(NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.)

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

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

REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

PRESENTED AT THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

HELD IN THE

WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL,

July 21st, 1899.



London:

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MILLBANK STREET, WESTMINSTER.

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

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

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Miss Gray Allen.
Mrs. Ashford.
L. Atherley-Jones, Esq., Q.C., M.P.
The Lady Frances Balfour.
Miss Helen Blackburn.
Colonel Cotton-Jodrell, M.P.
Miss Courtenay.
The Rt. Hon. L. Courtney, M.P.
Miss Emily Davies.
Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.
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Miss I. O. Ford.
Mrs. Arthur Francis.
Louisa, Lady Goldsmid.

Mrs. Ashworth Hallett.
Mrs. Haslam.
Miss Holland.
Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton.
Hon. Mrs. Arthur Lyttelton.
Miss Mordan.
Clara, Lady Rayleigh.
T. W. Russell, Esq., M.P.
Ernest Spencer, Esq., M.P.
Mrs. Stephen Spring-Rice.
Mrs. Sterling.
Miss Vernon.
George Wyndham, Esq., M.P.

President—The Lady Frances Balfour.

Hon. Treasurer—Mrs. Sterling.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Helen Blackburn.

Sec.—Miss Edith Palliser.

Bankers—London & County Bank—New Oxford Street Branch.

Auditor—Miss M. Harris Smith, Public Accountant.

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

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee are not able to report any progress made in Parliament this Session. They have, however, satisfaction in recording that the attention of the House of Commons has on several occasions been called to the claims of women to the Parliamentary franchise, and that an increased interest has been shown in the movement in the country generally and much successful work has been done.

Before the opening of the Session, Mr. George Wyndham, M.P., announced that, in consequence of his acceptance of office as Under-Secretary for War, he would have to retire from the leadership of the Women's Suffrage movement in Parliament.

In response to a unanimous request from all the Women's Suffrage Societies, Mr. Faithfull Begg, M.P., kindly consented to accept the position of leader on the Conservative side in the House of Commons.

This is the third occasion on which acceptance of office has necessitated a change of leadership in the Women's Suffrage movement, the first occasion being when Mr. Courtney took office in 1881, and the second when Mr. Woodall took office in 1886, Mr. Wyndham himself taking the leadership in 1895 on Lord Wolmer's succeeding to the Earldom of Selborne.

A conference of supporters of the Women's Suffrage Movement was held on Tuesday, February 7th, in Committee

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

Room 12 of the House of Commons, Mr. Faithfull Begg presiding.

The following Members of Parliament were present:—Col. Cotton-Jodrell, Mr. B. L. Cohen, Mr. H. S. Foster, Mr. Hazell, Mr. Wm. Johnston, Mr. Charles McLaren, Col. Mellor, Mr. E. P. Monckton, Mr. Morrell, Captain Norton, Mr. Skewes-Cox, Sir Wm. Wedderburn, Mr. J. Wilson (Govan), Sir James Woodhouse and Capt. Young.

Those attending on behalf of the National Union were:—Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Beddoe, Miss Blackburn, Mrs. Russell Cooke, Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D., Mrs. Arthur Francis, Miss E. Gore-Booth, Mrs. Gray Heald and Miss Louisa Stevenson; Mrs. Charles Baxter, Miss Edith Palliser and Miss E. G. Roper, Secretaries to the Union. Dr. Beddoe, Mrs. Fullarton and Mrs. Charles McLaren were also present.

It was agreed that the mode of procedure should be similar to that pursued last Session, namely, to ballot for a day for a Bill, and, failing success in this, to ballot for a resolution.

The result of the ballot showed that of the twenty-five Members of Parliament who had balloted for a Women's Suffrage Bill, Mr. Faithfull Begg had drawn best place and stood thirty-sixth. As only those Members who secure the first ten or twelve places have any prospect of introducing a Bill, it was seen that all hope of bringing in a Women's Suffrage Bill this Session was gone. The claims of women to the Parliamentary Franchise were brought before the House by Mr. Faithfull Begg on March 8th, when Sir J. Blundell Maple introduced his Service Franchise Bill, which proposed to enfranchise a number of men, caretakers, police constables, shop assistants and others living in compartments known as cubicles. Mr. Faithfull Begg, by way of protest, entered the following motion:—

"That the claims of duly qualified women should be granted before any other alteration in the franchise is made."

Mr. Faithfull Begg stated that he opposed the Bill, not because he had any hostility to its objects, but because he contended that there should be no legislation connected with the franchise until women had been admitted to the vote. The second reading of this Bill was carried by a majority of 100.

A more successful effort was made later to secure a day for a Women's Suffrage Resolution, Mr. Firbank and Mr. Faithfull Begg having drawn first and second places respectively, for March 28th. The following resolution was set down for that date:—

Resolution-

"To call attention to recent legislation in several of our leading Colonies conferring the Parliamentary franchise upon women, and to move that the exclusion in this country of women from the Parliamentary franchise is contrary to public policy."

The day was, however, taken by the Government, and Mr. Faithfull Begg was present on March 27th to protest against the opportunity being taken away by the Government for bringing forward the question of the electoral disabilities of women.

In the afternoon of the same day, Monday, March 27th, a meeting of representative supporters of Women's Suffrage was held at the Women's Institute, 15, Grosvenor Crescent, Hyde Park Corner, under the auspices of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., took the chair, and moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Sir William Wedderburn, Bart., M.P., and carried unanimously:—

Resolution-

"That it is contrary to public policy to place the ban of perpetual and total exclusion from the benefits and privileges of Parliamentary representation upon the women of this country. This meeting, therefore, protests against the absorption by the Government of the day on which a Women's Suffrage Resolution was on the paper as first order; and they pray the House of Commons to take an early opportunity of passing a measure which would place women, in respect of Parliamentary representation, in a position similar to that which they already occupy in respect of local franchises."

A form of Memorial to the Government was also adopted. The text is as follows:—

To the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., First Lord of the Treasury.

THE MEMORIAL OF WORKERS FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE Respectfully sheweth:—

That your Memorialists are persons who have worked, many of them during a long series of years, to procure the removal of the Electoral Disabilities of Women.

That they see with pain that the claims of women to representation, which were affirmed by the present Parliament on February 3rd, 1897, have been again set aside, and the day for their further consideration absorbed by Government business. They submit that such action increases the sense of injustice already widely felt by women, and that it is contrary to public policy to subject an intelligent and law-abiding section of the population to the stigma of entire exclusion from Parliamentary representation.

Your Memorialists therefore pray that the Government will give facilities to a measure for placing duly qualified women on the Parliamentary register.

On the 29th of June, a large and enthusiastic meeting was held by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, in support of the political enfranchisement of women, in the Queen's Hall, Langham Place; Mrs. Henry Fawcett presided. A Report of the Meeting will be published in the Autumn by the National Union.

Your Committee have pleasure in recording the steady progress made by the Local Associate Scheme, of which a detailed account was given in last year's Report. This scheme, as has been there shown, was designed, by means of local agency, to enlist a wider measure of support by diffusing information among a larger class of people.

Local Honorary Secretaries have now been appointed in eight constituencies (see page 30). As a direct result of this special work, 232 Members (i.e., Subscribers) have joined your Society since July 1, 1898, and new annual subscriptions have been received amounting to £35. Much active interest has been aroused, and the total number of supporters (Members and Associates) who have joined through the Local Associate Scheme already amounts to 1,828, showing an increase in this year of 1,061 supporters. Your Committee consider this result highly satisfactory.

The value of the local scheme was shown in the Petition work carried on during the month of March, when in six constituencies 43 petitions with an aggregate of 1,661 signatures were sent up to the House of Commons, the work being carried out by volunteers. These figures show a marked contrast to the solitary petition sent up in favour of the Service Franchise Bill. A great measure of the success of the women's suffrage meeting on June 29th was also due to the local organisation, without which it would not have been possible to secure so large an attendance.

The Local Associate Scheme owes much of its success to the indefatigable exertions of Miss Jenner, Miss Stone, Miss Frances Sterling, Miss Dimock, and of the ladies who are acting as Hon. Secretaries in the constituencies where the scheme has been started. To all of these the Committee tender their very cordial thanks. The Committee have much pleasure in recording their thanks for a very generous gift of £100 from Miss Grove, received since the close of the financial year, for the further

development of the Local Associate Scheme. This is specially welcome as £62 has been spent during this year on the work of organising the eight constituencies, and your Committee hope to be able to continue the work on a much larger scale should adequate support be given.

Drawing Room Meetings to promote the Local Associate Scheme have been held by—

Mrs. Arnold, 10, Gwendwr Road, West Kensington; Mrs. Israel Davis, 12, Pembridge Crescent, W.; Mrs. Dowding, Forest Lodge, Wanstead; Mrs. Hamilton, Fillebrook Road, Leytonstone; the Misses Hill, 87, East Hill, Wandsworth; Mrs. Nettlefold, Streatham Grove, Norwood; Mrs. Donald Nicoll, 44, Hyde Park Gate.

The speakers at these meetings were :-

Hon. J. A. Cockburn (Agent-General for South Australia),
Mr. L. Atherley-Jones, Q.C., M.P., Sir Joshua Fitch,
LL.D., Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., Hon. Mrs. Arthur
Lyttelton, Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, Mrs. W. P.
Reeves, Mr. Raikes Bromage, F.R.G.S., Rev.
Frederick Vaughan, Mrs. Arthur Francis, Miss
Mordan, Mrs. Sterling, Miss Jenner, Miss Charlotte
Hazell, Miss Frances Sterling and Miss Edith
Palliser.

Special meetings to promote the success of the Queen's Hall demonstration, on June 29th, were held by Mrs. Arthur Francis, 88A, Cromwell Road, Mrs. Raikes Bromage, 32, Gledstanes Road, West Kensington, and by Miss Stone, (Local Hon. Sec. for South Kensington), at the Kensington Town Hall.

Your Committee wish especially to call the attention of Members, Associates, and of all other sympathisers in the aims of the Society, to the immense value of the work of organising their supporters throughout the Society's area, in order that they may be ready to take action when the press of work of a General Election comes. As has been stated before, it is at election times that the claims of women to the Parliamentary vote can be most effectually pressed upon the attention of candidates.

Your Committee, therefore, most earnestly beg for your immediate and active support in this work of preparation, which is of far more value than any effort, however great, made at the last moment.

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and found c the books Westminster, S.W., London, 14th July, 1899.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

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

July 21st, 1899.

AGENDA.

Mrs. STERLING IN THE CHAIR.

RESOLUTION I.

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

Moved from the Chair.

Seconded by Miss Jenner.

Supported by Mrs. Stetson Perkins (U.S.A.).

RESOLUTION II.

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

"Miss Gray Allen; Mr. L. Atherley-Jones, Q.C., M.P.; Mrs. Ashford; The Lady Frances Balfour; Miss Helen Blackburn; Colonel Cotton-Jodrell, M.P.; Miss Courtenay; The Right Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P.; Miss Emily Davies; Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.; Mr. J. T. Firbank, M.P.; Miss I. O. Ford; Mrs. Arthur Francis; Louisa, Lady Goldsmid; Mrs. Ashworth Hallett; Mrs. Haslam; Miss Mabel Holland; Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton; Hon. Mrs. Arthur Lyttelton; Miss Mordan; Clara, Lady Rayleigh; T. W. Russell, Esq., M.P.; Mr. Ernest Spencer, M.P.; Mrs. Stephen Spring Rice; Mrs. Sterling; Miss Vernon; and Mr. George Wyndham, M.P."

Moved by Mr. Morgan-Browne. Seconded by Miss Dowson.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.

				DONAT	IONS.	Subscri	PTIC	NS.
				£	s. d.	£	s.	d.
Abbott, Miss Maud							2	6
Abel, Miss Alice			1-3				2	6
Abraham, Miss							5	0
Adey, Miss							2	6
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Alderton, Mrs. M. A.							I	0
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Allen, Miss Josephine							1	6
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Anderson, Miss Armfield, Miss E. G.							I	0
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Atkinson, Mrs. Arthur Austen, Lady Roberts		**				2	2	0
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Bailey, Mrs. H							IO	6
Baines, Mrs							2	6
Bairdsmith, Mrs							10	6
Baker, Miss							2	6
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Balfour, The Lady Frances						2	2	0
Bannerman, Colonel		• •				2	2	0
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Beale, Miss E. A.			**			1		
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Bradby, Miss Barbara			• • •				2	0
Brebner, Mrs			***				2	6
Bridges, Mrs.							2 0	0
Bright, Mrs. A. H.							5	0
Bromage, Raikes, Esq.			1-4				2	6
Browne, Mrs. and Miss					2	0		
Bruce, Mrs. Wallace							10	0
Buchanan, Mrs							I I	0
Bullock, Mrs. (2 years)							5	0
Burbury, Mrs. Hawkesley							5	0
Burne, Miss Byers, Mrs.							5	0
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Cadman, Miss Emily E.							2	6
Caine, Mrs							1	0
Cambridge, Women's Suff	rage	Society					II	0
Cameron, Mrs. Maurice							2	6
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Card, Mrs							5	0
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Chickall, Miss							5	0
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Copeland, Mrs							10	6
Cotton, Mrs.							II	0
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Davis, Israel, Esq.							IO	6
Davis, Mrs. Israel							10	6
Davis, Miss L							1	0
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Davis, Mrs. (Wandsworth)							2	6
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Dawson, Miss May							2	0
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Drew, Mrs. Oscar		***					5	0
Dryhurst, F. J., Esq.							II	0
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Farnell, Miss E. H.					5 0 0
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Ferguson, Mrs			• • •		5 0
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Fitch, Sir Joshua and Lad					5 0
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Ford, J. Rawlinson, Esq.					I I O
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Fowler, Miss Clara			*-*		2 6
Fox, Mrs. Bridell					2 0
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Fullarton, Mrs					1 0
Fyfe, Miss		• • •			10 0
Fyffe, Mrs. C. A		•			
Gavin, Miss Ethel					5 0
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Gibbs, Mrs		• • •			5 0
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Giddens, Mrs			*		2 2 0
Giles, Mrs. Oughton	• • •	••	•••		1 1 0
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Glazier, Miss E. L.		••			2 6
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Goff, Miss A. (2 years)					2 2 0
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Hawkins, The Misses			••					5	0
Hawkins, Mrs.								2	6
Haverty, Mrs.			•					10	0
Haverty, Mrs. Haynes, The Rev. R. J.					0	0		-	
Hayward, Mrs. C. F.	**	• •	**	1		9		2	6
Hayward, Miss			• •					2	
Hennell, Mrs. John								2	0
Hemmings, Mrs.			**					I	0
Hervey Mr and Man D	lor.							5	0
Herringham Mrs. Wilman	ley .							5	0
Herringham, Mrs. Wilmot							I	I	0
Hicks, Mrs.								5	0
Hickson, Miss M								2	6
Higgins, Mrs. Napier							2	0	0
Hilhouse, Mrs								I	0
Hill, Mrs. James								5	0
Hill, Miss E								2	6
Hi'l, Miss G.								2	6
min, Miss Mary B.		100						2	6
Hitchcock, Miss								5	0
			-						-

				Dona	TION	s. S	UBSCRI	PTIO	NS.
				£	5.	d.	£	s.	d.
	В	rought forwa	ırd	16	2	6	121	II	6
Hodgson, Mrs.				2	2	0	3	3	0
Holdaway, Mrs. Charles								2	6
Holland, Miss Mabel							2	2	0
Holt, Alfred M., Esq.		1.0						2	6
Homfray, Mrs					2	0			
Hope, Miss Louisa								3	0
How, Mrs. and Miss								2	0
Howse, Mrs. (2 years)								10	0
Hubbard, Mrs.								5	0
Hubbard, Mrs Hughes, Lady							1	0	0
Hughes, Miss May								2	0
Hunter, Miss (2 years)		/						10	0
Truncer, miss (2 years)									
Ivanoff, Madlle. Zénéide								2	6
Inglis, Mrs. Henry								2	6
Inglis, Mis. Hemy									,
Jameson, Mrs								2	6
Jeffcock, Mrs. (2 years)					5	0		10	0
Jenner, Miss							5	0	0
Jervis, Miss E. H.								2	6
Johnson, Miss Lucy							1	.0	0
							1	0	0
Johnson, Miss Agnes								2	6
Johnson, Miss Alice								10	6
Jones, Dr. Mabel								- 5	0
Jones, Miss H. M.		••					1	I	0
Joy, Mrs. Algernon		•						2	6
Julian, Miss E. M.		• • •							
Warman Mr and Mrs								2	. 0
Kearney, Mr. and Mrs.								5	0
Keeling, Miss J. M.		11.						5	
Kensington, Miss					2	6			
Kent, Miss C. E		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			5	0			
Kerr, Miss Malcolm		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			,			1	0
Kilroy, Miss		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •						2	2 6
Kindon, Miss	*	••							2 0
King, Mrs.		**						1	0
Kinnaird, Lord									
T Man Dalton								. 10	0 6
Lacey, Mrs. Bolton	D							2 :	2 0
Lafone, Alfred, Esq., M.	1.							- 1	2 6
Lance, Miss								1	2 6
Lang, Miss Campbell									2 6
Law, Mrs. H. n		2.2							2 6
Lawrence, Miss Agnes		**							5 0
Leaf, The Misses		-	100						0 0
Ledsame, Miss		••							5 0
Lee, The Misses		**							0 6
Lefroy, Mrs									5 0
Legge, Miss Leila			-						2 6
Leighton, Miss C. E.		**							1 0
Lemon, Mrs. Henry		***							5 0
Leonard, Mrs. S. A.		**							I O
Link, Mrs. E. S			1000	-		1			
			-		0	-	TA	7 I	1 0
		Carried for	ward	1	8 19	0	14	1	

Carried forward 16 2 6 121 11 6

			DONATI	ONS.	SUBSCRIPTIONS.
			£s	. d.	£ s. d.
1.0	Brought for	ward	18 19	0	147 11 0
Lister, Miss Emma					5 0
Little, Mrs. George					2 6
Little, Mrs. Matthew					2 6
Livermore, Mrs	••				2 6
Lloyd, Mrs. Morgan					
Lloyd, The Misses					
Long, Miss Ethel					2 2 0
Lowe, Miss			10	6	2 2 0
Lucas, Miss Edith E					- 6
Lyell, Mrs					2 6
Lyons, Mrs. Edmund					5 0
Lyttelton, The Lady					. 10 0
Lyttelton, Hon. Mrs Edward		• • •			IIO
,					IIO
McClatchie, Miss I					A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
McClelland, Miss E. B.					I O
McDonald, Mrs. Morrison		- 1		-	10 0
Macdonald, Mrs. Murray			2	0	
McGrigor Mice					2 6
McKay Mice C					2 6
McKee Mice					5 0
Mackengia Mica					1 0
McMillon Minn					2 6
Macrae Mrs			5	0	
Magrath Mrc			5	0	
Makovski, S., Esq.					I O
	,				IIO
Makovski, Mrs.	1 . 2 . 2 . 2	4-4			IIO
Malleson, Mrs. Frank					10 0
Malleson, Miss Hope					2 6
Malleson, Miss Mabel					I O
Manly, The Misses					4 0
Mann, Mrs.					5 0
Manning, Miss E. A					1 1 0
Margolies, Miss Vera					2 0
Marshall, Mrs					2 6
Marshall, Miss L					5 0
Marshall, Miss (Streatham)					1 0
Martineau, The Rev. J., D.D.					1 1 0
Martineau, Miss					10 0
Martyn, Mrs.			1	0	10 0
Martyn, Miss Annie					I o
Mason, Miss Edith					1 0
Massey, Miss					
Maynard, Mrs.	**				5 0
Meinertzhagen, The Misses					5 0
Merrifield, Miss F. de G.	1000	13			5 0
Michaelis, Madame (3 years)					2 6
Middleton, Mrs.		• •			3 0
Miers, Miss E. L		**		6	5 0
Millar, Miss			2	6	1000
Millard, Miss G. V.					I O
Mills, Miss A S					2 6
					2 6
	C 1 C				-
	Carried forwa	ard	20 5	0	165 19 0

					Dona	TION	re	SUBSCRI	PTIO	NG.
			D 116	1		8.			S.	d.
			Brought for	ward	20	5	0	165		0
Mitchell, Mrs. C.								I	0	0
Mitchell, Mrs. E.	H.							I	0	0
Mordan, Augustus	s, Esq.							1	0	0
Mordan, Miss								5	0	0
Morrison, Mrs.						1	0			
Morison, Miss									10	6
Moselev, Miss									2	6
Moseley, Miss Mar Mosley, Miss Mar	v								2	6
									1	0
Mountford, Mrs.						2	6			
Mowbray, Miss (2	vears)								5	0
								2	2	0
								I	0	0
Mylne, Mrs.										
Manua Mina M.						2	6			
Negus, Miss M. A						-		T	1	0
									ī	0
Newson, Mrs.								1	I	0
Nicoll, Mrs. Dona										0
Noble, Mrs. E. M									2	
Nordgren, Miss A	nna								1	0
Notcutt, Miss									5	0
Nottage, Lady								I	I	0
Oakley, Mrs. E.									10	0
Oakley, Mrs.									2	6
Oram, Mrs.									2	6
Otter, Miss									1	0
									5	0
Overy, Mrs.		• • •								
Dana Mina				- 95					10	0
Page, Miss								2	. 0	0
Paley, Hon. Mrs.				• • •				1		0
Palliser, Miss Ed	itn								2	6
Palliser, Mrs.			•-•						5	0
Park, Miss Auste	n								I	
Parkinson, Mrs.									2	
Pearsall, Mrs.									2	-
Pearson, Mrs. Ka	arl								10	-
Pearson, Mrs. C.							-		2	-
Pearson, Miss M						2	6		2	
Pearson, Miss M									2	6
Per Miss Palliser					5	12	3			1
					-				2	
Pegg, Miss M. A									2	6
Pepper, Mrs.						2	0	Dreine T.		
Perks, Mrs.	c		**			-			2	6
Phillips, Mrs. P.				-					2	6
Pickton, Miss									2	-
Pierpoint, Miss									10	
Pilcher, Mrs. B.S.	C.			**					10	
Pinker, Mrs. Ho	pe								10	
Piper, Miss E.					2 00				1	0
Polglase, The M	isses				1	0	C			
			-	2000				. 0		
			Carried fo	orward	27	7	5	18	9 10	6

			Don	ATION	is. S	UBSCRI	PTIO	NS.
			£	5.	d.	£	s.	d.
	Brought	forward	27	7	9	189	IO	6
Pollock, Mrs							10	6
Pope, Mrs. and The Misses							4	0
Porter, Miss							5	0
Porter, Miss Agatha							2	0
Powell, Miss R							2	6
Prebble, Mrs						1	0	0
Prentis, The Misses							3	0
Prynne, Mrs	Ç5						2	6
Pym, Mrs. Guy						1	1	0
Darkarl Mar								6
Raphael, Mrs							2	6
Rawlings, Miss						I	1	0
Rawlings, The Rev. H. & Mrs. Ravenstein, Mrs.							4	0
D 1 1 1 CI T 1						2	5	0
Rayleigh, Clara Lady						4	I	0
D. J. d. M.							5	0
Reid, Miss (2 years)							5	0
Renzi, Mrs. de							5	0
Reynell, Rev. G. C.							2	0
Richardson, Miss						1	0	0
Ridley, Miss (Ipswich)							2	6
Ridley, Miss Mary							1	0
Ritter, Miss							10	6
Roberts, Sir Owen and Lady						I	1	0
Robertson, Miss						1	0	0
Robertson, Miss (Ipswich)							2	6
Robins, Miss E. M							1	0
Robinson, Mrs. Charles Newto	on						10	6
Rolleston, Miss M							I	0
Rosenwald, Mrs							2	0
Ross, Miss							I	0
Ross, Miss Rothwell, Mrs							5	0
Rushton, Mrs. George							2	6
Russell, Miss (Kensington)							2	6
Russell, Miss (Marylebone)							2	6
C. I. M. D. C.								
Salter, Miss E. G							2	0
Sanders, Mrs							2	6
Sanders, Miss C. H.							2	0
Sanderson, Miss E. Burdon							2	6
Sanderson, Mrs. Cobden							5	0
Saxton, Miss H						1	0	0
Schofield, Mrs						I	0	0
Scott, Russell, Esq						1	IO	6
Scott, Mrs Scott, Miss Katherine							2	6
Scott Mag Emma							I	0
/1 11							10	0
Seakins, Mrs. (2 years) Selborne, Countess of						T	I	0
Salingount Mag Ja						-	2	6
Seymour, Mrs. Culme (2 years)						2	2	0
Saumour Mra						-	10	0
Seymour, Mrs								

Carried forward 27 7 9 211 0 6

		21							
				Don	TIO	NS.	SUBSCRI	PTIO	NS.
				£	s.	d.	£	S.	d.
	Br	ought for	rward	27	7	9	211	0	6
Shackel, Mrs					2	6			
Shadwell, Miss B								IO	0
Shaen, Mrs							1	1	0
Shaen, Miss .							1	I	0
Shalders Miss								I	0
Shedden, Mrs Shephard Miss P. C.								2	6
Shepherd, Miss R. C.								5	0
Sheppard, Miss M. M.								2	6
Sheppard, The Rev. J. W.					I	0			
Shillington, Mrs								5	0
Shove, Miss Edith								5	0
Sidgwick, Professor and Mr							2	2	0
							I	1	0
Sidney, Miss Simpson, Mrs								IO	0
Simpson, Mrs. F. A.			-		2	6			1
Singleton, Mrs								2	6
Sissison, Mrs								2	6
Sketchley, Mrs. (2 years)			• • •					5	0
Sketchley, Miss Philippa								2	6
Skinner Mice			• • •					2	6
Skinner, Miss Smith, Mrs. St. Osythe Eu	ctace		• • •				1	I	0
					10	6	I	I	0
Smith, Miss M. Harris					10				0
Smith, Mrs. F. P								5	0
Smith, Miss & Miss F. A.								5 2	6
Sparks, Miss Mildred	• •							I	0
Spendlove, Mrs								10	6
Sprague, Mrs.		• •					1	1	0
Spring Rice, Mrs. Stephen			• • •					2	6
Spring Rice, Miss Agnes									0
Spooner, Miss								I	0
Stanley, Mrs. H. M.								5	6
Stansbury, Mrs								2	
Steele, Miss	• •	• •						5	0
Stephens, Miss F								4	0
Sterling, Mrs							2	0	0
Sterling, Miss Frances							2	0	0
Stewart, Miss E. C.								2	6
Stevenson, Miss Ethel							I	1	0
Stone, Miss							2	0	0
Strange, Miss L. G.							1	1	0
Streatfield, Mrs							2	2	0
Stuart, Miss Sunter, Miss								5	0
Sunter, Miss								2	6
Swanwick, Miss Anna							1	I	0
Tabor, Miss						1121		5	0
Tacey, Miss (2 years)				1	0	0	4	0	0
Tacey, Miss A. E. (2 years)						4	0	0
Tacey, Miss A. (2 years)							4	0	0
Tapp, Rev. W. Egerton								10	0
Tapson, Mrs		***					2	2	0
Tatlock, Miss								10	0
Taylor, Mrs. Thomas			.,				2	0	0
	(Carried fo	orward	29	4	3	253	IO	6

			DON.	ATIO	NS.	SUBSCI	RIPTI	ONS.
	Property and the second		£	s.	d.	£	5.	d.
	Brough	t forward	29	4	3		3 10	6
Taylor, Mrs		***					0 5	0
Taylor, Miss							2	0
Taylor, Miss M. M.							I	0
Temple, Sir Richard, Bart							IO	
Thomas, Miss Rose							2	6
Thompson, Mrs. A. H.							IO	0
Thorbjörn, Miss							2	6
Thornycroft, Miss Helen							5	0
Thorne, Mrs							5	0
Thruston, Mrs							2	6
Todd, Mrs							5	0
Tonkin, Mrs							3	0
Towers, Miss F							I	0
Topham, Mrs								6
Troport Mica Frances							2	
Tulle Man							2	
						1		0
Tuckey, Miss							5	0
							2	6
Twentyman, Mrs							2	0
Tyler, Miss W. E							I	0
Vickery, Dr. Alice							5	0
							,	
Wagstaff, Miss Marion							2	6
Walker, Miss J. H., M.D						1	1	0
Walker, Mrs. Ingram							10	6
Walker, Miss Abney							IO	0
Wall, Miss Mack (2 years)						1	0	0
Wallas, The Misses							2	0
Wallop, The Hon. John Walsh, Miss M. C						I	1	0
Walsh, Miss M. C							2	6
Wardale, The Rev. J						2	2	0
Wardale, The Rev. J Warton, Mrs							5	0
Waters, Miss							3	0
Watkins, Mrs. & Miss G							2	0
Watson, Mrs							2	0
Watson, Miss S. M							I	0
Watson, Mrs. (Streatham)							ī	0
Watson, Miss Mary							2	0
Waugh, Miss		•						
Webb, Miss Anne T. (2 years)							5	0
Wednesd Mr. TT	***					I	I	0
Welsh, Miss						I	I	0
Westlake, Professor and Mrs.						I	I	0
Wetton Mica						1	1	0
Whitby, Miss, L.R.C.S.&P.Edi	n · ·						2	6
White Mire C T	n						1	0
White Miss Agnes						1	I	0
White, Miss Agnes							5	0
Whitall, Mrs.				5	0			
Wight, Miss A							2	0
Wilkins, Miss M. F.							2	6
Wilkins, Mrs		***					1	0
	Carried	forward	20	-				6
	Carried	orward	29	9	3	271	15	6

			DONA	ATION	s.	SUBSCRI	PTIO	NS.
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	Brough	t forward		9	3			6
Wilkinson, Miss F. R						I	I	0
Wilkinson, Miss L. M						I	1	0
Wilkinson, Mrs					,		2	0
Williamson, Mrs				2	6			
Willis, Mrs							I	0
Wilson, Miss Dupré .						2	0	6
1111511111111							I	0
Williter Douring, and J.							2	0
Wolfe, Miss F. R.							2	6
11 Oodigate, man							5	0
Woodward, Miss							2	0
Woodward, Miss Alice (Che!	sea)						T	0
Woodward, Miss C. E. (,,	,						T	0
Woodward, Miss K. ("	,					1		0
Wright, Mrs. Almroth (2 year	ars)					4	2	6
Wright, Mrs. (Kensington) .					6		~	
Wright, Mrs. F. N.						I	I	0
Wyndham-Quin, Lady Emil	. · ·							
"X"			5	0	0			
Youngman, Miss							2	6
Zimmerman, Miss Agnes							I	0
Tota	al		£34	12	3	£283	16	6

SPECIAL FUND FOR ENROLLING LOCAL ASSOCIATES OF THE CENTRAL AND EAST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, 30TH JUNE, 1899.

				Don.	ATIO	NS.	SUBSCRI	PTIO	NS.
				£	S.	d.	£		d.
					7	6		2	6
		••			5	0			
Bertram, Mrs.			 	2	0	0			
Bridges, Mrs.			 	-				2	6
Drew, Mrs. Oscar			 			0			
Durham, Miss M.	E.		 		15	0			
"Englishwoman's	Review"	Fund	 	25	0	O		1	0
Hardcastle, Miss			 			-		. *	
Jenner, Miss			 	5	0	0			
Lees, Miss			 		2	6			
Lees, Miss			 		IO	0			
Lloyd, Mrs.								10	0
Martindale, Mrs.								I	0
Shillitoe, Miss			 	5	0	0			
Sterling, Mrs.				3	2	6			
Stuart, Miss			 		-	0			
Tabor, Miss			 		3		I	0	0
Williams, Miss			 	-	18	7			
Collections at Me	etings		 4	5	10	1	-		_
001100110110110				-	6	-	£I	17	0
				£45	6	. 1	な」	-1	
				-	-	-	- Laboratoria		

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Adair, Mrs. H. (Oxford) Adamson, Professor Agg Gardner, J. T., Esq. Allen, Miss Gray (Londonderry) Armstrong, Rev. R. A. Andrews, Miss Gertrude Anderson, Mrs. Garrett, M.D. Anstruther, Louisa Lady Ashford, Mrs. (Birmingham) Atkinson, Miss (Manchester) Austen, Lady Roberts Bain, Sir James Baker, Miss M. Balfour, Eustace, Esq. Balfour, The Lady Frances Barnett, Mrs. S. A. Beddoe, John, Esq., M.D., F.R.S. Beddoe, Mrs. Bell, Miss A. E. Bevan, Mrs. Wm. Bigg, Miss Louisa (Luton) Biggs, Miss Ashurst Blacker, Mrs. Louis Blackburn, Miss Helen Boucherett, Miss Jessie
Bousfield, W. R., Esq., M.P.
Bousfield, Mrs. (Bedford)
Bowring, Lady
Bridges, Mrs.
Bridges, Miss (Bath) Brodie-Hall, Miss L. W. Brook, Mrs. (Harewood Lodge, Meltham) Burrough, Mrs. Buick, Rev. G. R. Butterfield, Mrs. (Northampton) Byers, Mrs. (Belfast) Canterbury, His Grace the Archbishop of Cayzer, C. W., Esq., M.P. Champneys, Basil, Esq. Clarke, Mrs. Benjamin Clayton, Mrs. N. G. (Hexham) Cobbe, Miss F. Power Cohen, B. L., Esq., M.P. Colborne, The Hon. Mrs. Collings, Jesse, Rt. Hon., M.P. Cotton-Jodrell, Col., M.P.

Cotton-Jodrell, Mrs. Courtauld, Geo., Esq. Courtenay, Miss Courtney, Rt. Hon. Leonard, M.P. Crook, Mrs. (Bolton) Cross, Mrs. Joseph Darwin, Mrs. Francis Davenport-Hill, Miss Davenport-Hill, Miss F. Davies, Rev. Llewelyn Davies, Miss Emily Donkin, Miss Drew, Miss Catherine Dunbar, Dr. Eliza W. Dunn, T.W., Esq., M.A. (Bath Coll.) Durham, Very Rev. Dean of Eastwick-Field, Mrs. Eaton, Mrs. Lauder Eccles, Miss Edwards-Heathcote, Capt. Ede, Rev. Moore Egerton, The Hon. Lady Grev Eiloart, Mrs. Ellaby, Miss, M.D. Ellis, Miss Ewart, Lady (Belfast) Fawcett, Mrs. Henry, LL.D. FitxGerald, Sir R. U. Penrose, Bt., M.P. FitzGerald, Lady Penrose FitzGerald, Miss Geraldine Penrose FitzGerald, Miss (Valencia Island) FitzGerald, Mrs. Robert (Tralee) FitzWygram, Lt.-Gen. Sir F., M.P. Fletcher, J. F., Esq., L.C.C. Ford, Mrs. Rawlinson (Leeds) Ford, Miss Isabella O. Forsyth, W., Esq., Q.C. Forsyth, Miss Ethel Fry, Lewis, Esq., M.P. Garrett, Miss Agnes Green, Rev. Charles (Beckenham) Gurney, Miss Mary Goldsmid, Louisa, Lady Goldsmith, Mrs. Hallett, Mrs. Ashworth (Bath) Hallett, T. G. P., Esq. (Bath) Hamilton, Mrs. (Bray)

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Madden, Rt. Hon. D. H. Manfield, Sir Philip Manning, Miss E. Adelaide Marshall, Mrs. Mary, M.D. Marshall, Mrs. John (Derwent Is.) Marshall, Mrs. Stephen Meath, The Countess of Mele, Barese, Princess Mitchell, Mrs. (Llanfrechfa) Mordan, Miss Mylne, Mrs. J. E. Nottage, Lady Oliver, R., Esq. Oliver, Mrs. Paley, The Hon. Mrs. Parry, The Lady Maude Passmore Edwards, J., Esq. Patton, Mrs. Arthur Ponsonby, The Hon. Mrs. Chambre Portsmouth, Evelyn Countess of Prideaux, Miss S. Puleston, Sir J. H. Pym, Guy, Esq., M.P. Pym, Mrs. Guy Rayleigh, Clara, Lady Reeves, Miss Reeves, Miss (Tramore) Reid, Miss A. M. Ridley, Miss Ridgway, Rev. C. J. Roberts, Sir Owen, F.S.A. Roberts, Lady Roberts, Miss Dorothea Robertson, Miss Robinson, Rev. A. Rollit, Sir A. K., M.P. Round, James, Esq., M.P. Russell, T. W., Esq., M.P. Sawyer, Lady Selborne, Earl of Selborne, Countess of Severne, Mrs. Shaen, Mrs. Sidgwick, Prof. Henry, D. Litt. Sidgwick, Mrs. Henry Singleton, Mrs. (Derby) Spring-Rice, Mrs. Stephen Still, Major-Gen. Stopes, Mrs. Carmichael Sturge, Miss M. Carta Sterling, Mrs. Stevenson, Miss Flora (Edinburgh) Stevenson, Miss Louisa (Edinburgh) Stone, Miss Swanwick, Miss Anna Tabor, Miss M. C. Taylor, Mrs. (Chipchase)

Taylor, Mrs. Thos.
Taylour, Miss Jane E.
Thew, Mrs. A. (Birkdale)
Thomas, Rev. Urijah R. (Bristol)
Temple, Rt. Hon. Sir Richard, Bt.,
G.C.S.I.
Thomas, Mrs. Charles (Bristol)
Thorne, Mrs.
Toynbee, Miss
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Turner, Mrs. Hugh Thackeray
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CENTRAL AND EAST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

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

The Society seeks to achieve this object :-

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

RULES

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

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

NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

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Mrs. Beddoe
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SOME PUBLICATIONS

To be obtained at the Office of the Central and East of England Society.

Speech on Women's Suffrage, by Mrs. Fawcett, delivered at Owen's College, Manchester.

SPEECH OF THE RIGHT HON. A. J. BALFOUR, M.P., in the House of Commons. Price 1d.

SPEECH OF SIR ALBERT KAYE ROLLIT, M.P., in the House of Commons. Price 1d.

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OPINIONS OF LEADERS OF RELIGIOUS THOUGHT ON WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. Price 2d.

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TO THE WOMEN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

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SPEECH BY THE RIGHT HON. SIR GEORGE GREY, K.C.B.

THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT, reprinted from "Morning Post." Price 6d. per dozen.

BRITISH FREEWOMEN: THEIR HISTORIC PRIVILEGES, by Mrs. Stopes. Price 1s.

"A JUBILEE CALENDAR FOR THE WOMEN OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE," by Miss Helen Blackburn. Price 6d.

Women's Suffrage in the Light of the Second Reading of 1897, by Miss Blackburn. *Price* 2d.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN PARLIAMENT, by Mrs. Fawcett and Mr. Radcliffe Cooke, M.P. Price 1d.

The area of work of the Central and East of England Society consists of the following metropolitan constituencies:—

BATTERSEA and CLAPHAM CHELSEA	Battersea Clapham	Lambeth	North Kennington Brixton Norwood
FINSBURY	(Holborn Central	MARYLEBONE	{ East West
FULHAM	East	Newington	West Walworth
HAMMERSMITH	I	STRAND	(" a mortin
HAMPSTEAD			(West
Kensington	North South	Southwark	Rotherhithe Bermondsey
		WANDSWORTH	

and all the constituencies in the following counties:-

Bedfordshire	Middlesex
Buckinghamshire	Norfolk
Cambridge	Northamptonshire
Essex	Rutland
Hertfordshire	Suffolk
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OPINIONS

OF

Leaders of Religious Thought

ON

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Published by the

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE,
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PRICE THREEPENCE.

PREFACE.

The following expressions of opinion have either been kindly furnished in reply to a request from the Central and Manchester Women's Suffrage Committees, or have been taken by permission from essays or addresses already published by their several authors.

The Committees trust that these passages will tend to remove a fear still to be found in some quarters that the Women's Suffrage movement is not consonant with the religious aspect of women's work and duty.

March, 1895.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

"I shall be glad to see women in all cases holding the franchise on the same terms as men."

F. LUNDIN.

THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWELL.

"I am a cordial supporter of proposals to give the Parliamentary franchise to women householders who would be entitled to have the Municipal and Local Government Franchises."

GEORGE SOUTHWELL.

THE BISHOP OF EDINBURGH.

(THE RT. REV. JOHN DOWDEN, D.D.)

"The sound reasons in favour of extending the Parliamentary franchise to qualified women householders seem, in my opinion, enormously to outweigh all that can be alleged to the contrary."

JOHN DOWDEN.

THE REV. J. PERCIVAL, LL.D.

(Bishop Designate of Hereford).

"As I have given my support to the movement in favour of Women's Suffrage for I am afraid to say how many years, it is a pleasure to me to have an opportunity of wishing God-speed to you in your efforts on behalf of it."

J. PERCIVAL.

THE DEAN OF DURHAM.

"I am strongly, as you know, in favour of Women's Suffrage, not on political grounds in the least, but on grounds (1) of justice, (2) of social gain, (3) of the benefit to be attained by a large addition to the Vote-power of persons not tied to party. Of these three reasons the middle one is strongest. For all good legislation in the future will have to deal with questions of civic and social good, and will be as closely connected with them as the Christian faith is; and we know that the women's vote will be right on all these subjects. I think, too, that the women's vote will help to educate the men voters, and will be a far more reasonable vote than that of the average. The outcry that we are taking women 'out of their sphere' is all selfishness. The men have not used their privilege any too well, and are afraid of a better example."

G. W. KITCHIN.

THE VERY REV. J. CAMERON LEES, D.D., LL.D.

(Dean of the Chapel Royal of Scotland and of the Order of the Thistle).

"I am entirely in favour of granting the Suffrage to women. There is no reason known to me why they should be excluded from sharing in the Government of the country. Further, I am persuaded that their possession of the same political privileges with men will exercise an influence on public questions of the most beneficial kind, especially on certain questions in which women are naturally and even supremely interested. My best wishes are with the movement for their political emancipation."

J. CAMERON LEES.

THE CHIEF RABBI.

"I am in favour of removing the restrictions at present imposed on women in respect to the Parliamentary Franchise. I see no reason why the Suffrage should be withheld from spinsters and widows possessed of the qualifications prescribed by statute."

H. ADLER.

THE REV. GEORGE BUICK, D.D.

(Vice-President Irish Archæological Society).

"I heartily sympathize in the efforts which are being made to have the right of women to exercise the franchise recognised and legalised, and wish you and your associates in the good work speedy and complete success."

GEORGE R. BUICK.

REV. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., D.D.

"I consider that the influence of women will, as a whole, be more likely than that of men to promote Temperance, Purity, Peace and Religion—objects far more important than any mere Party Interests: and that the owner or occupier of any property should be equally entitled to a Municipal or Parliamentary vote, whether man or woman."

NEWMAN HALL.

THE REV. JOHN MARSHALL LANG, D.D. (GLASGOW).

"I have sympathy with the movement so far. But I am apprehensive as to the extent to which we may be carried by it. I don't wish to see women in the House of Commons. I would give women who are themselves Ratepayers votes: not married women. I would have their co-operation in Social Reform, be they married or unmarried. If any Referendum on the Church in question were made I would have them with the right to say Yes or No. They are more vitally interested than even men in all that concerns Religious Life: for the Home is their Kingdom."

John Marshall Lang.

THE REV. THOMAS M. LINDSAY, D.D.

(Professor of Divinity and Church History, Free Church College, Glasgow.)

"It may be that I have been exceptionally favoured in my surroundings, for I cannot understand how any one who has had mother, sister, wife and daughter can for a moment imagine that women are not able to give as intelligent opinions on political questions as the average educated man. Viewing the matter religiously, it has always appeared to me that to refuse the franchise to women is a survival of theoretical paganism and that it tends to perpetuate a good deal of the practical paganism which lingers in legislation and in social life. The most urgent practical reason for the extension of the franchise to women is given in the fact that Governments are more and more concerning themselves with labour legislation: that laws which regulate such a complicated problem as labour presents are sure to do more harm than good unless legislators are in touch with and theroughly informed by those whose work is to be regulated; and that so long as working women are not in a position to use their votes to make their wishes respected by those who frame the law, the hard battle of life becomes harder and more hopeless to many thousands of oppressed toilers."

THOMAS M. LINDSAY.

THE REV. R. J. LYND, D.D.

(Ex-moderator of the Irish Presbyterian Church).

"The movement on behalf of Women's Suffrage is on the lines of modern salutary advance. The influence of women's vote in moral, social and educational questions would prove a healthful and, in the highest sense, a conservative element in legislation. The present position of woman—the result of improved education—demonstrates her capacity for exercising as broad and intelligent a judgment on public questions as those at present entitled to the franchise; indeed she already does exercise the franchise in several departments,—and in all of them with much benefit to the public service."

THE REV. ALEXANDER MACKENNAL, D.D.

(Bowdon, Cheshire).

- "I am in favour of extending the Parliamentary vote to women on the same conditions as to men for the following reasons:—
- "1. In a democratic community like ours, the larger the number of persons who can be brought to interest themselves responsibly in legislation and administration, the better both for the community and the individuals.
- "2. There is nothing to exclude women from the operation of this general principle; but every reason for including them. The intelligence of the average woman fits her equally with the average man for understanding the questions submitted to public vote. There are certain questions in which the judgment of men will probably remain decisive; but there are also certain questions in which the judgment of women would be of predominant value. Women have a special function to fulfil as well as a general function, in exercising the franchise.
- "3. My experience as pastor of churches in which women deliberate, vote and act responsibly, as do the men, has shewn me how futile is the fear that they are constitutionally unfit for public service, or unable to learn from experience. My observation of their work on School Boards, Boards of Guardians, etc., has confirmed my belief that their counsel and co-operation are of high value."

ALEXANDER MACKENNAL.

REV. W. TODD MARTIN, D.D.

(Moderator of the Irish Presbyterian Church.)

"I cannot, as Moderator of the Irish General Assembly, offer an opinion on Women's Suffrage, for the Church has not given any deliverance on the question; but personally I do not see any sufficient grounds for withholding from women householders and tax-payers the right of voting at Parliamentary Elections."

W. TODD MARTIN.

REV. JAMES MARTINEAU, D.D.

"This doctrine (Manhood and Womanhood Suffrage) took too wide a sweep for me, as an English Constitutionalist, who recognises no abstract civic rights, but only such as are earned by some sacrifices made or duties done. I find, however, that in its practical aims, your Society keeps well within this limit, and while protesting against sex-exclusion, would confer the Suffrage on such person only, woman or man, as, in point of age, nationality and capacity, held the citizen's qualification, and whether a householder, chargeable lodger, or responsible head of a family, shared the burdens and was subject to the service of the State. This I heartily approve, and have signed more than one petition to obtain. Out of the large mass of social experience whence alone wise legislation can proceed, no part can be spared that has anything to say. And, until the special contribution which is gathered around and stored within the life of women is welcomed to its place we may expect many a needless acquiescence in remediable wrongs and the continuance of a low standard of National Ethics."

JAMES MARTINEAU.

REV. CHARLES MORELL, D.D. (DUNGANNON).

(Irish Presbyterian Church.)

When the North of Ireland Women's Suffrage Committee was being formed, more than twenty years ago, Dr. Morell was asked to join it. In agreeing to do so, he wrote:—

"That he had always observed, in the use made by women of the ecclesiastical franchise which they possess in the Presbyterian Church, their influence was a calming and a moderating one: and he believed it would be the same in the State as in the Church." When asked now if his views remained unchanged in this respect, he replied, "Yes, I hold the same opinion still."

REV. J. G. MURPHY, D.D., LL.D.

(Professor of Hebrew, Presbyterian College, Belfast).

"Property and the payment of taxes thereon are the qualifications in our country for the right of suffrage. We have not been able to prevent women from having property, and we do not exempt them from the payment of taxes on their own account. Equity seems to require that, so far as these go, the right of suffrage should also go. And the one half of our kind would be at least as safe voters as the other."

J. G. MURPHY.

THE REV. S. A. BARNETT, M.A.

(Canon of Bristol. Warden of Toynbee Hall.)

"I am in favour of the removal of all legal restrictions on the occupations and voting powers of women. They should have the same liberty as men to follow any calling and to vote at any election. Their present position of subordination developes the more brutal and selfish instincts of men and at the same time provokes women to do acts and make claims which are unwomanly."

SAML. A. BARNETT.

THE REV. J. LLEWELYN DAVIES, M.A.

(Vicar of Kirkby Lonsdale).

"With regard to the governing of the Country, the manifest tendency of affairs is towards a state of things in which women will share alike with men. It has been a strange anomaly indeed, that a constitution which places a woman on the throne, should forbid a woman to vote for a Member of Parliament. So far as we can draw any inference at all from the action of our Lord, as recorded in the Gospels, we should reasonably conclude that he encouraged a certain freedom and independence in the conduct of women, such as would excite criticism in the present day. And this conclusion becomes far more significant when we recall the conditions of Oriental life with regard to the relations of the sexes, and the disorganised state of Jewish Society in that age. Whilst women were coming into prominence, and acting for themselves, and leaving their homes, as followers of Jesus, no hint is given that they would have been more in their places under the domestic roof, or that they ought to have left the active support of One Who was a centre of surging political agitation to their husbands and brothers."

J. LLEWELYN DAVIES.

THE REV. W. MOORE EDE, M.A.

(Rector of Gateshead on Tyne; Hon. Canon of Durham)

"The extension of the Suffrage to women seems to me tian Society there is no superior sex, the equality of each member is recognized, the individuality of each person is sacred. St. Paul asserted this when he wrote in Baptism there is neither male nor female.' The rights of each are equal, therefore women are entitled to express their convictions and assert their individuality by voting if they choose to do so. The exclusion of women from the franchise is a relic of that false idea of the position of woman which merged her identity in that of her male protector, and regarded her as half the slave and half the plaything of man, having no rights apart from him. This false idea Christian principle has been slowly and steadily destroying for nineteen centuries, and man as well as woman has gained by the change, and will gain by the further extension of the principle to the Franchise."

W. MOORE EDE.

THE REV. BASIL WILBERFORCE, M.A.

(Canon of Westminster).

"Yes, of course I amin favour of granting the Suffrage to women. The degrading superstition of woman's inferiority to man dies hard, but it is moribund. It virtually received its death blow when the promised 'seed of the woman,' the archetypal specimen of the human race, the Word in embodiment, was entrusted to a woman's care. In recent times, whenever she has come squarely into competition with man, woman has proved herself at least his equal in art, science, literature, diplomacy. In a nation which has been ruled over wisely and well for half a century by a woman, the political disability of women is a paradox and an absurdity. When the Parliamentary franchise is extended to women, I confidently anticipate legislative reforms which will facilitate the conversion of much national 'Old Adam' into 'New Man' through the liberated activity of 'New Woman.'"

BASIL WILBERFORCE.

VEN. J. M. WILSON, M.A.

(Vicar of Rochdale and Archdeacon of Manchester.)

"There exists at this moment in England a class of educated women such as never existed in equal numbers before. There are women to-day who are doing some of the finest intellectual, moral, humanitarian, and social work, work which is in the highest sense political. Women have to-day vindicated the claim of their sex to the recognition of individuality and of political equality, to an extent that was not possible in any previous age. To those who have had the privilege of knowing women of this sort it seems nothing short of a monstrous folly to continue to inflict on women any political disability whatever."

THE REV. URIJAH R. THOMAS

(President of the Congregational Union of England and Wales for 1895).

"While for twenty-five years I have had clear conviction as to the rectitude of Women's Suffrage, that conviction deepens in view of the fact that the problems which Parliament has to face to-day are Church problems, and other Social problems in which women have at least as profound an interest as men and therefore have an equal right to take a Constitutional part in their settlement."

URIJAH R. THOMAS.

"I am persuaded that no single cause has so disastrously affected the moral condition of society as the exclusion of women from all share in the public policy of the nation. I do not now speak of the higher tone which I believe that they would give to the discussion and solution of those social problems which are fast becoming the main political problems of our time. I speak of the estimate in which, through their political nonentity, women are held by themselves and by men. I am convinced that the knowledge that a woman is not a citizen of the State. that she is supposed incapable of an intelligent and useful opinion concerning, and is denied an effective influence upon, the great public questions which constitute the subject-matter of politics, cheapens her in her own estimate and in that of the men with whom she associates. It is the remnant of the old and base conception of woman as simply existing as the plaything, the servant, the subject minister of man. It is this that too often deprives her of the self-respect which is her defence against all that degrades her. It is this that fills the young man with a persuasion of his natural superiority in judgment and in action. Even as the working man has arisen into a higher individuality since the State has recognised him as a constituent member, and is now capable of a self-restraint and a dignity unknown to him before, so the vast mass of women will, through their recognition as equal partners with men in the ordering of the nation, be raised above the frivolity which characterises too many of them, and compel from men a respect and consideration of a higher order than the unreal and sentimental chivalry or gallantry which passes as good manners in so many circles. I believe that the moral and social bearings of this question immeasurably surpass in importance the mere considerations of expediency; but I am also persuaded that the day when we shall do woman the simple justice of recognising that she, too, has a stake in our common country will see the dawn of an era, not only of more beneficent legislation, but also of a happier social life, a more equal companionship between the sexes, and a higher and sweeter morality than we have ever known."

RICHARD A. ARMSTRONG.

THE REV. JOHN PAGE HOPPS.

"I am an advocate of Women's Suffrage because I am an old-fashioned Liberal, and I have always felt that every reason which Liberals urged for extending the franchise to unenfranchised men applied with equal force to unenfranchised women. 'Taxation and representation go together,' 'They who have to obey the laws ought to have a hand in making the laws,' 'Class legislation is akin to tyranny,' 'The sense of responsibility can only come with the possession of political power.' How familiar all the old cries are to us! But every one is, in the campaign for Women's Suffrage, as good as ever. It is simply a question of right, justice and common fairness. Surely the proposal to abolish the custom or the law which insults and wrongs womanhood, by making it anywhere a disqualification for the Suffrage, ought to be considered on its merits, and altogether apart from anybody's feelings or personal wishes—especially men's. For in truth, that some men do not like it, but, on the contrary, chafe at it and resent it, may only shew that they are afflicted with a spirit of masterfulness, and need the chastening discipline of seeing women thinking and acting for themselves."

J. PAGE HOPPS.

THE REV. HUGH PRICE HUGHES.

" It seems to me that in a Democratic age like this, the burden of proof lies upon those who would ostracise an entire sex, rather than upon those who are anxious to abolish all purely artificial and superfluous sex distinctions. The only serious argument I have ever heard against Women's Suffrage is that women cannot fight, which seems to me to be a very powerful argument against war, not against women. In a civilized community like ours, where physical might is no longer legal right, it is eminently desirable in the general interests that women should participate in affairs as actively as possible. The immense majority of human beings on this Island are either women or children, and as modern legislation so directly affects women and children it is absurd to exclude the direct legislative influence of women. The tendency of the time is social rather than political, and moral even more than social. Now in all great social and moral issues the opinion of women is invaluable, Indeed, in spite of artificial prohibitions, women always have exerted an immense influence on politics and they take an active part in political contests today. That cannot be prevented and it is evident they will interfere more and more. Is it not highly desirable that when they do interfere they should be weighted with the direct responsibility of a personal vote?"

H. PRICE HUGHES.





