

AL / 1531

The Society for Promoting the Return of Women
to all Local Governing Bodies.

President—THE COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN.

Hon. Sec.—Miss BROWNE, 58, Porchester Terrace, W.

Hon. Treas.—Miss M. S. KILGOUR, 46, Porchester Road, W.

COPY

3 Essex Court

Temple E. C.

April 20th 1893

Dear Miss Bidder

The case which squelches
the poor married women in
R. v. Harrae reported in 41
Law Journal. Queen's Bench
p. 73. That case decides
that a married woman is
not entitled under the
Municipal Franchise
Act 1869 (32 & 33 Vic c. 55-)
to vote at a municipal
election, as by the Common

law the rights of a woman
respecting any political
or public office are upon
her marriage merged in her
husband. Lord Chief Justice

Cockburn in giving judgment
did not think that the
Married Woman's Property
Act 1870 affected this
disability & it is very
unlikely that the Courts

would take a wider
view with regard to the
later Married Women's
Property Act. The Act
of Parliament - under
which this case was
decided was repealed &
practically re-enacted
by 45-46 Vict. (c. 50)

the provisions of which
are extended to County
Council Electors by the
County Electors Act 1888

(5-12-82 Vic. c. 10) so R. v.
Harrow is still presumably
law.

Yours very truly
(signed) Leslie Drummond