

# WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

VOL. XIV.—No. 159. PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

APRIL 2, 1883.

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## Contents :

Leading Articles:—Mr. Mason's Resolution; Meetings during March; Mr. Lewis and the Bankruptcy Bill; The Cruelty to Animals Bill; Wife Desertion in Lancashire; Ladies on Scotch Parochial Boards; Election of Ladies as Poor Law Guardians; Women's Work in Nail and Chain Making; Municipal Suffrage in Massachusetts.  
Strike of Widows against the Payment of Rates.  
Parliamentary Intelligence.

Public Meetings:—Malton, Scarborough, Llanely, Neath, Yeovil, Bromley.  
Drawing Room Meetings:—Rownham, Holbeck, Forest Hill, Sydenham Hill, Leeds, Hunslet, Scarborough, Woodhouse Lane, Bristol Women's Liberal Association, Trowbridge. Scotland: Glasgow, Aberdeen.  
Letters from Members of Parliament.  
A Boy's Views on Women's Suffrage.  
A New Danish Paper.

Marriage of Mr. Courtney.  
Correspondence:—Married Women's Property Act, 1882, and Settlements.  
Visit of Miss Susan B. Anthony to Europe.  
Obituary:—Miss Lillias Craig, Mr. J. Bagwell, Mr. Ashton W. Dilke, Sir George Jessel.  
Petitions.  
Treasurers' Reports:—Manchester; Central Committee; Bristol and West of England; Birmingham.

**PETITION! PETITION! PETITION!**—Friends of Women's Suffrage are earnestly exhorted to aid the cause by collecting signatures during the recess for petitions, to be presented in support of Mr. Mason's Resolution, which is expected to come on for discussion in Parliament at an early date. Petitions from women householders or others who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote are particularly valuable. Special forms of petition to be signed by such women, as well as general petitions, ready for signature, will be supplied on application to Miss BECKER, 64, Berners-street, London, W., or 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester; Miss BLACKBURN, 20, Park-street, Bristol; or Miss KIRKLAND, 13, Raeburn Place, Edinburgh.

**YORK.**—A Public Meeting in support of the claim of Women Householders to the Parliamentary Franchise will be held in the Festival Concert Room, York, on Thursday, April 5th, 1883, at 7-30. The following ladies are expected to be present:—Mrs. Cady Stanton, of Boston, U.S.; Mrs. Shearer, of London; Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, of Leeds; Mrs. Chant, of London; Mrs. Henry Richardson, of York; Miss Müller, of the London School Board; Miss Lillie Stacpoole, of London; Miss Balmorie, of the Scarborough School Board. The chair will be taken by Sir JAMES MEEK. Admission free.

**YORK.**—Preliminary Meetings in support of the meeting in the Festival Concert Room will be held in the Adult School, Lady Peckitt's Yard, York, on April 2nd, Mrs. Henry Richardson in the chair; and in the Mission Room, Nunnery Lane, April the 3rd, Mr. Councillor Wilkinson in the chair. Addresses will be delivered by Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd and Mrs. Downing-Shearer. Each meeting will begin at 7-30.

**NOTICE.**—To the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry, and all whom it may concern in the United Kingdom. By sending Eightpence in stamps you will receive a bottle of  
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**WAKEFIELD.**—A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Corn Exchange, Wakefield, on Tuesday, April 17th, 1883. Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, Mrs. Shearer, and Miss Carbutt will attend as a deputation from the National Society for Women's Suffrage. Alderman H. Lee, J.P., Councillors J. S. Booth, J. F. Grace, B. Peacock, W. H. Milnes, Wm. Hartley Lee, J.P., W. Nicholson; J. Nicholson, Esq.; Revs. J. Shepherd Eastmead, James Ford, J. Hughes, Amos B. Matthews, J. W. Wolstenholme, M.A., and other ladies and gentlemen are expected to be present. Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock by His WORSHIP the MAYOR (George Mander, Esq.). Admission Free.

**THE HISTORY OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE.** Illustrated with steel engravings. Edited by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Matilda Joslyn Gage. Complete in three octavo volumes. Vols. I. and II. now ready. Price, cloth, two pounds.

The question of Woman Suffrage, the rights and status of Woman, has already become one of the vital political issues of the day; therefore, its relation to political, social, and religious questions should be thoroughly understood.

The *Phila. Evening Bulletin* says: "The magnitude of this history prevents us from giving even a sketch of it, but we simply and honestly say that it is a noble production, honourable to its editors and to its subject, and fairly representing the characters of the really great women, like Mrs. Stone, Lucretia Mott, Harriet Martineau, and scores of others in England and this country, who made the claim of equal rights of suffrage a part of their political and religious creeds."

The *N. Y. Observer* says: "The able editors present this work as an arsenal of facts, to which all interested in the subject may resort and find whatever is worth knowing in regard to the movement. The history of such a movement is full of interest, and while the material is at hand and easily gathered, the editors have done well to gather it into these thick volumes, and preserve it as a part of the record of this remarkable age. The portraits of women here presented make us acquainted with the features of some who have become famous."

To be had from the office of this Journal, 28, Jackson's Row, Manchester.

THE NEW VOLUME.

**WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.**—Volume XIII. January to December, 1882. With coloured cover, price, post free, One Shilling and Tenpence.—London: Trübner and Co.; or at the office of the *Women's Suffrage Journal*, 28, Jackson's Row, Manchester.

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With an Introduction and Notes on the Act of 1882. By H. N. Mozley, M.A.—BUTTERWORTH, 7, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

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CONTENTS FOR MARCH, 1883.

1. The Duties of Women as Guardians.
2. Registration of Midwives.
3. League of Italian Women.
4. Chainmaking.

Record of Events:—Poor Law Guardians' Election, Edinburgh—Poor Law Guardians, England—Poor Law Inspectors—Boarding-out Pauper Children—Nail and Chain-making for Women—Marriage Law Defence Union—Tavistock School Board—Female Clerks in the Post Office—Custody of Illegitimate Children—Labour of Children at Night—Maintenance of Married Women—Strike of Widows against Payment of Rates—A Lady Librarian—Appointment of a Lady Physician—Medical Women for India—Bristol Liberal Association—Miscellaneous.

Reviews.  
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Foreign Notes and News.  
Published by Trübner and Co., Ludgate Hill, and at 22, Berners-street, London, W.

**"LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY."**  
A Reply to Mr. Fitzjames Stephen's Strictures on Mr. J. S. Mill's "Subjection of Women," by LYDIA E. BECKER. Reprinted from the *Women's Suffrage Journal*. Price 2d. To be had at 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester.

**WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.**—Communications for the Editor and Orders for the Journal to be addressed to Miss BECKER, 64, Berners-street, London, W.; or to the Office, 28, Jackson's Row, Albert Square, Manchester.

**BRADFORD WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.**

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The object of the Society is 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, to promote the Election of Women for School Boards, Boards of Guardians, and to assist by all means the political education of women.

(Continued from page 67.)

THIRD REPORT, 28 February—6 March, 1882.

	Brought forward, Petitions	Signatures
Feb.	50—	1,783
©*1007	28 STRATFORD, T. Cro , chairman (Mr. Baring)	...
*1008	" "	21
*1009	" ALICE DYE and others (Viscount Lewisham)	...
*1010	" G. H. CONDY and others (Sir Henry Peck)	...
*1011	" EMILY HILL and others " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	19
Mar.		
©*1012	1 STOKE BISHOP, Attendants at a Drawing-room Meeting at Pitch and Pay, M. A. Tanner, chairman (Mr. Lewis Fry)	...
*1013	" SIDMOUTH (Sir John Kennaway)	29
*1014	" J. E. STRONGE and others (Mr. Murray)	24
*1015	" KIBWORTH BEAUCHAMP and KIBWORTH HARCOURT (Mr. Pell)	40
*1016	" HARTLEPOOL (Mr. Thomas Richardson)	44
*1017	" LLESWORTH (Lord George Hamilton)	24
*1018	" A. COMMON and others (Mr. Storey)	10
*1019	" RATHMINES, STILLORGAN, and other places	16
*1020	" LUCAN " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	16
1021	5 OSWESTRY, There-undersigned Inhabitants of (Mr. Stanley Leighton)	15
©*1022	" REDLAND, Attendants at a Drawing-room Meeting held at Linden House, Alan Greenwell, chairman (Mr. Samuel Morley)	1
©*1023	" 6 NEATH, D. Davies, chairman (Mr. Dillwyn)	1
©*1024	" LLANELLY, W. Howell, chairman (Sir Jones Jenkins)	1
*1025	" DEVONPORT (Mr. Pulestone)	84
	Total number of Petitions 69—Signatures 2,175	

FOURTH REPORT, 7—12 March, 1883.

	Brought forward, Petitions	Signatures
Mar.	69—	2,175
*1641	7 RICHARD BALDWIN and others (Mr. Jacob Bright)	42
*1642	" F. BIDMEAD and others " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	23
*1643	" LEEDS, Female Inhabitants of (Mr. Herbert Gladstone)	1
1644	" WRENTHAM and other places, Suffolk (Lord Rendlesham)	15
*1645	" 9 RUGBY and other places (Dr. Farquharson)	14
*1646	" 10 BEDFORD, There-undersigned Inhabitants of (Mr. Whitbread)	5
*1647	" 12 DEAL (Mr. Henry Brassey)	24
©*1648	" CLIFTON, Attendants at a drawing-room meeting at Rownam House, Leigh Woods, A. M. Priestman, president, and others (Lord Brooke)	3
*1649	" BURY, Lancashire (Mr. Philips)	35
	Total number of Petitions 78—Signatures 2,337	

The Petitions marked thus (\*) are substantially similar to that from Plymouth [APP. 5].  
The Petition marked thus (†) is similar to that from Templeogue [APP. 20].  
The Petitions marked thus (©) are from public meetings, and are signed officially.

TEXT OF PETITIONS PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—SESSION 1883.

FROM THE APPENDIX TO THE PARLIAMENTARY REPORTS.

APP. 5. *Mr. Macliver.* Sig. 1.

35. The humble Petition of the inhabitants of Plymouth, in public meeting assembled, in the Guildhall, Plymouth, on December 4th, 1882,

Sheweth,—That, in the opinion of your petitioners, the Parliamentary franchise ought to be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and no future measure of Parliamentary reform will be satisfactory that does not contain a provision for such extension.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable House will pass a measure to remove the electoral disabilities of women.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed on behalf of the meeting,

JOHN MERRIFIELD, Chairman.

APP. 20. *Mr. Tottenham.* Sig. 10.

246. The humble Petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Templeogue, Rathgar, &c., county Dublin,

Sheweth,—That the exclusion of women, otherwise legally qualified, from voting in the election of members of Parliament is injurious to those excluded, contrary to the principle of just representation, and to that of the laws now in force in England regulating the election of municipal, parochial, and all other representative governments.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable House will pass a Bill to remove the electoral disabilities of women.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

SUSAN MURPHY.  
CHARLES J. MURPHY.  
ANNE SIBELLA HOLMES.  
&c., &c., &c.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED.

Le Devoir (Guisé); Woman's Journal (Boston, U.S.A.); Queen Bee (Denver, Colorado); Rheinische Kurier, Mar. 4; Detroit Free Press, Feb. 11; Times (Indianapolis), Mar. 4; Our Herald (Lafayette, Indiana), Mar. 10; Egis (Cincinnati), March; Toronto Daily Mail, Mar. 10; Toronto World, Mar. 10, 12; Globe (Toronto), Mar. 10; Citizen (Toronto), Mar. 10. Foreign exchanges invited.

ENGLISH PAPERS.

Newspapers received containing notices of the *Women's Suffrage Journal*:—Newmarket paper; Paisley Daily Express, Mar. 7; Middlesbrough and Cleveland Advertiser, Mar. 10; Greenock Telegraph, Mar. 12; Hampstead Advertiser, Mar. 8; Southampton Observer, Mar. 10.

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AMONG the notices on the paper of the House of Commons for which no days have been fixed appears the following in the name of Mr. MASON:—"That, in the opinion of this House, the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who in all matters of local government have the right of voting."

Every Tuesday and Friday a ballot takes place among the private members who desire to bring forward questions for discussion for a place on that day four weeks. As there are about sixty members competing for a place every time the ballot is drawn, it is easy to see that the chances of obtaining a place are very uncertain. The mode of balloting is that used in a raffle or lottery, the numbers being shaken up in a hat or other receptacle, and the lucky number first drawn obtains the first place or prize.

Ever since the opening of the session the ballot has been regularly entered for a place for Mr. MASON'S motion, and the action will be continued every time the ballot is held until a day has been obtained.

MEETINGS have been held during March in Malton and Scarborough, which have been addressed by Mrs. OLIVER SCATCHERD, Miss CARBUTT, and Mrs. SHEARER. Mrs. SCATCHERD has also held several meetings in Leeds. In Neath and Llanelly Mrs. SHEARER, Miss COLBY, and other ladies have spoken at meetings; and a meeting has been held at Yeovil, which was addressed by Mrs. W. S. CLARK and Miss EMILY STURGE. The Bromley and Shortlands branch of the Society have held their first annual meeting, and drawing-room and other meetings have also taken place.

In the debate on the Bankruptcy Bill, introduced by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN on March 19th, Mr. LEWIS, M.P. for Londonderry, said that "he thought those who were the supporters of women's rights had better look after this Bill. Women were to trade under the advantages of that

munificent Bill, passed in the small hours last session, and he thought they would very probably be seen figuring in the Bankruptcy Court; but not only with reference to them, but in reference to all persons likely to be affected by the Bill, he could not withhold his protest against what he considered the severe and reckless provision of Clause 27."

Mr. LEWIS appears to consider it to be the duty of the supporters of women's rights to give attention to the Bankruptcy Bill, with a view to obtain the revision of a clause which he alleges to be severe and reckless. It is, therefore, to be hoped that when the proposal to remove the legal disqualification which now debars women from the right to exercise influence in legislation comes up for discussion, it will have the support of the hon. member for the city of Londonderry.

MR. ANDERSON, in moving the second reading of his Cruelty to Animals Bill, said in reference to the cruelties committed on pigeons, "There was one thing he would wish to say if he knew how to express it fittingly and without offence. He had said that when first he published these things to the world, they excited horror in some quarters and unbelief in others. One gracious lady, the second highest in the land, seemed to have believed and to have taken it to heart, and with the true instincts of a tender-hearted woman, she resolved to throw all the weight of her high example and her influence to the side of the helpless and suffering doves. (Hear, hear.) She had done so with admirable effect, and had earned the blessings of all humane people. Her action had given him great encouragement and hope for this Bill, and he trusted that in loyal deference to one so gracious, so loved, and revered by the people, some of those who might have opposed, would listen to her pleading when they would turn a deaf ear to his." (Hear.)

Sir H. MAXWELL, in opposing the Bill, said that he did not believe that the Princess of WALES had expressed

any opinion adverse to the practice of pigeon shooting; but had she done so, her opinion would certainly have had far greater weight with him than the arguments which had been put forward by the hon. member in support of his Bill.

It is something to have a legislator state that the opinion of a woman ought to have weight in guiding the votes given in Parliament. The Princess of WALES, if she expressed the sentiments attributed to her, expressed the feelings of a woman rather than of the Princess, and in this she may be held to have truly represented the feelings of the women of this nation. It is probable that legislators, who, unlike Sir H. MAXWELL, believe that an opinion adverse to the cruelty of so-called sport has been expressed in high quarters, have been influenced by that opinion, and thus feminine influence has been effective in promoting the progress of the Bill.

But there are many other questions of deeper and more vital importance to society than even cruelty to birds—in which the intervention of the opinion of women might with advantage be exercised. This can be attained by the admission of women to the suffrage, for members would examine every social problem with different eyes if they felt they had to submit to the crucial test of explaining their action in regard to them to women armed with the power of the suffrage.

WE learn from the *Bury* (Lancashire) *Guardian* that wife desertion is a great and growing evil in that district. One of the relieving officers complains to the Bench that it is becoming an evil difficult to cope with, and asks them to deal summarily with cases of this kind. It appears, says the *Bury Guardian*, that it not unfrequently happens that a husband, who for a time has lived comfortably with his family, becomes careless in providing for his household, and, instead of doing so, throws the burden upon his wife and children, who are sent out to work when they ought to be attending school. In other instances, the husband may be unable to find work in one place, and in order to secure it he travels about, often to considerable distances. Possibly he finds that his work is of too uncertain a character to justify him in incurring the expenses of removing his family. As time passes away his interest in them gradually diminishes, his remittances become smaller every month, his letters fewer, and finally he ceases to correspond with his wife or to concern himself about her. In the meantime his wife is compelled to eke out an indifferent and sometimes a miser-

able livelihood, and forced to leave one house after another until driven to such shocking straits as the woman who was described to the Bury magistrates on Monday (February 26).

We might have hesitated on our own responsibility to describe such conduct by men as habitual or frequent in any district, but as the paper from which we have quoted is presumably written by men for men, we may assume that the evil is not exaggerated. The remedy proposed by our contemporary is that on complaint to any magistrate, prompted by the relieving officer, by a wife, that her husband is neglecting to support her, the evidence taken might be forwarded to the magistrate nearest to the place where the husband is working, and that the latter magistrate might have power, if satisfied that the husband is able to contribute towards the support of his wife, to order his employer to pay part of the wages to the wife, or to some one for her benefit.

This suggestion is worthy of serious consideration, but we see no reason why the wife should not be able to appeal to a magistrate without the intervention of the relieving officer. Whenever it is just that a husband should be compelled to maintain his wife, the degradation of becoming a pauper should not be imposed upon her as a condition precedent to obtaining support from her husband. The magistrates would in every instance have power to make or refuse the order according to their judgment as to the justice or necessities of the case.

The Bill which has been introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. HOPWOOD, giving to wives power to apply to a magistrate for an order on her husband for the maintenance of the children, does not contain any clause empowering magistrates to grant orders for the maintenance of the wives themselves. Should the Bill reach the stage of committee, an opportunity will be afforded for the consideration of this matter which it is hoped will not be lost sight of by members interested in doing justice to women.

WE are glad to record the election of Miss LOUISA STEVENSON and Mrs. MILLER to serve on the Parochial Board in St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh. The principal Edinburgh papers took up their cause warmly on March 1st—the day before the election. Both the *Scotsman* and the *Daily Review* contained articles in their favour. Miss STEVENSON was returned at the head of the poll, with 1,544 votes in Ward No. 11. Mrs. MILLER was elected with 282 votes in Ward No. 4. Many ladies

voted. At the first meeting of the Board, Sir JAMES GARDINER BAIRD, who was appointed chairman, said in his address that he congratulated St. Cuthbert's Board on being the first of any Parochial Board, north of the Tweed, to secure the services of two ladies. It is to be hoped that this Board will not long remain exceptional in this particular, but that in Scotland as in England each year may see a continually increasing number of ladies engaged in this most righteous work of necessity and mercy—the care of the helpless and defenceless poor, and the economical administration of the hardly-won fund exacted from the ratepayers, many of whom are barely above the condition of those whose necessities they relieve.

EFFORTS are being made in many districts in England to secure the election of ladies on the various Boards of Poor Law Guardians appointed at the annual elections this month. In Bradford a lady has been nominated by the Bradford Women's Suffrage Association; in Eastbourne two ladies have been nominated; in London several are coming forward, and four or five in the neighbourhood of Bristol.

There is in many districts no lack of ladies suitable for the position, who would be willing to undertake the duties, but the required ratepaying qualification offers an insuperable difficulty in the way of their nomination. Married ladies who would seem to be pre-eminently qualified for the duties of a guardian are almost absolutely precluded from election by this injurious restriction, and comparatively few single women have the precise qualification required. But for this difficulty there would have been ladies nominated in Manchester, Salford, and many other districts.

It is necessary under the existing law that a guardian shall be rated as the occupier of property within the district to the value of, we believe, £40 annually. It is difficult to imagine on what ground the expediency of such a restriction can be defended. The mere fact of being rated to a certain amount offers no guarantee of personal fitness or business capacity. No person can be elected without the assent of a majority of the ratepayers; and if the principle of popular election in representative government or administration is a sound one, the electors ought to be allowed a free and unfettered choice in the selection of such persons as they deem fit and proper for the duty.

The clerk to the Manchester Guardians complains that not only does the restriction as regards qualification

exclude ladies, it also deprives the Board of the services of able and efficient men. The mere fact of removal from one parish to another disqualifies gentlemen able and willing to continue their work on the Boards. It is to be hoped that ere long some effort will be made to amend the law so as to allow the ratepayers a wider choice in the nomination of candidates for election on Boards of Guardians.

THE agitation for driving women from the nail and chain making industries is being energetically prosecuted. Although some pretence is made of an interest in the welfare of the women, it seems generally understood that the object of the movement is to prohibit the employment of women in order to raise the wages of men. At a meeting, reported in the *Birmingham Daily Post* of March 1st, the Secretary of the Nail Makers' Association said that "if the women would not fall in with the views of the men, *they must be forced to do so.*"

Mr. GEORGE GREEN, of the firm of ELIZA TINSLEY & Co., writes in reference to this subject: "Mr. HARRISON is a chainmaker of Walsall; he is frank and straight; he acknowledges that he wishes to suppress female labour in the nail and chain trades, and he believes by so doing the wages of the Walsall workmen would be increased forthwith. There is no cant about him; he does not pretend that he is doing it for the benefit of the 'poor females.' What is that to him? If they suffer, will not the Walsall workmen gain, and the interest of the latter is what he was appointed to look after."

Of other trades' organisations Mr. GREEN writes: "It soon appeared from the reports of their meetings that one great object was to agitate for the suppression of all female labour which competed with that of men. The representative of the Tailors' Association said they must stop female tailors. The representative of the bucket trade said that no female must be allowed to help to make a bucket."

At a conference at Blackheath, Rowley Regis, on March 22nd, Mr. JUGGINS, said "he should be glad if there was a law to prevent females from working in nail and chain factories." The following resolution was carried, "That this meeting considers the employment of females calls for legislative restriction, and that in our opinion such would not be prejudicial to their interests."

But the real question is whether, in the opinion of the workwomen themselves, restrictions on their labour would be prejudicial to their interests. There is no class of

working men in any part of the country who would think it just that the question of imposing legislative restrictions on their labour should be left in the hands of their competitors in the labour market while they were themselves shut out from all voice in the matter.

THE cry of the men for a restriction on women's work is attempted to be represented as a demand of the women themselves. Mr. PRICE, President of the Nailmakers' Association, recently proposed a resolution to "request our representatives to continue their efforts until Parliament shall have listened to the cries of the starving women of the Black Country, who are very desirous for the change." But women should have the right of speaking for themselves through their representatives, and the Parliamentary representatives should have the right of learning through the direct votes of the women concerned what they really do desire, instead of being compelled to rely on the statements of those who are using the lever of their votes to crush their industrial competitors. It should be borne in mind that in any question where the industrial interests of men and women operatives conflict, as they seem to do where women and men work at the same trade, and the women are willing to accept lower wages than the men for the same work, the ultimate appeal is not to the judgment of members of Parliament but to that of the voters whom they represent. In fact the men are judges in their own cause.

Therefore a majority of working men with votes, determined on legislation restricting the labour of working women, can effect their purpose, despite the opinions of the unrepresented class, and irrespective of the personal feelings of those whom they commission to carry their mandates in the House of Commons.

THE Legislature of Massachusetts has recently rejected a Bill to confer "limited municipal suffrage" on women in that State. If there are any persons who fancy that America is ahead of Europe on the subject of the voting rights of women, such persons will experience surprise, not unmixed with amusement, to find the familiar hobgoblins which we are accustomed to see paraded against the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women in this country used in Massachusetts against a measure which has been long in force on this side of the water without producing any of the dire consequences apprehended.

Massachusetts is a State about one and a half times

the size of Yorkshire. The proposal under discussion is thus described: "By limited municipal suffrage is meant the right of voting limited to city elections, and to such women as can read and write and pay a voluntary tax for the privilege of exercising the franchise, and are residents of the cities in which they vote, and in other respects have the qualifications of male voters."

The Rev. CHARLES SMITH, of Andover, said: "Let the ballot be given to women; let them engage in the rivalries of political life, let them help choose the mayor and alderman and council in our cities, and select men in our towns; let them attend the caucus and the town's meeting, and what will follow? Woman will surely be shorn of her moral power, and will sink to our level. She will lose that high and grand position for which GOD and nature designed her." "Another result will be to give woman access to all the offices of the State and Nation. Men and women will stand on the same platform, will sustain similar relations to each other—will contend in the forum and legislative halls; there will be no distinctions of sex, but a condition of independence, one of another." "A marriage is to be a partnership which, like all other civil contracts, may be dissolved at pleasure. The woman will retain her maiden name—the man his name—the children will take, I suppose, any name they please. When by your legislation you undertake to bring about such a state of things, you destroy the home."

Very able arguments were adduced in support of the proposal, but with these we need not at present concern ourselves further than to say that the supporters made an excellent plea for their Bill. They could not, however, prevail against the fears of the assembly as to what would happen if women were allowed to vote for town councillors. The alarm of the free and independent American citizen for his liberty and independence in case those terrible creatures, the women resident in cities, who can read and write, and who would pay a voluntary tax for the privileges of the franchise, should obtain the right of voting for councillors, was not to be dissipated by any considerations that could be urged in defence of the proposal. The Bill was rejected, and the women of Massachusetts remain deprived of that voice in the regulation of local government which has existed in this country in some form from time immemorial, and which is constantly confirmed and extended by the Parliament of the United Kingdom in every new development of the sphere of local legislation.

#### STRIKE OF WIDOWS AGAINST THE PAYMENT OF RATES.

On March 5th, at the Chorley Police-court, a widow named Elizabeth Holding was summoned for the non-payment of 13s. 3d. rates, laid by the Standish Local Board. Mr. Bentham, rate collector, stated that this was a test case, as all the widows in Standish had, at the instigation of the defendant, determined not to pay any rates. Defendant always put her rate papers into the fire, and the other widows would not pay unless defendant did.—The usual order for payment was made.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

##### NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NO DAYS HAVE BEEN FIXED.

12. Mr. Mason.—Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women). That, in the opinion of this House, the Parliamentary Franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who in all matters of local government have the right of voting.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS.

##### MALTON.

On March 14th a public meeting was held in the Assembly Room, Malton.

The Rev. T. MILNER occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings by describing the object of the meeting—to endeavour to secure, as soon as possible, that women duly qualified shall have equal rights with men in the exercise of the Parliamentary franchise. There had been a great awakening up on the subject, which was not so much the result of the agitation of the question as the agitation was the result of the awakening up. He upheld the claims of women to the franchise, and said an auspicious omen was that it was supported by both sides of the House of Commons.

Mr. DELDAY moved the first resolution, as follows:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who, in all matters of local government, have the right of voting." He upheld this on the ground that the electoral franchise is based on the occupation of houses and the payment of rates; and we must either admit that the whole foundation of the system was wrong, or extend the franchise to women.

Mr. T. MOON seconded the resolution.

Mrs. SHEARER, of London, supported the resolution in a very able speech. This was the first meeting they had had in Malton for eight years, and they were holding these meetings in view of the introduction of the County Franchise Bill, as they had great hopes that if Mr. Gladstone saw the Liberal party were anxious to give the vote to women householders, he would be prepared to accede to the wishes of the country. The County Franchise Bill would give votes to nearly a million more voters; and she asked if it was right to give the franchise to labourers, and deny it to the 30,000 women who held each an acre of land and upwards, when the land question was coming so rapidly to the front.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried.

The Rev. J. BELL moved "That petitions to both Houses of Parliament, based on the foregoing resolution, be adopted and signed by the chairman on behalf of this meeting, and that memorials to the Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam, Sir F. A. Milbank, Bart., and the Hon. Guy C. Dawnay, members for the borough of Malton and North Riding of Yorkshire, asking them to support the resolution to be moved in the House of Commons by Mr. Mason, be also adopted and forwarded to them."

Mrs. SCATCHERD, of Leeds, seconded this, and made a long and very able speech in support of it. She said, out of thirty-four Yorkshire members, fifteen were in their favour, eleven against it, and eight had not yet voted upon it. Sir F. Milbank had voted for them, but Mr. Dawnay had not yet had an opportunity; so they might secure one vote by that meeting. To show it was not a party question, she mentioned several leading men on both sides who had voted for it. It was like the temperance question.

Twenty or thirty years ago it got on very slowly indeed, but when the country and the House of Commons were educated up to it, it was going to win, as Malton men would say, in a canter—or perhaps with a right good gallop too.

The resolution having been carried, the meeting was then brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mrs. Shearer, and seconded by Mrs. Scatcherd.

##### SCARBOROUGH.

A public meeting in favour of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women was held in the Old Town Hall, Scarborough, on March 15th. The MAYOR (Councillor W. Barry) occupied the chair, and the following ladies and gentlemen were also on the platform:—Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd (Leeds), Mrs. Shearer (London), Miss Carbutt (Leeds), Mrs. Burkill, Miss Baggallay, Mrs. Tudor, Miss Theedam, Mrs. M'Cormick; E. H. Newton, Esq., J.P., F. Bright, Esq., J.P., Wm. Rowntree, Esq., J.P.; Councillors John Barry, V. Fowler, J. Hart, R. H. Peacock, Joshua Rowntree, S. Woodhouse; Revs. J. Wilkins, W. T. Adey, D. Amos, R. Baggallay, E. D. Green; J. C. Reinhardt, Esq., M. T. Whittaker, Esq., and others.

The CHAIRMAN said that personally he felt that household franchise should include female suffrage, and, logically, the head of a family should not be debarred from voting because she happened to be a woman. Since the laws of the land acknowledged the right of a woman to preside over the nation, and since ladies have the right to be landholders and bondholders and burgesses, and are admitted to be capable of exercising the Municipal and School Board franchise, it must only be a question of time when the right of voting in Parliamentary election will also be granted to the fair sex.

Mr. E. H. NEWTON moved a resolution in favour of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to female householders. He had read that "only political quacks and sentimental theorists (and men at whom no woman would look!)" were in favour of female suffrage! Surely a thoughtful woman could exercise her power as intelligently, faithfully, and conscientiously as the unlettered occupier of a lodging, who depended upon the returning officer for his vote. Women were now taxed, but were excluded from the right of representation. How illogical when the principle had been admitted in Municipal and School Board elections—and in Scarborough females had exercised their rights judiciously. St. Paul had been quoted against the extension, but the Bible had as much to do with female suffrage as with the question of tariffs, railways, or any other practical question.

Mr. M. T. H. WHITTAKER seconded the motion. No one denied the right of every man to vote, and his power was only suspended while he was disqualified. But a woman was debarred from voting, whether or not she had the qualification. At present every man in boroughs and soon every man in the counties—(hear, hear)—would have a vote, if he possessed one qualification—that of living in a house—why should not women be admitted to equality in this respect? Was sex a disqualification? Presumably there were qualifications and disqualifications: did all the former apply to men and the latter to women? If not, was a man to have a vote because he was a man, and a woman was not to have a vote because she was a woman? He had heard it argued that women were not soldiers, sailors, and policemen; but was it necessary that a man should be a policeman before he could be a voter? Could not a man enter a ballot box unless he was fit to be a soldier? Why, the qualifications for soldiership are of a physical character, and should a man, when he tendered his vote, be refused because he was not tall enough or did not measure a certain number of inches round the chest? Woman's anomalous position in society had been the results of legislation, and the artificial conditions of her existence were being abolished, and her individuality was becoming more pronounced. Besides, history taught us that the interests of a class were always better watched when the class was represented directly. It was said that the interests of females were already cared for, but the same argument had been used in '32 and '67 to prove that working-men need not have direct representation, and it had now been found that with working-men voters the interests of the class had been better looked after. The slave had been told that he was represented by his master. Was an intelligent, thoughtful woman to be satisfied by reflecting that her chimney-sweep and dustman possessed votes? Colour was no longer a

qualification, and social position would soon cease to be a disqualification; why, therefore, should sex disentitle? It was said that women didn't want votes. (Hear, hear.) Some might not, but would it be fair to disfranchise one man because another and lazier man might consider a vote a trouble? Another objection was that women did not understand politics. What unrepresented class ever did? A man was not disqualified because he happened to be ignorant—didn't a certain gentleman, when soliciting the suffrages of the people of Scarborough, gravely say he would support a Bill, when, unfortunately for his intentions, it was already on the Statute Book? Finally, it was argued that women voters would be led by ministers. If they were, they would only imitate the lords of creation, for in any borough where Toryism or Liberalism had been very predominant for ages, it was owing to the strong individuality of the leading men.

Miss CARBUTT supported the resolution.

Mrs. SHEARER said nailmaking was only dubbed unwomanly when the employers threatened to send work to women, because the men struck for higher wages. The professions and trades to which women could belong were already limited enough, and it was better that they should manufacture nails at 3s. 6d. per week, instead of making Ulsters at 2s. 6d. per dozen. And it must be remembered that when a woman was driven out of a trade, being unable to find employment in any other, she might be degraded to the streets. It was therefore a cruelty to interfere with their labour. Mr. Broadhurst had now consented to modify the Bill, and make it operative only against girls under fourteen years of age. Well and good if boys under fourteen were also debarred. The Factory Act passed in 1878 dealt exclusively with the labour of women and children, yet the then Home Secretary, Sir Richard Cross, after finding time to hear deputations of employers and working men, could not find time to see a deputation from the class whose labour was to be restricted. If Sir Richard had been compelled to go before female as well as male constituents at the ensuing election, he would most certainly have found an opportunity of seeing the ladies. No doubt politicians were honest in their protestations that they considered the rights of women, but, somehow, their consciences never really awakened to the interests of any class until that class had political power; and many M.P.s, whilst not guilty of practical injustice to women, quietly ignored their claims.

Mr. J. ROWNTREE moved "That petitions to both Houses of Parliament, based on the foregoing resolutions, be adopted and signed by the chairman on behalf of this meeting; and that memorials to the Right Hon. J. G. Dodson, W. S. Caine, Esq., Sir F. A. Milbank, Bart., and Guy C. Dawnay, Esq., members for the borough of Scarborough and the North Riding of Yorkshire, asking their support for the resolution, be also adopted and forwarded by the chairman on behalf of this meeting." As an instance of unjust masculine legislation he mentioned the fact that Industrial School accommodation was miserably deficient for girl-waifs, gutter-born and bred only too apparently for a life of vice and crime.

Rev. J. WILKINS seconded.

Mrs. SCATCHERD supported the resolution.

The motions were carried with only two or three dissentients.

Mrs. BURKILL moved, and Mrs. BALGARNIE, seconded a vote of thanks to the Mayor, which was carried with acclamation, and the meeting separated.

#### LLANELLY.

A public meeting to advocate the extension of the franchise to women was held at Zion Chapel on February 28th. Mr. WILLIAM HOWELL presided, and there were also on the platform Mrs. Downing-Shearer (London), Rev. T. James, M.A. (Capel Newydd), and Mr. S. Home, LL.B. There was a fair but very representative attendance, including a large number of ladies.

The CHAIRMAN explained the object of the meeting. He said that women had the right of voting in municipal elections, school board, and board of health. They had come together to advocate the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women—single women who possessed the necessary qualifications. It was a principle of Liberalism that those who were taxed should have a share in representation—on this basis they demanded the extension of the franchise. And he might add that the borough member, Sir John Jones Jenkins, had been won over to the movement. (Cheers.)

Rev. THOMAS JAMES, M.A., moved the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting no future measure of Parliamentary reform will be satisfactory which does not contain provi-

sion for the extension of the franchise to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and this meeting would press upon the political associations of Llanelly the importance of adopting women's suffrage on their programme."

Mr. HOME seconded the resolution, and in a very interesting address proceeded to lay it down that the principle of woman's suffrage was no new thing but only a revival of what was in existence in England hundreds of years ago. He then referred to the fact that in the reign of Henry the Fifth, an act was passed which provided that the knights of the shire should be elected by the county courts (then a very important assemblage). The electors in this case were known to be not men alone, but included women. In Henry VI.'s reign, another act was passed relating to forty-shilling householders, who elected the county members and who were not confined to men alone, but included the other sex. Indeed the existing documents referred to the electors as people or *gens*, and did not particularise men at all. The speaker then proceeded to give the reasons why women had abstained from exercising their voting right—diffidence at mingling in noisy crowds at the poll and the like; but ventured to think that he had been successful in showing that the principle for which they were struggling was not a new one, but really an ancient and indeed Conservative institution. (Cheers.)

Mrs. DOWNING-SHEARER was then called upon to address the meeting, and made an able and convincing speech.

Addresses followed by Miss Colby (of Cheltenham), the Rev. Canon Williams, Mr. David Francis, Mr. James G. Daw, and others, after which a most interesting meeting was brought to a close.

#### NEATH.

A public meeting was held at the Town Hall, Neath, on March 1st, in support of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women householders and ratepayers. The chair was taken by Mr. DAVID DAVIES, ex-mayor. Amongst those present were Mrs. Downing-Shearer (London), Miss M. Colby (Cheltenham), the Ven. Archdeacon of Llandaff, Mrs. Elias Jones, Mrs. Fisher, Mr. J. T. Davies, Mr. E. C. Curtis, Mr. P. M. Fisher, Rev. Jonah Roberts, Rev. S. C. Burns, &c.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said the subject which had brought them together was strange to many of them. Few of them had studied it, and he was in darkness himself. The subject was a very important one, and worthy of their careful consideration. Qualified women already had the privilege of voting in several departments of the State. There was a lady on the School Board at Swansea, and another lady acted as guardian.

Mr. FISHER proposed the first resolution, which was as follows:—"That in the opinion of this meeting no future measure of Parliamentary reform will be satisfactory which does not contain provision for the extension of the franchise to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote."

Mrs. K. ELLIS JONES seconded the resolution.

Mrs. DOWNING-SHEARER supported the resolution, and said that nine years had passed since a meeting had been held at Neath. The subject was still in the same state as when Mr. Mill introduced it in 1867. The whole subject could be put in a nutshell. Since the time of the Commonwealth at least it was held as an axiom that no person should be taxed without their own consent. About a hundred years ago this country claimed the right to tax the American colonies. The Americans were not represented in the English Parliament, and consequently denied the right of Parliament to tax them. When, eventually, England yielded it was too late, and we lost America through our endeavour to enforce taxation on an unrepresented people. One of the ablest judges that ever lived—Chief Justice Pratt, afterwards Lord Camden—in speaking on this question over a hundred years ago in the House of Commons, used the following words: "My position is this: I repeat it. I will maintain it to my latest hour. Taxation and representation are inseparable. This position is founded on the laws of nature. It is more, it is itself an eternal law of nature, for whatever is a man's own is absolutely his own. No man has a right to take it from him without his consent, either expressed by his representatives or himself. Whoever attempts to do it attempts an injury. Whoever does it commits a robbery. He throws down and destroys the distinction between liberty and slavery." This was as true of women to-day as of the Americans in 1765.

The CHAIRMAN having put the resolution to the meeting, the

same was carried with acclamation. The second resolution put down was that a copy of the resolution should be forwarded as a petition signed by the chairman for presentation to Parliament.

The Rev. S. C. BURNS said that if all of the women who asked to take part in national business could deliver an address in such style as the lady they had just heard, they could do very well without any men at all in Parliament. (Applause.)

The Rev. JONAH ROBERTS seconded the resolution, which was put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. C. S. PRICE, in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, took occasion to express a warm approval of the object of the meeting, and said that it was a very good reason when women possessed property that they should also have the rights others possessed.

Miss COLBY seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried.

A vote of thanks to Mrs. Shearer for her lucid and eloquent address brought the proceedings to a close.

#### YEOVIL.

A public meeting in support of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women householders and ratepayers was held in the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening, March 13th. The EX-MAYOR (Mr. J. Bradford) presided, and there were also on the platform Mrs. W. S. Clark, Street; Miss Emily Sturge, Bristol School Board, deputation from the Society; Rev. E. Wyndham, Rev. C. J. H. Locke, Mr. C. Clinker, Mr. Felix Drake, Mr. C. W. Pittard, and Mr. G. Norvill. There was a good attendance.

The CHAIRMAN said he felt that some apology was needed from him for taking the chair at that meeting instead of the Mayor. They knew that naturally, and by education, and in every other way, the Mayor was eminently a lady's man. (Laughter.) He was present as the Mayor's deputy. He did not know how it was the Mayor was not present to occupy that distinguished position, surrounded as he would have been by ladies—whether it was that when he (the Mayor) was called on he happened to be out of town, or whether he was still suffering from slight indisposition. It might be that he did not care to occupy that position. He (the speaker) hoped the meeting would not suffer because of his absence. The gathering was of a semi-political character. It was not a political meeting in anything like a party sense; but it was a political meeting in that they said that women householders and women ratepayers should be allowed to join in electing members of Parliament to govern this country. (Hear, hear.) They allowed working men, who could neither read nor write, to exercise the franchise, but they debarred educated ladies from the privilege. Was that just? Was it right to these ladies? It was an injustice to shut out women householders and women ratepayers from the privilege of voting for members of Parliament. It was often said that taxation and representation should go together, but such was not the case now. Why should ladies occupying a house or a farm, and who paid their taxes, be deprived of their votes? They were allowed to vote for Guardians, members of School Boards, and members of Town Councils, and were eligible as candidates for Guardians and School Boards; therefore, he saw no reason why they should be debarred from exercising the Parliamentary franchise. (Applause.)

Mr. C. W. PITTARD proposed the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who, in all matters of local government, have the right of voting." He thought there was a great deal of misapprehension as to the object for which they were met together that night. He heard two gentlemen talking about their meeting that day, and both were firm in their opinions that they were seeking to obtain the franchise, or the privilege of voting, for married women; that was, that they wanted to obtain votes for their wives as well as for themselves. A greater misapprehension could not possibly exist, and before the meeting was over they would be convinced of this. They were met rather to seek to obtain the franchise for those who were mentioned in the resolution he had read—those who had obtained the power to vote at municipal elections. There were on the burgess-list for the borough of Yeovil 1,544 names. Of these 206 were women. These women were, as the Chairman had already told them, entitled to vote for Guardians of the Poor, assessors, auditors, members of School Boards, and members of the Town Council; and believing as they

did that they were on the eve of getting a large extension of the Parliamentary franchise—believing as they did that the borough franchise and the county franchise were about to be assimilated—(hear, hear)—they saw what a large proportion of these 206 ladies would be at once added to the Parliamentary voters' list if the franchise were extended to them. He could not think that the injustice which was at present so palpable would long be allowed to continue. (Applause.) If women were qualified to vote as had already been indicated, he believed they were also qualified to vote for members of Parliament. Many of them were present more as listeners than anything else—they were present to listen to those who would explain the question to them and point out the injustice of the case. (Applause.)

The Rev. E. WYNDHAM said he had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Mrs. W. S. CLARK, who was received with cheers, remarked that she was not there as the exponent of any new principle, but, rather, to support principles which had been admitted to be sound by most people. She traced the rapid growth of this question, and explained why the claims of women to be enfranchised had been urged so much of late years. Reform Bills had been passed which had given the franchise to the working classes of the boroughs, but women were left untouched—left in greater isolation as regarded Parliamentary representation than before. And now, as previous speakers had said, they were approaching another great change. Whenever that change came, unless the claims of women were heeded, they (the women) would be relatively worse off than they were before. They would then be the only great class in this country that would be absolutely unrepresented; the only body that would be stigmatised by law as unworthy and incompetent to take care of its own interests and welfare. They would then find that, while Parliament had been acting on the great principles which had led step by step to this wide extension of the suffrage to the men of this country, there would still be one-half of the people who would not be directly represented, and that the least criminal and the most sober half. She thought that was a state of things which could not be justified on any principles of right or reason, and she did not think that in this country it would long be so. At the same time, unless a great effort was made to give women some power when the next Reform Bill was passed, they might have to wait many years before there would be a possibility of their being enfranchised, because changes of this kind were not made very often, and it might be a long time before the subject would be again brought to the surface. (Applause.) There were two principal arguments on which the extension of the suffrage had been urged and justified. One was the safeguard which it was considered it would give against the ignorance, or the injustice, or the apathy of the legislature, and the other was the educational effect which it was supposed it would have on those who exercised it. Dealing with the first of these arguments, Mrs. Clark pointed out that women required safeguards in regard to legislation quite as much as men. She specially mentioned that until within the last four months (since the Married Women's Property Act came into force) a woman who married was deprived of all her property, unless special provision was made to prevent her husband from inheriting it. She thought it was rather a mild word to say that a woman was "deprived" of her possessions, especially when they remembered that those possessions fell into the hands of the person who had promised to endow the woman with all he possessed. (Applause.) But such were the contradictions of the law! She ventured to think that men who justified such a state of things as that, bearing, as it did, so unfairly on women, were unfit to legislate for others. They were thankful to those members of Parliament who had proved themselves their friends, backed up as they were by two ladies, outside the House of Commons, who put forth great efforts to help forward this work and bring about a change with regard to the property of married women, and successfully carried out their object. (Applause.) But there were great grievances left which they wished to get redressed. Mrs. Clark then dwelt on the unfairness of the present laws relating to the custody of children; pointed out that reforms were needed in the divorce laws; and contended that women were unfairly dealt with in regard to the rich endowments for educational purposes. She also contended that women ought to have a voice in making other laws which affected them socially and morally. She then passed on to speak of the general question of the great affairs of State—

questions of peace and war, of taxation and education, of poor-law administration, and other similar matters, all of which affected women quite as much as they affected men, and said she thought that if there was any class who wanted a legislative safeguard it was women. She did not think the Parliamentary vote would be a panacea for men or women, but she did believe that the general effect of the extension of the franchise to women would be to educate them politically, and that was of the greatest possible importance. And if they admitted that the franchise did elevate people, why did they deny it to women? Men and women were not so different but that the same mental and bodily food was required for both, and what strengthened and invigorated one would do the same for the other. If they admitted that there was anything elevating in education on this matter, they had no right to put obstacles in the way of that education being extended to women. Perhaps they might think that women were an inferior class, and therefore did not deserve the Parliamentary vote. Surely a great many of the people who had votes in the present day were not very superior. (Laughter.) She urged that it was their duty to give the best political education possible to the women of our land, who might either be helpers to progress or hinderers. She thought it was the policy of true Liberalism to make women helps to progress. (Applause.) Some people seemed to think that they wished women to be less domesticated than they now were; but she was sure there could be nothing less true than that. They had no wish to make women less domesticated. Who ever heard of an artisan being less able to do his daily task because he had a vote? A woman would be quite as willing to pursue her domestic duties if she had the satisfaction of knowing that she had a vote, and that her sex was recognised by law, as she was at the present time. She would like to say, briefly, that in pleading with them for the rights of women, they felt they were no less seeking the welfare of men. Their interests were bound up together; and some of them, who were very deeply interested in this question, had sons and daughters at home. They believed that in doing what little lay in their power to advance this movement they were striving to bring about a purer and nobler morality, and might be doing something to lessen those temptations and dangers which might beset their sons in their journey through life. (Applause.)

The resolution was carried with acclamation, only one hand being held up against it.

Mr. G. NORVILL proposed the following resolution: "That a petition to the House of Commons, based on the foregoing resolution, be adopted and signed by the Chairman on behalf of this meeting, and that memorials to Richard Horner Paget, Esq., M.P., and William S. Gore Langton, Esq., M.P., members for the county, asking them to support the resolution to be moved in the House of Commons by Mr. Mason, be also adopted and forwarded to them."

Mr. C. CLINKER seconded the resolution, which was supported by Miss EMILY STURGE, and carried.

A vote of thanks was, on the proposition of the Rev. C. J. H. LOCKE, seconded by Mr. F. DRAKE, accorded the Chairman for presiding, and the two lady speakers were also thanked for their attendance. "God Save the Queen" was then sung, and the proceedings terminated.

A petition to Parliament was extensively signed.

#### BROMLEY, BECKENHAM, AND SHORTLANDS BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

##### ANNUAL MEETING.

The first annual meeting of the above society took place March 3rd, at the secretary's house, the Rev. CHARLES GREEN in the chair.

Mrs. HARVEY (secretary) read the report of the executive committee, from which it appeared that since the formation of the society in February of last year it has organised three drawing-room and one public meeting in Beckenham and Shortlands, which have been well attended. A meeting for discussion was also held in Bromley, at which Mrs. Lynch read a paper on "The Claim of Women Ratepayers to the Parliamentary Vote." This paper has since been printed for circulation, as well as the speech of the Rev. Charles Green on the occasion of the Beckenham public meeting.

The treasurer's statement showed a balance in hand of £3. 19s. 1d., half of which, in accordance with the rules of the society, has been handed over to the funds of the Central Committee.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said he thought that this was a time in which the society ought specially to bestir itself, because so many of the measures to be brought before Parliament this session concerned women; particularly the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill. This Bill was being pushed forward so energetically that it might very possibly become law before that for which they were working, and which would give women the power to say yea or nay to it, could be passed. He thought that the Women's Suffrage Society might gain great encouragement to persevere in its efforts from observing what perseverance had done in the case of the temperance movement. Not many years ago a "teetotaler" was a rarity, and an object of ridicule; now we see total abstinence becoming the fashion.

After a few remarks from Mr. CROWTHER and other members of the committee, the executive committee was re-elected for the present year, and the proceedings terminated.

#### DRAWING ROOM MEETINGS.

##### ROWNHAM.

A drawing-room meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. Garnett, Rownham, Leigh Woods, Bristol, on Monday afternoon, March 5th, and a large number of ladies were present to hear an address by Mrs. Downing Shearer, on "The Duties and Responsibilities of Women as Citizens." After some introductory remarks by Miss Priestman, who occupied the chair, Mrs. Downing Shearer proceeded with her address, and said women had duties as citizens as well as duties in private life, and she should be quite satisfied if the result of that afternoon's meeting was to make those present think of the intimate relations which existed between private duty and private morality, and public duty and public morality. Mrs. Shearer spoke about the Married Women's Property Bill, the Marriage of the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, and the power a husband had over the children, and said no decision ought to be arrived at before the women had been consulted. (Cheers.) Political and social life were so intermixed that they could not be separated, and much depended on women being represented in Parliament whether those questions were decided rightly or wrongly. (Applause.) Miss Blackburn moved and Mrs. Garnett seconded the adoption of a petition to Parliament in favour of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women who possess the qualification which entitle men to vote, and who in all matters of local government have the right of voting. This was unanimously carried. The ladies were then requested to sign the petition, and nearly all present did so. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Garnett for the use of her drawing room having been passed, the meeting terminated.

##### HOLBECK.

On Wednesday, March 28th, a drawing-room meeting for ladies was held by kind invitation of the Rev. B. and Mrs. Wilkinson, at their residence, 6, Granville Terrace, Holbeck. It was well attended, and Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd's address on women's suffrage received with deep attention. A petition in favour of the claim was carried unanimously, and several ladies joined the Women's Suffrage Society. A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson closed a very pleasant and profitable meeting.

##### FOREST HILL.

A drawing-room meeting was held by invitation of Mrs. Southey, at her residence, Rosenthal, Forest Hill, on Thursday, March 8th. Mrs. Southey presided. Addresses were delivered by Miss Lord and Mrs. Chant, after which questions were invited and answered, and a petition was adopted by universal consent before the meeting dispersed.

##### SYDENHAM HILL.

By the kindness of Mrs. Turnbull, a drawing-room meeting for the discussion of women's suffrage was held on Wednesday, March 14th, at Mount Henley, Sydenham Hill. Mr. Edgar Bois in the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mrs. Cady Stanton, Miss C. A. Biggs, and Miss Lillie Staurope. A petition to Parliament was adopted, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. Streatfeild, concluded the proceedings.

##### LEEDS.

On Tuesday, February 6th, and again on Friday, the 9th, meetings of ladies were held at the house of Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd, when addresses were delivered by that lady and Miss Carbutt (Poor Law

Guardian) on "The great need of the Parliamentary vote for women householders." Both meetings were well and influentially attended, there being present women householders, traders, and leaders of philanthropic, charitable, and political movements in Leeds. Great interest was evinced in all that was said, twenty-three ladies joined the society, and petitions to Parliament and memorials to borough and county members were carried unanimously.

##### HUNSLET.

On Monday, March 5th, Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd gave an address on Women's Suffrage to the lady members and friends of the Hunslet Unitarian Congregation, Mrs. Robinson presiding. The address was much appreciated, and a petition to Parliament in favour of the claim carried unanimously.

##### SCARBOROUGH.

On the afternoon of Thursday, March 15th, a drawing-room meeting was held by the kind invitation of Mrs. Burkill. There was a large attendance, seventy-two ladies being present. Mrs. Burkill opened the meeting by Scripture reading and prayer, after which Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd and Mrs. Shearer gave addresses on the need of the Parliamentary franchise for women. Discussion ensued, questions were asked, and petitions to both Houses of Parliament in favour of women's suffrage carried unanimously. Arrangements were also made to secure a petition from the women householders of Scarborough in favour of the claim. The meeting was a thorough success—a strong proof of the growth of the women's suffrage question in Scarborough; and the best thanks of all concerned are due to Mrs. Burkill for her kind and complete arrangements.

##### WOODHOUSE LANE.

On Saturday, March 17th, at three p.m., an interesting meeting was held in the Friends' Meeting House, Woodhouse Lane. In response to an invitation issued by six ladies, about one hundred and eighty teachers of the (Girls) Leeds Board and Voluntary Schools assembled to hear addresses from Miss Carbutt (Poor Law Guardian) and Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd. Mrs. Ed. Walker presided. The speakers dwelt chiefly on the industrial position of women as controlled and injured by law, and points of public morality as affected by law, and showed how the Parliamentary franchise only could bring women's opinions to bear effectively on these subjects. A petition in favour of women's suffrage was carried unanimously. The promoters of this meeting earnestly recommend ladies of other towns to organise similar gatherings, as the intelligent support of such educated and self-supporting women is exceptionally desirable and valuable.

##### BRISTOL WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the members and friends of this association was held on March 3rd, at the rooms of the Young Women's Christian Association, Royal Promenade. The chair was taken by Miss PRIESTMAN, president of the association, and there was a numerous attendance.

Miss EVA TRIBE, one of the hon. secretaries, read the report, which stated that the members of the association at the present time numbered 95, and then referred to the work which had been done during the past year. The report proceeded—"The first direct political work of your society was in connection with the municipal elections last November. At the invitation of the Liberal Ward Committees of St. Michael's and Westbury, your committee took active part in securing two Liberal victories. There were 457 women possessing votes in the Westbury ward and 278 in St. Michael's, who were canvassed by your committee, aided by some members of the association. Your committee congratulate the society that in both these wards there was a distinct success, the election resulting in each case in a gain to the Liberal party in the Town Council. Similar success attended the work of your association in connection with the School Board election in January. By the results of the past year's work your committee feel assured that such societies as yours have an important function to fulfil in English national life. It is their part to prepare women for the further duties and responsibilities which will in no long time fall to their share."

The TREASURER'S statement, afterwards submitted, showed that the receipts for the past year had amounted to £55. 2s., and the ex-

penditure to £54. 13s. 10d., leaving a small balance in hand of 8s. 2d.

The PRESIDENT moved and Mrs. SHEARER seconded the resolution for the adoption of the report and accounts, which was carried *unanimously*.

On the motion of Mrs. HUNT, seconded by Mrs. COLEMAN, a number of ladies were appointed to form the committee of the association.

A paper on "Some of the causes of pauperism" was then read by Miss COCKS.

Mrs. PRENTICE followed with some details of her own experience of the needs and the sorrows of pauper life. Discussion then ensued.

Before the meeting dispersed a petition was adopted to the House of Commons in support of Mr. Hopwood's "Maintenance of Children's Bill," by which a married mother would be enabled to claim maintenance for the children of the father, without having to first throw herself on the parish and become a pauper.

##### TROWBRIDGE.

At the meeting of the Church Debating Society, on Tuesday evening, March 12th, the secretary (Mr. Ledbury) read a carefully written paper on "Women's Rights." The Rector presided over a large audience, and the proceedings of the evening proved unusually interesting, the debate being entered into with considerable earnestness and vigour. In the course of his paper, Mr. Ledbury said the question was—"What are women's rights?" Some claim that women should be placed in the same position, and enjoy all the privileges and responsibilities of men. Others are nearer the point in seeking to place women in the same position as men so far as regards the holding of property and the exercise of the Parliamentary franchise. He (Mr. Ledbury) did not think that women wished to be made members of Parliament or assize judges, or anything of that sort; to come nearer home, he had not heard of any lady in Trowbridge anxious to fill the lately vacant office of inspector of nuisances or collector of Local Board rates. (Laughter.) He contended that certain "rights" might be granted with perfect propriety, and he pointed out that by a recent enactment the married woman had acquired the power of holding and disposing of her own property. Having dealt with the arguments of those who opposed this change in the law, he passed on to consider the social rights of women, the right of admission to the Universities and to professions and offices. It had been said that the pride of the woman should be in the home, but the theory did not always hold good. In many cases women had to work for their own support, and he claimed that those who had the capacity and desired to do so should be allowed to enter the Universities, and to find scope for their energies in pursuits from which they are now debarred. In conclusion he touched on the question of the Parliamentary franchise, pointing out that women were often successful in business, they were appointed to important official positions, they might be members of boards of guardians and school boards, high sheriffs, overseers, sextons, &c., and yet they were not entrusted with the franchise. This was not even-handed justice. (Hear, hear.) Amongst others who took part in the ensuing discussion were the chairman and the Rev. J. A. Robinson, Messrs. Blake, Hopkins, King, Stevens, Bishop, Moore, and Coulson. There was no division on the question, and at the close of the proceedings an epilogue, from the pen of Mr. A. F. Wilkins, was read by Mr. H. Blake.

##### SCOTLAND.

##### GLASGOW.

A public meeting of residents in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Wards in favour of women's suffrage was held on March 13th in the Police Hall, Cranston-street. Bailie Dickson presided, and he was accompanied to the platform by Miss Wigham, Edinburgh; Mrs. Ritchie, Mrs. Greenlees, Mrs. Greig, Miss M'Minn, Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. Mitchell, Miss M'Laren, Mrs. Thom, Mrs. Russell, Professor Lindsay, Rev. Dr. Logan Aikman, Rev. George G. Green, Bailie Dron, Mr. John Crichton, Mr. James Ritchie, and Mr. Alex. Macdougall. The Chairman said he knew no reason why ladies should not possess the same Parliamentary rights that gentlemen had. Miss Wigham moved:—"That in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which enable men to vote, and that a petition to Parliament, based on this resolution, be

adopted by the meeting and signed by the Chairman." Rev. Mr. Green seconded. The Chairman put the resolution to the meeting, when Mr. John Carter rose in the body of the hall, and, addressing the Chairman, said: Do you approve of taking the country back 400 years? (Laughter.) The Chairman: Well, if it would result in any good I would do so, if we could. Bailie Dron: If you have any amendment to propose, it is your duty to do it now without putting questions. The Chairman: If you have an amendment to propose, do it now without putting questions. Mr. Carter: I approve of the ladies having a vote, but not to have the will of the children at the death of the husband. (Laughter.) The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously. Professor Lindsay moved the appointment of a committee for the Twelfth and Thirteenth Wards. Mr. Macdougall seconded, and the motion was adopted.

Another municipal meeting was held in St. James' Hall, Stirling Road, on the 14th March. The chair was taken by Bailie Selkirk, and the meeting was addressed by Miss Wigham, Madame Woyka, Rev. Professor Lindsay, D.D., and others. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the meeting was well attended by a most intelligent and enthusiastic audience.

On the 15th inst., another large meeting took place in the Fairbairn Free Church, Battie-street. It was presided over by Rev. Professor Lindsay, D.D., and interesting and convincing addresses were delivered by Ex-Bailie Burt, J. Millar, Esq., Miss Wigham, Mr. McKinnon, and Madame Woyka, to a very large and attentive audience, who seemed to be deeply impressed with the objects of the meeting.

#### ABERDEEN.

On March 23rd a meeting of the Aberdeen Junior Liberal Association was held within the Lecture Room, Cafe, for the purpose of hearing a lecture by Mr. James Christie, on the subject of "Women's Suffrage." Professor Minto presided, and introduced the lecturer, who earnestly advocated the removal of the present electoral disabilities of women. It was neither fair, right, nor just, he contended, that women should be legislated for, and yet should not be represented in the legislature. At the close some discussion took place, and a vote of thanks was passed to the lecturer on the motion of Rev. Mr. Walters. Professor Minto, in closing the discussion, remarked that since the franchise had been given to women in municipal affairs, he saw no longer any ground in reason why it should not be extended to imperial matters. A vote of thanks having been passed to Professor Minto for presiding, the proceedings terminated.

#### LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

The following letters were received by the Secretary of the Birmingham Committee, in addition to those already published, from members of Parliament unable to attend the recent meeting in the Town Hall:—

MR. HENRY WIGGIN, M.P.

I regret that an engagement of long standing prevents my being present at the women's suffrage meeting on Friday, 26th inst. The object of the meeting is one with which I entirely agree, as it appears to me to be most unjust that a single woman or widow, who is a householder, and called upon to pay rates, should not have the same privilege as a man of saying by her vote how she desires the money to be expended. As a strong advocate of the system that taxation and representation should go together, I wish the movement every success.

MR. JOHN BRINTON, M.P.

It is quite impossible for me to attend any public meeting to-morrow (Friday) evening, at Birmingham, inasmuch as I have then to preside at Kidderminster, at the annual meeting and distribution of prizes of the School of Art, in which I am very strongly interested. Let me, however, add that I have resolved to support in my place in Parliament Mr. Mason's Bill to confer the franchise on women householders, whenever he may have the opportunity of bringing it forward, and I have expressed my opinion in favour of this measure to my own constituents.

MR. ENOCH BALDWIN, M.P.

I am sorry to be unable to be present at the meeting to-morrow, called together to support and advocate the right of women householders to vote at Parliamentary elections. I trust you will have a very successful meeting, and such a one as will give impetus to the movement which has my entire sympathy, and when occasion serves (which I trust may be in the coming session), I shall have pleasure in recording my vote in favour of this act of justice to a large portion of Her Majesty's subjects.

MR. HENRY CRAIG, M.P.

I am obliged for your letter inviting me to the meeting intended to be held at Birmingham on the 26th inst., and regret my inability to be present, owing to a public engagement I have elsewhere. I am in favour of the franchise being extended to women, and I have no doubt your efforts in that direction will be ultimately successful.

MR. WILLIAM WOODALL, M.P.

I regret that I am unable to attend the meeting to which you have so cordially invited me. But for an expression of opinion I have only to refer you to the fact that I have long been a subscriber to your Society.

MR. J. R. YORKE, M.P.

It will not be in my power to attend the public meeting in favour of female suffrage you propose to hold at Birmingham on the 26th inst., but I have much pleasure in wishing every success to the cause you advocate. I can hardly believe that any considerable extension of the franchise can again take place without female ratepayers claiming and obtaining the privileges now, in my opinion, most unjustly withheld from them.

BARON DE FERRIERES, M.P.

I am not only engaged on the 26th, but have really more than I can attend to between this and the 15th prox. You know my views so well that it is unnecessary for me to reiterate that I consider it unjust that female ratepayers should not have a Parliamentary vote.

MR. P. A. TAYLOR, M.P.

I am sorry that it is impossible for me to be present at your meeting. I can only from a distance send you my hearty good wishes. Probably many of our younger and more impatient friends may be disposed to complain of the slow progress of our cause. As a more or less active politician for upwards of forty years, I can only say that in my time no cause has ever advanced with such "leaps and bounds" as that of justice to women. Everything was strong against us—tradition, sentiment, prejudice. Forty years ago Harriet Martineau was regarded as something almost beyond the recognised limits of known humanity—for her noble advocacy of women's rights—while the obloquy that attached to her was as nothing in comparison with that which, in much earlier times, the true-hearted Mary Wolstonecroft suffered under. What a contrast to this time, when women sit on School Boards, enjoy the municipal franchise, hold their own property, and—greatest of all invasions of tradition—practice the medical profession. How small, thus viewed, seems the yet unconceded claim of a vote for a member of Parliament! You must be on the eve of triumph.

RIGHT HON. A. J. MUNDELLA, M.P.

I regret that my engagements preclude the possibility of my attending your meeting on the 26th inst. Wishing you every success, I remain, dear madam, yours faithfully, A. J. MUNDELLA.

MR. LEONARD COURTNEY, M.P.

I am glad to hear that you are going to have a meeting at Birmingham to-morrow, in favour of the claim of women to vote for members of Parliament on the same conditions as men, and I hope that it will be very successful, of which I have little doubt. I have never been able to recognise the validity of the arguments by which women, possessing the property or occupation qualification, which give men votes, are themselves excluded from the franchise. It has been conceded to them in the election of school boards and town councils; and the Bill extending this latter privilege to Scotland was recently passed through Parliament without, as far as I

know, a single dissentient voice. It is somewhat ludicrous that M.P.s should hesitate to enfranchise women only where their own elections are concerned. The barrier is unsubstantial, and I have great confidence that when the next great extension of the suffrage is effected, which promises to bring the agricultural labourer within the electoral ranks, women will be admitted also, as no less qualified in intelligence and character, and no less interested in legislation and the administration of public affairs.

#### A BOY'S VIEWS ON WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

We are indebted to the *Court Journal* for the following extract, which, it assures us, is the genuine production of a young gentleman aged fourteen:—"Let us pause, this step once taken cannot be retraced. Why do not the men that lead a public life say this familiar saying in connection with the woman suffrage question? If woman suffrage is now granted, how can it ever be taken back? Some one says, why should it ever be given up? These are the reasons: 1. All women do not know how to vote, and the lower classes can be easily bribed, so that they will take a bribe to vote for a certain person and yet on a bigger bribe will vote for some one else. 2. The more enthusiastic would want in time themselves to be women officials. Are they equal to it? 3. It would, in time, ruin the country, and then you would want to abolish it. I am a boy, and represent a great class of boys. What that class wants is that our children's children's children to Doom day's children do not want to be ruined by you."

#### A NEW DANISH PAPER.

We have great satisfaction in welcoming a new contemporary in a country where the women's movement has not hitherto attracted much attention. This is the *Tidskrift for Kvinden*, or women's paper, which appears twice a month in Copenhagen, Denmark, and is confessedly the organ of the women's movement. Its co-editors are Fru Elfrida Fibiger, and Herr M.P. Friis, ceud-juris. The last two numbers contain an excellent article by Herr Friis, on the objects of the women's movement. It is headed by a quotation from Mazzini: "Consider her as your equal in municipal as in political life." "The total exclusion of women from public life," Herr Friis observes, "is the most complete expression of the opinion which declares the woman, as such, to be of a lower and more subordinate nature than man. 'Woman's sphere' is the nickname under which this contempt,—for contempt it is in spite of all well-intentioned declarations to the contrary—for the female sex is concealed. It is just as degrading from a moral standpoint for a human creature to have no rights as to have no duties; and on the other hand nothing is so elevating to morality and developing for intelligence as to have a share in the common interests, to have a right to look upon oneself as even one little link in the great chain of the labouring and progress-striving community. . . . One thing I would remark with regard to this much misused expression 'womanliness.' If it is not incompatible with womanliness to fulfil a citizen's duties, why should it be so to have a citizen's rights. Side by side with man a woman may go to the public office to pay her taxes to the State, and no one is horrified at this. Side by side, she may pay her quota to the Commune, and no one makes any objection. But when there is question of a woman, side by side with a man, exercising influence through her vote on the way her money in the State and Commune shall be disposed of, then everyone objects, everyone is horrified. On the days when duties are to be fulfilled, there is room for women, and the arm of the law would reach her if she did not perform them willingly; but on the days when rights are enjoyed, she must stay at home. Is society fair? True, people say this is all right in principle, 'but why set up this demand now, when no general and active pressure for political equality is felt among women? Why cast this firebrand into society? Everything is going on without the female vote.' Yes, certainly, everything is going on, but in what direction? That is the question. . . ." The article ends as it begins, with the assertion of the distinct claim of all independent women in Denmark to exercise the suffrage. We prophesy a successful future for this little paper.

The Earl of Zetland has given £500 to the Edinburgh Association for the University Education of Women to found a bursary.

#### MARRIAGE OF MR. COURTNEY.

On March 15th Mr. Leonard H. Courtney, M.P., Financial Secretary to the Treasury, was married at St. Jude's, Whitechapel, to Miss Catherine Potter, daughter of Mr. Richard Potter, of Standishhouse, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire. The service was performed by the Rev. Samuel Barnett, in the presence of the personal friends of the bride and bridegroom, and a large number of poor people belonging to St. Jude's parish, in whom Miss Potter has long taken the kindest interest. Tickets of admission had been issued to a great many of them, and these, on taking their seats, found placed for them in the pews a neat pamphlet edged with silver, bearing on its cover the words, "Wedding service used on Thursday, March 15th, 1883, when Leonard Courtney and Catherine Potter were married in St. Jude's, Whitechapel." Over this were the lines—

That love for one from which their does not spring  
Wide love for all, is but a worthless thing;

and beneath was the quotation—

Man and woman are the notes which make the human chord.

After the service, the wedding party met at breakfast in the schoolrooms adjoining the church, among the guests being Mr. Herbert Spencer, Mr. Rathbone, M.P., and Mr. John Morley, M.P. All the tenants of a large block of buildings in the parish were invited to the breakfast. Mr. Courtney's personal friends in the House of Commons have presented him with a grand piano.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY ACT, 1882, AND SETTLEMENTS.

To the Editor of the *Women's Suffrage Journal*.

Madam,—The readers of your March number are, I think, much indebted to your correspondent, "E. H. Woodward," for the reply to "An Old Married Woman's" inquiry, which appeared in January last. It has occurred to me that there may be many cases, somewhat similar to the following, where family moneys are concerned; and it would be interesting to know whether the settlements, made in connection therewith, would come under the simple operation, described in your March journal, as being all that is necessary. If they would, many would like to avail themselves of the Act under this form. Through a father dying intestate, four children became entitled, in equal proportions, to his property, which was all in his business. One daughter married, after attaining majority, and her share, a fixed amount for which was agreed upon, was, on the eve of her marriage, put into settlement; her brothers, who carry on the business of their deceased father, being the trustees; the deed providing a life interest for the husband, and no mention whatever being made as to children of the marriage, if any. The money was allowed by the deed to remain in the said business, but the wife could require its withdrawal therefrom, and direct its investment in other forms. The wife also had power of appointment to will the money, but not to appoint new trustees, unless those named in the deed refused to act, died, became bankrupt, or went to live abroad, &c. The object of this limitation as to new trustees was to keep the money in the business as long as possible. Seeing that the settlement is purely a family one, that it affects the wife and husband only, and does not refer to any children, would the wife have any difficulty, the trustees and husband being agreeable, in effectually releasing the said trustees by a simple deed to that effect as described by your March correspondent, and appointing herself in their place under the Act now in force? Or, in the event of the trustees—from motives of selfishness, or otherwise, in so far as the control of the money was concerned, while it remained in the business—not being willing to give up their office, would the wife, by applying to the Court, or in any other, and, if so, what way, be able to get herself appointed in their place under the present Act, having regard to the facts named above, and to the limited nature of the deed, so far as the interests therein provided for are concerned? If you can find space in your valuable journal for the insertion of this letter, you will much oblige.—Yours faithfully,  
A CONSTANT READER.  
London, 14th March, 1883.

VISIT OF MISS SUSAN B. ANTHONY TO EUROPE.

Those of our readers who have followed the suffrage movement in the United States will be familiar with the names of the two most conspicuous leaders, Mrs. Cady Stanton and Miss Susan B. Anthony. Mrs. Stanton arrived in England in the autumn of last year, and has won golden opinions by the geniality of her manner and the power of her oratorical gifts at more than one meeting since she came to England.

The following address was presented to Miss Anthony just before she left New York for Europe :-

NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

Resolved.—That this association does hereby testify its appreciation of the life-long devotion of

SUSAN B ANTHONY

to the cause of woman, that it acknowledges her as the chief inspirer of women in their struggle for personal liberty, for civil equity, and for political equality; that as one of the foremost leaders of American women, it commend her to the women of foreign lands.

Resolved.—That the members of this association rejoice in the approaching holiday of their beloved leader, that they will follow her wanderings with sympathy and affection, that during her absence they will steadfastly uphold the principles to which her life has been devoted, that on her return they will welcome her to a resumption of her labors, and hold themselves ready to work under her able and devoted leadership.

Given by the National Woman Suffrage Association in Convention assembled at Washington, D.C., on the 23rd day of January, 1883.

RACHEL G. FOSTER, Secretary.

"LOVING HUSBANDS."—The following entry was made in the diary of the Newcastle Infirmary on March 19th:—"Margaret Robson, Amen Corner, bruised elbow, quart pot; Mary Davidson, Close, bruised shoulder, poker. Loving husbands again."

Obituary.

MISS LILLIAS CRAIG.—We record with great regret the death, on the 9th of March, 1883, at her residence, 6, Carlton-street, Stockbridge, Edinburgh, of Miss Lillias Craig, aged 72 years. This lady was one of the earliest and most energetic friends of women's suffrage, and of all kindred questions; and was a most valued member of the Edinburgh Women's Suffrage Society from its commencement.

MR. J. BAGWELL.—On March 10th, Mr. John Bagwell, of Marlfield, co. Tipperary. The deceased gentleman sat for Clonmel in the House of Commons from 1857 to 1874. He voted for Mr. Mills in 1867, and continued to support the franchise for women while he remained in Parliament.

MR. ASHTON W. DILKE.—On March 12th Mr. Ashton Dilke died at Algiers, aged 32 years. He resigned his seat for Newcastle a few weeks ago on account of his health. He married Margaret Mary, daughter of Mr. Eustace Smith, M.P. for Tynemouth. Mrs. Ashton Dilke is a member of the Central Committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage.

SIR GEORGE JESSEL, MASTER OF THE ROLLS.—This lamented judge, whose untimely death took place last month, was the first Jew who occupied a judicial rank in this country. While he was a member of the House of Commons he took an active part in promoting the amendment of the law relating to the property of married women. In a speech delivered in 1869, he described the then existing law as a relic of slavery, and made a powerful appeal in favour of a just property law for women.

PETITIONS.

WOMEN'S DISABILITIES.—For Removal.

FIRST REPORT, 16—20 February, 1883.

Table listing petitions for removal of disabilities, including names like B. T. Jennings, Birmingham, W. White, etc., with counts.

Total number of Petitions 18—Signatures 779

SECOND REPORT, 21—27 February, 1883.

Table listing petitions for removal of disabilities, including names like Leeds, Female Inhabitants, Barmouth, etc., with counts.

Table listing petitions for removal of disabilities, including names like Stoke Bishop, W. Oldham, etc., with counts.

Total number of Petitions 50—Signatures 1,783 (Continued on page 54.)

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

CONDITIONAL OFFER OF FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS.

Miss Becker has received the following generous letter from Mr. R. B. Kennett.

"Petersfield, Hants, Feb. 3, 1883.

"Dear Friend, "I will give you five hundred pounds, if you will get two other five hundreds in any sums in two months' time for the Society.

(Signed) "R. B. KENNETT."

It is proposed that one of the sums of five hundred pounds should be raised for the Manchester, and another for the Central Committee. If this is accomplished, Mr. Kennett's gift will be equally divided, two hundred and fifty pounds being given to each committee.

The following contributions have been already promised: Mrs. P. A. Taylor, £100; Miss Jessie Boucherett, £25; Miss Williams, £5; Mrs. Streatfield, £5; Miss Hull, £1; Miss Mordan, £1; Miss Müller, £10; Miss Courtenay, £100; Mrs. Smithson, £5; Mrs. Lynch, £4. 4s.; Mrs. E. Carbutt, £5; Mrs. Garrett Anderson, £2. 2s.; Mrs. Ruth, £1; Mr. Thomasson, M.P., £200.

Mr. Kennett has kindly extended the time to the 5th of May. Miss Becker earnestly appeals to the friends who have not yet responded for help towards the remainder of the £1,000 required, to enable the committee to claim the £500 promised by Mr. Kennett.

MANCHESTER SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS, MARCH, 1883.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for the Manchester Society, including names like Exentors of the late Thomas, Mrs. M'Clung, etc., with amounts.

Anti-Church Disestablishment. £239 10 6 S. ALFRED STEINTHAL, TREASURER, 28, JACKSON'S ROW, MANCHESTER.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 28, 1883.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for the Central Committee, including names like Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Ed. Carbutt, etc., with amounts.

LAURA McLAREN, TREASURER, 64, BERNERS-STREET, W.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS FROM FEB. 24 TO MARCH 20, 1883.

Table listing subscriptions and donations for Bristol and West of England, including names like Mrs. Mills Baker, Mrs. De l'Hoste, etc., with amounts.

ALICE GRENFELL, TREASURER, 1, CECIL ROAD, CLIFTON.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS UP TO MARCH 28, 1883.

Table listing new subscriptions and donations for the Birmingham Branch, including names like Mrs. Thomason, Mr. Harold Carter, etc., with amounts.

CATHERINE C. OSLER, TREASURER.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION OF WOMEN IN INDIA.—Out of 1642 candidates who presented themselves for the Bombay Matriculation Examination at the several centres, 571 have been declared successful. Of the ten young ladies who competed, the following have passed: Miss Ethel Swansegar, of Bombay; and Miss Grace D'Souza, Miss Ruth Forbes, Miss Mary Leonard, Miss Ada Jane Smith, Miss Annie Sullivan, and Miss Cornelia Sorabjee, of Poona.



# CASH'S EMBROIDERED NAMES AND INITIAL LETTERS FOR MARKING LINEN.

Your Name or Initials Embroidered on our Fine Cambric Tape in Turkey Red, which can be sewn on to any article of dress requiring to be marked.

SOLD BY HOSIERS AND DRAPERS EVERYWHERE.

DO NOT UNTIMELY DIE.

Sore Throats Cured with One Dose.

**FENNINGS'  
FEVER CURER.**

BOWEL COMPLAINTS cured with One Dose.

TYPHUS or LOW FEVER cured with Two Doses.

DIPHTHERIA cured with Three Doses.

SCARLET FEVER cured with Four Doses.

DYSENTERY cured with Five Doses.

Sold in Bottles, 1s. 1½d. each, with full directions, by all Chemists.

Read Fennings' "Everybody's Doctor." Sent post free for 13 stamps.

SORE THROATS CURED.

EASY TEETHING.

DO NOT LET YOUR CHILD DIE.

FENNINGS' Children's Powders Prevent Convulsions.

ARE COOLING AND SOOTHING.

**FENNINGS'  
Children's Powders.**

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