

# WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

VOL. XVIII.—No. 207. PUBLISHED MONTHLY.  
Yearly Subscription, Post Free, 1s. 6d.

MARCH 1, 1887.

PRICE ONE PENNY.  
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THE Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill was brought in by Mr. WOODALL, Sir ROBERT FOWLER, Mr. HOULDSWORTH, Mr. H. H. HOWORTH, Mr. ILLINGWORTH, Mr. W. S. B. M'LAREN, Mr. J. W. MACLURE, and Mr. STANSFELD, and read a first time on January 31st. The second reading was fixed for Wednesday, July 20th, when it stands as first order of the day. The chances of the ballot left no earlier date available, but, so far as can be foreseen, there seems a reasonable hope that on that day a decisive division may be taken. The interval should be utilised by the friends of the Bill to promote a goodly number of petitions and other demonstrations in its favour.

OTHER Bills relating to the Parliamentary franchise of which notice has been given are introduced by Mr. SETON KARR, Bill to extend the Parliamentary franchise to the police forces of the United Kingdom; Mr. RADCLIFFE COOK, Bill for the complete enfranchisement of the police forces of the United Kingdom; Col. LAURIE, Bill for the complete enfranchisement of the police forces of the United Kingdom; Mr. BURDETT COURTS, Bill to remove the disabilities of the police to vote at Parliamentary elections; Mr. HOWELL, Bill to consolidate, simplify, and amend the law relating to Parliamentary elections, and for other purposes; Mr. O'HEA, Bill to amend the law relating to the representation of the people; Mr. STANSFELD, Bill to amend the law with respect to the registration of electors at Parliamentary and municipal elections, modifying with a view to the simplification of their registration the qualification of such electors; Mr. CREMER, Bill to amend the laws with respect to the qualification and registration of voters and the conduct of Parliamentary elections.

THE Women's Suffrage Bill which Lord DENMAN, in spite of the remonstrances which have been repeatedly addressed to him, brought forward for second reading in the House of Lords in January, has, thanks to the interposition of Lord SALISBURY, been effectually disposed of

for the present. Nothing could be more calculated to mislead the public mind as to the real position of the question than the continual introduction by Lord DENMAN of this Bill, which could not possibly be seriously entertained. It was the custom of Lord DENMAN to present it for second reading repeatedly during the session, with the result that each time a paragraph went the round of the papers, giving the impression that the women's franchise question itself had been rejected by the House of Lords. The action of Lord SALISBURY, in moving that the Bill be read a second time that day six months, has effectually prevented the recurrence of these untoward exhibitions, and leaves the ground clear for the consideration of Mr. WOODALL'S Bill whenever that measure shall be sent up from the House of Commons.

LORD SALISBURY, in moving the rejection of Lord DENMAN'S Bill, was careful to guard himself against the expression of an opinion on the question itself. He pointed out that it was not usual to initiate legislation in one House which would alter the constitution of the other. The Government, therefore, proposed to reserve their opinion on the subject matter of the Bill until the question should have been dealt with in the other House.

It is reasonable to assume that as the House of Lords might naturally hesitate to initiate legislation affecting the constitution of the House of Commons, they might equally hesitate to refuse their concurrence in a measure of that nature which had received the assent of the House of Commons. These considerations should cause all who are interested in the matter to use every effort to procure a decisive vote in favour of Mr. WOODALL'S Bill on the 20th of July, and if this is accomplished there seems reason to hope that it would not be found impracticable to get through the remaining stages of the Bill in time to present it to the House of Lords before the end of the session.

SIR HENRY JAMES is an opponent who has the courage of his opinions. Some persons, while opposing the exercise



of the Parliamentary franchise by women, recognise with approval the influence of women in politics, and even go so far as to assign as a reason for withholding the suffrage a fear lest this "influence" should be impaired.

But Sir HENRY JAMES will not allow to women either votes or influence. In a recent speech at Manchester he said, "he had always been opposed to the interference of women in elections." The vials of his wrath were poured out with indiscriminate impartiality on the dames of the Primrose League and the members of Ladies' Liberal Associations. In order to "maintain the free expression of men's thoughts and judgments on political events," he intends to try his hand at legislation against ladies who interfere in elections. He appears to think he can manage to do this in spite of the difficulties of the problem how to "schedule smiles."

We confess that we await with some curiosity the appearance of the Bill which is to be directed to this object. We suspect, however, that the legislative mop in the hand of this modern Mr. Partington, will be as powerless as that of his immortal prototype for the purpose of stemming the rising tide of the influence of women in politics.

THE political dinners of the FIRST LORD of the TREASURY are usually given to gentlemen, but a new departure was taken on the occasion of a dinner given by the Right Hon. W. H. SMITH to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when ladies were present. The dinner was given on the day when Mr. GOSCHEN was elected for the district of St. George's, Hanover Square. We trust the incident will not be without influence on the education of the right honourable member as regards the political influence of women.

A PARLIAMENTARY paper was issued last month which contains a return of the number of illiterate voters in the last general election. From this it appears that the total number of illiterate voters in the three kingdoms was 80,145, the total number of votes polled being 2,969,381. The numbers polled as illiterates were, in England and Wales, 38,587; in Scotland, 4,836; and in Ireland, 36,722.

These figures may cause thoughtful and educated women to ask why they should be deemed incapable or unworthy to exercise a function which is placed in the hands of men so ignorant and incapable that they are unable to distinguish between the printed names of the candidates for whom they intend to vote.

THE miners' deputation which waited on the HOME SECRETARY to urge among other things the introduction into the Government Bill for the regulation of mines of a clause prohibiting the labour of women on pit banks had no better success with Mr. MATTHEWS than those who moved in the matter last year had with Mr. CHILDERS. The HOME SECRETARY asked the deputation if they were all of one mind as to the prohibition of women's work, and on being assured that they were so, the right hon. gentleman replied, "Then all I can say is that I should like to receive a deputation from the women."

There is no doubt that such a deputation could have been arranged without difficulty had that step seemed desirable, but it appears from the reply of the HOME SECRETARY to a question put in the House of Commons by Mr. M'LAREN, that the Government do not intend to interfere with the employment of the women, and therefore they would not think the deputation necessary.

THE annual meeting of the Bristol and West of England Branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage was held last month. Mr. LEWIS FRY, M.P., occupied the chair, and Colonel HILL, M.P., General STILL, Miss BEDDOE, Rev. U. R. THOMAS, Mr. ALAN GREENWELL, Mrs. ASHWORTH HALLETT, and others took part in the proceedings.

Meetings have been held at Cambridge—the Mayor in the chair—when Mrs. FAWCETT, Mrs. BATESON, the MASTER of PETERHOUSE, and others spoke; at Reading, under the presidency of Mr. GEO. PALMER, the lady speakers being Mrs. FAWCETT and Miss BALGARNIE; at Leicester, the Deputy-Mayor in the chair, the same ladies with Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT addressed the meeting. Lectures have been delivered by Mrs. FAWCETT at Nottingham, Mrs. CHANT, and Miss BREMNER at Hull, and by Miss FLORENCE HUNT at Croydon.

THE Editor of this *Journal* desires to make a special personal appeal to the friends and well-wishers of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage for help in raising an extra fund of five hundred pounds for the work of the present year. In order to accomplish its object, this fund must be given in addition to the regular subscriptions.

An earnest appeal is made in the first instance to those members of the Society and subscribers to the *Journal* who may be willing to increase the amount of their present subscriptions. We would next appeal to those well-

wishers of the cause who have hitherto contented themselves with giving it their moral support, to allow their good feelings to take the form of material help to the movement. The various branches of the Society have been working hard in this cause for twenty years, and it is not too much to assume that the present hopeful condition of the movement is in a great measure the result of their work. There has been an impression in some quarters that because the victory seems to be near at hand the need for subscriptions to the Society becomes less. This is exactly the reverse of the truth. It is necessary to keep up the full power of the organisation in order to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the advance of public opinion in favour of the question. The appeal is made in the assured hope that it will not be in vain, but that friends will respond in so generous a spirit as to enable the work of the Society to be carried on with vigour and effect until the arrival of the hour of victory.

### PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

#### HOUSE OF LORDS, Monday, January 31. WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE BILL.

Lord DENMAN moved the second reading of this Bill. The Marquis of SALISBURY said that he did not desire to express any opinion upon the subject which the noble lord had brought before the House, not for the first time. It was, he admitted, a subject of very great interest, and one which had aroused much feeling among considerable sections of the community. But he would point out that it was not usual for one House of Parliament to initiate legislation which would alter the constitution of the other House. To initiate such legislation, though not beyond their powers, would be to a certain extent a breach of Parliamentary etiquette. The Government, therefore, proposed to reserve their opinion upon the subject matter of the Bill until the question should have been dealt with in the other House. He begged to move that the Bill be read a second time that day six months. The amendment was agreed to without a division. Their lordships adjourned shortly after half-past five o'clock.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS, January 31. WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Petitions in favour of women's suffrage were presented by Dr. Tindal Robertson, from Brighton; by Mr. C. Seale-Hayne, from ladies of Dawlish; by Mr. G. N. Curzon (2), from meetings at Southport; and Mr. S. Herbert, from Croydon.

#### NEW BILL.

125. Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women).—Bill to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to duly qualified Women, ordered to be brought in by Mr. Woodall, Mr. Houldsworth, Mr. Ilingworth, Mr. M'Laren, Sir Robert Fowler, Mr. Howorth, Mr. Maclure, and Mr. Stansfeld.

Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill,—“to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to duly qualified Women,” presented, and read the first time; to be read a second time upon Wednesday, 20th July, and to be printed. [Bill 128.]

Monday, February 14.

#### WOMEN WORKERS AT THE PIT'S BANK.

Mr. M'LAREN asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the deputation of members of

Parliament and miners' representatives which waited upon him on February 10 to urge, among other things, that after a certain time, not specified, all women should be forbidden by law to work in connection with mines, even above ground, whether the deputation admitted that the women who now worked at the pit's bank were "thoroughly honest and virtuous," and whether they gave any reason for preventing them working except that the work was "hard and unwomanly;" whether he could state the number of women who were employed at the pit's bank in connection with mines, and if it were not the case that their average health was better than that of seamstresses and of women who worked in cotton mills; what steps the Government propose to take in the matter; and would he consent to receive a deputation of women who worked at the pit's bank, and others, to state their case.

Mr. MATTHEWS said that the hon. member correctly stated the views of the deputation which recently addressed him. He was informed by the inspector that in 1885 the number of women working on the pit's bank in connection with mines was little short of 6,000. The Government did not feel disposed to interfere with the employment of these women, and therefore they would not think the deputation necessary, or he would be glad to receive it.

#### FEMALE CLERKS IN THE POST OFFICE.

In answer to Mr. Cox, Mr. RAIKES said: The number of female clerks who entered since the clerkships were open to competitive examination in the year 1881, and who were declared incompetent and dismissed from the General Post Office after six months' probation, was fourteen. The number dismissed after less than six months' probation was one. None of the female clerks declared incompetent received appointments in other branches of the service. (Hear, hear.)

### PUBLIC MEETINGS.

#### BRISTOL. ANNUAL MEETING.

The general annual meeting of the Bristol and West of England branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage was held at the office, 69, Park-street, on February 19th. The chair was taken by Mr. LEWIS FRY, M.P., and the attendance was much larger than usual.

THE CHAIRMAN said before he asked the hon. secretary to read the report, they would allow him to say with how much pleasure he was there that day, and especially so as on the last occasion of their meeting on the subject—the recent conference, which he had hoped to attend—he was prevented by absence from England from being present. He believed the report would give an encouraging view of the condition of that question. As they were aware, there was, for the first time, a majority of members in the House of Commons, who had expressed an opinion favourable to the movement they had met to support; and on the last occasion on which the Bill was brought before the House it passed a second reading unopposed. It was true there was a division upon the question of adjournment, but only about fifty or sixty appeared to support their views, and by a large majority—something like four to one—the adjournment was negatived. These facts, he thought, showed that there had been a great change in public opinion on the matter as represented in the House of Commons. It was true that their friend Mr. Woodall, who had charge of the measure, had not obtained a very good place upon the order book, and it would not probably come on for second reading until late in the session. But, as he had said, he felt the question was growing in the public mind, and that before long the measure would pass into law. The change of attitude had taken place in a very satisfactory way, quietly and gradually, and he believed it was due mainly to the influence of two things—the experience which they had had, and the force of reason and of argument. He said experience, because he thought the experience they had had of the working of the vote given to women in the case of municipal and school board elections had tended to do away with a great deal of the prejudice which had existed on that matter. It had been seen that women could go to the polling station and record their votes without doing anything which was in the slightest degree unfeminine, or which might be disapproved of by the most delicate and fastidious of the sex.



(Hear, hear.) As regarded reason and argument, he thought that was on their side, or, of course, he would not be standing there; and most people who had thought about the question felt it was impossible to stand exactly where they were standing now. The vote had been given in the case of municipal and school board elections, and he thought it was quite impossible, as a matter of reason and logic, that they could stop there. He did not believe any clear and intelligible line of distinction could be drawn between the municipal and Parliamentary vote—(applause)—and if any were inclined to suppose that that line could be drawn, he should like to point out that it was becoming, and would become, fainter and more difficult to trace in the future. The inevitable tendency of legislation was in the direction of devolving upon local bodies—he was not referring to Home Rule—many of those functions now exercised by the Imperial Parliament; and if this should lead to something in the nature of county and local parliaments, then, he said, the line of distinction between that which was municipal or local and that which was Parliamentary or Imperial, would be still fainter than at present. Therefore, if they entered upon a course which was logical, it could only land them in the adoption of that measure. He was very glad his friend, Colonel Hill, was with them, because it showed them that that was not a party question. It had supporters among all the rather numerous parties which were in the House of Commons at the present moment—(laughter)—and that proved the question was not a party one, and he was glad of it. It had not been forced forward by party organisations or by political pressure—(hear, hear)—and he thought that was in its favour. He was not aware that any of the great party organisations had taken the matter up; and he believed it was a fact that no member would lose his seat and no candidate would have his candidature affected by expressing views one way or another upon this question. The question had grown, as he had said, by the light of reason and experience, and he believed the dangers which many sensible persons anticipated if the change took place were groundless. There were some who thought the influence of women in politics was dangerous, and might become more so. He knew many of his Liberal friends talked about the dangerous and nefarious doings of the Primrose dames—(laughter)—and perhaps his friend, Colonel Hill, would regard with suspicion what was done by Women's Liberal Associations. (Renewed laughter.) He could only say that if the influence of women was dangerous in legitimate public matters, he believed the true remedy was to give the responsibility of the vote. (Hear, hear.) Therefore that argument did not affect his mind. The question was growing, and he had no doubt that before very long they would see the measure in which they took so much interest placed on the Statute Book. He believed the intelligent influence of women brought to bear by means of the vote on questions in which they had a special interest would be for good. (Applause.)

Miss BLACKBURN, the secretary, stated that letters expressing inability to be present had been received from Mr. Woodall, M.P., and from the Hon. J. W. Plunkett, M.P., who stated "that unfortunately I have a previous engagement in my constituency for Saturday, the 19th, which will prevent my attending your meeting. I am heart and soul in your favour, the last Reform Bill convinced me." Mr. E. Stafford Howard and Miss Amelia B. Edwards regretted that previous engagements prevented their attending. Mrs. Hale was also unavoidably absent.

The SECRETARY then read the annual report.

The financial statement showed receipts amounting to £284. 5s. 4d., and the expenditure £283. 13s. 10d. leaving a balance of 11s. 6d.

Colonel HILL, C.B., M.P., in moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, said he thought it nothing but right one should take notice of the women's suffrage movement, now so prominently before the public, and recognise what he considered was an anomaly in our political life. Some people maintained that ladies ought to have nothing whatever to do with politics, that it was a subject that should be left to the sterner sex; but if they considered for one moment how deeply ladies were interested in politics, they would feel they should have something to say in the matter. (Hear, hear.) Upon politics depended the happiness and prosperity of the country, and necessarily happiness and prosperity tended to make homes happy. He thought ladies had already considerable influence, not only in politics, but in anything in which they felt disposed to give their assistance. That might be called indirect

influence, and might not be sufficient to satisfy the just aspiration of the sex. They accorded to ladies, at least, the same intelligence as themselves; they were as highly cultured and capable of forming an opinion upon matters as the sterner sex, and there were some of them who, from time to time, received much advice from ladies in matters of difficulty. He, therefore, thought it wrong to refuse them the boon they asked for—that of the Parliamentary vote. He must confess that he should be sorry to see things so changed whereby the gentlemen should be compelled to remain at home and mind the babies while their wives went off to public meetings, &c. (Laughter.) As Mr. Lewis Fry had said, he was glad the question of women's suffrage was not a party one. (Hear, hear.) It ought not to be a party question. It was one entirely outside the range of Parliamentary politics, and should be judged upon its own merits. (Hear, hear.) As they had been told, ladies had already the power of voting in municipal and school board matters, and he did not, for the life of him, see why the vote should be confined to that only. It was a great anomaly. Instances were known in which ladies were owners and occupiers of houses, and spent a considerable amount of money annually upon their establishments, and it certainly seemed very hard, indeed, an anomaly, that while the gardener or coachman was allowed to vote for a member of Parliament, that the lady could not do so. Of course now-a-days it would be extremely wrong for the lady of the house to influence the gardener or the coachman. (Laughter.) He could not think they would do anything of the kind. (Renewed laughter.) What measure of franchise should be granted would be a matter of detail. How far it should go was another matter, and would be more properly discussed in the committee-room of the House of Commons. Some of them might differ upon that point. There was, however, a consensus of opinion that women should have a fair amount of Parliamentary representation. He was not quite prepared to see ladies in Parliament—he did not think it was their wish—yet he felt his hon. friend in the chair would agree with him that even the presence of ladies in the House would be a relief to the tedium of debates they had had to listen to of late in the House. (Laughter and applause.) He was in distinct sympathy with the main object before them, and it was with great pleasure he moved the adoption and circulation of the report of the committee.

Miss BEDDOE seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

General STILL moved: "That the following persons form the committee for the ensuing year, with power to add to their number: Mr. W. R. Barker, the Rev. E. S. Bayliffe, the Rev. A. N. Blatchford, Mrs. Bruce, Mr. E. W. Cox, the Rev. J. Temperley Grey, Mr. T. G. P. Hallett, Mrs. Hallett, Mrs. Harle, Mrs. Jeffery, Miss Kennedy, the Rev. A. C. Macpherson, Miss Minnis, Miss Pease, the Rev. R. Hayes-Robinson, Miss Spender, Miss Sturge, Miss Caroline Sturge, Mrs. Walter Sturge, Miss Tanner, Mr. Theobald, Mr. J. G. Thornton, Miss Tribe, and Mr. Frank Tribe. That of these Mr. Bayliffe, Mr. Blatchford, Mr. Cox, Mr. Grey, Mr. Hallett, Mrs. Hallett, Mrs. Harle, Miss Pease, Miss Sturge, Miss C. Sturge, Miss Tanner, Miss Tribe, and Mr. Tribe form the working committee." They had with them two gentlemen representing both sides of the House of Commons, although he was glad both were Unionists. Referring to the interest women took in politics, he mentioned that he was Ruling Councillor of a Habitation of the Primrose League, and the lady members took the deepest interest in politics and in the Conservative cause. He had no doubt it was so elsewhere. Perhaps the other party would have established a similar organisation a little earlier if they had only known what a success it was going to be. (Laughter.) As poor-law guardians ladies had done remarkably well.

Mr. C. B. GAWLER seconded the resolution, which was carried *nem. con.*

Rev. URIJAH R. THOMAS moved the following resolution: "That this meeting, having learned with satisfaction that Mr. Woodall has obtained July 20th for the second reading of the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill, records its determination to support the action of the Parliamentary leaders in this respect by every means in its power." He said as one of those who for many years had held clear and distinct views upon this matter, he should like to say how thankful they were to men like Mr. Fry and Mr. Woodall, who had been for years their supporters in the House of Commons. He was glad, too, Colonel Hill was one to whom they

might now look for support, because Radical as he was, and Home Ruler as he was—(laughter)—he understood clearly enough that that was a non-political question. (Hear, hear.) Its aim was to make the government of the country rest upon the broadest basis, which would tend to make it stand firm and strong through all time. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. E. W. COX seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

Mr. ALAN GREENWELL moved, "That petitions be adopted to both Houses of Parliament, and a memorial to the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, leader of the House of Commons." They might rest assured, Mr. Greenwell said, that before long they would see the measure passed. He could not, however, help referring to the loss they had sustained by the death of Lord Iddeleigh. He was one of their best friends, and his adhesion to the movement was most important. They had lost not only a very eminent man from the political world, but a great and valuable friend to the women's suffrage movement. (Hear, hear.)

Miss EMILY STURGE, in seconding the proposition, said their cause had never been in a more favourable state than now.

The petitions were then adopted.

Mrs. ASHWORTH HALLETT said she had very great pleasure in proposing that the cordial thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Lewis Fry for presiding. She would have liked to include also Colonel Hill in the vote of thanks, for they all knew how doubly kind it was of members of Parliament to attend meetings when Parliament was sitting. It had always been a great satisfaction to know that almost from the commencement of the society the members for Bristol had in succession been true friends of the cause they had at heart. Never had their claim been so urgent as now. The other day it was stated in the papers that five paupers had come out from the Liverpool Workhouse to record their votes on the day of election. Now the successful candidate won by seven votes. So near was the contest that it would appear as though they might almost say that the paupers turned the election. How important, therefore, was it that the votes of educated women should be available in guiding and helping to decide great national questions. Everyone admitted that women were by nature opposed to violent practices and revolutionary doctrines, and it was this fact which made their enfranchisement both safe and expedient at the present time. Mrs. Hallett concluded by warmly thanking Mr. Fry for his great and valued help. (Applause.)

The vote of thanks was unanimously passed, and acknowledged by the Chairman and Colonel Hill.

The meeting then terminated.

#### READING.

On January 27th a public meeting was held at the old Town Hall, Reading, which was well filled, in support of the Bill for the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women householders. Mr. GEO. PALMER presided, and among the ladies and gentlemen on the platform were Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Miss Balgarnie, the Revs. C. R. Honey, R. R. Suffield, N. A. Ross, and J. H. Tuckwell; Messrs. Nalder Clarke, W. F. Blandy, E. West, Owen Ridley, W. W. Williams, J. W. Martin, J. J. Cooper, and J. F. Euerby, and many ladies.

At the request of the Chairman, Miss Balgarnie read letters of apology. Mr. C. T. Murdoch, M.P. for Reading, wrote wishing success to the meeting, and expressing his sympathy with the movement. Sir George Russell, Bart., M.P., said: "I am extremely sorry that owing to your meeting being on the 27th I shall probably be unable to attend it. Otherwise I should have made it a point to be present to mark my sense of the justice and expediency of your movement. At all events, we have got it out of the region of ridicule, and the day cannot be far distant when duly qualified women will be admitted to the franchise, from which they are now so unjustly excluded. Each successive extension of the franchise still further strengthens your claim. You may rely on me, both in and out of Parliament, to do all in my power to hasten the day when you will obtain your just rights." Canon Garry wrote: "The subject is one in which I take great interest. . . . It is a manifest injustice to exclude any householders merely on account of the accident of sex." Messrs. J. O. Taylor, F. J. Blandy, G. W. Colebrook, D. Clarke, and Henry Lea had also written expressing sympathy with the movement.

The CHAIRMAN said it was sixteen years since the first public meeting was held in Reading in advocacy of the question of

women's suffrage, and he had then the honour of presiding. Every thoughtful person must be struck with the change which had in the interval come over public sentiment in the matter. The question was not one immediately affecting either political party, although all must admit that the initiation had been with those with whom he (Mr. Palmer) had always acted. (Hear, hear.) Having referred to the Married Women's Property Act, which was largely helped through the House by their late member, Mr. Shaw Lefevre—(cheers)—he said for the sake of the question itself he hoped Mr. Murdoch—(hooting)—he had already tried to make the ground square as between parties, and he thought they ought to be fair that night. (Applause.) He only hoped Mr. Murdoch would be as disinterestedly and industriously help forward the other questions which had yet to be settled regarding the treatment of women. The idea of women doctors was a short time ago laughed at as ridiculous, but he ventured to say that medical women would soon be found in all our large towns. Mr. Palmer then touched upon the recent advances in female education, and the employment of women in various useful capacities.

Mr. E. WEST 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 believed the town of Reading wished that in the question of Parliamentary voting, qualified women should be placed on the same level as men, and that, without considering which side would be strengthened by the success of the movement, they would do the right. (Applause.)

Mr. J. W. MARTIN seconded, and Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, who was received with cheers, supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. J. COOPER moved "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 forwarded to Mr. Murdoch, M.P., for presentation to the House of Commons."

The resolution was seconded by Miss FLORENCE BALGARNIE.

The Rev. N. A. ROSS supported the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks.

#### CAMBRIDGE.

Under the auspices of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association a meeting was held at the Guildhall, Cambridge, on February 9th, at which an able paper on "Women's Suffrage" was read by Mrs. Henry Fawcett, and several speeches in support of the movement were delivered by members of the University and others. The chair was occupied by the MAYOR (Alderman W. B. Redfern), and amongst those on the platform, in addition to Mrs. Fawcett, were Mrs. Bateson, the Master of Peterhouse (the Rev. Dr. Porter), the Rev. T. J. Lawrence (rector of Tadlow), Dr. Roberts (Clare College), Mr. E. S. Shuckburgh, M.A., and Mr. Hammond, M.A.

After some opening remarks by the Mayor, Mrs. FAWCETT read her paper, at the conclusion of which she moved the following resolution: "That the present exclusion of women householders and ratepayers from the right to vote for members of Parliament is an anomaly which ought to be got rid of."

Mr. SHUCKBURGH seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The Rev. T. J. LAWRENCE then moved: "That this meeting pledges itself to support the movement for the removal of the electoral disabilities of women who possess qualifications which confer the franchise on men, and rejoices that the borough member is prepared to vote in Parliament for so just and necessary a reform."

The resolution was supported by Mrs. BATESON, Dr. ROBERTS (Clare), and Mr. F. PIGGOTT, and was then put and carried.

The MASTER of PETERHOUSE moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Fawcett for her interesting address, and expressed his conviction that a cause which had such able advocacy and which was supported in so hearty a manner as the women's suffrage movement was would be sure to prosper.

Mr. HAMMOND seconded the proposition, which was carried with acclamation.

Mrs. FAWCETT, in acknowledging the compliment, alluded to the alarm which the proposal to extend the franchise to women first caused, and said it reminded her of the danger which it was felt in



the Oxford University would result from allowing Fellows to marry. "How is it possible (it was asked) for a man delivering a lecture to concentrate the attention necessary to his class when he might hold within his breast the fatal secret that baby was sickening with the measles?" (Laughter.)

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Mayor, proposed by Mr. HAMMOND.

## LEICESTER.

On February 11th, a meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Leicester, in favour of women's suffrage. The DEPUTY MAYOR (Councillor T. Wright) occupied the chair, and among those present were Rev. J. Page Hopps, Rev. A. A. Isaacs, M.A., Rev. J. Shalcross (Earl Shilton), Councillor S. Lennard, Mr. W. Stanyon, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Mrs. Ormiston Chant, Miss Florence Baggart, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Johnson, Mr. J. Butcher, and many others.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing the meeting, remarked that they were in the midst of great changes, and no one could tell how soon the measure they had met to consider might be taken up as one of the useful measures in the platform of either political party. They did not desire that the question should be like the Irish question—a shuttlecock between parties. It commended itself to the sober reason and sound judgment of both, and as such he hoped would, before long, receive Parliamentary sanction, as it was gradually acquiring the sanction of the reasoning views of all parties in the country. (Applause.)

Rev. J. PAGE HOPPS moved: "That in the opinion of this meeting women who pay rates and taxes should have the right to vote at the election of members of Parliament." The resolution was seconded by Mr. Councillor LENNARD and supported by Mrs. FAWCETT.

Mr. W. STANYON moved: "That a petition, based on the foregoing resolution, be signed by the chairman on behalf of this meeting, and be sent to Mr. J. Allanson Picton, M.P., for presentation in the House of Commons."

Mrs. O. CHANT seconded the resolution, which was supported by Miss BAGGART, and adopted. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by the Rev. A. A. ISAACS, and seconded by Mr. BUTCHER.

## DRAWING-ROOM MEETINGS.

## CLAPTON.

On January 27th, at the house of Mrs. Gregory, 12, Goulton Road, Clapton, a meeting of ladies was held. Miss Burstall, B.A., took the chair, and introduced the subject of women's suffrage in a short speech. Miss Baggart then delivered a lecture, which was listened to attentively for half an hour, and a discussion followed, in which seven ladies took part. The following resolution was proposed by Miss Burstall, seconded by Miss B. Anderton, and carried, "That in the judgment of this meeting women who pay rates and taxes should have the right to vote in the election of members of Parliament." A vote of thanks to the lecturer and chairman having been moved by Miss Cox and seconded by Miss Dennis, the meeting was closed.

## LONDON.

On February 3rd a large gathering of the members of the Women's Suffrage Society, living in the London district, met by invitation at the house of Mrs. Bright Lucas, 7, Charlotte-street, Bedford Square. Amongst those who took part were Mr. Wm. Woodall, M.P., Mr. W. B. McLaren, M.P., Mr. Hopwood, Q.C., Mr. Costelloe, Dr. Kate Mitchell, and Miss Florence Baggart, secretary of the society. Mr. Woodall stated that the chances of the ballot had left no day available for the second reading of the Women's Franchise Bill until July 20, when it stood as the first order of the day. Plans of work were discussed for the coming session.

## FALFIELD (GLOUCESTERSHIRE).

A well-attended drawing-room meeting took place on February 8th, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Harle, at their residence, Whitfield, near Falfield, Gloucestershire. Mr. Harle, taking the chair, introduced Miss Sturge and Miss Blackburn, who attended on behalf of the society. After their addresses, the Rev. Mr. Hodgson, rector of Thornbury, expressed the strong objection he felt to the movement, as taking women out of their proper work.

The Rev. Mr. Collett, rector of Cromhall, said that so long as the household was the unit he was entirely in favour of women voting. Mr. Harle, replying to Mr. Hodgson, remarked on the humanising influences women might be expected to bring into politics, especially referring to their influence for peace. He moved the adoption of petitions to both Houses of Parliament, which was seconded by Mrs. Biddle, and carried with but two or three dissentients.

## LECTURES.

## HULL AND EAST RIDING WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

On January 23rd the first of a series of lectures, arranged by the committee of the above recently established association, was given by Mrs. Ormiston Chant, London, in the Gladstone Hall, United Liberal Club. The subject of the lecture was entitled, "Women and Politics." In the absence of the president (Mrs. C. H. Wilson), the chair was taken by Miss C. S. BREMNER, and there was a crowded attendance of ladies, amongst those present being Mrs. Perris, Mrs. Whitehead, Mrs. Lawton, Mrs. Sanderson, Mrs. Runtton, Miss Runtton, Mrs. Kilburn, Mrs. Sim Harris, Mrs. Hodge, Mrs. Hill, Miss Bremner (hon. secretary). A few gentlemen were present, including Alderman J. Stuart, J.P., Mr. J. B. Anderson, the Rev. H. W. Perris, and the Rev. H. Joplin.

Rev. H. W. PERRIS moved a vote of thanks to Mrs. Chant. Alderman STUART, J.P., seconded the resolution, and said he had been convinced as the lecturer had proceeded that that was a genuine movement which was going on amongst Liberal women. He thought the unwillingness on the part of many women to take part in politics arose not so much from instinctive objections in their own minds as from an objection on the part of husbands and brothers. (Applause.) If that impression could be removed quickly, as if by act of inspiration, he thought it would have been removed from the mind of every man who could have had the privilege of listening to the lecture delivered that evening. (Applause.) It seemed to him absurd that any man of intellect who desired to see the happiness and prosperity of this country more rapidly promoted should assert that woman ought to have no part in politics. They must expect that if political freedom was to be gained by woman in their own country it must be gained as the result of their own efforts, and not as the gift of the men who had the power of giving it. (Applause.) The nation as a whole suffered because one-half, politically speaking, had been indolent in the past. Let the whole nation become alive to its political duties, and the nation would expand and increase in power, and the happiness of the people be abundantly promoted. (Applause.)

The resolution was then passed amidst hearty applause, and the meeting concluded with the customary votes of thanks.

On February 12th a meeting of the Hull and East Riding Women's Liberal Association was held at the Gladstone Hall, Hull. Mrs. PERRIS presided, and a paper on the subject of the "Extension of the Franchise to Women" was read by Miss C. S. Bremner, one of the secretaries of the association.

In opening the proceedings, Mrs. PERRIS said the subject was one which was pressing for solution, and was now causing more attention than ever it did before.

Miss BREMNER then read her paper, which was very well received. At the conclusion Mr. MADDISON proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer. The resolution was seconded by Mrs. THORPE, supported by Mrs. LAWTON, and carried unanimously.

Miss BREMNER briefly replied, and the meeting terminated.

## CROYDON.

On February 9th, at a social gathering of the dames, knights, and associates of the Beaconsfield Habitation of the Primrose League, Miss Florence Hunt gave a brief address on the subject of woman's suffrage, her remarks meeting with frequent evidence of approval from all present. Mr. C. H. Greaves, chairman of the East Ward Conservative Club, supported the arguments set forth by Miss Hunt, and urged everyone to sign the petition and further the cause of the extension of the franchise.

## NOTTINGHAM.

A lecture, entitled "The Exclusion of Women from Representation an Absurdity," was given in Castle Gate Schoolrooms,

Nottingham, on January 28th, by Mrs. Fawcett, the proceedings being under the auspices of the Notts. Branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage. There was a numerous attendance. The chair was taken by the MAYOR (Alderman Turney, J.P.), among others present being the Mayoress (Mrs. Turney), Mr. H. Ashwell, J.P., Alderman Renals, Mrs. Cowen (honorary secretary), Mr. J. Shillito, Miss Wright (Mansfield), Miss Biggs (London), and Mrs. Jesse Hind.

The MAYOR, in opening the proceedings, said he believed that both Houses of Parliament would, after that meeting, be petitioned, and that each member of Parliament for the borough would also be memorialised. He trusted that each of their three members would put aside their politics, and do what they could to give to the women of this country the right which they so well deserved. (Applause.)

Mrs. FAWCETT, who was received very cordially, then delivered her lecture.

Miss WRIGHT (Mansfield) proposed a resolution to the effect that in the opinion of the meeting women who paid rates and taxes ought to have votes for members of Parliament; that the meeting therefore resolve to send petitions to both Houses of Parliament asking them to pass a Bill to extend the franchise to duly qualified women; and that the three members for Nottingham be asked to support such a Bill.

Alderman RENALS, in seconding the resolution, said that upon this question he did not require to be converted like some gentlemen, because he was of opinion that the inevitable must come, and that the ladies would obtain the vote in imperial, as they possessed it in municipal or local affairs. (Applause.)

Miss BIGGS (London) spoke in support of the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. H. ASHWELL said that he had listened with extreme pleasure, as he was sure all of them must have done, to the extremely interesting and logical address which Mrs. Fawcett had given. Sympathising with the aims and objects which she had in view, it was still not for him to touch upon the various parts of the question; but he thought they were deeply indebted to those ladies who stood before their countrymen and countrywomen to deal with the question in a womanly way. He moved that the best thanks of the meeting be accorded to Mrs. Fawcett. (Applause.)

Mr. WARREN seconded the resolution, which was cordially passed.

Mrs. FAWCETT, referring to the circumstances of her attendance, and speaking with much emotion, alluded to the unveiling that day in Westminster Abbey of a memorial to the late Professor Fawcett. She said that she deeply valued all the tokens that had been given, in different parts of the country, of veneration for her husband. The date for the ceremony mentioned was fixed for that day, but almost three months ago she promised Mrs. Cowen to take part in the meeting, and she had felt it consistent with her public duty that she should fulfil her promise. In conclusion, Mrs. Fawcett proposed a vote of thanks to the mayor.

This resolution was seconded by Mrs. Cowen, and was carried with acclamation.

## DEBATING SOCIETIES.

## BIRKBECK INSTITUTE.

On January 31st, Mrs. Fawcett gave an address to the Birkbeck Debating Society, and the following resolution was, after a lively discussion, carried by a large majority: "That the extension of the Parliamentary suffrage to women, who are householders and rate-payers, would be beneficial to women themselves and to the community at large."

## PUDSEY.

The first debate in connection with the newly-formed Conservative Debating Society was held in the club-rooms, Chapelton, on Feb. 7th. Rev. R. B. Thompson presided, and the subject for discussion was "Female Suffrage." After remarks by the chairman, Mr. Wm. Tunncliffe was called upon to lead the discussion upon the affirmative side of the question. He would only extend this privilege to widows, spinsters, or those females who owned property, or carried on business, and paid taxes purely on their own behalf. Then taxation and representation would continue to go together.—Mr. J. E. B. Armytage, in taking the negative side of the question, said no one thing in the world so debased the nature of mankind

as the discussion of politics. Fancy women being introduced into this arena! Think of her upon the hustings with her wild screechings, her frantic gesticulations, and her dishevelled hair!—Mr. John Halliday, Mr. J. Nicholson, and Mr. Wm. Henry Vickers supported Mr. Tunncliffe, and Mr. J. B. Knowles and Mr. J. Sunderland supported Mr. Armytage. After the initial speakers had replied, Rev. R. B. Thompson skilfully summed up the arguments used on both sides, and upon the matter being submitted to the vote the motion in favour of female suffrage was adopted.

## SCARBOROUGH.

At a largely-attended meeting of the South Cliff Debating Society, Scarborough, on January 5th, an interesting debate took place on the subject of "Women's Rights." Miss Baggart opened by moving, "That the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to all duly qualified women." Mr. T. P. Whittaker, of London, moved the negative. Mr. E. R. Cross, LL.B., seconded the resolution, and Mr. Walter Bailey the negative. The resolution was put to the meeting, and carried by a majority of four.

## THE HAMPSTEAD PARLIAMENT.

The first meeting of the members of the Hampstead Parliamentary Debating Society after the Christmas holidays was held on January 4th, at the Vestry Hall, Haverstock Hill. In the absence of Dr. C. Wells (the Speaker), the chair was occupied by Mr. A. Provost, the Deputy-Speaker. In the absence of Mr. W. F. Wilson, Mr. W. Nash (Conservative) moved: "That this House is of the opinion that the electoral franchise should be extended to women possessed of the same property qualifications as male voters." The motion was seconded by Mr. Lennard Lewis. Mr. J. M. Lee (deputy-leader of the opposition), Mr. E. Bennett (Secretary of State for India), Mr. J. T. Taylor, Mr. Alfred Preston (Chancellor of the Exchequer), Mr. John Whitaker, Mr. Richards, and Mr. T. Bremner (Secretary of State for Scotland) opposed. Mr. Nash replied, and, on the motion being put, it was carried with only two dissentients.

## SIR HENRY JAMES ON THE POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF LADIES.

At a meeting in the Reform Club, Manchester, on February 5th, 1887, Sir Henry James, in the course of a speech on the Corrupt Practices Act, said: They had stopped excessive expenditure during the immediate course of an election, but another power was springing up and taking growth in a way of which they must take heed. He referred to those societies—call them what they would—which by means of promises of favour, by cajolery or caress—call it what they would—which in poor men's cottages and over tradesmen's counters were endeavouring to interfere with the free expression of opinion. (Cheers.) He violated no secret when he said he had always been opposed to the interference of women in elections. (Laughter and cheers.) The broad question of women's suffrage he would not trench upon; but this new movement, whilst insidious in its action, openly placed under a political flag some 400,000 most active and influential canvassers, who day by day now were at work securing support, not for any particular candidate, but simply by the means he had referred to securing support for a political party by offering gifts to those who would range themselves under one political colour, refusing countenance to those who would not do so, boycotting the tradesmen here and dealing with an agriculturist there, represented an influence that was pernicious—he hesitated not to say more pernicious than an acute system of political bribery. (Cheers.) Well, he knew the difficulty of dealing with this subject. He was speaking to one of the most prominent of the founders of the Primrose League a little while ago and told him he would try his hand and see whether he could not do something to stop these practices, and the man said, "No, you will never do it; you don't know how to schedule smiles." (Laughter.) Well, he had to admit the difficulty, and he said to the man, "I know the difficulty of that, but still I think I could manage somehow or other so to legislate that we might secure more opportunities, even compulsory opportunities, of dispensing locks of hair." (Laughter.) He would not say who made the remark, but somebody said, "If you do that public opinion will not go with you, for it would be regarded as a barbarous operation." (Renewed laughter.) He feared it would be, but still he said they would have to do something, and they could not do it effectually unless they had the support of the



public. He cared not whether those they had to deal with were members of the Primrose League or members of the Liberal Ladies' Association, if they wished to maintain the free expression of public opinion coming from men's thoughts and judgments on political events they could not pass these things unheeded by; they could not allow those things to continue which it would be found whenever the next election occurs had been far greater than they were aware of, for they acted beneath and not above the surface. (Hear, hear.)

THE MINES REGULATION BILL.

WOMEN'S WORK ON PIT BANKS.

On February 10th a deputation of miners from all parts of the United Kingdom had an interview with the Right Hon. Henry Matthews, M.P., with whom was Mr. Stuart-Wortley, M.P., to lay before him their views upon the Government Bill for the regulation of mines. Among the members of Parliament present were Sir H. Havelock-Allan, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Rowlands, Mr. Shirley, Mr. D. Crawford, Mr. Cremer, Mr. G. Howell, Mr. Burt, Mr. Bradlaugh, Mr. C. T. D. Acland, Mr. S. Storey, Mr. H. Richards, Mr. Atherley Jones, Mr. MacInnes, Mr. J. L. Gane, Mr. C. S. Kenny, Sir E. Grey, Mr. Wright, Mr. J. M. Paulton, and Mr. C. A. V. Conybeare.

Mr. BURT, M.P., who introduced the deputation, assured the right hon. gentleman that it was thoroughly representative. One of the subjects to which they wished to draw attention was the employment of women in or about coal mines. At the recent conference of miners there had been entire unanimity on this question. It was felt that the time had come when female labour ought to cease in connection with mining. (Hear, hear.) They made no attack on the women and girls who were engaged in this employment, but they considered the work hard and unwomanly. The whole of the circumstances attending such labour were not conducive to that propriety and decency which ought to be observed. It was utterly ridiculous to suppose, as had been stated in the public press, that the movement was simply a desire on the part of trade unionists to increase wages. There were only about five thousand females employed in or about mines, while there were at least half a million men and boys engaged in that occupation. It was ridiculous, therefore, to suppose that the exclusion of women would have any effect on wages. They did not suggest that female labour should be forthwith abolished, but they asked the Government to fix a time after which no female hands should be employed. Motives of jealousy were also attributed, but the females employed were the wives, daughters, and sisters of the miners themselves, and such a suggestion was absurd.

Mr. MATTHEWS: Do you object to the employment of women above as well as below ground?  
Mr. BURT: Yes.  
In the course of his reply on the various subjects brought forward by the deputation, Mr. MATTHEWS said: Now I wish to ask you a question about female labour. Are you all of one mind on that question?  
Mr. BURT: I may say that we are.  
The HOME SECRETARY: Then all I can say is that I should like to receive a deputation from the women. (Loud laughter.) I should like to know what they think. It has been said that it does not demoralise the women, but that it is hard, unwomanly work. If, however, it does not deteriorate their morals and does not injuriously affect their health, it ought to be left to the women to decide, and it is a little harsh for men to say that women and girls should be shut out of this labour.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BURNLEY.

The seat vacated by the death of Mr. Rylands has been filled by the return of the Liberal candidate, Mr. Slagg, former member for Manchester. Mr. Slagg has been a consistent supporter of the franchise for women, and was one of the noble band of thirty-two Liberals who voted for Mr. Woodall's amendment for including women in the County Franchise Bill. The Conservative candidate was Mr. J. O. Thursby, who, in a former election contest, had declared in favour of the principle.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

YARMOUTH.

Mrs. Ethel Leach, third time (ninth on poll).

WESTHOUGHTON.

(Seven Members.)

Mrs. Mary Hadfield elected first time (second on poll), 873 votes.

SCOTLAND.

KIRKCALDY.

On February 1st a debate took place in the St. Brycedale Literary Society, the subject being "Should the Parliamentary franchise be extended to women?" The meeting was open to the public, and a large number of ladies were present, the attendance being about a hundred. Mr. W. S. Blackstock, Conservative, opened for the affirmative, and was seconded by Mr. Russell, Liberal. Mr. Melrose, Liberal, seconded by Mr. Meldrum, Conservative, led the opposition. In the discussion which followed, and which was conducted with good temper and in excellent taste, political parties were equally well mixed. At the close the society decided, by eighteen to fourteen, that the franchise ought not to be extended to women. On the question, however, being referred to the vote of all present, members and non-members, this decision was reversed; the vote being in this case twenty-four for and twenty-two against the change. A very large number, however, refrained from voting.

THE TESTIMONIAL TO MISS ELIZA WIGHAM.

The testimonial of eight hundred guineas, which was presented to Miss Eliza Wigham, of Edinburgh, in December last, has now been augmented to £1,000, many other friends having expressed a wish to join in this tribute of respect and esteem.

Obituary.

MR. PETER RYLANDS, M.P.—We record with great regret the death of Mr. Peter Rylands, M.P. for Burnley, which occurred at his residence in Warrington, on February 8th, at the age of sixty-seven. Mr. Rylands represented Warrington from 1868 to 1874, and was elected for Burnley in 1876, which constituency he represented until his death. Mr. Rylands seconded the motion of Mr. Jacob Bright for extending the municipal suffrage to women in 1869, and voted seven times in favour of women's suffrage in the House of Commons. He paired in 1883 in favour of Mr. Mason's resolution.

DR. JOHN WATTS.—We regret to record the death of this gentleman, which took place last month at his residence in Old Trafford. Dr. Watts was a prominent public man in Manchester for the greater part of his life. He was largely instrumental in preparing and promoting the Education Act of 1870, and was a member of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage, and frequently took part in public meetings on the subject.

MR. HENRY B. STANTON.—We receive from America the tidings of the death of this veteran worker in the anti-slavery and women's suffrage agitation, which occurred after a short illness, in January last, in New York. He was the husband of Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who was on a visit to her married daughter in England at the time of his death.

WINNER OF PRIZE COMPETITION No. 5.

LIST OF FAVOURITES.

Miss C. BROWN, 5, Newington Villas, Anlaby Road, Hull, £2. 2s. Answers were received from Emily Cooke, Helvellyn, Bodkin, Iselli, H. S. C., Hope, Rose Champion, Renée, Semloh Byram, Guelder Rose, M. J. Roberts, S. S., Cateringe, Gertrude Noble Je suis prest, Margaret, Weisskopf.

MANCHESTER NATIONAL SOCIETY.

SPECIAL EXTRA FUND OF FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS.

On behalf of the above society we desire to make an earnest appeal to the friends of women's suffrage to raise, in addition to the regular subscription list, a Special Extra Fund of Five Hundred Pounds for the present help of the work. When the new executive committee came into office in December, 1885, the society was considerably in debt. This debt has been largely reduced, but not entirely extinguished. The liabilities at the close of the financial year, in October, 1886, amounted to about two hundred pounds. The ordinary income of the society from annual subscriptions is about five hundred pounds. This amount is insufficient for properly carrying on the ordinary work of the society, and still more so for the discharge of outstanding liabilities. The committee have had to remove into new offices, which entails some present expenditure, but it is expected that the more commodious and accessible offices in Queen's Chambers, John Dalton-street, will be found of great advantage in prosecuting the work. We now earnestly appeal for a sum of five hundred pounds, two hundred of which will free the committee from outstanding liability, and three hundred will remain to be devoted to the necessary work for pressing the question forward for settlement in the present critical and favourable period of the movement.—Your obedient servants,

ROBERT ADAMSON, Treasurer.  
LYDIA E. BECKER, Secretary.

Queen's Chambers, 5, John Dalton-street,  
Manchester, March, 1887.

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