

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

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DECEMBER 1, 1888.

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Leading Articles:—Ladies in Contested Elections; School Board Elections during November; Baroness Willoughby d'Eresby, Hereditary Lord High Chamberlain; The National Society for Women's Suffrage. Public Meetings:—Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage; Southport. Lectures:—Meltham, Netherton. Political Societies:—National Conservative Union;

Women's Liberal Federation; Hull and East Riding Women's Liberal Association. Debating Societies:—Birkbeck Institute; Streattham Parliament; Malvern Link. Ireland:—Omagh Young Men's Christian and Literary Association. The National Society for Women's Suffrage. Nottingham Women's Suffrage Association.

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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CALENDAR for 1889. Edited by HELEN BLACKBURN. The permanent information is brought to date. The new matter includes County Council Franchise; A List of Women holding University Degrees in the United Kingdom; The Travellers' Aid Society; &c., &c.
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1. Present Condition and Future Prospects of Medical Women in India.
2. Report of the Select Committee on Poor-Law Relief.
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Published by Trübner and Co., Ludgate Hill, and at 22, Berners-street, London, W.

EDINBURGH NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The Twenty-first Annual Meeting of the Edinburgh National Society for Women's Suffrage will be held in Queen-street Hall, on Thursday, 6th December, 1888. The Meeting will be addressed by Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, Mrs. Ormiston Chant, and Mrs. Ashton Dilke, three of the delegates appointed by the societies in England and Scotland to attend the great international congress held at Washington last year, and they will give an account of their visit and of the work in America. The chair will be taken by Bailie WALCOT at eight o'clock. Admission free.

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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

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The Executive Committee of the above Society desire respectfully to call attention to its object and operations, and to make an appeal for donations and subscriptions in view of the present critical period of the movement.

The Society has been at work for twenty-one years, during which period very active operations have been carried out. The result of the labour of this Committee, and of kindred societies, has been so satisfactory that serious opposition to the claim of duly qualified women to the franchise may be said to have practically died out. But decisive and active energy are needed to take advantage of the present wave of public opinion in favour of the claim, and it is essential that no present form of activity should slacken on account of the idea that victory may be near at hand.

Arrangements will be made as soon as Parliament meets in the New Year, for the introduction of the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill, and everything will be done that can be done to secure the discussion of the measure.

The Committee earnestly beg (1) For donations to the special fund of £150, to free them from liability. (2) For an increase in the number and amount of annual subscribers. With their assistance, the Committee hope to be able to give effective support to the Parliamentary leaders, and to bear a good part in promoting the success which they trust will not long be delayed.

REVIEWS.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CALENDAR FOR 1889. Edited by Helen Blackburn. J. W. Arrowsmith, Bristol; Simpkin and Marshall, London. Price 3d.

Miss Blackburn's excellent annual re-appears with enlarged volume and extended information. It will be found indispensable by all who would make themselves acquainted with the various directions in which women can exercise their energies, and we cordially commend it to our readers.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S
SUFFRAGE.

The following is a list of the principal societies constituting the National Society for Women's Suffrage, arranged in chronological order as to the date of origin:—

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S
SUFFRAGE.

Established 1867.

Honorary Secretary: Miss BECKER.
Treasurer: Professor ADAMSON.

Office: Queen's Chambers, 5, John Dalton-street, Manchester.

EDINBURGH NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S
SUFFRAGE.

Established 1867.

President: Mrs. PRISCILLA M'LAREN.
Secretary: Miss KIRKLAND, 13, Raeburn Place, Edinburgh.BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND BRANCH OF THE
NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Established 1868.

President: The COUNTESS OF PORTSMOUTH.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mrs. LILLIAS ASHWORTH HALLETT.
Secretary: Miss BLACKBURN.

Office: 69, Park-street, Bristol.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Established 1868.

President: Mrs. ASHFORD.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mrs. ALFRED OSLER.
Office: Broad-street Corner, Birmingham.NORTH OF IRELAND BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Established 1871.

Hon. Secretary: Miss ISABELLA TOD, 40, University Road, Belfast.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Established 1872.

Secretary: Miss BALGARNIE.
Parliamentary Agent: Miss BECKER.
Treasurer: Mrs. FRANK MORRISON.

Office: 29, Parliament-street, Westminster.

DUBLIN SOCIETY.

Established 1874.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. HASLAM, 91, Rathmines Road, Dublin.

NOTTS BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Established 1880.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. COWEN, 9, Ropewalk, Nottingham.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOCIETY.

Established 1884.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. BATESON, Harvey Road, Cambridge.

Each of these societies has a separate Executive Committee and list of subscribers. Each of them holds an annual general meeting, and publishes a report.

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NOTHING shows more distinctly the growing advance in public opinion on the question of the political position of women than the part they take in contested elections. In such contests candidates naturally desire to enlist in behalf of the cause they represent every agency through which their views can be commended to the favour of electors. Both sides have discovered that the persuasive oratory of ladies who care for the issues involved is a powerful adjunct to their electioneering forces. In the late election for Holborn, Mrs. GLADSTONE took the field in person, along with many other accomplished ladies, in favour of Earl COMPTON, while Mr. GAINSFORD BRUCE had the assistance on the platform of the able advocacy of Mrs. FAWCETT. Both Earl COMPTON and Mr. GAINSFORD BRUCE had previously declared themselves in favour of the political enfranchisement of women, and the support they received from ladies during the election will not tend to slacken their zeal in the cause of this reform.

The twenty-first annual general meeting of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage took place on November 2nd, in the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Manchester, under the presidency of Alderman BENNETT. The report showed that the number of Parliamentary supporters had been steadily increasing since 1885, and was now 359, being an actual majority of 48 in the whole House. Mr. WOODALL, M.P., Mrs. FAWCETT, Mrs. EDWARD COTTON, Miss BECKER, and other ladies and gentlemen took part in the proceedings. After the close of the meeting a social gathering to meet the speakers and other friends took place in the offices of the society.

Most of the School Board elections in the great cities have taken place during the past month, and with the exception of Leeds there is not one of these that has not chosen one or more ladies among the list of members. Liverpool led the way by returning Miss DAVIES for the fourth time. Manchester followed next in point of time by electing Miss BECKER for the seventh time. Sheffield returned two ladies, Mrs. M. A. P. RIPPER and Mrs. J. W.

WILSON. Bradford has sent Mrs. BYLES; Birmingham returns Miss KENRICK; Wolverhampton, Miss MANDER. In London, Miss DAVENPORT HILL heads the poll in the city of London, being elected, we believe, for the fourth time, while Tower Hamlets, West Lambeth, and Marylebone return Mrs. BESANT, Mrs. ASHTON DILKE, and Mrs. MAITLAND respectively. These ladies are elected for the first time. Mrs. WESTLAKE, who represented Marylebone on the late Board, did not seek re-election; and three ladies were unsuccessful candidates in Marylebone, Westminster, and Chelsea.

LAST month there died at a venerable age the Baroness WILLOUGHBY D'ERESBY, who, in addition to the ancient barony created in A.D. 1313, was the inheritor of the very high office of Joint Hereditary Great Chamberlain of England. The duties of this position are very responsible, and it is a curious example of the equality of the ancient law of England in many respects as between men and women that such a high office could be held by a woman. Among other duties is the care of the Houses of Parliament. It is by the authority of the Great Chamberlain that admittance to the House of Lords on state occasions and to view the buildings is given to those who are not members of either House.

The duties can, however, be discharged by deputy, and they have for some years been performed by Lord AVELAND, Lady D'ERESBY's eldest son. Lord AVELAND now succeeds to the title of WILLOUGHBY D'ERESBY and to the hereditary office connected with it, and will henceforward perform in his own right the functions he has hitherto discharged as deputy for his mother.

WE desire to call the attention of the members of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, whether they send their subscriptions to the Central Committee or to any of the other committees of the society, to the forthcoming meeting in the Westminster Palace Hotel, at three o'clock, on Wednesday, December 12th, when very serious issues affecting the constitution and organisation

of the society will be raised. In another column we give an account of the society as it exists at present, with a sketch of its history and organisation, together with a statement of the circumstances under which the forthcoming meeting has been summoned, and an explanation of some of the issues involved which may assist those who attend the meeting in coming to a judgment on the points submitted for their consideration.

Admission to the meeting is by ticket only, and is stated to be restricted to members and subscribers to the funds of the Central Committee alone, although the meeting, as declared in the notice, is summoned for the purpose of re-organising the rules of the society on a new basis, and although the majority of the members of the National Society for Women's Suffrage are members in virtue of subscriptions to the funds of the Manchester, Bristol, Birmingham, and other committees, and as such have neither more nor less right to a voice in determining the nature of its organisation than the members of the society who subscribe to the Central Committee.

Under these circumstances those who may attend the meeting on the 12th will have a delicate and difficult duty to perform, and the course they adopt may have weighty consequences as regards the future of the society.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. ANNUAL MEETING.

The twenty-first annual meeting in connection with the Women's Suffrage Society was held on November 2nd, in the Mayor's Parlour at the Manchester Town Hall. There was a good attendance both of ladies and gentlemen. In the absence of the Mayor, Mr. Alderman BENNETT presided. There were also amongst those present Mr. W. Woodall, M.P., Mrs. Fawcett, Professor Adamson, Mrs. Joseph Cross, Mrs. James Eccles, Mrs. Cotton, Mrs. Ashford, Miss Becker, Miss Smith, Miss Dacre, Rev. H. A. Noel, Mr. Joseph Atkinson, Miss Atkinson, and Miss Hibbert. Letters expressing regret for inability to attend the meeting and sympathy with its object had been received from the Countess of Portsmouth, Mr. Addison, M.P., Mr. William Ainslie, M.P., Col. Bridgeman, M.P., Colonel Cotton, M.P., Mr. Courtney, M.P., Captain Edwards-Heathcote, M.P., Sir W. H. Houldsworth, M.P., the Hon. G. Kenyon, M.P., Mr. W. M'Laren, M.P., and Mrs. M'Laren, Mr. Peacock, M.P., Sir H. Roscoe, M.P., Major Sidebottom, M.P., Mr. H. Wilson, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Stephen, Mrs. G. S. Reaney, Mr. H. Howorth, M.P., Mr. J. W. Maclure, M.P., and others.

Miss BECKER read the report of the Executive Committee, which has been published separately.

The TREASURER (Professor Adamson) read the statement of accounts audited by Mr. F. Scott, which showed that on the income and expenditure there was a balance in hand of £12. 0s. 11d. The liabilities amounted to £149. 1s. 4d., and he thought some credit was due for the partial success which they had had in the effort to wipe off debt. He pointed out that the office expenses had been much reduced, and he was glad to say, without impairing the efficiency of the work.

The CHAIRMAN said he had attended many meetings of the society, and he had hoped that before then he would have been able

to congratulate them upon the passing of the Bill. They insisted upon the principle that any person who paid rates and taxes was entitled to a vote, and that no one had any right to inquire whether such person was a man or a woman. (Hear, hear.) In the new County Council Act the suffrage had been extended to women, and thus women would now be able to vote upon some matters affecting imperial taxation. About one million names would be added to the list of Parliamentary electors if the Women's Franchise Bill became law; and he did not think that they would do any harm to the Constitution. He himself had always stood in dread of what was called "manhood suffrage," and he believed that, if ever the women got the franchise, they would hear no more of manhood suffrage, for then the women would claim the same, and, as was well known, they were more numerous than the men. He advised the society not to bring in a private Bill again, but insist, rather, upon the Government taking up the question, and then success would be certain. (Applause.)

Mr. W. WOODALL, M.P., moved the adoption of the report. He said there might be some kind of disappointment that they had thus to meet there year after year, merely marking time, as it were, in regard to the progress of a question which was so simple, so obviously just, and the settlement of which was so expedient. Unfortunately their expectations session after session had been disappointed, although they entered upon the business of each session with so many elements of encouragement. But there was profound wisdom in the chairman's observations on the importance of obtaining Government support in their measure. (Hear, hear.) The number of members in support of the Bill had been steadily increasing session after session. Private members, even the most zealous and most vigilant, had very little chance of getting their bills discussed; and even under the system of procedure which with very general consent had been adopted for the economising of the time of the House, very little advantage had accrued to the measures of private members. They might rely upon the zeal and earnestness of Parliamentary friends, and he might also undertake to say for them and for the members of the Parliamentary Committee—a very numerous and influential body—that every effort would be made to urge upon the Government the duty and responsibility of affording facilities either for the passing of the Bill which advocates of women's suffrage would introduce, or to follow out the excellent suggestion of the chairman and take up the measure, as they might very properly do, as a supplement to those other measures of enfranchisement which had found their place upon the statute book, and which were now working with such general satisfaction in all parts of the country. But while they were conscious that they were marking time, it was notable and always encouraging to observe from year to year that while no definite legislative advance was made with this particular measure, the movement had been instrumental, in conjunction with many other forms of activity, in securing a most important advance in every direction of a sympathetic character. They were, therefore, in the position of having a sure numerical support in the House of Commons, amply sufficient to ensure the second reading of the Bill whenever they could obtain an opportunity for taking a division. If they once obtained the second reading of the Bill, they might easily hope to overcome the remaining opposition in the subsequent stages in Committee. (Hear, hear.) Many changes had come about in the last few years. There was a general apprehension that considerable evil would be wrought if women were admitted to take a practical part in politics. It was felt that they were too good for the rough conflicts of party life, which was only another way of saying that party life was something too bad to be associated with women. He ventured to think that women had not been made any worse, and they might hope that political life in this country had been considerably improved of late. They might claim that it had been improved very much in the degree in which women had been induced to take part in it. This movement for the enfranchisement of women only dated from 1867, when it was felt to be something almost indecent for women to appear upon public platforms in advocacy of a question which affected their own class. Now it was a very common thing for women to be found advocating prominently important reforms and lending their practical aid by the devotion and the great time and ability they displayed in every department of public life bearing upon the social conditions of the people, in our great measures of education and social reform, sanitary work and hospitals, in which their aid was certainly as valuable as it was felt to be indispensable.

At the present moment there was actually a competition among all political parties in the State for the support and active co-operation of women in the work of guiding and leading male voters to the poll—(hear, hear)—and it was something too absurd to think that in such circumstances as those it would be possible for either one party or the other longer to exist without the concession of that which was so obvious, so equitable, and so expedient. (Applause.) He was inclined to hope, whatever might be the future turns in the whirligig of party, that when the next general appeal was made to the country women, at any rate, would be called upon to take their part in determining the policy upon which the country was to be governed. (Applause.)

Mrs. COTTON seconded the motion, and the report was adopted.

Mrs. FAWCETT moved the following resolution: "That this meeting hereby express their cordial satisfaction at the recognition of the electoral rights of women in the Local Government Electors Act, and while thanking Her Majesty's Government for their recognition of the principle of women's suffrage, they would urge the immediate extension of this principle to the Parliamentary franchise, and for this end they respectfully request the Parliamentary leaders to take steps for the re-introduction of the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill at the earliest period of the new session." She said she believed that a very great part of the opposition that was at one time extended to the movement for women's suffrage was based upon the very common and very natural feeling of dread of the unknown. Twenty years ago it was an entirely unheard-of thing for women to take part in any contested election as voters, but it was no longer an unheard-of thing. People thought there was some risk that womanly duties would be neglected, that domestic occupations would be given up, if women once had a chance of taking part in a contested election. They had now had a considerable amount of experience, and they could appeal to that experience to show the former opponents of women's suffrage that their fears were baseless. That party which they considered, rightly or wrongly, to represent the oldest and most cautious side of politics was the first to make an innovation. They were the first to invite the co-operation of women in political affairs. They were followed very speedily by the Liberals, and later still the Liberal Unionists had taken courage to ask the assistance of women to help them in political affairs. That might have struck them as an anomaly, but she thought that after all it was the natural order of things that those who had most experience should be the first to take advantage of that experience, seeing that no harm had come from admitting women to political affairs, and that they should still further invite the co-operation of women. She thought this was encouraging, and was glad to notice the remarks of the Archbishop of York at the recent Church Congress on the manner in which we had come or were coming to recognise the equal rights of women. If she were to venture on the region of prophecy with regard to the effect of politics on the general policy of women, she would not predict anything at all as to their influence on party. She thought that was a thing which was improper for them to predict. Although she had a great respect for individual members, yet for parties in themselves she had no respect whatever, for she thought they would get all that they could out of women and give them as little as possible in return. But as to politics in general life and the admission of women to them, she thought that with confidence they could look forward to women representing home life and the domestic interests of the nation much more fully than these interests were represented by men. She thought therefore that when the women were enfranchised, and every member of Parliament had a certain percentage of women amongst his constituents, all those questions which bore on the home and moral life of the nation would receive much more attention, and be more carefully weighed, than they were at the present moment. (Applause.)

Professor ADAMSON seconded the resolution, and it was adopted.

Mrs. ASHFORD (Birmingham) moved the following resolution: "That the following persons be the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, with power to add to their number: Mr. J. E. W. Addison, M.P., Col. the Hon. F. Bridgeman, M.P., Colonel Cotton, M.P., Capt. Edwards-Heathcote, M.P., Sir W. H. Houldsworth, Bart., M.P., Mr. H. H. Howorth, M.P., Hon. George T. Kenyon, M.P., Mr. J. W. Maclure, M.P., Mr. W. S. B. M'Laren, M.P., Mr. R. Peacock, M.P., Major Sidebottom, M.P., Mr. W. Summers, M.P., Mr. H. J. Wilson, M.P., Mr. W. Woodall, M.P., Prof. Adamson,

Miss Becker, Mr. Thos. Chorlton, Mrs. E. T. D. Cotton, Mrs. Joseph Cross, Miss S. Isabel Dacre, Mr. Thos. Dale, Mrs. Gaddum, The Hon. Lady Grey Egerton, Mrs. James Eccles, Miss Edith Lupton, Mrs. Eva M'Laren, Rev. H. A. Noel, M.A., Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. N. C. Schou, Mr. H. Slatyer, Miss Eliz. Smith, Rev. Alex. Thomson.

The Rev. H. A. NOEL seconded the resolution, and it was adopted.

Miss LYDIA BECKER moved votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to the Mayor for the use of his parlour. This was seconded by Mrs. JAS. ECCLES and agreed to.

The meeting then terminated.

An "At Home" was subsequently held at the offices of the society, which was numerously attended by friends who had been present at the meeting. Refreshments were provided, and the rooms tastefully adorned with plants and flowers, fairy lights, silver and other decorations, by the kindness of members of the committee and other friends. The gathering was a very pleasant and successful one.

SOUTHPORT.

On November 6th a well-attended meeting, organised by the Southport Guild of the Unrepresented, was held in Cambridge Hall in support of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women householders. The MAYORESS (Mrs. E. J. Rimmer) presided, and there were also present on the platform Mrs. Fawcett, Colonel Edwards-Heathcote, M.P., Rev. R. A. Armstrong, Mrs. Sherbrooke, Mrs. Pilkington, the Revs. John Chater, J. T. Woodhouse, J. J. Fitch, J. Williams, Dr. Porter, F. Smith, Alderman Nicholson, Mr. John Geddes, and others.

The MAYORESS said she had been in full sympathy with the movement in favour of women's suffrage for a long time past, and she had not the slightest doubt that when the franchise was granted to them they would at once proceed to qualify themselves to exercise the privilege. (Applause.)

On the motion of Alderman NICHOLSON, and seconded by the Rev. J. J. FITCH, a resolution was adopted re-electing Mrs. Sherbrooke and Mrs. T. Dale as members of the Executive Committee of the Guild of the Unrepresented.

Colonel EDWARDS-HEATHCOTE, M.P., proposed: "That this meeting hereby express their cordial satisfaction at the recognition of the electoral rights of women in the Local Government Electors Act, and while thanking Her Majesty's Government for their recognition of the principle of women's suffrage, they would urge the immediate extension of this principle to the Parliamentary franchise, and for this end they respectfully request the Parliamentary leaders to take steps for the re-introduction of the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill at the earliest period of the new session." He supposed he was right in inferring that the new session referred to in the resolution was not the autumn session which began that day, but the really new session which would commence in February next. It was often said that women did not want the franchise, but he thought the audience before him supplied a very good answer to that objection. As they knew, it had been a very long struggle to get women's rights recognised, and the struggle was not yet ended, though he thought there were signs that the end was approaching. Having explained how it was that the Bill backed by Mr. Woodall and Baron Dimsdale never so much as got discussed in the past session, the hon. and gallant member went on to express his conviction that this question of women's suffrage might, after all, come to be settled by a sort of side wind. All who had paid any attention to the subject agreed that an assimilation of the various franchises, local and important, was a most desirable thing; and as women could vote in municipal affairs whenever such assimilation took place, it was pretty certain that women householders would be retained on the register, for these were not days in which any scheme of disfranchisement would find favour in any quarter. (Hear, hear.) The speaker enforced this point at some length, and then passed on to notice the plea that women do not want the vote. As he said before, an audience like that, with so large a proportion of women in it, was a sufficient refutation; and he should not have referred to it again had it not been for a little incident which had occurred in his own neighbourhood. The member for Stoke (Mr. W. Leatham Bright) was very anxious to form a branch of the Women's Liberal Association, and yet he was opposed

to giving them the franchise. He had no objection to women using their influence to induce men to vote, but he objected to them voting on their own account. After some further observations, the hon. and gallant member brought a long and pleasantly discursive speech to a close amidst applause.

Mrs. FAWCETT seconded the resolution, and said her late husband—(applause)—treasured the epithet bestowed on him by his opponents, that "he was the friend of women." An important precedent was created by the Local Government Act, for under it women would have for the first time a direct control over the expenditure of Imperial taxation.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. R. A. ARMSTRONG (Liverpool) moved: "That a petition to the House of Commons, based on the foregoing resolution, be adopted and sent to the Hon. G. N. Curzon for presentation."

The Rev. Dr. PORTER seconded, and the motion was carried.

Votes of thanks to the Mayoress and the other speakers concluded the proceedings.

LECTURES.

MELTHAM.

A lecture was delivered in the Oddfellows' Hall, Meltham, on November 22nd, by Miss Lydia Becker. Mrs. C. J. Brook, of Harewood Lodge, presided. Though the lecture was under the auspices of the Primrose League, it was in no sense a political one, and there was a fair attendance of all parties. A resolution to the effect that the time had arrived when women ought to have a vote in Parliamentary elections was carried almost unanimously. Several questions were asked and answered at the close of the address, which was much appreciated. Votes of thanks to the lecturer and the lady president were given.

NETHERTON.

A public meeting, under the auspices of the Brook Habitation of the Primrose League, took place at Netherton, on November 23rd, when Miss Becker delivered a lecture on women's suffrage. Mrs. C. J. Brook, ruling councillor, presided, and was supported by Mr. Henderson, Mr. Pautred, and others. The audience consisted mostly of ladies. The lecture was received with great attention, and at the close a petition to the House of Commons was adopted. The proceedings concluded with votes of thanks to the lecturer and to Mrs. Brook for presiding.

POLITICAL SOCIETIES.

NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE UNION.

At the annual conference, which commenced at Wolverhampton on November 2nd, under the presidency of Mr. Ashmead Bartlett, M.P., there were 400 delegates, among whom was one lady, Mrs. Maple, representing the Spalding Habitation of the Primrose League. The chairman congratulated the conference on the presence of a lady delegate, and trusted that on future occasions they would have other ladies attending their meetings in a similar capacity.

WOMEN'S LIBERAL FEDERATION.

A conference for women, in connection with this Federation, was held on November 6th, in the Masonic Hall, Birmingham. Mrs. A. C. OSLER presided, and among those present were the Countess of Aberdeen, Countess Tolstoi, Lord Aberdeen, Mrs. H. G. Reid, Miss Monck, Miss E. Shaw-Lefevre, Mrs. B. Reid, Mrs. Theodore Fry, Mrs. Walter M'Laren, Miss Cobden, and Miss Gittens. The hall was crowded with ladies.

Mrs. OSLER pointed out that when the history of the nineteenth century came to be written, the most striking feature of it would be the great change that had come over the social, moral, and political status of women. They were feeling their way from a state of subjection to one of freedom, and to seek for the highest development of womanhood was, she took it, the aim of every lady at the conference. They would do well to bear in mind that they were a new element in English political life, and as such they were not bound by the traditions of the past, but free to adopt new methods of influencing political thought. Nay, it was possible

that our political life might greatly benefit from the introduction of that keen moral sense which women were so universally admitted to possess, and of that earnestness with which she engaged in good work. What they desired was this—that through them there might enter into our political life some increased charity and generosity, some widening of human sympathies, and some added reverence and enthusiasm for those great Liberal principles of justice, freedom, and progress which had already done so much for struggling humanity. (Applause.)

The Countess of Aberdeen gave an address on "Irish industries." Mrs. T. Bailey (Nottingham) read a paper on "Women's work in county constituencies," and showed the great progress that had been made in this direction in East Derbyshire.

Mrs. Byles (Bradford) spoke on the subject of "Decentralisation."

A paper by Miss Orme was read by Miss A. Macdonnell on "How to secure an effective union of different social classes in Women's Liberal Associations."

Miss Foster (Birmingham) read an interesting paper on "Municipal government," Miss Monck on "Poor-law guardian elections," Lady Sandhurst on "County Council elections," and Mrs. Costello on "School Board elections." The gathering was a most interesting one.

HULL AND EAST RIDING WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 5th, under the auspices of this association, two lectures were given in the Gladstone Hall, Albion-street, Hull, one by Miss Baggallay (of London) on "Equality before the Law," and another by Miss Chapman, L.L.A. (of Winchester), entitled "Why citizens should take an interest in politics." The Rev. H. W. Perris presided, and there was a large attendance of members. After the lectures the Chairman moved, "That, in the opinion of this meeting, women who pay rates and taxes should have the right to vote in the election of members of Parliament." Mrs. Thorpe seconded this, and it was carried unanimously. Mrs. Sanderson moved the adoption of a petition, which was seconded by Mrs. Norton, and it was also carried unanimously. A vote of thanks to the lecturers and the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

DEBATING SOCIETIES.

BIRKBECK INSTITUTE.

On November 5th, Mrs. Fenwick Miller opened a debate at the Birkbeck Institute, Chancery Lane, London, the resolution which she moved being as follows: "That the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to duly qualified women without further delay." A discussion followed, and the resolution was carried nearly unanimously.

STREATHAM PARLIAMENT.

On Nov. 14th, a special meeting of the Streatham Parliament was convened to discuss a Women's Suffrage Bill introduced by Mr. Crickway, a member of the sitting (Liberal) ministry. The announcement that Mrs. Fenwick Miller, representing the Women's Suffrage Society, would be heard in support of the Bill "at the bar of the House" created great interest, and there was a large attendance of "strangers," the new Town Hall being well filled. The measure was supported by Messrs. Alderton, Wood, and others, and opposed by Mr. Stedman. On a division being taken it was carried by a majority of five to one, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Fenwick Miller.

MALVERN LINK.

The periodical meeting of the Parliamentary Debating Society was held on November 13th, when the chief subject of discussion was female suffrage. Mr. A. T. Waters proposed a resolution in favour. Mr. W. Davis (Postmaster-General) seconded. Mr. C. J. Simes (Secretary for Ireland) supported. Mr. Hogben opposed. Mr. E. A. Mason (Prime Minister) supported. Mr. Wickham did not believe in retaining disabilities of any kind, whether in respect to men or women. Mr. Waters replied, and the motion was carried *nem. con.*

IRELAND.

OMAGH YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN AND LITERARY ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of the above association was held on October 2nd, T. C. DICKIE, Esq., in the chair.

THE WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION ACT, 1888.

The CHAIRMAN said the Women's Representation Act, 1888, having passed the second reading at the previous sitting, the committee stage was now reached, and he was ready to receive amendments on the several clauses contained in the measure.

Mr. JAMES ELLIOTT moved the adoption of the first clause, "That the Representation of the People Act, 1884, 48 Vic., Cap. 1, and all other Acts relating to Parliamentary Elections and the Registration of Voters at present in force, shall be extended to women who possess the same rateable qualifications required to be possessed by persons at present entitled to vote at Parliamentary Elections under said Act." The clause was adopted.

An interesting debate took place on the remaining clauses, and after the discussion of one or two amendments on these, the business terminated.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The title National Society for Women's Suffrage is a generic term, comprehending a number of individual, separate, and distinct societies, each with its own rules, list of subscribers, executive committee, secretary, treasurer, and funds, working together in concert for that which is the declared object of the society—to obtain for women the right of voting for members of Parliament on the same conditions as it is, or may be, granted to men. The National Society for Women's Suffrage was organised in 1867. Centres were formed in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, &c. These societies adopted the generic title "National Society for Women's Suffrage" with the prefix "London," "Manchester," "Edinburgh," &c., and have continued to work separate as regards machinery, but united in aim and object from the time the society was organised until now.

In 1872 it was felt to be desirable that a central representative committee should be formed in order to afford a means of inter-communication among the various sections of the society. A meeting was held at the Langham Hotel, on January 17th, 1872, which was attended by many representatives from committees in other districts. At this meeting an Executive Committee was nominated, consisting of certain persons then named, to which were added as *ex-officio* members: (1) All members of Parliament who were members of the Central Committee; (2) such delegates as the committees in connection with the Central Committee might appoint; (3) all members of Executive Committees in connection with the Central Committee.

The committee thus appointed met and drew up the rules of the Central Committee. These rules were submitted to a general meeting which was held in the Westminster Palace Hotel, on July 17th, 1872, and adopted. The proceedings at these meetings are recorded in the numbers of the *Women's Suffrage Journal* for February and August, 1872.

The rules are as follows:—

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The object of the society is to obtain the Parliamentary franchise for women on the same conditions as it is or may be granted to men.

The society seeks to achieve this object—

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.

By holding public meetings in support of the repeal of the electoral disabilities of women.

By the publication of pamphlets, leaflets, and other literature bearing upon the question.

RULES.

Passed at the General Meeting of the Central Committee and subscribers to its funds, held July 17th, 1872.

1. The Central Committee shall consist of the present members, and such others as the Executive Committee may, from time to time, elect.

2. The Executive Committee shall consist of members of the Central Committee, to be elected at the annual general meeting, and of single delegates, the same being members of local committees, appointed by local associations to represent them; the Executive Committee having power to add to the Central Committee, and to its own number, and to appoint the officers.

3. A subscription of any amount constitutes membership of the National Society.

4. A general meeting of the Central Committee shall be held once a year, to appoint the Executive Committee, to receive the annual report and the financial statement, and to transact any other business which may arise.

5. The Executive Committee shall, at its first meeting, appoint the officers.

6. A special general meeting may be called by the Executive Committee at any time; or, at the written request of not less than twenty-five members of the Central Committee, the secretary or secretaries shall call a special general meeting, to discuss such matters only as are mentioned in the notice of such meeting.

7. Eight days' public notice shall be given of all general meetings.

8. The above rules shall not be altered except at a general meeting, after fourteen days' notice of the proposed alteration, given to the Executive Committee.

All the societies for women's suffrage which existed at that time, with the exception of the "London National Society for Women's Suffrage," came into connection with the Central Committee. The London Society continued to hold aloof until the year 1878, when by resolutions of the Executive Committee, the London Society was amalgamated with the Central Committee and ceased to exist as a separate society. The subscribers to the London Society transferred their contributions to the funds of the Central Committee, and all the members of the Executive Committee of the London National Society for Women's Suffrage became members of the Central Executive Committee.

Besides its central or representative function, the Central Committee has acted from the first as a district society for local work. The country was divided into districts, which each society undertook to work. The counties of Leicester, Northampton, Lincoln, Rutland, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, Berks, Oxford, Southampton, Sussex, Surrey, Middlesex, Kent were assigned as the Central district. The Central Committee worked vigorously in these counties by promoting meetings, lectures, and petitions; by the circulation of literature, including the distribution of the *Women's Suffrage Journal* to all members of Parliament returned for these counties, to all newspapers published within their bounds, and to political associations, free libraries, and similar institutions contained within them. Other societies worked on similar lines in the districts assigned to their sphere of action. This division of labour has been in working order until the present time.

Within the last few weeks some of the members of the Central Executive Committee have manifested dissatisfaction with the existing rules. At the ordinary meeting of the Central Executive, on Oct. 7th, it was resolved that a special meeting be called to consider the question of revision. The special meeting took place on Oct. 31st, when it was resolved that in the opinion of the meeting the time

had come to reconsider the rules of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage. A sub-committee was appointed to report a revision of rules to the Executive Committee. The sub-committee's report, with the proposed rules, was forwarded to the secretaries of the other societies in connection with the Central Committee, and although only five or six days' notice of the new rules was given, some of these were able to summon special meetings of their committees to consider them. In other cases the time was too short to allow of such action. But practically the result was the same as if they had met, for at the meeting of the Central Executive Committee summoned to consider the new rules, the other societies which form part of the National Society for Women's Suffrage were treated as if they had no part in its councils. The first act of the committee was to pass a resolution that the communications from the Manchester, Bristol, Belfast, and Dublin societies which lay upon the table should not be read. The minutes and resolutions which had been passed by these societies on the proposed rules sent for their consideration therefore lay on the table unopened, while the rules were under consideration. Under these circumstances the proposed rules with some alterations in minor particulars were adopted by the committee, and it was resolved that a special general meeting of the Central Committee should be called for December 12th, when the new rules would be proposed for adoption. Notice was given on behalf of Mrs. Fawcett, that at the meeting she would move an amendment to the effect that the proposed rules be not adopted.

PROPOSED NEW RULES FOR THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The title of the society is the "National 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 consists (1) of all persons who signify approval of its object and who pay a subscription of any amount; (2) of organisations approved by the Executive Committee which signify adherence to its object and pay an annual affiliation fee.

The affairs of the society shall be managed by a Central Council consisting:—

- (1) Of delegates duly elected by each duly affiliated body in the following proportion: one representative for not less than twenty-five members; two representatives for fifty members; three representatives for 100 members; four representatives for above 100 members; four representatives to be the maximum number sent by any affiliated body. The affiliation fee shall be five shillings for each representative sent to the council.
- (2) Of all subscribers of not less than £1.
- (3) Of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than 50 members to be chosen from the subscribers and from members of affiliated bodies, and shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the Central Council. The Executive Committee shall conduct the general business of the society subject to the approval of the Central Council, and appoint its own officers, and shall make rules for the conduct of its own business. The committee shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring in its members. Five members shall form a quorum. The committee shall meet in London.

The general meeting of the society shall be held annually to receive the report and consider the future work of the society. The annual meeting of the Central Council shall be held before each

annual meeting of the society. Twenty-eight days' notice shall be given of such annual meetings to each affiliated body, and to subscribers to the society.

Special meetings of the Central Council shall be called by ten members of the Executive Committee (including the honorary officers) or at the request of any six of the affiliated bodies, to discuss such matters only as are mentioned in the notice of such meeting.

Any affiliated body, or any four subscribers, shall be entitled to nominate candidates for election to the Executive Committee, provided such nominations reach the secretary in writing fourteen days before the annual meeting of the Central Council.

The accounts shall be presented duly audited at the annual meeting of the society. The auditor shall be appointed by the Central Council.

No alteration shall be made in the rules except at a general meeting of the society, of which fourteen days' notice specifying the proposed alteration shall have been given to the Executive Committee, to each affiliated body and to the subscribers.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY AT A MEETING OF THE MANCHESTER COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 19TH, RESPECTING THE PROPOSED NEW RULES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

1. That the rules imply the constitution of a new society rather than amendment of the rules of the Central Committee of the already existing society.
2. That the title "National Society for Women's Suffrage" belongs equally to all the existing societies, and cannot be rightfully appropriated by any one committee or by any new society.
3. That the Central Committee has for the past sixteen years acted as the representative committee through which the various societies throughout the country could co-operate in council and action, and that this relation between the Central Committee and the other committees would be practically destroyed under the new rules.
4. That the new society constituted by these rules contemplates the admission of bodies organised for other purposes political and social, which, in the opinion of this committee, would be a dangerous departure from the principle of absolute non-intervention in other questions that has hitherto been fundamental in the society.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, NOVEMBER 17TH, 1888.

That this committee having before it the draft of a new constitution of the National Society for Women's Suffrage proposed by a sub-committee of the Central Executive Committee of that society, resolves:—

1. That the proposed draft lays down new conditions of membership of the society and a new constitution of its Central and also of its Executive Committees and that these fundamental changes create not only a new government but a new society.
2. That this committee deems it inexpedient to exchange the original constitution of the National Society, which has now lasted during sixteen years of continuous and successful work both in the country and Parliament, for what is at the best an untried experiment, and that too at this critical period when having secured a majority in the House of Commons, there is every reason to believe the Society is approaching a successful termination of its labours.
3. That the guiding principle of the original constitution is that of a Central Representative Union of all local women's suffrage

committees in the kingdom. The guiding principle of the new draft appears to be that of the destruction of this Central Representative Union, thereby depriving all local committees of direct representation in the government of the National Society. Under any circumstances, the Bristol and West of England Society for Women's Suffrage must strongly resist any attempt to deprive it and other local suffrage societies of direct representation in the government of the National Society for Women's Suffrage.

[Copy of letter sent to chairman of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, November 21st, 1888; and by resolution of committee not permitted to be read. Letters and resolutions from the Manchester Society, the West of England Society, and the Dublin Society, were also not permitted to be read.]

North of Ireland Society for Women's Suffrage,
19th November, 1888.

Sir,—I have received a copy of the proposed new rules for the National Society for Women's Suffrage, which are to be considered at the meeting of the Central Committee on November 21st.

I have laid them before a special meeting of the North of Ireland Committee. They are of the opinion that the notice given has been far too short to admit of full examination of a set of rules which, if carried into effect, would bring about a complete reconstruction of the National Society.

There is not time for a general meeting of the members of each local association to be held, as would certainly be needful before such sweeping changes are made. They are of opinion that the changes proposed are contrary to the intention with which the central body in London was originally founded, namely, to unite all associations and committees throughout the country which were already at work for women's suffrage, and those which might be hereafter formed on the same lines.

The proposed machinery alters the relations between the central and local bodies; and alters them in a direction absolutely inconsistent with the fact that the work to be done is to influence public opinion alike throughout the whole country, with the ultimate object of influencing the Parliament which represents the whole country.

This committee is of opinion that until time and opportunity have been given to each of the associations originally assisting in founding the central body, as well as the more important of those which have since joined, to hold special general meetings to consider the subject, it is not competent to the Central Committee to call a special general meeting in London to decide upon changes of such a vital character.—Yours truly,
ISABELLA M. S. TOD.

Notices of summons to the special general meeting have been issued. The card is as follows:—"Admit — to a special general meeting of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, for the purpose of re-organizing the rules of the society on a new basis, on Wednesday, December 12th, 1888, at three p.m., at the Westminster Palace Hotel (Victoria-street, S.W.) N.B. Admission to the meeting is by ticket only, and is restricted to members of the Central, General, and Executive Committees and subscribers to the funds of that body. This ticket is not transferable. By order of the Executive Committee, FLORENCE BALGARNIE, Secretary."

It is believed that this restriction is void in law. Admission to a meeting can be restricted to those entitled to take part in it, i.e., a meeting of a company, for example, is restricted to those entitled to take part in it, but who they are who are entitled to take part

in the meeting now contemplated is a question on which a legal opinion may be taken. No notice can exclude those legally entitled to attend, and it is contended that at a meeting called for the purpose of re-organising on a new basis the rules of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, all members of the society as at present organised are entitled to attend and vote.

At the meeting the first resolution, to be moved by Mrs. Frank Morrison, is: "That in the opinion of this meeting the time has come for revising the rules of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage."

Miss Becker has given notice of an amendment to this resolution in the following terms:—

"That inasmuch as the existing rules of the Central Committee were adopted at a meeting in which members and representatives of other committees of the National Society for Women's Suffrage took part, this meeting is of opinion that the question of revising them cannot properly be considered at a meeting from which members and representatives of such other committees have been specifically excluded."

Should Mrs. Morrison's resolution be carried, Mr. Woodall will move the adoption of the new rules.

With regard to the rules themselves, a further question may arise on the point of legality, inasmuch as the rules purport to be not merely an alteration of the rules of the Central Committee, but they purport to organise on a new basis the National Society for Women's Suffrage itself. The existing society consists of all persons who subscribe to the funds, if any, of the committees which form integral portions of the society. It, therefore, would appear that no change can be lawfully made in the organisation of the society as a whole at a meeting to which members of the society who send their subscriptions to other committees have been denied admission.

An amendment stands on the paper to be moved by Mrs. Fawcett, seconded by Miss Becker, hon. sec. of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage; supported by Mrs. Ashworth Hallett, hon. sec. of the Bristol and West of England Branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, and by Mrs. Beddoe, vice-president; by Miss Tod, hon. sec. of the North of Ireland Branch of the Society; Miss Caroline A. Biggs; Miss Frances Power Cobbe; Mr. Thomas Hare; Mrs. Ashford, Birmingham; Mrs. Haslam, hon. sec. of the Dublin Society; Mrs. Cowen, hon. sec. of the Notts Branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage; Miss Jessie Boucherett; and others. The amendment is as follows:—

"That in the opinion of this meeting the proposed new rules imply the constitution of a new society rather than the amendment of the rules of the Central Committee of the already existing society. That the society which would be thus constituted by the proposed rules, while depriving all country suffrage committees of direct representation on the Central Executive Committee, contemplates the admission of bodies as constituent members of the council, which have been organised for other purposes, political and social: in the opinion of this meeting this would be a dangerous departure from the principles of non-intervention in other questions which has hitherto been fundamental in all the committees of the National Society for Women's Suffrage. This meeting, therefore, resolves that the proposed new rules be not adopted, but that the present constitution shall remain in force, subject to such amendments of the rules in detail as may be agreed upon by all the committees of the National Society for Women's Suffrage which are in connection with the Central Committee, and by the Central Executive Committee."

NOTTINGHAM WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

An "At Home" of the Women's Suffrage Association was held on November 26th at the offices of the association, Heathcote-street, or, put less formally, a pleasant evening was spent by several score ladies, and the proceedings were diversified with songs and recitations, and speeches on questions relating to women were given by Miss Wright, Alderman Gruppe, Mr. Cook, Mrs. Cowen, and Mr. Herbert Wright. The proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Jesse Hind as a small acknowledgment of the generous activity of this lady, not only with regard to the home-like, comfortable tea which preceded the gathering, but in reference to her work for the association generally.

ABERDARE HALL, CARDIFF.

The executive committee of Aberdare Hall have awarded the following scholarships to students who distinguished themselves in the University College, Cardiff, entrance examination:—Miss Williams' Scholarship of £20 for three years, to Miss Grace Jones, High School for Girls, Middlesborough; Hon. Mrs. George Howard's Scholarship of £20 for three years, to Miss Eleanor Moss, B.A., of the Royal Irish University. Exhibitions of the value of £10 were at the same time given to Miss Edith Bancroft, of the Redlands High School, Bristol, and to Miss Emily Payn, Kendrick's School, Reading. Miss Payn, who is of Welsh origin, also holds an exhibition given by the Association for Promoting the Education of Girls in Wales. We may here mention that the degree of B.A., London University, has just been granted to Miss A. Foxall and Miss Pearson, students of the University College, Cardiff, resident at the Aberdare Hall.

PARLIAMENTARY PETITIONS.

PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE (EXTENSION TO WOMEN) BILL.—In Favour.

FOURTEENTH REPORT.—Continued from page 102.

Table of petitions for the fourteenth report, including entries for Kilmarnock, Stockport, Haverstock Hill, Cardiff Liberal Association, and others.

Total number of Petitions 194—Signatures 4,365
ERRATA.—Omit Nos. 5172 and 5221.

FIFTEENTH REPORT, 21—26 June, 1888.

Table of petitions for the fifteenth report, including entries for Margaret Elizabeth Bunney, Portsmouth Women's Liberal Association, and others.

Total number of Petitions 202—Signatures 4,524
These petitions are substantially similar to that from Eastbourne (App. 1).

SIXTEENTH REPORT, 27 June—10 July, 1888.

Table of petitions for the sixteenth report, including entries for King's Langley, Clapham, Ipswich, Lynmouth and Lynton, Kelvedon Women's Liberal Association, Sandbach, Crewe, Elizabeth C. W. Elmyr, M. Williams, Bristol, Armley, Durdham Park, London, Glasgow, Guild of the Unrepresented, Newcastle and Gateshead, Darlington, Clifton, Bath and neighbourhood, Cheltenham, Watford, Upper Norwood, Cotherham, Putney, Cheltenham, Bristol, Coventry, London, Nantwich, Nottingham, Congleton, Waterford, Aberystwith, Hyde, Gee Cross, Winscombe, Hunslet, Leeds, North Paddington, Limehouse, Clevedon, Winscombe, Stirling, London, Bridport, and Bristol.

Table of petitions for July, including entries for Bristol, Coventry, Brighton, London, and Bath.

Table of petitions for July, including entries for Staverton, Sunderland, Bedford, South Kensington, Croxdon, Southport Division, Clapham, London, Kingstown, Herbert Bellor, Manchester, Leeds, Bridgewater, and Sproot.

Table of petitions for July, including entries for London, Shepherd's Bush, Brighton, and London.

Table of petitions for August, including entries for South Kensington Women's Liberal Association, Great Malvern, Great Malvern, Oxford, Leeds, Dysart, and London.

Table of petitions for November, including entries for Frances M. Buss, Hull and East Riding Women's Liberal Association, and others.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Table of subscriptions and donations for November 1888, including names like Mrs. David Chadwick, Miss M. A. Finch, and others.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

Table of subscriptions and donations for November 1888, including names like Mrs. Garnett, Mrs. C. H. Hodgson, and others.

HARRIET MORRISON, TREASURER, 29, Parliament-street, S.W.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY.

Table of subscriptions and donations from Oct. 25th to Nov. 24th, 1888, including names like Miss Agnes Tanner, Mr. J. T. Grace, and others.

Obituary.

COL. DUNCAN, M.P.—We greatly regret to record the death of Col. Duncan, M.P. for Finsbury, Holborn. Col. Duncan first entered Parliament in 1885. He promised during the election to support women's suffrage, which he did both by a vote in the House of Commons and by speaking in favour at meetings. Col. Duncan was universally popular, and his untimely death is much lamented.

CASH'S CAMBRIC FRILLINGS.

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