

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

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THE YEARLY VOLUME.
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[Continued from our last issue.]

WOMEN HOUSEHOLDERS' DECLARATION.

We, the undersigned unmarried women and widows, possessing qualifications which would entitle men to vote in elections for members of Parliament, declare that we consider our exclusion from the privilege an infraction of the principle that taxation and representation should go together, and we hereby express our desire for an alteration in the laws which shall enable such women to exercise the Parliamentary franchise if they desire to do so.

| NAME. | Qualification, whether as occupier or owner of houses, land, or other property. | ADDRESS. | Parliamentary division in which the qualifying property is situated. |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Miss SARAH ANDERSON | ...Occupier of house ... | ...194, Queen's Road, S.E. ... | ...Deptford |
| " | ...Owner of house ... | ...New Malden, Surrey ... | ...Surrey, Epsom |
| Mrs. E. B. BATEMAN | ...Owner of house and land ... | ...Corballe, Riverston, Glamire ... | ...Cork county |
| Miss AMY ELIZABETH BELL | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...40, Porchester Terrace, W. ... | ...Paddington, South |
| " | ...Occupier of counting-house ... | ...23, Bucklersbury, E.C. ... | ...City of London |
| Miss ELIZABETH F. BELL | ...Occupier of house ... | ...62, Bedford Gardens, W. ... | ...South Kensington |
| Miss A. A. BUTLER | ...Owner of house and land ... | ...Belleville, Portmayne ... | ...Kerry, South |
| Mrs. M. A. CLAYPOLE | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...51, Mersey Road, Rock Ferry ... | ...Birkenhead |
| Miss A. E. CRAWFORD | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...Beaufort-East, Bath ... | ...Bath |
| Miss DAY | ...Occupier of house ... | ...140, Upper Brook-street, Manchester ... | ...Manchester, South |
| Miss MARY A. EDWARDS | ...Occupier of house ... | ...185, Great Cheetham-street, Hr. Broughton ... | ...Salford, North |
| " | ...Owner of cottages ... | ...Swinton ... | ...Lancashire, S.E., Eccles |
| Mrs. SARAH MARIA FFARINGTON | ...Owner of property ... | ...Penwortham ... | ...Lancashire, N., Blackpool |
| " | ...Owner of property ... | ...Leyland and Walton ... | ...Lancashire, N., Chorley |
| Miss DIANA GOODALL | ...Occupier of house ... | ...3, The Terrace, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds ... | ...Leeds, North |
| Miss HELEN GREENOAK | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...9, Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh ... | ...Edinburgh, South |
| Miss ANNIE GREENOAK | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...9, Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh ... | ...Edinburgh, South |
| Mrs. GWYNNE | ...Occupier of house ... | ...36, Brunswick Gardens ... | ...Kensington, South |
| " | ...Owner of house and land ... | ...60, Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol ... | ...Gloucestersh., Thornbury |
| Miss ELIZABETH J. HALL | ...Occupier of house ... | ...40, Fenlman Road ... | ...Kennington |
| Mrs. HENRY HARRISON | ...Occupier of house ... | ...9, Chester Place, Regent's Park ... | ...St. Pancras, West |
| Miss JANE HOPGOOD | ...Occupier of house ... | ...257, South Lambeth Road ... | ...Southwark, Bermondsey |
| Mrs. IMPEY | ...Occupier & owner house & land ... | ...Street, Somerset ... | ...Somerset, East |
| Miss CATHERINE IMPEY | ...Owner of land ... | ...Street, Somerset ... | ...Somerset, East |
| Miss ELLEN C. IMPEY | ...Owner of land and houses ... | ...Street, Somerset ... | ...Somerset, East |
| " | ...Occupier of premises ... | ...Market Place, Bridgwater ... | ...Somerset, Bridgwater |
| " | ...Owner of land ... | ...Copford, Essex ... | ...Essex, Colchester |
| Mrs. JEEVES | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...Conyngham, Victoria Park, Manchester ... | ...Manchester, South |
| Mrs. DAVID JOBSON | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...Norbury, Newport, Fife ... | ...Fife, Forfar |
| " | ...Owner of house ... | ...3, Airlie Place, Dundee ... | ...Dundee |
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| Miss RACHEL FRANCES LUMSDEN | ...Joint owner of house & grounds ... | ...Glenbog, Rhyne ... | ...Aberdeenshire, West |
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| Miss RHODA V. MALLESON | ...Occupier of house ... | ...17, Coombe Road, Croydon ... | ...Croydon |
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| " | ...Owner of house ... | ...Lisle House, Cheltenham ... | ...Gloucestersh., Tewkesbury |
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| Miss ELLEN MARRIOTT | ...Occupier of house ... | ...Cotham Park, Bristol ... | ...Bristol, West |
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| " | ...Owner of houses ... | ...Cork city ... | ...Cork county |
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| Miss AGNES A. O'CONNOR | ...Occupier of house ... | ...Connaught, Elms Road, Clapham Common ... | ...Clapham |
| " | ...Occupier of house ... | ...6, Westmoreland Villas, Malvern ... | ...Worcestershire, Bewdley |
| Miss HENRIETTA O'CONNOR | ...Occupier of house ... | ...6, Westmoreland Villas, Malvern ... | ...Worcestershire, Bewdley |
| Mrs. F. PERUGINI | ...Occupier of house ... | ...62, Woodstock Road, Bedford Park ... | ...Middlesex, Ealing |
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| SOPHIA ELIZABETH PRICE | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...27, St. Paul's Road, Clifton ... | ...Bristol, West |
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| Mrs. SARAH ANN PUNG | ...Occupier and owner of farm ... | ...Home Cloisters, Roydon ... | ...Norfolk, N.W. |
| Mrs. REID | ...Occupier and owner of house ... | ...3, Godolphin Place, Hammersmith ... | ...Hammersmith |
| Mrs. STACPOOLE | ...Occupier of house ... | ...18, Norland Square, Notting Hill ... | ...Kensington, North |
| Mrs. CHRISTINA THIRLWALL | ...Occupier of house ... | ...27, Circus Road, Bath ... | ...Bath |
| " | ...Owner of houses ... | ...Mile End, London ... | ...Middlesex, Tottenham |
| " | ...Owner of houses ... | ...Enfield ... | ...Middlesex, Enfield |
| " | ...Owner of houses ... | ...Harlow ... | ...Essex, Epping |

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It is announced that Parliament will be opened on February the eleventh, probably by the QUEEN in person. Steps will then be taken to re-introduce the Women's Franchise Bill. Our readers are doubtless aware that in order to secure the discussion of a Bill it is necessary to obtain a first place on some Wednesday before Whitsuntide. An examination of the calendar shows that there are ten good Wednesdays, any one of which would serve if our friends should be fortunate enough to secure one. These dates are February 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, April 16th, 23rd, 30th, May 7th, 14th. February 19th would be too early, as the debate on the QUEEN'S Speech might last over that day. April the 2nd is the Wednesday before Easter, the corresponding date to the fatal selection of last year, a tactical error which is not likely to recur. May the 21st is dangerously near the Whitsuntide holidays. As there are usually nearly 200 members drawing for these ten places, it may be imagined that the chance of any one Bill obtaining a place is not very favourable. Nevertheless all will be done that can be done, and we can only trust that the efforts of our Parliamentary friends will meet with success.

MR. GLADSTONE, in one of his speeches at Manchester last month, declared that the Liberal party should adopt, either in connection with a Registration Bill or as a separate measure, the principle "briefly and simply called 'one man one vote.'" In connection with this utterance it is well to call to mind the opinion expressed by Lord SALISBURY at a meeting in Scarborough in December, 1888, shortly after a similar declaration from Mr. GLADSTONE at Limehouse. Lord SALISBURY said on that occasion, "Mr. GLADSTONE proposes to take our representative machinery to pieces again. I will put forward my own opinion, and it is my own opinion only. Whenever you take your representative machinery to pieces again, the first thing you will have to consider is the claim of women to the suffrage."

MR. GLADSTONE said that they "would remove that

anomaly which virtually creates plurality of voting in a country whose law is in principle entirely opposed to such plurality." Whether or no the assumption is well founded that the law of England is in principle opposed to such plurality is a question which is beyond the scope of this *Journal* to consider. But there can be no question that if it be an anomaly that some ratepayers and taxpayers should have several votes while others have only one, how much greater is the anomaly that some ratepayers and taxpayers should have plural or singular votes and others, who are equally liable to rates and taxes, and equally bound by legislation, should have no votes at all.

Truth is responsible for the following story, which should be taken to heart by political ladies of all parties who acquiesce in the exclusion of women from the Parliamentary suffrage:—

A Primrose dame was canvassing the other day in a brickfield near Wimborne. An old labourer heard her out very attentively and then asked permission to put to her one or two questions. The first question was: "Have you got a vote yourself?" Of course the Primrose dame had not. "And why ha'n't you got a vote?" pursued the brickmaker. The dame either did not know or preferred not to tell. "Well, ma'am," observed her interrogator, "if, as I suppose, Parliament don't consider you and the likes o' you fit to have a vote, don't you think it's taking a bit of a liberty for you to go about teachin' them as has been given votes what they ought to do with 'em?" The conversation then dropped.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL has written a letter in reference to the eight-hours question, in which he says: "Eight hours' labour, eight hours' sleep, and eight hours for mental and bodily recreation, seems to me to be an ideal which a democratic Legislature in its care for the welfare of the whole people may wisely and profitably endeavour to aim at."

We are inclined to inquire whether either the noble lord or his correspondents consider that this ideal is to

apply to women as well as to men. We wonder what would the British workman say if, when after having gone out to his work at eight o'clock in the morning and come home at four o'clock for his tea, his wife were to meet him with the explanation, "I got up at eight o'clock this morning and have been busy ever since. I have done my eight hours' work, and now I am going to do my eight hours' play," and were forthwith to proceed to a People's Palace, or some other institution for recreation provided by a benevolent municipality, leaving him to find his tea for himself.

DURING the recent strike of gas stokers in Manchester, one of the men is reported to have said at a public meeting that rather than yield he would see his wife and children die of hunger. This utterance is noteworthy as indicating the notion that a man's wife and children are in some sort his chattels, over whose destinies he is entitled to exercise irresponsible control. If the orator had declared that rather than yield he would himself die of hunger, there would have been some appearance of magnanimity in the sentiment; as it was, there was the underlying assumption that starvation would not touch him personally, and that his sufferings in this respect would be vicarious.

To us it appears that there is some defect either in law or custom in a condition of things by which a man is at liberty to plunge his wife and family into misery and starvation either because the conditions of employment are not altogether to his liking or at the bidding of the executive committee of a union.

AMID the obscurity which hangs over the circumstances of the Revolution in Brazil, it appears tolerably clear that one of the contributory causes was the dissatisfaction of the landowners with the Act for the immediate emancipation of the slaves, which was carried out by the Princess Imperial during her regency last year. The discontent thus created among the slave owners disinclined them to rally for the defence of the Imperial Government.

Mr. GEORGE EARL CHURCH, in a letter to the *Times*, says that emancipation was long since decided by the Imperial family, and in the face of the most bitter opposition of the slave owners the death stroke was given to slavery by the Princess Imperial on May 13th, 1888. The measure, he says, was carried by her supreme efforts, and against threats which would have deterred any woman of less nerve and devotion to the great cause she espoused. The principal orator of the emancipationist party, JOAQUIM

NABUCO, said in a great speech "that the leaders of the Abolitionist party gave their time and their energies but staked nothing, while the Princess Imperial staked her Crown.

Imperial Crowns have been staked and lost for great causes both in past and present ages, but these causes have usually been for the sake of territorial aggrandisement or for the personal ambition of rulers. For the first time in the world's history an Imperial Crown has been staked and lost in the cause of human freedom. It is a woman who has done this for the redemption of the slave from his bonds and of her people from the reproach of slavery. For this cause Princess ISABEL should surely wear in the pages of history, in place of the crown she has lost, a crown of glory that shall never fade away.

THE Lisbon correspondent of the *Times* says seldom has a law involving such fundamental changes, political and economical, as that abolishing slavery in Brazil been contained in so few words. The whole text is as follows:—

"Article 1. From the date of promulgation of this law slavery is declared abolished in Brazil.

"Article 2. All dispositions and contracts are abrogated. Rio de Janeiro, May 13, 1888."

On the promulgation of the Decree of Emancipation the Liberal party and the slaves hailed the Princess Imperial as "ISABEL a Redemptora" and by the great mass of Brazilians this memorable occasion was celebrated enthusiastically with demonstrations of loyalty and devotion to the Princess and the Empire. But the great landowners were furious and revengeful, and they no longer opposed the Republican movement. The result could only be the overthrow of the Imperial Government.

THE importation of slaves, says the Lisbon correspondent of the *Times*, was prohibited in 1850, when the Emperor himself was in Brazil. But in 1871, on the very day that the law was voted making the children to be thenceforward born of slaves free, it was signed by Princess ISABEL as Regent. If the law of 1888 did not grant to slave owners reasonable compensation or otherwise mitigate the effects of the change, the fault lay with the Government and Legislative Bodies of the day, while the Princess pays the penalty. The sequel may be found in the address to her people issued by the exiled Princess a few weeks ago. This parting address was calm and dignified, like the Princess Imperial herself.

At once a model wife and mother, and always a strictly

constitutional Regent, the sympathy and respect which have been shown towards her at Lisbon will find an echo throughout the entire civilised world.

THE appearance of the autobiography of Mrs. BEECHER STOWE almost simultaneously with the exile of Princess ISABEL serves to emphasize the circumstances that in both halves of the American continent the death-blow of slavery was dealt by the hand of a woman. In the heart of each woman was the same passionate love of justice and hatred of oppression which induced in each the determination that slavery should cease. The weapon of the one woman was the pen, of the other the sceptre. The reward of the one has been fortune and fame, of the other despoilment and exile, yet, doubtless, in the heart of each the real reward has been the deliverance of the land from a curse, beside which great deliverance personal considerations hold a secondary place. Let those who would deny to women the power or the right to do great things ponder over the fact that two women have been mainly instrumental in abolishing slavery throughout the New World.

MR. GLADSTONE ON REGISTRATION AND THE FRANCHISE.

In the course of his speech at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester on December 2nd, Mr. Gladstone said: I will now say a word on the subject of registration. The subject of registration has to do with the perfection of the instrument wherewith we legislate. When a workman has a job to execute, the first thing he does is to ascertain that his tools are in proper order. Such a system of registration as we now possess puts limitations and fetters upon the access of the people to the franchise, and in particular perhaps to the lodger franchise, and in my opinion demands a very early attention, so early that I can hardly say what should come before it, of the Liberal party and of the coming Parliament. (Hear, hear.) Not only does it embrace and require amendments of the present law of registration proper, but you know very well that according to the view of the party at large, and which I do not doubt you share, it would be right that we should deal with registration—that, whether by the same or by a separate measure, we should remove that anomaly which virtually creates plurality of voting in a country whose law is in principle entirely opposed to such plurality, and that we should endeavour to establish the principle which is briefly and simply called "one man one vote." (Cheers.)

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

BRISTOL WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

On December 13th a conference was held at the Alexandra Hall, Clifton, under the auspices of the Bristol and West of England Society for Women's Suffrage, for the discussion of the prospects of the women's suffrage movement and other questions. Dr. BEDDOE, F.R.S., presided.

The CHAIRMAN said they had met that they might listen to and, if they pleased, discuss three subjects bearing upon the welfare of women, and more particularly upon the welfare of the very numerous class of self-supporting women, who were always increasing in numbers in this country. The members of the Suffrage Society, he thought he might safely say, had been directly or indirectly always interested in all those questions which had to do with the welfare of that portion of their class.

Miss CLEMENTINA BLACK read a paper on "Trades Unions fo

Women." A discussion ensued in which General STILL and Mr. C. J. C. PRICHARD took part.

Miss CATHERINE DREW gave an address on "Technical Training for Women."

Mrs. ASHWORTH HALLETT spoke on the "Prospects of the Women's Suffrage Movement." She said the old arguments heard against the movement would be heard no more in Parliament. The vote still waited for settlement, but the active co-operation, the influence of women for good or for evil in politics, was acknowledged as a great reality, and the candidate who secured this interest went far to win his cause. The Primrose League, the first and by far the greatest women's political organisation, had proved that women could mix in the rough paths of politics and be women still. It had proved their capability to spread knowledge and influence votes, and this to such an extent that the other political parties had also found it necessary to call women to their aid. If the vote was still an unsettled question, every member of Parliament respected those who asked it. An article by Lady Catherine Gaskill in the *Nineteenth Century* last month pointed out that one of the innumerable requirements of women in the present day was that they should not only be able to take part in political organisation, but be able to speak in public, "if not brilliantly, with fluency and to the point." She thought the advocates for the suffrage had reason to soothe their weary spirits. She humbly confessed that things had gone beyond the aspirations of earlier days. The suffrage society took its stand only on the strictly constitutional line that women should not be barred from walking quietly forth once in five or seven years to drop a paper into a box marked with the name of the man whom they deemed morally and intellectually fit to legislate for the welfare of the people. The Women's Suffrage Society had, it would seem, entirely altered public opinion as regarded the relation of women to politics. What were the future prospects of the Women's Suffrage Bill? How were the Unionist Government and the Gladstonian party going to deal with the Bill? If, as they hoped, a day would be obtained next session for a debate and division on the Bill, an answer to this inquiry would be forthcoming. Meanwhile the Prime Minister had spoken in no uncertain tones. The leading politicians who had supported the cause had been on the Conservative side, while the majority of votes recorded were usually on the Liberal side. It must never be forgotten that Mr. Samuel Morley gave his vote and his money to aid this question. And Bristol had hitherto given an undivided vote, Mr. Handel Cossham seemed not to count. (Laughter.) Their non-party party at least gave them the advantage of criticising dispassionately the voting of every political party. The least they could ask from political leaders was that when the question came to the vote no undue pressure should be brought to bear on individual members to force them to again break their pledges and their professed faith. There were no less than 365 members of Parliament who had voted, or promised to vote, for the Franchise Bill, being a majority of 60 in the whole House. Let women neglect not this opportunity, but all do what in them lay to secure the passing of a true and safe reform, remembering that it would enable women of education and property to directly influence the decision of those great questions looming before them, and upon the wise decision of which the future greatness of the country depended. (Applause.)

On the motion of General STILL, a vote of thanks was accorded the speakers, and the proceedings terminated.

CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage was held in the Aldermen's Parlour, in the Guildhall, on November 26th. The annual report was read by Mrs. Bateson, the hon. secretary. It stated that during the year there had been a net gain of members of twenty. The following officers were elected: Committee, Miss Mary Bateson, Dr. E. C. Clark, Miss Flack, Miss B. E. Hammond, the Hon. Mrs. A. T. Lyttelton, Mrs. Peile, Miss Rhodes, Mr. Shuckburgh, Miss Stuart, Mrs. Tillyard, Miss Julia Kennedy, and Mrs. R. T. Wright; secretary, Mrs. Bateson; treasurer, Mrs. James Rae. A public meeting was subsequently held, presided over by the Rev. Dr. Ferrers, Master of Caius College, when an address was delivered by Mrs. Bateson, who moved the following resolution: "That women who fulfil the statutory qualifications which enable men to vote for members of Parliament ought not to be debarred merely on the ground of sex from exercising the Parliamentary franchise."

Mrs. Bateson spoke at considerable length in support of the resolution, which was seconded by Mr. B. E. Hammond and unanimously carried. Votes of thanks to the chairman and to Mrs. Bateson for her address terminated the meeting.

POLITICAL SOCIETIES.

THE WOMEN'S LIBERAL FEDERATION IN MANCHESTER.

The Women's Liberal Federation held their annual conference at Manchester on December 3rd and 4th, in the Memorial Hall. On December 4th, the subject for discussion was women's suffrage.

Lady SANDHURST, who presided, said her opinion with regard to women's suffrage, which was to be the main subject of discussion, was well known, and she need not waste the time of the Conference with any words with regard to it. She was strongly in favour of women's suffrage, and anxious to see it promoted by every means in their power; but she did not wish to see it a prominent object of the Federation. She had been asked to announce that any resolution passed by the Conference was to be held merely as the expression of the opinion of this particular meeting, and in no way binding on the Federation. In addition, she would like to say for herself that, as a resolution had never been brought forward or a vote taken in the Conference, and as the attendance was somewhat limited, any resolution which might be passed would not be altogether satisfactory as expressing the opinion of the delegates in general.

THE POLITICAL EVOLUTION OF WOMEN.

Miss A. A. BULLEY (Manchester) read a paper on "The political evolution of women." Miss Bulley pointed out that a considerable growth of civilisation was necessary before the faculties of women could obtain a chance of development. One of the things that had kept women back was the sheer difficulty of living, the struggle for existence, which in its earlier stages rendered physical strength the one thing necessary. Under these conditions the powers of women had lain dormant, and it was not until society had advanced to a more peaceful and settled stage that any improvement in their position was possible. Immense strides had been made by women during the last twenty or thirty years, and what had enabled them to show what they could do had mainly been the progress of science, which had made wealth and leisure easier to attain, had made locomotion easier, and had in many ways made the weak the equal of the strong. Stephenson and Watt, though they probably little suspected it themselves, had worked for the best interests of women. Women would never have attended Liberal meetings if they had had to go over rough roads in a stage coach, armed with a blunderbuss. She believed the right to vote would never limit the powers of women. At present their power was irresponsible, and she considered that an objection. Without making any prophecy as to the future, she would say that whatever helped the fullest and most complex development of society would aid the development of the political evolution of women. (Applause.)

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Miss F. BALGARNIE (London) read a paper on this subject. She said she would prefer to entitle her paper "The non-enfranchisement of women considered as a stumbling-block to national progress." It was now admitted, she claimed, that strength of mind and body in women was not a less good thing than sweetness. The political exclusion of women was not merely injurious to themselves, but aided as a direct and indirect hindrance to true national progress. Each extension of the franchise had been the precursor of reform, and the extension of political power to women would force those in authority to listen to their demands. In spite of social efforts for their amelioration, women were distinctly on a lower labour plane than men. In many cases women performed the same duties as men at about half the wages. No longer the blackleg of the political world, woman would cease to be the blackleg of the industrial world. At present she was the Chinaman of the industrial classes. With the permission of Lady Sandhurst, she moved the following resolution, which was not intended in any sense to bind the Federation:—"That in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as it had been granted to men."

Miss RYLEY (Southport) seconded the resolution with a paper on

"Women's suffrage as a plank in the Liberal platform." She said: I think we women, who claim the right to vote for the men who represent us, or rather who do not represent us in Parliament, have three distinct classes of opponents. There may be many more, but I want only to speak of these three, and unfortunately all are to be found in the ranks of the Liberal party. (1) There are the men who, I suppose, from conviction, but I would rather think from tradition, are conscientiously opposed to the interference of women in political matters at all. I believe they object to women reading the newspaper, only they do not like to say so openly. At any rate, they believe firmly and emphatically that women's place is home, and that in any other place she is out of place. They ignore, or are blind to the patent fact that there is a large and increasing body of women to whom the word "home," with all its sacred associations, has no meaning whatever; that they have grown up without any knowledge of such a place, and that many of them have nothing to look forward to in their declining years but what is known as the "House." Therefore, to speak to these women of "home" as their only right and proper sphere is a cruel irony, and a wretched travesty on the actual condition of things. Still there is a certain measure of respect due to these gentlemen. They do not encourage women to come forward; they do not ask for their help; nay, they even lay themselves out to restore their own ideal state of society, and in their own fantastic way try to deal out to women the homage which the chivalrous period of the Middle Ages has rightly or wrongly associated with the women of that period. With this class of persons, I am afraid, argument is out of the question. They see things not as they are, but as they would like them to be. They forget that even in the Middle Ages are to be found the names of women who took a prominent part in public affairs, apparently without detriment to the home circle, and that within the last few weeks, when the Lord Mayor of Dublin was presenting the freedom of the city to Lady Sandhurst, he was careful to say that he was introducing no innovation, and was only reverting to ancient precedent, for in the burgess rolls of the city of Dublin were to be found the names of many women who had won the esteem and respect of their fellow-countrymen, and had richly deserved the honour that had been conferred upon them. But it is their own ideal of women that these gentlemen wish to see restored—they recognise no other—but they do recognise, and perhaps truly, that if women are to follow pursuits and to fill places that have hitherto fallen exclusively to the lot of men, there must be a certain diminution in the halo which has attached to the sayings and doings of men. "If you become more, we must become less." That is the real point in dispute, and it is impossible to see how it can turn on anything else. Therefore, in respect to women, the gentlemen of whom I speak are real old fossilized Tories—they deny that women have any wrongs that need redress, that "progress" has any meaning as applied to them, and that the good old maxim, "Taxation without representation is tyranny," need be taken as in any way referring to the women who earn their living by the sweat of their brow, and who pay with all due punctuality the taxes which the Queen's Government exacts. (2) I have much less sympathy with the second class of opponents. They consist of the men who see the immense influence that women can bring to bear on any subject in which they take an interest. They see that through the Primrose League influence has been exerted for the benefit of the Conservative party, and they see no reason why it should not also be exerted for the benefit of the Liberal party. Therefore, they ask for the active co-operation of women in political matters, but when they are confronted with the question, "Will you vote for women's suffrage?" they become hesitating and reluctant—they dilate on the immense accession of strength that would accrue to the Conservative party by the addition of women voters, and they talk plausibly enough of the tremendous influence still wielded by the parson and the doctor over the female mind. "Skin for skin," all that a man hath will he give for his seat, and if the adoption of a principle admittedly right and just is to jeopardize a seat that has been won by perhaps a bare majority, then these gentlemen of the Liberal party calmly turn round and say, "We will put off your vote till a more convenient season; we must not endanger the party; we must not run the risk of handing over a seat to the other side, but, meanwhile, we cannot do without your help (?), we want you to impress our views on the constituents. To which we can only reply: "Educate your women, make them see clearly and believe that the Liberal party is true to

its traditions, that it never sees a wrong without coming forward to redress it, and that no power on earth could make a genuine Liberal swerve from a principle which he believes to be true for fear of endangering his own political power." And besides, there is this important argument. The gentlemen whom we now ask to vote for the suffrage when the opportunity occurs, have plenty of breathing time between the passing of the Bill and the actual admission of women as electors. In this time the work of education can be satisfactorily carried on, and the party, as a party, can have the fullest assurance if they wish it, that, when they exercise the franchise for the first time, the women will not all vote Tory. (3) With the third class of opponents, I have no sympathy whatever. It is composed of those women who are desirous of taking an ever-increasing interest in politics, and who have thrown in their lot with the Liberal party, and yet who profess to have no personal desire for the Parliamentary vote. What do they want to exert political influence for, if they do not also desire to strengthen that influence by the strongest weapon that can be placed in their hands? If they exert an influence without the vote, how much greater would not that influence be with the vote? The only grounds on which they can possibly be quiescent in the matter are (1) that they feel they are not strong enough to cope with the Primrose Dames, and that they might be worsted in a trial of strength; (2) that they do not care enough about the interests of women to wish to see them represented by the only people who can adequately do so, viz., by women themselves. Either position is a poor one, and ought to be abandoned by anyone holding true and enlightened views. The position of a political woman without a vote seems to me the most abject that can be conceived. She is called upon to use her time, her influence, and her money in the furtherance of a political platform, in the drawing-up of which she has had no say, and in the choice of whose candidates she has not been called upon to express her opinion. The influence of political women of this anomalous description must become more and more dangerous, for they will acquire a large amount of local political knowledge which they will be free to use as personal or private motives dictate, and without the responsibility which justly attaches to the possession of the vote. The thing cannot go on. A political woman with a vote is the only natural corollary to a political woman without, and from reasons of expediency, let alone principle, the sooner it is granted the better. If not, it is to be feared that the whole political machinery may be converted into political organisations outside of the party organisation, over which it has no control, and which are yet too powerful to be ignored. This argument, of course, appeals to the party as a party, and will doubtless have to be taken into consideration before many months—certainly before many years expire; but I should like to appeal very earnestly to those women who have no grievances of their own which need redress, and who are consequently indifferent to the mute appeal of the many destitute and down-trodden women who have. The position of these poor women would be raised at once if they possessed a vote which they could use in favour of the candidate who would do the most for them. For myself, I have every reason to believe that such a candidate would, in nine cases out of ten, be found in the ranks of the Liberal party; but the wholesome friction that would ensue from both parties having to take the interests of women into consideration would not do the slightest harm to either, and would introduce an element into politics which has for far too long been absent.

Mrs. PILLING (Accrington) supported the resolution in another paper.

Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT (London) opened the discussion. She differed from some dear friends on the platform on this subject. To her thinking, the Women's Liberal Federation would hardly do its work thoroughly until it recognised that the political emancipation of women was its first step. (Applause.) Until they could speak with a political voice they could have very little political power that was of any value. Either women were citizens or not; if they were, why should they not have the right to speak in the citizen's language?

Mr. J. STANSFELD, M.P., said the papers which had been read were exceedingly interesting, and could not have been surpassed at the meeting of the other Liberal Federation. He attended as a very old and constant advocate of the right of women to the suffrage. (Applause.) The fact that she had the moral right, the

right by virtue of her equal humanity, sufficed for him. He had sufficient faith in the law of progress, which providentially ruled the world, to entertain no fears in according what right and justice demanded. (Applause.) He had no hesitation in saying that the enfranchisement of women would have the effect of concentrating the minds of the public and our Legislature upon great social reforms. (Applause.) There were many branches of social reform upon which women knew far more than men. When he was at the head of the Local Government Board he appointed a lady a poor law inspector, and there could be no doubt that women could bring into the public service special knowledge which men did not possess, and which would be of the greatest service. The enfranchisement of women would make the whole of politics more sympathetic. There might be some people who objected to sympathetic politics, but he could tell such men that their time had gone by. Women would be of great use in the solution of the social questions that were coming up for settlement. Another thing that would follow from the enfranchisement of women was that it would tend to moralise politics. Women would not simply have party objects; they would have faiths, which they would hold superior to interests of a party kind. (Applause.)

A number of ladies took part in the discussion, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Miss LYDIA BECKER said that as she was not a member of the Federation she could only speak by courtesy, but on behalf of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage she desired to express her satisfaction that the resolution had been adopted. She was also authorised to invite the ladies and friends of the Federation to tea in the offices of the Society at the conclusion of their proceedings.

RECEPTION AT THE OFFICES OF THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

As the subject of women's suffrage was to be discussed at the Conference of the Women's Liberal Federation, it seemed desirable to afford an opportunity for social intercourse among ladies interested in that question who came from a distance and friends of the cause, of all shades of politics, in Manchester. The Executive Committee of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage therefore made arrangements for an "At Home" at the offices of the Society, Queen's Chambers, 5, John Dalton-street, on the afternoon of December 4th, from five to seven o'clock, to meet the ladies of the Federation who were interested in their common object. About 150 ladies and gentlemen availed themselves of the invitation, among whom were Mrs. J. F. Leese, Mrs. Bateson, Mrs. Charles M'Laren, Mrs. C. E. Schwann, and others. The rooms were elegantly decorated with plants and flowers and fairy lights, and the meeting—which was purely of a non-political character—was a very social and agreeable one. The visitors were received by Miss Becker, and abundant hospitality was dispensed by the committee of the Society.

ASHTON WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

SPEECH BY MR. W. SUMMERS, M.P.

The annual meeting of this association was held in the Ashton Town Hall on December 9th. The chair was occupied by Mr. Wm. Summers, M.P., who, in the course of his remarks, said they had met for the purpose of listening to an address by Lady Sandhurst on Liberal policy and Liberal principles. He welcomed it that women were more and more in the country taking an intelligent interest in political matters. (Hear, hear.) There were some people who were very timid, and they said this was all wrong, the world would be turned topsy-turvy if this kind of thing went on much longer, and it must be put a stop to very speedily. The Tories in politics were the timid party, but he was afraid that there were some timid and weak-kneed persons even in the ranks of the Liberal party; but for the benefit and consolation of these people he would tell them a little story. The poet Laureate—the poet Coleridge, was once asked by a lady "Do you believe in ghosts, Mr. Coleridge?" and he replied, "No, ma'am; I have seen too many." (Laughter.) And so when they had these spectres and bogies trotted out before them, and when they were asked whether they believed in those political spectres and bogies, let them reply like the poet Coleridge, and say, "We have seen too many of them, and we do not believe a word about them." (Hear, hear.) Why, only a short time ago, when there was a movement in this country in favour of the higher education of women, all manner of objections were raised from all quarters, and especially

from the quarter of the scientific men in this country. They were told by those high scientific authorities that the average brain weight of woman was five ounces less than the average brain weight of man—(laughter)—and they were further informed that the blood of woman contained two per cent fewer red globules than the blood of man, and the conclusion drawn by those learned scientific authorities, from these undoubted facts, was this, that women were not fit for a higher education, and if they attempted it they would signally and egregiously fail. But they had attempted it, and they had not failed. Why one lady, Miss Ramsay, was senior classic at Cambridge, and he believed she beat all the men—(cheers)—who came out in competition against her; and, notwithstanding the fact that women were handicapped by having brains weighing five ounces less than the brains of men, and by having two per cent fewer red globules in their blood than men possessed, they had succeeded in attaining the highest prizes of the higher education. (Cheers.) If women had done these great things in the sphere of education, why should they not do equally great and memorable things in the political sphere? Lady Sandhurst he once heard give an admirable definition of politics. She said "Politics are the science of the well-being of the people." (Hear, hear.) If that was so, he wanted to ask, had not woman precisely the same interest in politics (defined in this sense) that men possessed? He would say they had precisely the same interest, and, therefore, he held that it was perfectly right and perfectly legitimate that they should form opinions upon political questions.

BLACKPOOL WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

A largely attended and highly successful meeting in connection with the Women's Liberal Association was held in the Alpine Hall, Blackpool, on December 10th. Mrs. Tatton (President of the Association) was in the chair. After an address by the President, the Rev. R. Lewes moved a resolution in favour of women's suffrage, which was seconded by Mr. Whitaker. Mrs. Ormiston Chant supported the resolution, which was adopted and carried without a dissentient. Miss Becker then addressed the meeting as representing the Women's Suffrage Society, and therefore in a non-political character. A resolution of thanks to those who had taken part in the meeting, moved by Mr. Ainsworth, seconded by Mr. Donnelly, concluded the proceedings.

PORTSMOUTH WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

At the monthly meeting of the Portsmouth Women's Liberal Association, at Fuller Hall, Landport, on November 27th, addresses in support of women's suffrage were delivered by Mr. W. M'Laren, M.P., and Miss Florence Baggallin. The Rev. Charles Joseph having criticised the logic of admitting the capability of a woman to be the head of the realm and the earthly head of the Church, and at the same time denying to other women a voice in making the laws, Mr. Joseph proposed, "That this meeting, believing in the Liberal principle of government of the people by the people, and believing that national justice is impossible when half the nation have no direct representation because they are women, pledges itself to the redress of this wrong by supporting the claims of women to the Parliamentary franchise." The resolution was seconded by Mr. Vine and carried unanimously, and the meeting was brought to a close with the passing of votes of thanks.

STANTONBURY AND DISTRICT WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MEETING AT WOLVERTON.

On November 30th a meeting, under the auspices of the Stantonbury and District Women's Liberal Association, was held in the Science and Art Institute Large Hall, Wolverton. There was a good attendance, and the chair was occupied by the Rev. J. Holmes, in the absence, through illness, of Mr. Alderman Littleboy. He was supported by Mr. W. S. B. M'Laren, M.P., Miss Heathcote (secretary Stantonbury and District Women's Liberal Association), Mrs. Walker, Messrs. E. Owens, J. Irons, W. Lacey, W. Ward, and W. Sturgess. The audience comprised a good number of ladies. The Chairman, after reading a letter from Mr. Littleboy, said they had met to consider the women's suffrage question. He said that women did good work on school boards, and they had only just escaped being county councillors; and he did not think the Parliamentary franchise should be denied to them. Mr. M'Laren then

delivered an address, at the conclusion of which Mr. Lacey proposed: "That this meeting is of opinion that, as the right to vote for members of town councils, school boards, county councils, &c., has been given to all duly qualified women householders, the further right of voting for members of Parliament should be conceded to them." Mr. Irons seconded in a brief speech, and the resolution was put and carried unanimously. The meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks.

STOCKPORT WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

At the Stockport Women's Liberal Association, on December 12th, the Rev. Sydney F. Morris, of York, gave an address on "Some Coming Reforms." He was of opinion that the present Tory Government would be liberal enough to give the Parliamentary franchise to women who are householders; he would rather the Liberals gave it to them, but he would prefer to have something from the Tories, rather than nothing from any one; he showed how women were taking their share in working for the welfare of the state, where they did not come forward it was from lack of opportunity and not from lack of capacity; he stated that there were in the civil service 3,216 women; missionaries, 1,660; law clerks, 100; pointsmen, 171; warehousemen, 4,179; and this was in 1881. There are considerably more now. The world belongs to those who take it.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE LIBERAL CLUB.

Miss E. Sturge, of Clifton, delivered in December an address on "Women's Suffrage," in the lecture-room of the Weston-super-Mare Liberal Club, under the presidency of Mr. J. Wilkinson, and moved: "That the Parliamentary franchise should be at once extended to all duly qualified women." This was seconded by Mr. C. H. Poole, and an animated discussion followed. Mr. Parsons proposed, and Mr. G. N. Smith seconded, as an amendment, "That until the franchise is extended to all duly qualified men there is lack of sufficient reason for at once extending it to duly qualified women." The resolution was carried by a large majority, and Miss Sturge was heartily thanked for her address.

PORTSEA LIBERAL CLUB.

On November 27th Mr. John Ballard read a paper at the Portsea Liberal Club, Daniel-street, Portsea, on the subject of "Women's Suffrage." Mr. Avens presided. The franchise, Mr. Ballard argued, had been extended all round, and it only remained for them to free women from their disqualification to close the present chapter of Parliamentary reform. Women had surmounted all difficulties, and had succeeded in removing the various disabilities which kept them out of various learned professions. Women who earned separate livelihoods might be counted by millions, and he proceeded to analyse the absurd objections to enfranchising the sex, which had already the right to vote in municipal matters. The opponents to female enfranchisement were growing weaker in rank, and the arguments against it were growing obsolete. The question had originated with Liberals, and he urged that the man who could see the way to remove the disabilities would be a real benefactor to his country. A discussion followed, and ultimately a vote of thanks was accorded to the reader of the paper, on the motion of Mr. Forsyth. Mr. Ward, of Portsea, supported the principle of extending the Parliamentary vote to women who already had municipal votes, but doubted its expediency. Mr. E. J. Blake objected *in toto* to granting the female franchise. Women could be fascinated by the looks of a candidate, and were creatures of impulse. Mr. A. F. Read also spoke.

OAKWORTH LIBERAL CLUB.

The fourth of a series of winter-evening meetings for the consideration of current political topics was held at the Oakworth Liberal Club, on November the 28th, when an address on "Women's Suffrage" was given by Mr. Charles Barton. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. Colburn. After referring to the past history and present position of this question, the speaker stated in detail the arguments for extending the Parliamentary franchise to all women who possess the qualifications required from male voters. A discussion followed, and the customary votes of thanks were cordially given to the speaker and the chairman.

ACTON LIBERAL CLUB.

Miss Florence Baggallin lectured on October 21st, at the Liberal Club, Acton. A resolution, proposed by Mr. Story, and seconded

by Mr. Parsons, to the effect that the meeting was of opinion that by women who paid rates and taxes should have a voice in the election of members of Parliament, was carried.

DULWICH WORKING MEN'S LIBERAL AND RADICAL CLUB.

On October 23rd, at the Dulwich Working Men's Liberal and Radical Club, a meeting, presided over by Mrs. John Henderson, was addressed by Miss Florence Baggallin. A somewhat lively discussion followed the address, the following giving their views: Messrs. Low, Rubie, Henderson, Savage, and Challenger—the latter having a fear that if the suffrage were granted to women they may vote Tory. The lecturer replied to the objections raised, and a petition was adopted at the close of the meeting in favour of women's suffrage.

MELKSHAM.

On November 30th, Mr. G. P. Fuller, M.P., presided over a meeting held at Melksham, when Mr. M'Laren, M.P., attended and delivered an address on the subject of Women's Suffrage. In opening the proceedings the Chairman remarked that women's suffrage was not a party question, it was not a question that was advocated entirely by the Liberal party, neither was it taken up solely by the Tory party, but it was a question that they, as Liberals, thought should be ventilated and considered. Mr. M'Laren's motto was—as most Radical mottoes were—"Thorough." If they were to be Liberals, let them be Radical; and if reforms were to be brought about, let them be thorough reforms, root and branch. But the fact was, as he must impress upon them, that this question of women's suffrage was not on the Liberal programme at the present time. They wanted time to consider it. That night they would hear the bright side of the argument of those who approved of the principle of giving women of property the suffrage. It was very difficult to argue against the property qualification of a woman as being inferior to the property qualification of a man; and on the principle of government by the people and for the people the arguments were very strongly in favour of women's suffrage. Mr. M'Laren, M.P., followed with an address, in which he contended that women were entitled to a vote at Parliamentary as well as local elections, and also pointed out that the feeling in favour of the proposal made twenty-one years ago was growing in every part of the country. Both the chairman and Mr. M'Laren were thanked before the meeting closed.

LEVENSHULME AND BURNAGE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

MR. MACLURE, M.P., ON WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

At the annual dinner of the Levenshulme and Burnage Conservative Association, which took place at Heaton Chapel on December 14th, Mr. J. W. Maclure, M.P., said they heard a great deal of "one man one vote," but he (Mr. Maclure) held that no man who could not read and write ought to have a vote, and he was in favour of women ratepayers having the franchise on the same conditions as any other ratepayer; and he was certain that the addition of women's names to the register would not only be a benefit but an act of tardy justice, and remove an undesired stigma from a class who did more than even men for the moralising work of society.

LEWISHAM CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

In connection with the series of meetings organised by the Borough of Lewisham Conservative Association, a discussion took place on November 30th, at St. Mary's National Schools, High-street, Lewisham, on the subject of "Women's Suffrage." Miss Florence Baggallin opened the discussion with an address in support of the principle. In the course of the discussion, Mr. Alfred Newton, Mr. C. L. Shaw, and Mr. Ridley opposed, and Mr. Martel, Mr. Relton, and Mr. H. C. Richards supported the principle. Mr. Brereton regarded the movement for giving women the franchise as the thin edge of the wedge leading to a demand for a seat in Parliament. If he did not so consider it, he should be in favour of the movement. Miss Baggallin having replied, the proceedings were brought to a close with the usual compliment to that lady and the chairman.

ROYSTON CONSERVATIVE CLUB.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

On December 10th, at the usual monthly meeting of the Conservative Club, Dr. Archer in the chair, a debate took place on the

subject of the extension of the franchise to women householders. Mr. S. Camps opened in favour of it, and Mr. T. S. Higgins followed against. Mr. Waterman proposed a resolution urging upon the Conservative party the desirability of taking up the question, and an amendment was proposed against it. The amendment was lost, and the original motion was carried with the cordial approval of several ladies who had been present to listen to the debate. There was a good attendance, and much interest was shown in the debate.

EDMONTON CONSERVATIVE CLUB.

On November 6th, Miss Florence Baggallin lectured on the subject of women's suffrage before the members of the Edmonton Conservative Club. The meeting passed a unanimous vote in favour of the extension of the franchise to such women as possess the qualifications which now entitle men to vote, and a petition in favour of the movement was numerously signed before the meeting dispersed.

LECTURES.

ELLESMERE.

On December 6th a public debate on the subject of Women's Suffrage was held in the Ellesmere Town Hall. There was a good attendance, consisting chiefly of ladies. The chair was taken by Mr. A. T. Jebb, who was supported by Miss F. Baggallin, the Rev. W. C. Tabor, and Mr. J. A. S. Jennings. After some remarks from the chairman, Miss Baggallin delivered an address, after which Mr. R. S. Lloyd moved the following resolution:—"That women, who as regards residence or property, fulfil the conditions on which the Parliamentary franchise is granted to men, should, like them, be admitted to the franchise." The Rev. W. C. Tabor seconded this motion, and said that in that town the proposal ought to obtain a very favourable hearing, for he believed that nearly half of the houses of a rental of over £29 were occupied by ladies. Mr. Thomas Griffith supported the resolution, which, after some further remarks by the chairman and the lecturer, was put to the meeting and carried without one hand being held up against it.

DEBATING SOCIETIES.

LIVERPOOL.

The members of St. Silas's Mutual Improvement Society, Pembroke Place, met those of St. Augustine's at their rooms in Liverpool College, Shaw-street, on December 2nd, when a discussion took place on the question, "Should the Parliamentary suffrage be extended to women?" The debate was opened by Mr. W. F. Cullen, who urged that as ladies were allowed to vote in the election of members of boards of guardians, school boards, city and county councils it was but fair that in Imperial legislation they should have a voice. He was supported by Mr. D. Geddes and Mr. T. Battersby. The negative aspect of the question was defended by Messrs. Stephens, Roberts, and Henderson. On a division St. Silas's society won, a majority of ten deciding in favour of women's suffrage.

THE WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

A meeting was held in a room in the Westminster Palace Hotel, on November 7th. Mrs. M'Ilquham occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Mrs. Fenwick Miller and Mrs. Scatcherd. Mr. Haldane, M.P., explained the clauses of the Women's Disabilities Removal Bill which he proposed to bring forward in the House of Commons. A resolution expressing approval of the Bill was adopted.

REVIEWS.

A WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CALENDAR FOR 1890. Edited by Helen Blackburn. Bristol: J. W. Arrowsmith. London: Simpkin, Marshall, Kent, and Co.

The re-appearance of Miss Blackburn's most useful and commendable calendar will be cordially welcomed by all who have made its acquaintance through the issues of former years and doubtless

by many new friends. Besides notification of the leading events in connection with the women's suffrage movement it contains a list of public offices filled by women, a complete list of registered medical women, and other items of information bearing on the social and industrial condition of women. We cordially commend the calendar to the notice of our friends.

COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

TASMANIA.

The Council of the Congregational Union passed a resolution on October 18th, 1889, expressing sympathy with the Women's Suffrage League, and affirming the desirableness of Christian electors electing for Parliament men of sound character and principles.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

INTRODUCTION OF A WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE BILL.

Mr. R. Caldwell early in November introduced a Bill into the Legislature of South Australia, to confer upon women over twenty-one, whether married or single, a vote in the election of members of the Upper House, that is the Legislative Council. By the Bill women have the suffrage on the same terms as do the men in the election of members of the Upper House, that is, there are certain property qualifications which will be the same for women as for men. The Bill does not propose to give women a vote for members of the Lower House, that is the Assembly. But the friends of women's suffrage have agreed to support the Bill as an instalment of women's political rights. Moreover, there are many disposed to go the length of the Bill who would not go so far at present as to give women a vote in the election of members of the Lower House. It is hoped that this instalment will be obtained this session. Thus the principle of national suffrage for women will be accepted by the Legislature, and no doubt the working of this limited measure of justice will by experience dissipate the objections to women's suffrage.

A large number of petitions have been sent by women to the South Australian Parliament, asking for the right to vote for members of Parliament. Public opinion in favour of women's suffrage is rapidly growing. Two members of Parliament who opposed the Bill last year, then held in high respect, have announced their intention of supporting the Bill of this year.

At the annual meeting of the Baptist Association of South Australia, in October last, on receipt of a memorial from the Women's Suffrage League, on the motion of Mr. Fowler, with only five dissentients, a resolution was carried in favour of women's suffrage.

The Congregational Union of South Australia has adopted a resolution of sympathy with the Women's Suffrage League, and exhorted electors to return candidates of sound character and moral principle.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The girls have taken a front place at the senior and junior examinations of the Sydney University. The national system of education in New South Wales is very generous in its programme, and gives women equality with men.

MISS AMELIA B. EDWARDS IN AMERICA.

The London correspondent of the Manchester Examiner writes as follows:—Miss Amelia Edwards, the well-known lecturer and writer on Egyptology, has begun her lecture tour in America very successfully. Her first lectures were delivered in Boston, and to the girl undergraduates of Vassar College. Of course, "the most learned lady in the world," as the Americans style Miss Edwards, who, by the way, is an LL.D., has been interviewed. The task fell to a lady representative of the Boston Globe, to whom Miss Edwards expressed herself as strongly in favour of women's suffrage, and greatly surprised that the movement has made such slow progress in America. "With your young and ardent country," said Miss Edwards, "you should have had the suffrage at once, but unless you make haste we shall have it in England before you."

THE VICAR-GENERAL OF ROME ON THE POSITION OF WOMEN.

The special representative of the Pall Mall Gazette gives an account of an interview with Cardinal Parocchi, whose position as Vicar-General causes him to be conspicuous above all the rest of the Roman Cardinals. The conclusion of the interview is given as follows:—

"Now," said I, "there is one last question on which I should like to ask your opinion. That is, concerning the position of women."

He brightened up instantly and exclaimed, "I often say that there is no room for respect where there is no liberty for action. Nobody can be said to respect woman who does not leave her free to act."

"An admirable saying," said I, "which I am rejoiced to hear from your lips."

"Why should you be surprised?" said he. "Is it not entirely in accordance with the genius, with the fundamental principles of the Catholic Church?" Pointing to the picture of the Madonna in front of him, he continued, "there is Our Lady, whom we place at the summit of all; and throughout the whole organisation is the same. Everywhere the importance of women is recognised from the highest down to the lowest. Look at our great religious orders, which have been founded by women, are managed and controlled by women. Their superiors have in all things the same rights, positions, and authorities as in the religious orders founded by men. After all, what is it that woman wants? She wants a career. She requires opportunities in which to develop and employ all her faculties, all her capacities. As for the question of woman suffrage, that is a mere detail. If, in the modern state, it is necessary for woman to possess the franchise in order to enable her to develop all her faculties and to achieve a career, then far be it from me to oppose woman suffrage. There are no figures in history which command my admiration more than the great heroines who from time to time have arisen to direct and control the affairs of nations. There was Joan of Arc in France, there was Isabel of Castille, and"—with a roguish twinkle in his eye—"there was your own Elizabeth of England, who, notwithstanding her red hair and her numerous little *faux pas*, was greatly admired by Sixtus the Fifth. Who would not wish that there should be more such women capable of playing a great rôle in the affairs of the world? Ah, who would not prefer to be governed by a wise and courageous woman than by a weak, foolish man?"

WOMEN MEDICAL STUDENTS AT BOMBAY.

In the second medical examination at Bombay, open alike to male and female students, the list of sixty-two successful candidates is headed by a girl, she alone passing in the first class.

ENFRANCHISEMENT OF RED INDIANS.

By recent acts of Congress, every male Indian over twenty-one years of age, who accepts an allotment of land in severalty, becomes a voter. There will probably be more than 20,000 such voters at the next election. We must cease to quote:

Lo, the poor Indian, whose untutored mind, &c.

Instead, the enfranchised Indian may take his stand proudly by the ballot box and exclaim, pointing to Clara Barton or Alice Fletcher, "Lo, the poor woman who does not know enough to vote!" We do not grudge the Indian his admission to the privileges of citizenship. But is not there something a little inconsistent about letting in Red Dog and Spotted Tail, and barring out Julia Ward Howe and Mrs. Livermore?—Woman's Journal (Boston, U.S.A.)

PRIZE COMPETITION No. 13.

RHYMING VERSE.

Answers have been received from Heather, Patience, Guelder Rose, YZ, and Bodoh. We regret that we are unable to print the answers, and must content ourselves with the announcement that the stanza which appears to have the most literary merit is that sent by Guelder Rose, to whom the prize is therefore awarded.

PRIZE WINNER.—No. 13.

Mrs. NIBLOE, Ipswich 5s.

CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS RECEIVED DECEMBER, 1889.

Table listing names and amounts for Central National Society for Women's Suffrage, December 1889. Includes Mrs. G. M. Laren, Mrs. Theodora Fry, Mr. Wm. Woodall, M.P., Portsmouth Women's Liberal Association, Mrs. D. R. Thomas, Miss Warren, Mr. Arthur Spokes, The Rev. J. Clifford, Mrs. Frederick Mitchell, Mrs. Carvell Williams, Miss Annette Bear, Mrs. Sheldon Amos, Mrs. Clodd, Mrs. Pearsall Smith, Miss Pearsall Smith, Mrs. Samuel A. Phillips, Mr. Alexander M. Phillips, Mr. R. Anderson, Mr. George Holt, Mr. G. H. Aske, Miss Effie Johnson, Mr. Percy Thomas.

Mrs. FRANK MORRISON, TREASURER, Central Committee Office, 29, Parliament-street, London, S.W.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM NOV. 26TH TO DEC. 27TH, 1889.

Table listing names and amounts for Bristol and West of England Society, Nov 26th to Dec 27th, 1889. Includes Mrs. Sparke Evans, Mrs. Pease, Misses Southall (Leominster), Mr. J. T. Grace, Misses Marriott, Miss Sturge, Mrs. Thompson (Bridgwater), Mrs. Eubulus Williams, Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Cocks, Mrs. Croggan, Mrs. Diplock, Rev. A. C. Macpherson, Mrs. Macpherson, Miss Parnall, Miss R. Pease, Mr. Southall (Leominster), Miss Catherine Sturge, Miss M. D. Tothill, Miss Tribe, Miss Watson, Mrs. d'Owry, Miss Thompson (Bridgwater), Miss Burghope (Bridgwater), Miss Child, Mrs. Biddle, Mrs. Hook-Watson.

Mrs. ASHWORTH HALLETT, TREASURER, Office, 69, Park-street, Bristol.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS, DECEMBER, 1889.

Table listing names and amounts for Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage, December 1889. Includes Mrs. C. P. Scott, Mrs. C. H. Hodgson (special fund), Mrs. R. H. Anderson, Mrs. Caird, Rev. G. Twentyman, Mrs. Grundy (Derby), Mr. A. Fryer, Miss E. Bradbury (special fund), Mrs. Hodgson (Crews), Mr. H. S. Brandreth, Miss Pogson, Mrs. Turton, Mrs. Lenwood, Mrs. Yearley, Mrs. Dunlop, Mrs. Braithwaite, Sale of Work.

ROBERT ADAMSON, TREASURER, Queen's Chambers, 5, John Dalton-street, Manchester.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM NOV. 26TH TO DEC. 27TH, 1889.

Table listing names and amounts for Central Committee National Society for Women's Suffrage, Nov 26th to Dec 27th, 1889. Includes Mrs. Frank Snoad, The late Miss Katherine Hill, per Miss Davenport Hill, Miss Ashurst Biggs, The Misses Buhl, Miss F. Davenport Hill, Mrs. Sterling, Miss Stone, Miss Maude A. Biggs, Miss Davenport Hill, Miss Dunn, Mrs. Thomas Taylor, The Viscountess Harberton, Miss Gwynne, Miss Harris Smith, Miss E. Lister, Mrs. Henry Nathan, Mrs. Innes, Miss Lewin.

Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, TREASURER.

Central Committee Office, 10, Great College-street, Westminster.

CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Miss Caroline Fothergill, the novelist, has been appointed organising agent to the Central National Society for Women's Suffrage, 29, Parliament-street, London.

Table with columns: NAME, Qualification, whether as occupier or owner of houses, land, or other property, ADDRESS, Parliamentary division in which the qualifying property is situated. Lists various women and their addresses across different districts like Chelsea, Islington, North, Stretford, Chelmsford, Braintree, Cirencester, Evesham, Sunderland, Durham, Houghton-le-Spring.

Signatures already reported, 427; signatures reported up to date, 501.

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