virtues of independence must accept the vices of dependence, and like the miller pay the bill. E. M. S.

NEARLY one thousand female machine workers, employed at the Army Clothing Depot, Pimlico, assembled in the vicinity of Westminster Palace, on the afternoon of Thursday, April 17th, previous to the re-assembling of the members

of the House of Commons after the Easter recess, the object of the promoters being to represent their grievances with respect to the recent reduction of wages, which affects about 1,500 persons. A deputation of a dozen employes, headed by Mrs. Paterson, of the Women's Benevolent Fund, and three men, were received by Sir CHARLES DILKE, Mr. DILLWYN, and Mr. LEONARD COURTNEY, in the outer lobby of the House of Commons. The deputation stated their grievances at some length. It was alleged that in the majority of instances the reduction of wages varied from 5s. to 10s. a week. The women also complain that they are not allowed to take their work home as formerly, their earnings being further reduced by the new arrangement. An additional force of police was on duty outside the Houses of Parliament during the afternoon.

The matter complained of by the women was brought before the House of Commons on April 21st, by Mr. Mundella, who asked under what circumstances and with what object the factory workers employed by the army clothing department had been discharged, and whether it was true that an attempt was being made to reduce the wages of many hundreds of women, said to be in numbers of instances the widows and orphans of soldiers, to "slop-shop" prices.

Lord E. CECIL, in reply, said that factory workers were discharged while the factory was closed for stock-taking, cleaning, &c., to prevent them claiming wages for the period, and that the prices of female labour, piecework, &c., had been re-arranged, and in some cases reduced, but not to "slop-shop" prices. Women were then receiving 15s. per week on time work, and could earn from 14s. to 22s. a week as piecework. There would be no objection to produce the scale of past and present rates.

We learn from the *Echo* that three of the women who took part in the meeting at Westminster to protest against the reductions of pay in the army clothing establishment at Pimlico have been discharged from their work in consequence. This may not matter to the working man whose wages have not been "re-arranged," but it matters much to the working women, who have no votes, and therefore have not to be reckoned with by the Government.

Mrs. Thomas Taylor is issuing cards for an "At Home" at her residence in Hyde Park Gardens, on Monday afternoon, May 12th, when there will be a discussion on the social and political condition of women, in which the following speakers are expected to take a part:—Mr. O'Shaughnessy, M.P., Miss Becker, Rev. Brooke Lambert, Mrs. M'Laren, Mr. Avary W. Holmes, M.A., Miss C. Ashurst Biggs, and others. The Right Honourable James Stansfeld will preside.

Viscountess Harberton is issuing cards for a reception on the 14th of May, at her residence in Cromwell Road, when there will be a discussion on the enfranchisement of women.

## DRAWING ROOM MEETINGS.

GLOUCESTER PLACE, LONDON.

On February 27th, Mrs. G. J. Leon held at her residence, 701, Gloucester Place, Portman Square, an "At Home." About 300 ladies and gentlemen responded to the invitation. At the request of Mr. and Mrs. Leon, Mr. MORGAN LLOYD, Q.C., M.P., presided. After some remarks from the Chairman and Miss C. A. Biggs,

Mr. ANTHONY TROLLOPE said that, in spite of all the arguments brought so cleverly forward by Miss Biggs, he was bound to say that he was opposed to the great measure which the ladies present seemed so anxious to carry. On that account he was averse to address them, for he thought the purpose of the meeting would be better furthered and better carried out by a spirit of unanimity. He was not so vain as to suppose that he and one or two others there would be able to turn the opinion of ladies who had no doubt thought very strongly and very long, and perhaps very fervently, on the matter before coming there, to give encouragement to the proposition shortly to be made to Parliament, and therefore he was inclined to think he had better not address them. He was averse to addressing them also, because of many matters relating to the social condition of women he was entirely with them, and he should not like it to be thought that he was averse to their cause; and finally, he could not in the few minutes at his disposal make them fully understand all the real causes which actuated him. The chairman had informed them that all that they wanted was the extension of the franchise to certain classes of women. In this he differed from the chairman, believing that the great end which those who were assembled there wanted to attain was political equality with men, and he did not think that there was a lady present who would differ from him. It was not the franchise merely for spinsters and widows that they wanted. What they wanted was to be the equal of man in the House of Commons and outside of it, to be as equal in the political arena and elsewhere, to be as equal whenever their talent, their skill, and their energy enabled them to come into competition with him; and he put it to them whether that was not really what they wanted. (Hear, hear.) He asked, again, whether they would be content for all political privileges to be enjoyed by spinsters and widows? He asked them if they got in the thin end of the wedge, would they not very soon make an opening for the whole of their sex? Did they mean to say that the comely and glorious body of British matrons would not very soon push into the parliamentary arena with the spinsters and widows? (Laughter.) He hoped they were not going to say that spinsters and widows had a monopoly of all the talents and virtues; he hoped they were not going to say that, as he had a wife. (Renewed laughter.) What they wanted to assume was absolute equality with men. It was said by some that spinsters and widows alone were to have the power. Had they thought what injury they were going to do to the whole world? If it were possible for them to carry their proposition, which it was not, it would be the ruin—he was going to say the extermination—certainly it would be the ruin of man; for see what a great bribe they were going to offer to women to remain spinsters. (Renewed laughter.) There were two questions which, perhaps, it was necessary to answer. The first was, whether the change they proposed was possible or not; secondly, whether it was expedient or not. If they answered the first in the negative, then they need not trouble about the second. It seemed to him that nature had denied the possibility, and history had proved it. The political privileges of the world, he thought,

must go with the power of the world, and the power of the world must go with the purse. It seemed to be a rough, perhaps a vulgar, uncouth, and unpalatable doctrine; but if they looked at things as they found them it must be seen it always was, and always would be, that power must go with the purse. The chairman told them that women ruled their husbands. No such thing. He did not think there was a woman in the room who would glory in ruling her husband. They heard a great deal about that sort of thing in novels; but in his own experience he never knew a nice woman who did not think it proper to look up to her husband and be ruled by him; and he did not think there was any married woman present who would not be angry if she thought that persons thought so little of her husband as that she ruled him. The master of a house was the master of the house, and he was the master because he had got the purse. It was the man's duty to go out and earn wages, on which the household was sustained—on which the household was brought up; and so long as the man had the purse, so long must political power remain with him. He did not think they could get over that difficulty. It had been one of the chiefest works of civilisation to save women from that hard work in the world which women used to do. More than that, civilisation had been active to save women from that work, and no man would wish that anything should be done to bring women back to the old state of labour. The wages for work must come into the man's hand, and so long as that was so the political power of the country must be in the hands of the man. (Hear, hear.)

Miss LYDIA BECKER said that some years ago, when this agitation was commenced, she, believing from the language of Mr. Trollope that he was in favour of their movement, wrote and solicited his signature to a petition. Mr. Trollope replied that he could not support it, and if he did not give his reasons it was not because he shrank from a controversy, but because he could not do so within the compass of a note. Since then she had been very anxious to know what his reasons were, and she was obliged to Mr. Trollope for giving his reasons so frankly that day. Mr. Trollope said that he was opposed to the question. What did that mean? Not that he was opposed to any fresh right being given to himself, but to fresh rights being given to somebody else. It appeared to her that the somebody else whose rights were in question could form opinions more pertinent to the subject than were the opinions of those persons who thought they should not possess these rights. Mr. Trollope accused them of wishing perfect equality with men. The opinion so clearly expressed by Mr. Lloyd and Miss Biggs did amount to absolute equality. There was not a man in this country who might not be a voter; if he was not a voter that was the accident of his circumstances, and was not inherent to his nature. If they made every woman a potential voter, so that if she possessed the qualification she should have the right to vote, that would be placing her on a political equality with men, and put them in the position which Mr. Trollope said they wished to claim. She could only repeat that the terms of Mr. Courtney's resolution and the terms of the Bill that would be placed before the House of Commons expressed all that was asked for, and would satisfy her individually and the great bulk of those engaged in promoting this agitation. Mr. Trollope said first of all women desired to be equal, and then they desired to dominate. She could not reconcile these statements. She asked for women that they should labour under no artificial disabilities, and should not be prevented from earning those rewards which the exercise of their faculties would bring them. (Cheers.) Mr. Trollope objected that they were asking

for an impossibility. If it were an impossibility, then there was an end of the matter. But why was it impossible for a woman to vote for a member of Parliament? She was a citizen of Manchester, one of ten thousand women on the rolls. At an election she went to the polling booth, asked for a paper, marked it for the election of a town councillor or a school board candidate, and nothing particular happened. If she had to vote for a member of Parliament she would do the same. Then Mr. Trollope said that power remained with the purse. In Lancashire the great staple industry was supported by the earnings and wages of women. In the cotton industry only one-quarter of the hands employed were men. More than one-half of the money was earned by and went into the pockets of women; so that, if the earning of wages gave the right to vote, that right could not logically be refused to the toiling thousands of Lancashire.

Mr. CAMPBELL FOSTER, Q.C., opposed the question, and was answered by Miss Tod.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Astley, Mrs. M'Laren, Mr. Greening, Mrs. Hoggan, M.D., Miss Downing, and Mr. King, and a resolution in favour of adopting a petition in support of Mr. Courtney's resolution was carried with two dissentients.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

## BLANDFORD SQUARE.

On the afternoon of March 1st, a drawing-room meeting of the friends and opponents of women's suffrage was held, by invitation, at the house of Mrs. Charles Hancock, Blandford Square, for the purpose of discussing the question. The room and staircases were crowded for a period of three hours during which the proceedings lasted, the chair being occupied by the Right Hon. J. STANSFELD, M.P., who was accompanied by Mrs. Stansfeld. Among the other ladies and gentlemen present were the following:—Mrs. Fenwick Miller (member of the London School Board), Miss Tod (Belfast), Miss Lydia Becker (Manchester), Miss Downing, Mrs. Frances Hoggan, M.D., Miss Caroline Biggs, Mr. Hopwood, Q.C., M.P., Dr. Tasker Evans (Mayor of Hertford), Mr. William Rossetti, Professor Hunter, Mr. Herbert Mozley, the Rev. Brooke Lambert, Mr. John Brett, Mr. Hume Williams, Mr. Moncure Conway, Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, &c.

After a few words from the CHAIRMAN, the discussion was opened by Miss Tod.

Mr. HERBERT MOZLEY, as a barrister, said he could never understand how it could be said that women were shut out from voting for members of Parliament by law. He quoted from an old work, which stated that in the fourteenth year of Queen Elizabeth's reign (1572) Dame Dorothy Packington sent two women to Parliament, there to represent her borough of Aylesbury. Chief Justice Leigh had said that he did not know whether it had ever been determined that women had not a legal right to vote; and Mr. Justice Chappell, in dealing with the subject, confessed that the question whether a woman had a right to be an elector was a most difficult question to decide. As he knew of no legal disqualification, he demanded the electoral right to vote for a member of Parliament as a matter of constitutional principle and of justice. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HUME WILLIAMS followed with negative views, and said he was glad to believe that the books from which the preceding speaker had quoted were entirely obsolete.

Mr. HOPWOOD, Q.C., M.P., replied, and Mr. ROSSETTI followed on the same side.

Dr. TASKER EVANS opposed the claim of women to the suffrage, and was answered by Miss BECKER.

Mr. BRETT said he was in favour of Goethe's dictum, "From

the known unfold the unknown." There were three classes of women, and he scarcely knew how they would judge as to which should be enfranchised. The first consisted of the married, who were the *élite*; the second of the spinsters, who were the rabble—(hisses)—the mice who ate up the corn in their fathers' granaries, and afforded sport to the neighbouring puppies, who hunted them down in their preserves; and the third class comprised the widows, who could have little or no interest themselves in altering the electoral laws. Then, again, women were somewhere put down as chattels, and he could not see how they could legally enfranchise chattels! (Loud hisses.) However, he supposed that one day it would all come to universal suffrage for both men and women, and perhaps it would, from that point of view, make little difference if the instalment now asked for was granted.

The discussion was continued by Miss CAROLINE BIGGS and the Rev. BROOKE LAMBERT, both in support of women's suffrage.

Resolutions affirming the principle were moved by Mrs. FENWICK MILLER and Mrs. HOGGAN, M.D., seconded by Professor W. A. HUNTER and Mr. MONCURE CONWAY, and carried with three or four dissentients.

In reply to a vote of thanks moved by Mr. C. HANCOCK to the Right Hon. J. Stansfeld for presiding, and for his devotion to the cause of women generally,

The CHAIRMAN said there would be other opportunities for him to speak on the subject which had been so ably discussed that afternoon. When he was at the head of the Poor Law Board, he recognised the propriety of appointing a lady superintendent for the workhouses. Now, those establishments were only inspected by gentlemen, but he contended that, where there were so many women, there were matters which men neither could nor ought to inquire into, and which formed most essentially the duty of women. If the question of women's suffrage was destined to become successful, any opposition given to it now would only hasten its adoption. That had been the case with other political movements in this country, and the old line would be followed in this. He thanked them very much for affording him the pleasure of presiding over the meeting, which had been thoroughly good-tempered.

The proceedings were brought to a close with a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hancock for their kindness in lending their house for the occasion.

## LANGHAM-STREET.

Miss Becker invited a number of friends of the women's suffrage movement to meet her on March 3rd, at 15, Langham-street, W., in anticipation of a resolution to be brought forward in the House of Commons on Friday by Mr. Courtney. About seventy ladies and gentlemen attended, and there was some effective speaking on this now familiar subject. Mr. Palmer, M.P. for Reading, presided. Miss Becker, in an opening address, observed that at two meetings recently held, the advocates of women's suffrage had met with some opposition, and that this lent interest to the discussion, and was regarded by them as a token of the progress of the movement. She called in question the assertion, frequently made, that women did not want the franchise, and mentioned that in Leicester 1,400 women had signed a petition in support of Mr. Courtney's motion. If, however, women generally were indifferent to the franchise, it was not less important that it should be given to them, for, as had often been said in the case of agricultural labourers, the possession of political responsibility would tend to educate them to the use of it.—Miss Tod proposed a resolution, embodying the principle laid down in Mr. Courtney's motion, namely,

that the exclusion of women, possessing the statutory qualifications, from the political franchise was unjust and injurious. The speaker argued that the admission of women to electoral rights would promote in a very high degree the elevation of the tone of public life and political action.—Major Baker, who declared himself “a consistent Radical,” in favour of manhood suffrage for men and universal female suffrage, contended that the claim to the franchise of women, who possessed the property qualifications required in men, was based on justice. If we owed a man a hundred pounds, our duty to pay him was clear, and we had no right to make our payment depend upon our opinion as to whether he would spend the money wisely or not. In like manner, the claim of women in this case ought to be granted, whatever opinion might be held as to the way in which they would use their privilege.—Miss Downing humorously replied to several objections, declaring that “men don't know and don't understand” the feeling of women on the matter, and that women were by no means so contented as they sometimes appeared. She exhorted women to have the courage of their convictions with respect to this subject of the franchise, and to speak out plainly in general society when challenged to do so by men.—Mr. Nobushigé Irije, belonging to the order of Feudal Knights in Japan, and who was successful in carrying off last year the £100 Scholarship in Common Law, over the heads of his fellow English Bar Students, delivered a highly interesting and intelligent speech, and expressed a belief that the subject now being discussed so earnestly by many in England would before very long come up in Japan. Female education was making considerable progress in that country. The present Empress took a great deal of interest in the social and intellectual condition of the people, and of women especially; and John Stuart Mill's work on “The Subjection of Women” had been translated into Japanese, and was being largely read. History proved that the more any nation was civilised the better was the position of women; and, the speaker remarked, the final stage of their social progress appeared to be the attainment of political privilege, of legal and political equality. He urged those present to persevere in their efforts, and assured them that in so doing they would be helping their sisters in Japan, and setting a good example to all the rest of mankind.—Mr. Hare supported the resolution.—Miss Caroline Biggs proposed the adoption of a petition, which was seconded by Mr. Charles Hancock and supported by Mrs. McLaren, who strongly insisted that very much of the misery of the country arose from bad legislation, which women would greatly help to correct. The resolution, and a petition to Parliament based upon it, were unanimously passed.

[The above report is extracted from the *Christian World*, with a few slight corrections.]

### PUBLIC MEETINGS.

#### LUTON.

A public meeting in advocacy of women's suffrage was held in the Town Hall, Luton, on March 17th, under the presidency of the MAYOR (A. T. Webster, Esq., J.P.). The ladies forming the deputation were Miss Downing and Miss Müller (of Girton College). On the platform also were Councillors Gilder and Webdale, Mr. P. Wootton, and Mr. T. Stormer.

In opening the proceedings, the MAYOR said: The subject to which our attention is to be directed this evening is one about which there is a diversity of opinion, and against which there is directed a large amount of opposition. Now this ought not to surprise us, inasmuch as every new movement which has been launched upon society has met invariably with the same treatment; but the friends of women's suffrage are

greatly encouraged by the fact. This question is beginning to take hold of the intelligence of the people; it is making progress; it is constantly gaining accession to its numbers and strength. Its reasonableness and justice are beginning to be admitted, and the time is not far distant when women who are the representatives of property, and who are recognised as citizens, will, equally with men, enjoy the parliamentary franchise. And why should they not enjoy the same privilege if they are as intelligent, and possess as much property and pay as many rates and taxes as men? And further, I would ask why those women who are legally qualified to vote for Guardians of the poor, for members of the School Board, and Town Councillors, are not equally qualified to vote for members of Parliament on such occasions? Some persons tell us that women cannot understand politics, or comprehend such subjects. I should like to know what subjects clever intelligent women cannot understand as well as men? So far as my own observation has gone, I have found them every whit as shrewd, and in many instances much more keen and sharp-sighted than men themselves. What man is there in this assembly who has had the good fortune to marry an intelligent, clever wife, or who has mingled with educated sensible women of the present day, or who has marked their business abilities, who will presume to say before this audience that they are in any respect inferior or less competent than men? I think it is only reasonable and just that all widows and spinsters who are owners of land, or who possess property qualifications, should enjoy the franchise and have the opportunity of throwing into the representation of the country the weight of their influence for the good of the community. I am disposed to think that the arguments which are sometimes arrayed against women's suffrage are as weak and frivolous as the banter and ridicule which some of its opponents supply when they have nothing better or wiser to advance. For my own part, I have no doubt whatever about its ultimate success. But this, like every other movement which contemplates the welfare of the community, will take time to disseminate its principles and make its way among the masses of the people. I read the other day that the Mayor of a certain borough (Dr. Tasker, Hertford) said that a very few women in the town, in which he lived, availed themselves of the franchise, and that he himself supplied many of them with excuses. But however this may be in the town referred to, it is not so with us, and the kind services of his worship would not be appreciated in Luton. Our lady burgesses are not indifferent to the trust imposed upon them. Large numbers of Luton women have a vote, and they know how to use it intelligently, and we recognise their importance, and, at the time of an election, appreciate their judgment, especially when they record their votes in our favour, and they are always more to be depended upon than ignorant drunken men, whom the opponents of women's franchise don't object to upon the register. Indeed, the wonder to me is that any reasonable man can object to so just and righteous a demand on the part of women. In conclusion, the Mayor said that, as Miss Taylor was unable to attend, Miss Müller would first address the meeting.

Miss MÜLLER said: Opponents of the measure were puzzled to know what women could gain by the power of voting. Most men agreed that it was their right in the abstract, but spoke as though they did not think it would make the least difference or be of any value to them. But it would give them a voice in the choice of legislators from which they expected important results. Legislation was to increase good and diminish evil, and they believed that through the exclusion of women from the suffrage, important interests affecting them were overlooked. She deprecated the narrow view of women's

sphere, and expressed gratitude to J. S. Mill, Herbert Spencer, and other philosophers, who had shown that women could cultivate their faculties in the same way as men, without injury to their moral sensibility. She argued for the free development of women's powers without any artificial restrictions. As to laws affecting women, she referred to the Agar-Ellis case recently decided in the law courts, in which the husband made a pre-nuptial contract, he being a Protestant and she a Roman Catholic, that any children of the marriage should be educated in her religion. They had three children, but he repudiated his engagement, and the law upheld him in that breach of his contract. If the voices of women were heard in legislation, such a state of things would not long continue. In the Factory Acts some clauses bore hardly on women, and they were most unpopular with those they were designed to protect. She could not think that would have been the case if women had been heard as they ought to have been on the question. She thought that men could not fully understand the interests and needs of women, and that with the best intentions they often made mistakes on the subject. Some said the loss of the vote was not worth considering; but if mere voting were all, she did not think there would have been such struggles for extended franchise in years past, or that the right would be held so tenaciously now. Power to vote would give women an influence they did not now possess, and affect legislation in all its phases, as she believed, for the benefit not only of women, but of the nation at large. The success of the movement she confidently anticipated, and invited their co-operation in securing to them the privilege they so earnestly desired. (Applause.)

Mr. GILDER moved the following resolution: “That by the exclusion of women from the right of voting in the election of members of Parliament, a considerable portion of the property, intelligence, and industry of the nation is deprived of representation in the House of Commons, and that in the opinion of this meeting the parliamentary suffrage should be given to properly qualified women.” In that meeting the ladies could speak for themselves, but he was asked to take that prominent part because he spoke on their behalf in a place where they could not plead their own cause—namely, in the Town Council. He thought the resolution very moderate in tone and just in its demand. The deputation told him that they had no idea of procuring votes for all females, but simply to give the same rights to the women who were heads of houses in parliamentary elections as they now had in the choice of Town Councils, Boards of Guardians, School Boards. He believed that “representation should accompany taxation,” and that the demand now put forward was just. It had been conceded in local government. In the west ward there were 253 females on the register. It was only asked that the principle should be extended to parliamentary elections. It had worked well municipally, and he believed it would be equally satisfactory if applied to the election of members of the House of Commons. He believed that in the Town Council elections at Luton the female voters were as consistent, as conscientious, and voted as purely and faithfully as the males, and that they would do the same in parliamentary elections.

Mr. STORMER seconded the resolution.

Miss DOWNING supported the resolution, which was carried with only two dissentients.

Mr. WEBDALE proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the two ladies.

Mr. WOOTTON seconded.

Miss DOWNING replied, and mentioned that a committee was being formed in Luton to forward the movement; and she suggested that as the Marquis of Tavistock last week voted

against the motion, they should urge him next year not to turn round—they could not expect a man to do that—but to have a pressing engagement elsewhere when the division came on. (Laughter.) She hoped Luton might soon have a member of its own, and that they would take care to have a man right on this subject. In conclusion, she proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor, which was unanimously adopted.

The MAYOR said it had given him great pleasure to be present. The meeting was then ended.

#### LOWESTOFT.

On February 21st a meeting was held in the Public Hall, Lowestoft, under the auspices of the Norfolk branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Woods Perris, of Norwich; there were on the platform Mr. and Mrs. Aspland Cooper, Mrs. Leach, and Mrs. Dowsett, besides the speaker. After an address by the chairman, the Rev. O. Mant expounded the principles of the association; Mrs. Chant, the local secretary, gave an address of about an hour's duration. The Rev. Frank Goodall proposed a vote of thanks for the address, and Mrs. Leach proposed a similar compliment to the chairman. The meeting was closed with the National Anthem.

#### HORSHAM.

A public meeting, in support of Mr. Leonard Courtney's resolution to repeal the electoral disabilities of women householders, was held in the Town Hall, Horsham, on the 5th of March; Mr. Cramp occupied the chair. The first resolution, which was similar to the above, was moved by Mr. G. Howell, and seconded by Miss C. A. Biggs. The second resolution was as follows: “That women being held, equally with men, responsible to the laws of the country, should therefore have a voice in electing those who make the laws, and that the chairman be authorised to sign, on behalf of this meeting, a petition in support of Mr. Courtney's resolution in favour of the repeal of the electoral disabilities of women householders.” This resolution was moved by the Rev. John Lock, seconded by the Rev. G. O. Frost, and supported by Miss Downing. Both resolutions were carried unanimously, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

#### TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

A meeting to discuss the political disabilities of women householders was held at the Great Hall, Tunbridge Wells, on the evening of the 6th March, under the presidency of C. H. Hopwood, Esq., Q.C., M.P. Miss Becker and Miss Orme attended as a deputation from the National Society for Women's Suffrage. Mr. Learoyd moved the following resolution: “That, by the exclusion of women from the right to vote in the election of members of Parliament, a considerable portion of the property, intelligence, and industry of the nation is deprived of representation in the House of Commons; and that the extension to women of political rights, by strengthening in them the sense of the responsibilities and duties of citizenship, would be conducive to the highest welfare of the State.” Mrs. Charles Beke seconded the resolution. Miss Becker then addressed the meeting; and the resolution, being put by the chairman in the usual way, was carried by a considerable majority. Miss Orme proposed the second resolution to the effect “That women being held, equally with men, responsible to the laws of the country, should therefore have a voice in electing those who make the laws, and that the chairman be authorised to sign, on behalf of this meeting, a petition in support of Mr. Courtney's resolution in favour of the repeal of the electoral disabilities of women householders.” This was seconded by Mr. George Howell, and carried by the meeting. A vote of thanks

to the chairman and the ladies who had addressed the meeting was carried with acclamation.

#### BLACKHEATH.

A public meeting was held in the Alexandra Hall, Blackheath, on March 3rd; Charles Eardley Wilmot, Esq., in the chair. Resolutions in support of the franchise for women were moved and supported by the Rev. Brooke Lambert, Miss Müller, the Rev. Wilton South, and Miss Tod, and carried. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

#### LAMBETH.

A public meeting in favour of extending the suffrage to women householders was held at the Lambeth Baths, on Tuesday evening, March 4th, the chairman of the Lambeth Liberal Association (Mr. W. R. Selway) presiding. Mr. G. Hill and Mr. J. A. Lyon seconded a resolution declaring "That, by the exclusion of women from the right to vote in the election of members of Parliament, a considerable portion of the property, intelligence and industry of the nation is deprived of representation in the House of Commons; and that the extension to women of political rights, by strengthening in them the sense of the responsibilities and duties of citizenship, would be conducive to the highest welfare of the State." Miss Becker supported the resolution, which was unanimously carried, as was also another authorising the chairman to sign on behalf of the meeting a petition in support of Mr. Courtney's resolution for the repeal of the electoral disabilities of women householders. This was moved by Mr. Chesson, seconded by the Rev. G. M. Murphy, and supported by Miss Downing. On the motion of Mr. George Howell, a vote of thanks was given to the chairman, and this concluded the proceedings.

#### BLOOMSBURY.

The Bloomsbury Young Men's Debating Association discussed women's suffrage on March 24th. The affirmative was maintained by Mr. J. H. Freeman. After a discussion, in the course of which Miss C. A. Biggs answered some of the objections, the chairman (the Rev. P. Chown) declared the motion lost on a division.

#### GRAVESEND.

Miss H. P. Downing delivered an address on "The political enfranchisement of Women," in the Public Hall, Gravesend, to an intelligent and appreciative audience, on the evening of April 22nd. The chair was taken by J. C. Johnson, Esq., member of the School Board. At the conclusion of the lecture Mr. Howell proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Downing, which was seconded by a gentleman in the body of the hall and carried. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

#### WITNEY.

On April 4th a lecture was given at the Corn Exchange, Witney, Oxon, by Miss Downing, on the question of the right of women householders to the suffrage. Mr. J. M. Albright, of Charlbury, occupied the chair.

#### CLAPHAM ROAD.

On the evening of April 9th, Miss H. P. Downing lectured in Holy Trinity Church, South Island, Clapham Road, London, on "The Moral aspects of the Women's Suffrage movement," the Rev. W. H. Bailey in the chair. The meeting was unanimously in favour of the views advocated by the lecturer.

#### BETHNAL GREEN.

A lecture on "The Suffrage for Women Householders" was given by Miss A. Shore, on the 2nd March, to the members of the Commonwealth Club, 246, Bethnal Green Road, E.

#### TOWER HAMLETS.

A lecture was given by Miss C. A. Biggs, at the Tower Hamlets Radical Club and Association, Assembly Hall, Beaumont-street, Mile End, on the 2nd March. The subject of the lecture was "Women's Suffrage, a part of the Liberal programme."

#### PADDINGTON.

A debate was held by the West End Debating Society at the Paddington Hotel, on March 17th, on the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women householders. Miss Tod and Miss C. A. Biggs were invited to be present and join in the discussion. The debate was opened by Mr. J. T. Lingen in an able speech, in which he supported the measure. Miss Tod followed. After many speeches *pro* and *con* the debate was, at the end of two hours, adjourned to the week after.

#### HYDE.

On January 16th a meeting of adult women only was held in the Temperance Hall, Hyde; Mrs. Elizabeth Thorley in the chair. There was a large attendance. The questions discussed were the Factory Acts as affecting women, the laws for the personal protection of women, and other legislation exclusively affecting them. A petition in favour of Mr. Courtney's resolution was proposed by Mrs. Nancy Turner, seconded by Mrs. Winterbottom, supported by Mrs. Ligo, and carried unanimously.

#### ROMILEY.

Miss Craigen held a meeting on February 17th, in the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Romiley, Cheshire. There was a very good attendance, nearly all working women. Mrs. Samuel Green occupied the chair, and the petition was carried by a unanimous vote.

#### HULL.

On March 20th Miss Craigen addressed a meeting of women only, in the Temperance Hall, Mytongate, Hull; Mrs. Peter Bolton presided. There was a large attendance of working women of the more thoughtful sort, mostly religious women, members of chapels, etc. After a short speech from the president, Mrs. Bitton made a prayer, after which Miss Craigen delivered her address. This was received with the most earnest attention. The petition was then read out, line by line, and it was asked if the petition represented the mind of the meeting. There were cries of "Yes, yes," from all parts of the hall. The petition was then formally moved, and carried by acclamation.

On March 24th a general meeting was held in the same place; Mr. Peter Bolton in the chair. After a speech from the chairman and an address from Miss Craigen, a resolution adopting a petition in favour of household suffrage for women and men in counties as well as boroughs was carried enthusiastically.

On March 25th another meeting, in the same place, was held. The chair was occupied by Mrs. Bitton, who opened the meeting with an address. Miss Craigen, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Shields, and others spoke. Questions were asked, and there was an animated discussion, after which the petition was unanimously adopted. Votes of thanks to Mrs. Bitton and Miss Craigen, and to the Temperance Committee for the use of the room, concluded the proceedings.

#### HESSLE.

Miss Craigen addressed a meeting on March 28th, in the Free Methodist Church, Hessle; Mr. John Tasker in the chair. There was a moderate attendance. The petition was

moved by the lecturer, seconded by Mr. Willey, and carried by a unanimous vote.

#### BATLEY.

By kind invitation of Mrs. David Vero, an afternoon meeting for women only was held at her house in Crescent-street, on Thursday, March 19th, when Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd gave an address on women's suffrage.

A similar meeting was also addressed by Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd in the evening of the same day, at the house of Mrs. Preston Sheard, High-street. On both occasions great interest in the question of women's suffrage was shown, several present saying it only required clear explanation to be approved by all sensible women.

Petitions praying for the removal of electoral disabilities of women were carried unanimously at both meetings.

#### DEWSBURY.

On Wednesday, April 2nd, a meeting of women took place at the house of Mrs. Jabez Wood, Cliff-street. After a short address from Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd on the "Need of the suffrage for women," conversation ensued, questions being freely asked and answered.

A petition to Parliament in favour of women's suffrage was carried unanimously.

#### CARLINGHOW LIBERAL CLUB.

On March 26th, Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd opened, by a most eloquent address, a debate on the above subject. The meeting was held in the large room, and there was a numerous attendance of both sexes. The chair was occupied by the president of the club, Mr. Wm. Bates, who was supported on the platform by a number of local adherents in the cause of women's suffrage. Mr. Joshua Taylor opened the debate, in which several persons of both sexes took part. The question was then put to the vote, and the show of hands in favour of women's suffrage was unanimous.—A vote of thanks was also unanimously accorded to Mrs. Scatcherd for her kindness in coming to address them, and a very interesting meeting was brought to a close.

### ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

#### WIGTOWN.

The Liberal electors of Wigtown Burghs have adopted Mr. M'Laren, advocate, as their candidate at the next election. Mr. M'Laren is a son of Mr. Duncan M'Laren, M.P. for Edinburgh. He is a supporter of women's suffrage and of the amendment of the property laws for women. Mr. Mark Stewart, the sitting member for the Wigtown Burghs, has voted for women's suffrage in every division since he entered Parliament.

#### MANCHESTER.

Mr. John Slagg has been selected as the Liberal candidate for Manchester, in conjunction with Mr. Jacob Bright, at the general election. Mr. Slagg is a thorough supporter of women's suffrage.

#### RIPON.

At an open-air meeting in the Old Market Place, Ripon, on April 17th, Mr. F. Darwin, the Conservative candidate, in the course of an address to his supporters, said:—"He had been asked whether he would support the Women's Suffrage Bill. He had been married a number of years, and he thought ladies had plenty of influence already. (Laughter and cheers.) The other evening he was dining at the house of a friend of his, and his hostess said, 'I see you won't vote for women's suffrage. I wish you would, and I would go and vote against my husband

directly.' (Laughter and cheers.) What an unhappy family that would be; as unhappy as another family they had heard of—a family which was disunited, one going one way and one another." (Cheers.) From this reply it would seem that Mr. Darwin is unaware that the vote would be practically given only to women who had no husbands to vote either for or against them, and that, therefore, there could be no question of disunion in families, even supposing that the suppression of the opinions of wives was necessary in order to ensure domestic peace.

### THE MINERS' STRIKE.

#### DEMONSTRATION OF WOMEN IN DURHAM.

We learn from the *Yorkshire Post* that an extraordinary scene in connection with the miners' strike was witnessed in the mining village of Pelton, near Chester-le-Street, on the afternoon of April 21st. There was a mass meeting of wives, mothers, and other female relatives of the men out on strike. They marched in procession from all the colliery villages within a radius of about seven or eight miles of the meeting place, and most of the detachments carried banners and flags, whilst some were accompanied by bands of music. It is computed that there were between two and three thousand women present, and many of them had infants with them. The speakers occupied a waggon, and as soon as the rather motley throng settled down to their places, Mr. George Pickering, of Chester-le-Street, was appointed chairman, and he said he hoped the conduct of the meeting would be such as would reflect credit on the women of the neighbourhood. He held that they had a right to meet, as they were deeply interested in the struggle. The following resolution had been put into his hand to be moved: "We, the workmen's wives of Pelton Fell, Ouston, West Pelton, and neighbouring collieries, not getting what is sufficient to maintain our families by the present wages earned by our husbands, advise and counsel them not to submit to the reduction asked by their employers without an impartial inquiry being made into the same."—Mrs. Scott, of Framwellgate Moor, moved the resolution. She said a statement had been published that an able-bodied man should not receive above 2s. 6d. a day. She would like to know whether the gentleman who published that statement was present along with his wife; and, if so, she would ask them if they thought such a sum sufficient to keep a wife and four children? How could they bring up a family and provide decent clothing for them on half-a-crown a day? (Hear, hear.) They should make 2s. 6d. a day into 4s. or 4s. 6d., and that was the lowest wage on which a man, his wife, and family could live in a proper way. (Applause.) Whatever they did they must show themselves to be true women, and stand loyally by their husbands in the present dispute. (Cheers.)—Mrs. Elizabeth Warrior, of Hebburn, seconded the motion. She was present to advocate "no reduction and open arbitration." (Cheers.) Let them abide by that principle. What she was now going to state was the perfect truth, and she could positively swear to it. In her capacity as a midwife she had visited many houses at Hebburn where the people were destitute of tea or sugar to nourish them. She considered it was the duty of miners' wives to band themselves together and show to the world that they were determined to stand by their husbands in the present struggle, for the simple reason that it was better to starve doing nothing than to starve and work. She was out in the great strike of 1844 and endured great suffering, and she was now willing, for the sake of the principle of arbitration being enforced, to endure fresh suffering. She knew of men at the present time who, instead of earning half-a-crown a day, only made 15s. during the fortnight, and some actually had only



CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM MARCH 20 TO APRIL 20, 1879.

Table listing subscriptions and donations from March 20 to April 20, 1879, including names like Miss Hall, Lady Wharnclyffe, and Mrs. Wansley with amounts in pounds, shillings, and pence.

A. W. BENNETT, TREASURER.

DUBLIN COMMITTEE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM JAN. TO MAY, 1879.

Table listing subscriptions and donations from January to May, 1879, including names like Mrs. Maurice Brooks, Charles Cobbe, Esq., and Miss Russell with amounts.

Mrs. HASLAM, 91, Rathmines Road, } Hon. Miss M'DOWELL, 45, Mespil Road, } Secs.

PETITIONS.

SECOND REPORT, 19-25 February, 1879.

Brought forward, Petitions 93—Signatures 1,589

Table of petitions from February, 1879, listing locations like Southwark, Hyde, Manchester, and others with counts.

Table of petitions from February, 1879, continuing from the previous table, listing locations like Brighton, Leeds, and others with counts.

THIRD REPORT, 26 February-4 March, 1879.

Brought forward, Petitions 170—Signatures 4,024

Table of petitions from February to March, 1879, listing locations like Blanche D. Drewitt, Southwark, and others with counts.

Table of petitions from February and March, 1879, listing locations like Frances J. Wedgwood, Annie Anderson, and others with counts.

Table of petitions from March, 1879, listing locations like Keighley Liberal Association, OXENHOPE, and others with counts.

Table of petitions from March, 1879, continuing from the previous table, listing locations like New Backworth, Glossop, and others with counts.

(To be continued.)





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