

Central National Society for Women's Suffrage.

Central Office, 29, Parliament Street, Westminster,  
Secretary, Miss Cicely Philipps.

All who are interested in obtaining the Parliamentary Franchise for women are invited to communicate with the Secretary at the Central Office, who will supply Leaflets for circulation and information respecting the Women's Suffrage movement.

*Subscriptions of any amount  
constitute Membership.*

TWENTIETH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Central National Society

FOR

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE,

29, PARLIAMENT STREET, LONDON, S.W.

London:

WOMEN'S PRINTING SOCIETY, LIMITED,  
GREAT COLLEGE STREET, WESTMINSTER

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## CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

FOUNDED 1872.

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

The Society seeks to achieve this object—

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

TITLE AND RULES, REVISED, 1888-9.

1. *Title.* The title of the Society is the "Central National Society for Women's Suffrage."
2. *Membership.* The Society consists (1) of all persons accepted by the Executive Committee, who signify approval of its object and who pay a subscription of any amount; (2) of organisations, so long as they are approved by the Executive Committee, which signify adherence to its object and pay an annual affiliation fee.
3. *Central Council.* The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Central Council, consisting :—
  - (a) Of delegates duly elected by each duly affiliated body in the following proportion: one representative for not less than 25 members; two representatives for 50 members; three representatives for 100 members; four representatives for above 100 members. Four representatives to be the maximum number sent by any affiliated body. The affiliation fee shall be 5s. for each representative sent to the Council.
  - (b) Of all Subscribers of not less than 2s. 6d. to this Society, provided they shall have been Subscribers for three months.
  - (c) Of the Executive Committee and of all the Vice-Presidents.
  - (d) The Central Council shall elect the Vice-Presidents.
4. *Executive Committee.* The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than 50 members to be chosen from the subscribers and from members of affiliated bodies, and shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting of the Central Council. The Executive Committee shall conduct the general business of the Society subject to the approval of the Central Council, and appoint its own officers, and shall make rules for the conduct of its own business. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring in its members, and to add to the Vice-Presidents provisionally. Five members shall form a quorum. The Committee shall meet in London.

5. *Annual Meetings.* The General Meeting of the Society shall be held annually to receive the Report and consider the future work of the Society. The Annual Meeting of the Central Council shall be held before each Annual Meeting of the Society. Twenty-eight days' notice shall be given of such Annual Meetings to each affiliated body, and Subscribers to the Society.

6. *Special Meetings.* Special Meetings of the Central Council shall be called by 10 Members of the Executive Committee (including the honorary officers) or by 50 subscribers, or at the request of any six of the affiliated bodies; 14 days' notice of such meetings shall be given to every member of the Council. The notice shall specify the matters to be considered, and only such matters as are so specified shall be discussed at the meetings.

7. *Nomination of the Executive Committee.* Written nominations for candidates for election to the Executive Committee, together with the names of two subscribers as proposer and seconder, or of the affiliated body nominating, shall be sent to the Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual Meeting of the Central Council.

8. *Accounts.* The accounts shall be presented, duly audited, at the annual meeting of the Society. The Auditor shall be appointed by the Central Council.

9. *Alteration of Rules.* No alteration shall be made in any of the Rules except at a General Meeting of the Society, of which 14 days' notice, specifying the proposed alteration, shall have been given to the Executive Committee, to each affiliated body and to the Subscribers.

## CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OFFICE:—29, PARLIAMENT ST., S.W.

### *Vice-Presidents.*

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The Hon. Mrs. Ashley  
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Professor A. Sidgwick.  
Lady Henry Somerset (*Presi-  
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Mrs. Thomasson.  
J. P. Thomasson, Esq.  
Mrs. David Thomas.  
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CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

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*Office*—29, PARLIAMENT STREET, S.W.

## Affiliated Societies.

- Alnwick Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Letitia Bell, Clare House, Alnwick.
- Brighton Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Brignall, 31, College Road, Brighton.
- Bristol Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Secs.*—Miss Tanner, 4, Beaconsfield Road, Clifton, Bristol.  
 Miss M. Priestman, 9, Durdham Park, Redland, Bristol.
- Bedford and North Beds Women's Suffrage Society.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Edwin Ransom, 24, Ashburnham Road, Bedford.
- Bridport Women's Suffrage Society.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Russell Carpenter, Bridport, Dorset.
- Cardiff Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss A. M. Vaugham, 70, Llandaff Road, Cardiff.
- Cleator Moor Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Richardson, 51, High Street, Cleator Moor, Cumberland.
- Coventry Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Cramp, The Firs, Radford Road, Coventry.
- Crewe Division of Cheshire Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss K. H. Bland, Helmsville, Highton, Crewe.
- Dulwich Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Killett, 17, Hanslow Road, East Dulwich.
- Edinburgh Society for Women's Suffrage.  
*Secretary.*—Miss Kirkland, 13, Raeburn Place, Edinburgh.
- Exmouth Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Lee, 21, The Beacon, Exmouth.
- Guildford Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Taylor, Mount House, Guildford.
- Hackney, North, Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Samson, 22, Paget Road, Stoke Newington.
- Heywood Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Hardman Heywood, 18, Seymour St., Heywood

- Holloway British Women's Temperance Association.  
 Mrs. Lynn, 56, Hilldrop Crescent, Camden Road, N.
- Hornsey Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Hindley, 21, Haringay Park, Crouch End, N.
- Hull and East Riding Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Bremner, 1, Clyde Terrace, Anlaby Road, Hull.
- Hyde Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Morten, 50, Chapel Street, Hyde.
- Ilkeston Division of Derbyshire Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Slack, Greenhill House, Ripley, near Derby.
- Ipswich Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Owen, Gresham Lodge, Westerfield Road, Ipswich.
- Islington North, Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Menzies, 149, Brecknock Road, N.W.
- Kensington North, Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Willis, 132, Ladbroke Grove Road, W.
- Kensington South, Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Broadley Reid, 70, West Cromwell Road, S.W.
- Keighley Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Roe, Campbell Street, Keighley.
- Kingston and District Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. H. Minett, Brooklyn Park Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey.
- Leicester Women's Suffrage Society.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Edith Gittins, Salisbury Road, Leicester.
- Mansfield Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. J. Harrop White, St. John's Place, Mansfield.
- Merthyr and District Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Peter Williams, 3, Somerset Place, Merthyr Tydvil.
- Mile End Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. M. Gould, 7, St. Paul's Road, Bow, E.
- Milford Haven Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss M. Thomas, Collegiate School, Milford Haven.
- Narbeth Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Thomas Morgan, 2, North Buildings, Narbeth.
- Newtown Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Evans, St. Mary's Villa, Newtown, N. Wales.

- Newport and South Monmouth Women's Liberal Association  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Alice Lewis, The Maindee, Newport, Mon.
- Notts West, Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Allen Gregory, Boulevard, Nottingham.
- Nottingham Women's Suffrage Society.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Cowen, The Ropewalk, Nottingham.
- Paddington Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Edith Hodge, 131, Portsdown Road, W.
- Pately Bridge Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Daykin, Glass House, Pately Bridge, Yorkshire.
- Pembroke Dock Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Williams, 33, Laws St. South, Pembroke Dock.
- Penge and Beckenham Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss A. W. Friend, 52, Kent House Road, Sydenham
- Plymouth Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Alison Garland, 11, Leigham Terrace, Plymouth.
- Portsmouth Women's Liberal Association.  
*Secretary*—Miss Whitting, St. Augustine, Livingston Road, Southsea.
- Ripon Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Terrell Garnett, Lucan House, Ripon.
- Redruth (Camborne Division of Cornwall) White Rose Union.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Dungey, Plain aw Gwarry, Redruth.
- Rhyl Women's Liberal Association.  
*President*—Mrs. Lloyd Jones, 4, Cobden Terrace, Rhyl.
- Rochdale Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Watson, Horse Carrs, Rochdale.
- Somerset (Wells Division) Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. A. Tanner, 9, Durdham Park, Clifton, Bristol.
- Staffordshire, North, Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Ada Bevington, Blyth Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent.
- Southport Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Ryley, 14, Grosvenor Road, Birkdale, Southport.
- Southport Guild of the Unrepresented.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Sherbrooke, 13, Albert Road, Southport.
- South Shields Branch of the British Women's Temperance Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Sanderson, Westloe Village, South Shields.

- Sunderland Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Angus, 9, Grace Terrace, Sunderland.
- Swansea Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss C. Wynne Thomas, 13, Bryn Rd., Swansea.
- Wakefield Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss E. Wade, Milverton House, Penderfields, Wakefield.
- Westminster Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Miss E. Bayes, 33, Ashchurch Park Villas, Shepherd's Bush, W.
- Wolverhampton Women's Liberal Association.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. John Jones, Ireton Lodge, Wolverhampton.
- Women's Progressive Society.  
*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs Grenfell, 12, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C.

# Twentieth Annual Report.

OF THE  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1891-92.

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“THEY HAVING NO VOTES CAN BE SAFELY NEGLECTED.”

THE Society has now entered on its twenty-first year, and the Committee feel in presenting their Twentieth Annual Report that there is great cause for congratulation among friends of the movement. Never before has there been so widespread a sympathy in the country.

The question has become one of vital importance among all parties and shades of opinion, and has attained a place, prominent in practical politics, from which it can never now be displaced. Not only have the women themselves come forward and worked for this great reform with a unprecedented zeal and enthusiasm, but the question itself has become one of great public interest, as shown by the vast number of excellent articles and papers appearing constantly on this subject, the continual favourable allusions made by prominent speakers, the great demand for public meetings in support of the movement, and the very frequent choice of this subject for debate at unions and clubs.

“Women’s Suffrage” is certainly one of the leading topics of the day, and Parliamentary Candidates seeking election are now not only asked for an expression of their views on this matter, but find this question continually before them at public meetings.

(Extract from the “Woman’s Herald”.)

“In the House of Commons the cause has gained a moral victory which far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of its friends. For various reasons, notably the issue of Mr. Gladstone’s pamphlet, it was generally expected not merely that the Division would be a very small one, but that the Bill would be defeated by an overwhelming majority. But on the contrary the majority against it was only twenty-three; the actual numbers being for the Bill 152 and against it 175. It is no exaggeration to say that this result was received by the opponents of the Bill with consternation, and by its supporters with enthusiasm. Everything which energetic whipping up could do had been done to bring members to vote against the Bill. The leading supporters of the Bill were undoubtedly discouraged, and while they looked forward with confidence to the debate, they were anxious as to the Division. But the supporters proved staunch; the powerful name of Mr. Gladstone, which certainly was the weightiest part of his pamphlet, produced little or no effect, the Liberals voted well for the Bill, and it received the invaluable support of the great majority of the Irish members who were present, including Mr. Justin McCarthy and Mr. William O’Brien, the latter having come to London on purpose to vote for the Bill. The thanks of all women are due to Sir Albert Rollit who moved the Second reading, to Mr. McLaren who seconded it, and to Mr. Woodall, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Courtney and Mr. Balfour for their speeches. Apart from the intrinsic merits of Mr. Balfour’s speech, which were great, the fact that the leader of the House of Commons has declared so strongly in favour of women’s enfranchisement is in itself of great importance, and is a guarantee that the subject will grow in favour more and more with the Conservative Party. The staunch votes of the Liberals and Radicals prove equally that the measure will receive an increase of their support. These facts should encourage women everywhere to stand true to their principles.

“One other cause for congratulation must not be omitted, namely, the improved tone of the debate. The old days of Scourfield, Leatham and Beresford Hope have gone for ever, with their coarse remarks and vulgar attempts at humour. The debate throughout was excellent in tone, and all the opponents treated the subject with respect.”

*Note.*—A verbatim report of the debate has been published by your Committee, and can be obtained at the Central Office.

## A Bill to Extend the Parliamentary Franchise to Women.

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Franchise (Women) Act, 1892.

2. Every woman who—(a) in Great Britain is registered or entitled to be registered as an elector for any town council or county council; or (b) in Ireland is a ratepayer entitled to vote at an election for guardians of the poor; shall be entitled to be registered as a parliamentary elector, and when registered to vote at any parliamentary election for the county, borough, or division wherein the qualifying property is situate.

(Prepared and brought in by Sir Albert Rollit, Sir A. Borthwick, Viscount Wolmer, Mr. W. McLaren, Mr. Penrose FitzGerald, Mr. T. D. Sullivan, Mr. T. W. Russell, Mr. Burt and Mr. Ernest Spencer.)—April 27th, 1892.

### Analysis of the Division List.

*List of Members who voted for the Bill.*

#### CONSERVATIVES.

<p>Addison, John Anstruther, Col. Lloyd (Suffolk) Balfour, Rt. Hon. A. J. (Manchester) Balfour, Gerald William (Leeds) Banes, Major George Edward Beach, W. W. Bramston (Hants.) Bentinck, Lord H. C. (Norfolk) Borthwick, Sir Algernon Bridgeman, Col. Hon. Fran. C. Compton, Francis (New Forest) Cubitt, Rt. Hon. George Dimsdale, Baron Robert Dixon-Hartland, Fred Dixon Elcho, Lord Finch, George H. FitzGerald, R. Uniacke Penrose Gathorne-Hardy, Hn. A. (Sussex) Gedge, Sydney Giles, Alfred Goldsworthy, Major-General Gorst, Rt. Hon. Sir John Eldon Grimston, Viscount Grotrian, Frederick Brent Hamilton, Col. Chas. E. (Southwk.)</p>	<p>Heathcote, Captain Edwards Heaton, John Henniker Hervey, Lord Francis Hill, Rt. Hon. Lord Arthur (Down) Hill, A. Staveley (Staffordshire) Holloway, George Howorth, Henry Hoyle Hozier, James Henry Cecil Hughes, Colonel Edwin Isaacs, Lewis Henry Isaacson, Frederick Wootton Johnston, William Kimber, Henry King, Henry Seymour Knightley, Sir Rainald Lafone, Alfred Lawrence, Sir Trevor (Surrey) Llewellyn, Evan Henry Mallock, Richard Maxwell, Sir Herbert E. Northcote, Hon. Sir H. Stafford Norton, Robert Pearson, Sir Charles John Pomfret, William Pomfret</p>
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Puleston, Sir John Henry  
Rankin, James  
Reed, Henry Byron (Bradford)  
Rollit, Sir Albert  
Round, James  
Russell, Sir George (Berkshire)  
Seton-Karr, Henry  
Sidebottom, William (Derbyshire)  
Smith, Abel (Herts)  
Stanley, Edward James  
Stokes, Sir George Gabriel

Temple, Sir Richard  
Tyler, Sir Henry Whatley  
Vincent, Col. Charles E. Howard  
Walrond, Sir William Hood  
Whitmore, Charles Algernon  
Wolmer, Viscount  
Wood, Nicholas  
Wortley, Charles Beilby Stuart  
Wright, H. Smith (Nottingham)  
Wyndham, George

#### UNIONISTS.

Corbett, Archibald C. (Glasgow)  
Courtney, Rt. Hon. Leonard H.  
Crossman, General Sir William  
Fry, Lewis (Bristol)  
Mildmay, Francis Bingham

Russell, T. W. (Tyrone)  
Thorburn, Walter  
Villiers, Rt. Hon. C. Pelham  
Watkin, Sir Edward W.

#### LIBERALS.

Acland, A. H. Dyke (Yorks)  
Balfour, J. Spencer (Burnley)  
Beaufoy, Mark Hanbury  
Buchanan, Thomas Ryburn  
Cameron, Charles (Glasgow)  
Channing, Francis Allston  
Clark, Dr. G. B. (Caithness-shire)  
Coleridge, Hon. Bernard  
Conybeare, Chas. A. Vansittart  
Dillwyn, Lewis Llewelyn  
Esslemont, Peter  
Farquharson, Dr. R. (Aberdeensh.)  
Gane, Lawrence  
Gaskell, Chas. Geo. Milnes  
Gourley, Edward Temperley  
Graham, Robert Cunninghame  
Grey, Sir Edward (Northumberland)  
Haldane, Richard Burdon  
Hanbury-Tracey, Hon. F. S. A.  
Holden, Isaac (Keighley)  
Hunter, Wm. Alex. (Aberdeen)  
Illingworth, Alfred  
Keay, John Seymour

Lawson, Sir Wilfrid (Cumberland)  
Leake, Robert  
Lockwood, Frank  
Logan, John William  
M'Lagan, Peter  
McLaren, W. S. B.  
Manfield, Moses Philip  
Montagu, Samuel  
Morgan, Octavius V. (Battersea)  
Morgan, W. Pritchard (Merthyr)  
Philipps, John Wynford  
Plowden, Sir William Chichele  
Randell, David  
Roberts, John Bryn (Eifion)  
Roby, Henry John  
Rowntree, Joshua  
Stuart, James (Shoreditch)  
Summers, William  
Thomas, Alfred (Glamorgan, E.)  
Weston, Sir Joseph Dodge  
Wilson, John (Lanark)  
Woodall, William  
Wright, Caleb (Lanc S.W.)

#### NATIONALISTS.

Abraham, William (Limerick)  
Leahy, James (Kildare)  
M'Carthy, Justin (Londonderry)  
M'Kenna, Sir Joseph Neal

Nolan, Colonel (Galway, N.)  
O'Brien, William (Cork, N.E.)  
Sullivan, Donal (Westmeath)  
Webb, Alfred



*Members who voted for the Bill, whose opinions were not previously known, or who were formerly against Women's Suffrage.*

## CONSERVATIVES.

Bain, Sir James	Morrell, George Herbert
Bigwood, James	Pearson, Sir Charles
Jebb, Richard Claverhouse	Rentoul, James Alexander
Kerans, Frederick Harold	Robinson, Brooke (Dudley)
Madden, Dodgson H. (Dub. U.)	Stokes, Sir G. G.

## UNIONIST.

Lubbock, Rt. Hon. Sir John	
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## LIBERALS.

Birrell, Augustine	Gaskell, Chas. Geo.
Broad. Harrington Evans	Maden, John H. (Lanc. N.E.)
Cozens-Hardy, Herbert Hardy	Rowlands, W. Bowen (Card'shire)
Dunn, William	Thomas, Abel (Carmarthen, E.)

## NATIONALISTS.

Harrison, Henry	Quinn, Thomas
O'Brien, Patrick (Monaghan)	

*Members who voted against the Bill.*

## CONSERVATIVES.

Baden-Powell, Sir Geo. Smyth	Hamley, Gen. Sir Edward Bruce
Bailey, Sir Joseph R.	Hardcastle, Edward (Salford)
Barry, A. H. Smith (Hunts.)	Hinckes, Harry Tichborne
Barry, Francis Tress (Windsor)	Hoare, Edw. Brodie (Hampstead)
Bartley, George C. T.	Hunt, Frederick Seager
Bartelott, Sir Walter	Jackson, Rt. Hon. Wm. Lawies
Baumann, Arthur Antony	Jarvis, Alexander Weston
Beckett, Ernest William	Kelly, John R.
Bethell, Commander	Knatchbull-Hugessen, H. (Kent)
Blundell, Col. Hen. Blundell H.	Lambert, Cowley (Islington)
Bonsor, Henry Cosmo Orme	Lowther, James W. (Cumberland)
Boulnois, Edmund	Maclean, James Mackenzie
Bristowe, Thomas Lynn	Makins, Colonel
Brodrick, Hon. St. John	Matthews, Rt. Hon. Henry
Bruce, Lord Henry (Wiltshire)	Mowbray, Rt. Hon. Sir J. (Oxf. U.)
Burdett-Coutts, W.	Murdoch, Charles Townshend
Campbell, James A. (Glas. Univ.)	Newark, Viscount
Carmarthen, Marquess of	Paget, Sir Richard Horner
Chaplin, Rt. Hon. Henry	Penn, John
Charrington, Spencer	Penton, Capt. Frederick Thomas
Clark, Sir Edward (Plymouth)	Plunket, Rt. Hon. David R.
Cooke, C. W. Radcliffe	Powell, Francis Sharp
Cross, Hon. Wm. H. (Liverpool)	Sidebotham, J. W. (Cheshire)
Curzon, Hn. Geo. N. (Lanc., S.W.)	Stephens, Henry Charles
De Lisle, Edwin	Talbot, John Gilbert
Douglas, Rt. Hon. A. Ackers-	Theobald, James
Ewing, Sir Archibald Orr	Tollemache, Henry James
Fergusson, Rt. Hon. Sir J. (Manc'r)	Watson, James
Green, Sir Edward	Weymouth, Viscount
Gunter, Colonel	Wilson, Sir Samuel (Portsmouth)
Hall, Alexander Wm. (Oxford)	Young, Charles Edward Baring
Hamilton, Rt. Hon. Lord G. (Midx.)	

## UNIONISTS

Barclay, James William	Chamberlain, Rich. (Islington)
Baring, Viscount	Ebrington, Viscount
Barnes, Alfred	Finlay, Robert
Beaumont, H. F. (Yorks. W.R.)	Fitzwilliam, Hon. W. H. W.
Biddulph, Michael	Goldsmid, Sir Julian
Bright, John A. (Birmingham)	Gurdon, Robert Thornhagh
Caldwell, J.	Hobhouse, Henry
Cavendish, Victor Christian W.	Rothschild, Baron F. James de
Chamberlain, Rt. Hon. J. (Birm.)	Sutherland, Sir Thos. (Greenock)
Chamberlain, J. Austen (Worces'r.)	Taylor, Francis

## LIBERALS.

Austin, John	Leon, Herbert Samuel
Asquith, Herbert H.	Lyell, Leonard
Barran, John	M'Ewan, William
Beaumont, W. B. (Northumb'land)	Mappin, Sir Frederick Thorpe
Bolton, Jos. Cheney (Stirlingshire)	Marjoribanks, Rt. Hon. Edward
Bolton, T. D. (Derbyshire)	Morgan, Rt. Hon. G. O. (Denbighs)
Bolton, Thomas H. (St. Pancras)	Morgan, J. Lloyd (Carmarthen)
Brand, Hon. Arthur George	Morley, Arnold (Nottingham)
Broadhurst, Henry	Morton, Alpheus Cleophas
Brunner, John Tomlinson	Mundella, Rt. Hon. Anthony John
Bryce, James	Palmer, Sir Charles Mark
Buxton, Sydney Charles	Paulton, James Mellor
Campbell-Bannerman, Rt. Hon. H.	Pease, Alfred E. (York)
Causton, Richard Knight	Pease, Henry Fell (Yorks., N.R.)
Cavan, Earl of	Pease, Sir Joseph W. (Durham)
Cobb, Henry Peyton	Picton, James Allanson
Craig, James	Portman, Hon. Edwin B.
Crawford, Donald	Potter, Thomas Bayley
Cremer, William Randal	Priestley, Briggs
Davey, Sir Horace	Reed, Sir Edw. James (Cardiff)
Ellis, James (Leicestershire)	Reid, Robert Threshie (Dumfries)
Evans, Francis H. (Southampton)	Rendel, Stuart
Evans, Samuel T. (Glamorgan)	Robertson, Edmund
Ferguson, R. C. Munro (Leith)	Robinson, Thomas (Gloucester)
Flower, Cyril	Roe, Thomas
Fowler, Rt. Hon. Henry H.	Roscoe, Sir H. Enfield
Gardner, Herbert	Rowlands, James (Finsbury)
Gladstone, Rt. Hon. W. E.	Samuelson, Sir B. (Oxford, N.)
Gladstone, Herbert J. (Leeds)	Samuelson, G. Blundell (Glouces.)
Gower, Geo. Granville Leveson	Smith, Samuel (Flint)
Grove, Sir Thomas Fraser	Stern, Sydney James
Gully, William Court	Stevenson, James C. (S. Shields)
Harcourt, Rt. Hon. Sir William	Waddy, Samuel Danks
Hingley, Benjamin	Warmington, Cornelius M.
Howell, George	Watt, Hugh
James, Hon. Walter H. (Gateshead)	Whitbread, Samuel
Labouchere, Henry	Will, John Shires
Lambert, George (Devon)	Williamson, Stephen (Kilmarnock)
Lawson, H. L. W. (St. Pancras)	Winterbotham, Arthur Brend
Lefevre, Rt. Hon. George Shaw	Woodhead, Joseph

## NATIONALISTS.

Campbell, Henry (Fermanagh)	O'Connor, John (Tipperary)
Cox, Joseph Richard	O'Kelly, James
Fitzgerald, J. Gubbins (Longford)	Tanner, Charles Kearns
Knox, Edmund Francis Vesey	

Counting the tellers 154 voted for the Bill and 177 against it. Mr. John Morley and Sir George Trevelyan were absent unpaired, though Mr. Morley was present during a large part of the debate. There were 25 pairs, and Messrs. C. H. Wilson, Burt and Fenwick (Liberals), and Mr. Fraser Mackintosh (Unionist), desired to pair in its favour, but were unable to find other members to pair with them. Including these, the totals are 183 for the Bill and 202 against it. Politically these are divided as follows:—

	For the Bill.	Against the Bill.
Liberals	59	86
Conservatives	94	82
Liberal Unionists	18	27
Nationalists	6	3
Parnellites	6	4
	183	202
Conservatives Against                      Conservatives For		
Sir M. Hicks-Beach		Sir W. Marriott
Lord R. Churchill		Sir E. Lechmere
Mr. E. Stanhope		Colonel Cotton Jodrell
Mr. W. Long		Colonel Eyre
Sir H. Fletcher		Captain Grice Hutchinson
Mr. J. Gathorne-Hardy		Sir E. Birkbeck
Mr. R. G. Mowbray		Mr. S. Hoare
Mr. Brookfield		Mr. Forwood
Mr. Noble		Mr. Muntz
Mr. R. G. Webster		Mr. Duncombe
Mr. Wraughton		Mr. Halsey
Mr. Cornwallis		Mr. Bayley White
Mr. Darling		Mr. Agg Gardner
Mr. Tomlinson		Mr. Ainslie
Mr. Macartney		Mr. A. S. Hill
Mr. Fulton		Mr. W. H. Fisher
Colonel Sandy		
Liberal Unionists Against                      Liberal Unionists For		
Mr. Coghill		Mr. Collings
Mr. Wiggin		Mr. T. Lea
Sir S. Crossley		Mr. Pitt Lewis
		Mr. W. Cornwallis West
		Mr. G. Dixon
Gladstonians Against                      Gladstonians For		
Mr. Charles Acland		Mr. Stansfeld
Mr. P. Stanhope		Mr. Mather
Mr. Asher		Mr. Storey
Mr. Wayman		
Sir U. K. Shuttleworth		
Nationalist (Parnellite), Mr. Maguire.		

## ANALYSIS OF THE DIVISION LIST.

(Pairs and Tellers included.)

	IN FAVOUR.				AGAINST.			
	Known Friends.	or Unknown Doubtful.	Changed Votes.	Total.	Known Opponents.	Unknown or Doubtful.	Changed Votes.	Total.
Conservatives	73	16	3	92	40	35	9	84
Liberal Unionists	13	5	—	18	16	10	1	27
Glad. Liberals	43	14	—	57	31	31	22	84
Nationalists	7	5	—	12	—	6	1	7
Totals	136	40	3	179	87	82	33	202

## AN EXTENSION OF WORK.

Your Committee feeling the necessity of increased organisation, and a wider and more extended plan of campaign, adopted a new scheme of work for the autumn and winter, under which a special effort has been made to obtain an increase in the number of affiliated societies, and it is their pleasant duty to record that, so successful have their efforts proved, that no less than **forty-one** Associations have affiliated during the year, which, with the former Associations already affiliated, make a total of **fifty-seven**: each of these societies forming a centre of education, interesting the neighbourhoods with the careful distribution of our literature and Suffrage lectures. We have indeed met with an encouraging and hearty response, and the new scheme has been found a most efficient help.

Your Committee would especially thank those speakers who have so kindly volunteered their services in furtherance of the scheme. For the list of Meetings see page 23.

A special feature of the extended organisation has been to secure corresponding members in every constituency, who have definitely undertaken to ascertain the views of Parliamentary candidates in reference to Women's Suffrage.

Our **Corresponding Members** already number over 34, and have done good service to the cause, reporting all answers received to the Central Office, with which they are kept in constant touch. A copy of the *Woman's Herald*, containing the Society's news, has been forwarded to these members each week, with sample leaflets as issued, and it has been proposed that they should be elected ex-officio members of the Council, and participate as far as possible in those privileges accorded to our delegates.

As there are still many constituencies unprovided with corresponding members, we earnestly ask that more of our supporters will volunteer for this all-important work.

## GREAT MEETING IN PRINCE'S HALL.

On February 25th a successful meeting was held under the auspices of the Society in Prince's Hall, Piccadilly. The Hall was crowded to overflowing, and the enthusiasm of the audience augured well for the advance of the movement.

The chair was taken by the Right Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P. Among those on the platform were Mrs. Fawcett, Mr. W. Summers, M.P., Mr. A. Webb, M.P., Mr. Caleb Wright, M.P., Mr. C. A. V. Conybeare, M.P., Mr. W. McLaren, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Russell-Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hancock, Mrs. Wynford Philipps, Mrs. Müller, Miss Cons, Mrs. Bateson, Mrs. Frank Morrison, Mrs. Sheldon Amos, Miss Brown, Mrs. Pennington, Mrs. Morgan-Brown, Mrs. Penrose Fitzgerald, Mrs. and Miss Garrett-Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Broadley Reid. The platform was decorated with much taste with flowering plants, ferns, and palms, by the Women's Gardening Association. Previous to the meeting a selection of music was performed by the La Cigale Band, composed of ladies, under the conductorship of Miss Mukle.

Letters of apology were read by Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P., from the following: Mr. A. J. Balfour, M.P., who said:—"I am sorry that pressure of public engagements will make it impossible for me to take part in your meeting upon the 25th, which I trust will be a success."

Mr. Justin McCarthy, M.P.:—"I am sorry to say that owing to the urgency of Parliamentary and other engagements, I see little hope of my being able to attend your meeting to-morrow evening. I am sure, however, the cause will be well advocated. I need hardly tell you it is a cause which has my deepest sympathy, and which carries with it my full conviction."

Earl Compton, M.P.:—"I very much regret to find that I have made an engagement for February 25th, which will make it impossible for me to attend."

Mr. Woodall, M.P. :—" I find my business will require my attention in Staffordshire, and therefore must ask you to excuse me."

Professor Stuart, M.P. (telegram) :—" Am engaged attending a County Council meeting. I warmly support the Women's Suffrage cause."

Lord Coleridge, Sir Lyon Playfair, M.P., Sir Edward Grey, M.P., Sir Algernon Borthwick, M.P., Sir Lewis Pelly, M.P., Mr. Charles Schwann, M.P., Mr. H. P. Cobb, M.P., and many others also wrote.

A full report of the speeches has been published in pamphlet form.

#### DRAWING-ROOM MEETINGS.

Special thanks are due to Mrs. Frank Morrison, Mrs. Muller, Mrs. Haweis, Mrs. Loftus Brock, Mrs. Percy Bunting, Mrs. Briggs, and Mrs. Carpenter, for their kindness in lending their drawing-rooms to be used for the Society's meetings. As these social gatherings are found an excellent means for collecting funds and enlarging our roll of members, the Secretary would be glad to hear from any ladies ready to lend their rooms for this purpose.

#### SOIRÉE.

On May 6th, your Committee entertained the Committees of the London and District Women's Liberal Associations and other friends in the Gallery of the Royal Institute, Piccadilly. Considerably over 700 guests assembled, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Haldane, Q.C., M.P., opened the proceedings with a powerful speech on Women's Suffrage, which was followed by other short addresses, intermingled with a charming musical Programme kindly arranged by Mrs. Massingberd.

### Meetings.

AUTUMN, 1891—SPRING, 1892.

- |                  |     |  |  |  |
|------------------|-----|--|--|--|
| <i>September</i> | 2.  | Kingston, Dr. Kate Mitchell.                 |  |  |
| "                | 9.  | Bristol, Mrs. Ralph.                         |  |  |
| "                | 28. | Portsmouth, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.             |  |  |
| "                | "   | Southend, Dr. Kate Mitchell.                 |  |  |
| "                | 30. | Swansea, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.              |  |  |
| <i>October</i>   | 5.  | Bury, Mrs. Dungey.                           |  |  |
| "                | 6.  | East Hull, "                                 |  |  |
| "                | 8.  | Barnsley, "                                  |  |  |
| "                | 10. | Bingley, "                                   |  |  |
| "                | 16. | Bridgwater, Miss Chapman.                    |  |  |
| "                | 21. | North Islington, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.      |  |  |
| "                | 25. | Camberwell, Mrs. Sibthorp.                   |  |  |
| "                | 26. | Windsor, Mrs. Morgan Thomas.                 |  |  |
| "                | "   | Chatham, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.              |  |  |
| "                | 30. | Lewes, Mrs. Morgan Thomas.                   |  |  |
| <i>Novem.</i>    | 2.  | Hadleigh, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.               |  |  |
| "                | 3.  | Sudbury, " "                                 |  |  |
| "                | 4.  | Haverhill, " "                               |  |  |
| "                | 5.  | Thetford, " "                                |  |  |
| "                | 6.  | Lavenham, " "                                |  |  |
| "                | 4.  | Tunbridge Wells, Mrs. Morgan Thomas.         |  |  |
| "                | "   | Bath, Miss Sturge.                           |  |  |
| "                | 9.  | Elstow (Bedford), Mrs. Morgan Browne.        |  |  |
| "                | 10. | Clapham " " "                                |  |  |
| "                | 11. | Wootan " " "                                 |  |  |
| "                | 12. | Kingston " " "                               |  |  |
| "                | 13. | Harold " " "                                 |  |  |
| "                | 10. | Southport, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.            |  |  |
| "                | "   | Fenny Compton, (Warwick), Mrs. Stanbury.     |  |  |
| "                | 11. | Bishops Itchington " " "                     |  |  |
| "                | 12. | Harbury (Leamington), " "                    |  |  |
| "                | 13. | Southam, Mrs. Sheldon Amos.                  |  |  |
| "                | 16. | Weston-super-Mare, Mrs. Stanbury.            |  |  |
| "                | 17. | Cheddar, " "                                 |  |  |
| "                | 18. | Winscombe, " "                               |  |  |
| "                | 17. | Heywood, Miss Ryley.                         |  |  |
| "                | 18. | Westbourne Park Chapel, Mrs. Ormiston Chant. |  |  |
| "                | 20. | Aldbrough, Mrs. Owen.                        |  |  |
| "                | 22. | Hatcham, Mrs. Sibthorp.                      |  |  |

- Novem.* 23. Ipswich, Mrs. Sheldon Amos.  
 " " Leicester, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.  
 " " Ripley (Derbyshire), Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 24. Langley Mills, " " "  
 " 25. Ilkeston, " " "  
 " 24. Coventry, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.  
 " 25. Stoke-on-Trent, " " "  
 " 26. Nottingham, " " "  
 " 25. Anerley, Mrs. Morgan Browne.  
*Decem.* 2. Portland Place, Drawing-room Meeting.  
 " 3. Chislehurst, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 4. Endsleigh Gardens, Drawing-room Meeting.  
 " 7. Bow and Bromley, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.  
 " " Dudley, Mrs. Morgan Browne.  
 " 8. Blackpool, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " " Padstow, Mrs. Dungey.  
 " " Westbourne Terrace Road, Drawing-room Meeting.  
 " 9. Hanwell, Mr. Morgan Browne.  
 " " Whitehaven, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " " Plymouth, Mrs. Dungey.  
 " " North Bierley, Mrs. Morgan Browne.  
 " 10. Huddersfield, " " "  
 " 11. Hollins, " " "  
 " 10. Meeting in Westminster Town Hall.  
 " " Stockport, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 11. Altrincham, " " "  
 " 14. Bournemouth, " " "  
 " 15. Bridport, " " "  
 " 14. East Bristol, Mrs. Morgan Thomas.  
 " 15. Highbridge, " " "  
 " " Wells, " " "  
 " 16. Wrington, Somerset, " " "  
*January* 13. West Ham, Mrs. Stanbury.  
 " 19. Cleator Moor, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " 20. Heywood, Mr. W. McLaren, M.P., Mrs. Chant.  
 " 21. Rochdale, " " "  
 " 26. Southport, Miss Ryley.  
 " 27. Birmingham, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " 28. Finsbury Park, N.W., Drawing-room Meeting.  
*February* 1. Sheffield (Attercliffe), Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 2. " (Hallam), " " "  
 " 4. Brentford, Mrs. Massingberd.  
 " 8. Walton (Norfolk), Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 9. Stockbridge, Mrs. Sheldon Amos.  
 " 11. Carnarvon, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.

- Feb.* 12. Newtown, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " 15. Kensington (Holland Ward), Mrs. Sheldon Amos.  
 " 16. Mansfield, Miss Slack.  
 " 22. Leamington, Mrs. Stanbury.  
 " 22. Street (Somerset), Mrs. Chant.  
 " 23. Birmingham, Mrs. Sheldon Amos.  
 " 24. Bedford, Mrs. Wynford Philipps.  
 " 24. Manchester, Mrs. Ormiston Chant  
 " 25. Chorley-cum-Hardy, " "  
 " 26. Carlisle, " " "  
 " 25. Great Meeting in Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, W.  
 " 29. Radcliffe, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
*March* 2. Henley-on-Thames, Mrs. Stanbury.  
 " 3. Ripon, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 4. Ipswich, " " "  
 " 7. Brighton, " " "  
 " 8. Withington, " " "  
 " 9. Wakefield, " " "  
 " 10. Barnsley, " " "  
 " 11. North Shields, " " "  
 " 12. Barnsley, Mr. Hubert Morgan Browne.  
 " 14. Crewe, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 15. Leek, " " "  
 " 16. Ealing, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " 17. Rhos (Denbigh), Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 18. Rhyl, " " "  
 " " Braintree, Mrs. Bateson.  
 " 19. Oswestry, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " 21. Croydon, Mrs. Stanbury.  
 " 21. Macclesfield, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " " Spilsby (Sleaford), Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 22. " " " "  
 " 23. Spalding, " " "  
 " " Mile End, Mrs. Stanbury.  
 " 24. Coventry, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 28. Mountain Ash (S. Wales), Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " " Darwen, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P.  
 " 29. Neath, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 30. Milford Haven, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 31. Narberth, " " "  
*April* 2. Ruabon, " " "  
 " 6. Penge, Mr. Walter McLaren, M.P., and Mr. H. Morgan Browne.  
 " 1. Cardigan, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 5. Stoke-on-Trent, " " "  
 " 8. Deptford, " " "

- April 11. Hull, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " " South Bristol, Mr. Hubert Morgan Brown.  
 " " Wolverhampton, Mrs. Sheldon Amos.  
 " 12. Idle (Bradford) " " "  
 " 13. Carlisle, Mrs. Ormiston Chant. "  
 " 19. Doncaster, " "  
 " 22. Chichester, " "  
 " 25. Teignmouth, " "  
 " 26. Stratford-on-Avon, Mrs. Stopes.  
 " " Exeter, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 27. Exmouth, Mrs. Morgan Browne.  
 " " Plymouth, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 May 2. Keighley, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.  
 " 4. Richmond, Mr. A. Webb, M.P., and Mrs. Morgan  
 Browne.  
 " 6. Soirée, Royal Institute Galleries, Piccadilly.  
 " 11. Patley Bridge, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.

#### RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

A very considerable addition has been made during the past year to the Literature published by the Society—no less than 85,000 leaflets and pamphlets have been issued during the year, in addition to which 9,330 circulars, letters, whips, and memorials have been sent out; and 33,850 notices of meetings, hand-bills, etc., have been distributed in London alone.

#### IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS, 1891-1892.

##### BRISTOL LIBERALS.

On May 8th, 1891, the *Liberal Thousand of Bristol* passed a resolution requesting the President, Mr. Charles Townsend, to bring the question of Women's Suffrage before the Executive of the National Liberal Federation, with a view to its being adopted as part of their programme.

Your Committee, feeling that there was no step that could be of greater importance to the cause outside Parliament, issued a circular letter drawing attention to the importance of the resolution, trusting that the lead taken by Bristol would be followed by other political bodies.

*The Scottish Liberal Federation*, at a conference of the Western Associations of the Scottish Liberal Association held in Glasgow, adopted Women's Suffrage as a plank in their programme, the resolution was moved by Mr. Owen Philipps, and was carried by a large majority. Fully six hundred delegates were present, and the Conference was one of the largest that has been held.

##### ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

In November, 1891, your Secretary attended (by the kind invitation of the Chairman) the Annual Conference of the National Conservative Associations at Birmingham, where a most significant declaration for Women's suffrage was carried by an overwhelming majority amid loud cheers, fifteen hundred delegates being present.

Viscount Fielding moved, seconded by Mr. Rankin, M.P., the following resolution:—

"That this Conference is of opinion when the question of representation of the people is re-opened by Parliament, serious consideration should be given to the claims of women to be admitted to the Franchise, when entitled by ownership or occupation."

Previous to the Conference the attention of the delegates

had been drawn to the resolution, and your Society's leaflets distributed.

#### WOMEN'S LIBERAL FEDERATION.

One of the most remarkable successes of the Suffrage movement is seen in the resolutions passed by this year's Council of the Women's Liberal Federation (May, 1892.) The resolution, which was unanimously adopted, runs as follows:—

"That in pursuance of the resolution passed in May, 1890, this Council now instructs the Executive Committee that they shall promote the enfranchisement of women, including the local and parliamentary votes for all women, married, single, or widowed, who possess any of the legal qualifications enabling men to vote, among the other Liberal reforms now before the country, whilst not making it a test question at the approaching election."

From the beginning of the formation of the Federation there have been two parties in it. On the one hand many women have urged that the basis of all their political work must be the demand for their full recognition as capable citizens. Every year resolutions dealing with Women's Suffrage were brought forward, till two years ago an almost unanimous vote was passed in favour of the principle of Women's Suffrage. Last year, when the "Progressive Party", as the advocates of Woman Suffrage on the Federation called themselves, brought forward a resolution to press the question in the country and in Parliament, they were defeated, but since then a combined effort has been made to waken Liberal women all over the country not only to the great principle involved in this reform but also the inconsistency of any Liberalism which did not advocate it. The result of the work of the Progressive Party has been to secure in the Federation the full recognition of the vital importance of this principle, and to obtain an Executive Committee, every member of which (with one exception) has actively worked for the Cause. The Suffrage Society sent Lecturers to the affiliated associations, and distributed its literature, aiding the educational work towards this great result.

#### TEMPERANCE WORKERS.

We must not omit to mention the splendid help given to the cause by the British Women's Temperance Association, led with dauntless spirit by Lady Henry Somerset.

Women's Suffrage has been adopted as a plank in their programme, and the organ of their Society has placed the question forcibly before its readers—calling upon the temperance workers to unite on the subject, pressing it forward, believing that the possession of the vote will prove a valuable weapon in solving the great Drink problem.

Your Committee have issued a leaflet bearing on the "Temperance Question and Women's Suffrage", and inviting the affiliation and co-operation of Temperance Associations. This leaflet, which has been greatly in demand, has met with good results. Two temperance societies have already affiliated, and others have arranged visits from our lecturers for further considering the matter.

In the United States the temperance women have also determined to advocate the enfranchisement of women. Miss Frances Willard, the President of the Women's National Council held lately at Washington, urged the necessity of the vote "to make the world wider for women and happier for humanity."

#### NOTABLE SPEECHES AND PAMPHLETS.

Lord Salisbury's frank declaration on Women's Suffrage was made in St. James' Hall on July 16th. "There are," he said, "one or two reforms which I should like myself to examine, if we ever discuss the question of the Suffrage, in a fundamental manner. I will not dwell on one of these, because I am afraid it may cause a difference of opinion even in this company; but I am bound for the sake of concord to assume not to have altered my opinion, and to say that whenever the question of the Franchise is brought up, the question of relaxing the restraints now imposed on the voting of women will have to be re-considered."

Mr. Balfour took the opportunity of the debate in the House of Commons, to make an excellent defence for Women's Suffrage, and has also written and spoken of the subject with marked approval and interest.

Mr. Gladstone's letter has been widely read, and answered; one excellent reply must be especially noticed, entitled "*The Letter which ought to have been Written by Mr. Gladstone.*"

Mr. Justin McCarthy in November last contributed one of his clever papers to the *North American Review*, in which he drew attention to the real work now undertaken by women in politics, in contrast to the former influence of the "Salons." Mr. McCarthy urged the Parliamentary Franchise as a necessity for the nineteenth century woman.

Our thanks are especially due to the Editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, for a series of leading articles on Women's Suffrage and for generously allowing your Committee to reprint the same as leaflets for distribution.

#### FROM OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

Woman Suffrage has been going ahead in the Colonies, America too has not been left behind; we would especially thank our foreign correspondents for keeping us so well aware of their movements.

*New Zealand.* Sir John Hall's motion passed the Lower House, and the second reading in the Upper House of Representatives, and was only thrown out on account of its being a proposition to amend the Constitution, which requires an absolute majority.

*New South Wales.* The new Electoral Bill which has been introduced includes the extension of the vote to women. Sir Henry Parker in addressing his constituents called their attention to the fact that both the Prime Ministers of England and of Canada were in favour of the movement. The Local Option League has declared itself on the side of the women, recognising their claims.

*Victoria.* The Premier, the Hon. D. Munro, is in favour of Women's Suffrage, and the United Temperance Alliance has undertaken to staunchly support it.

*Cape Colony.* Sir David Tennant, the Speaker of the Cape Legislative Assembly, warmly advocates the extension of the Parliamentary vote to women.

*India.* The Bombay Sorosis Club has been started by Dr. Brainerd Ryder for the promotion of women's rights and already numbers 200 members.

*Buenos Ayres.* The democracy of Buenos Ayres has shown an inclination to favour the equality of the sexes.

*El Orberos*, the Spanish newspaper, advocates the rights of women, and a League has been formed to advance the cause.

*Arkansas.* A new Divorce Act has become law, improving the condition of women.

*Vienna.* A memorial has been addressed to the Reichrath by a Conference of women in Vienna, demanding the abolition of the legal disabilities of women.

#### NEW YORK STATES.

The Legislative Assembly of the New York States has passed a Bill entitled:—

"An Act to prevent discrimination on account of sex at elections." It consists of the following three sections:—(1) Every citizen, irrespective of sex, shall hereafter be entitled to vote for all and every officer hereafter to be elected in this State, and on any question submitted to a vote of the people, and it shall be unlawful to make any discrimination between citizens on account of sex at such elections. (2) No poll-clerk, inspector of election, or other election officer, or person fulfilling such duties, shall hereafter refuse to register or to receive the vote of any adult citizen, provided such citizen shall in all other respects possess the qualifications now required by law. (3) This Act shall take effect July 1st, 1893."



### OBITUARY.

During the past year your Committee has suffered a severe loss in the sad death of their colleague, Margaret Lady Sandhurst, who had come into great prominence as an earnest advocate of Women's Suffrage. "To be sure she had but lately as it were come into the ranks of the ardent supporters of the movement," writes Mrs. Chant, "but once having joined the cause, we knew she had joined it for life, so loyally did she throw herself into whatever was approved by her heart and conscience. Simple in manner, dignified, kind of heart and great of soul, unflinching in duty and unsparing of herself, fulfilling the social, political and philanthropic duties that crowded round her, she has left behind her an honoured name, whose highest nobility is that she has made it noble."

Your Committee also notice with regret the death of Sir John Macdonald, a statesman of the highest eminence, and one who was a constant and zealous advocate of Women's Suffrage. The Electoral Bill introduced by him in the Canadian Parliament in 1885 contained provisions for the enfranchisement of women.

Among those friends who have passed away Madam Bodichon must be mentioned as one of the earliest and most ardent exponents of the rights of women. The passing of the Married Women's Property Act was mainly secured by her untiring and energetic action. Together with Miss Emily Davis she originated and founded Girton College, Cambridge.

Miss A. J. Clough, of Newnham College, Cambridge, and Miss Amelia B. Edwards, have passed away, leaving much by which they will be remembered, for they both were not only sympathisers in the women's movement, but leaders, who by the very lives they have led, have made the paths of Englishwomen wider and more noble.

### FUTURE PROSPECTS.

As this report leaves our hands, we are in the midst of the General Election, and we wait with anxiety to hear on what support we may rely in this new Parliament. The outlook is good. **Over 500 Candidates** have pledged themselves to vote, if elected, for "Women's Suffrage", and our friends have been untiring in their energies in endeavouring to secure the return of such candidates as have promised.

### APPEAL.

The result of the greatly increased organisation of the Society has been a very heavy demand upon our Funds. If the Society is adequately to fulfil its new undertaking, more money must be forthcoming. Although our roll of members has largely increased during the year, the subscription list has not risen correspondingly, owing to the large list of small subscriptions; if it had not been for one or two generous donations our work would have been sadly hampered for lack of means. With organisation ready to hand, it would indeed be a mistaken policy to curb the onward march of the Society's work, and we earnestly appeal to our friends and supporters to give their utmost help, now at a time when there is so great an opening in the political arena, and the urgent need for an increase in our staff of workers.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM APRIL 1st, 1891, TO MARCH 31st, 1892.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank last account	...	237	14	11			
Cash in hand	...	11	11	9			
Donations and Subscriptions	...				249	6	8
Sale of Publications	...				893	3	0
					12	10	11
		£		1,155	0	7	

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries to Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Agent, etc.	...				292	19	0
Rent	...				120	0	0
Office cleaning, lighting, fuel	...	27	13	2			
" Furniture	...	11	11	6			
Postage and Carriage	...				39	4	8
Books and Stationery	...				113	8	2
Printing	...				15	17	4
Publications, Bought	Woman's Herald	2	2	6			
"	Various	12	11	7			
"	Newspapers	3	7	11			
Women's Suffrage column in Woman's Herald for 3 qrs. of a year	...				18	2	0
Meetings, Hire of Halls, etc.	...	106	16	11			
Lecturers Fees and Expenses	...	164	19	2			
Agent's Expenses	...				271	16	1
Auditing Accounts	...				12	2	4
Bank Charges	...				2	0	0
Balance in Bank	...				0	8	5
Cash in hand	...	73	3	8			
		1	19	10			
		£		1,155	0	7	

Examined and found correct,  
MARY E. WARNE.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ainsworth, Mrs. David	...	2	2	0			
Andrews, Mrs.	...	0	10	0			
Alnwick W. L. Assoc.	...	0	5	0			
Anthony, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Alger, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Anderson, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Allan, Miss	...	0	2	6			
" Anonymous "	...	0	2	6			
" Anonymous "	...	0	2	6			
" Anonymous "	...	0	2	6			
Allen, Miss E. W.	...	0	1	1			
" Anonymous "	...	0	1	1			
Bridport Society for Women's Suffrage	...	3	17	6			
Brown, Miss A. L.	...	3	3	0			
Busk, Mr. & Mrs. E. H.	...	3	3	0			
Bateson, Mrs.	...	2	2	0			
Bright, Mrs. (2 years)	...	2	2	0			
Buss, Miss	...	1	1	0			
Bevan, Mrs. Wm.	...	1	1	0			
Bennett, Mrs. G. Nevill	...	1	1	0			
Bidder, Mrs.	...	1	1	0			
Bidder, Mr. G. P. Q.C.	...	1	1	0			
Bennett, Mr.	...	1	1	0			
Bedford and N. Bedfordshire Women's Suffrage Society	...	1	1	0			
Bridges, Mrs. F. D.	...	1	1	0			
Balfour, Mrs. Lewis	...	1	0	0			
Boddy, Dr. Clarinda (2 years)	...	1	0	0			
Brighton W. L. Assoc.	...	0	10	0			
Bunting, Mrs. Percy	...	0	10	0			
Brodhurst, Mrs.	...	0	10	0			
Browne, Mrs. E. Stewart	...	0	10	0			
Blakesley, Major Gen.	...	0	10	0			
Bailey, Mrs. Walter	...	0	10	0			
Baines, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Best, Miss E. Waidlaw	...	0	5	0			
Bentcke, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Brook, Mrs. Loftus	...	0	5	0			
Boyle, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Burningham, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Bairdsmith, Miss E.	...	0	5	0			
Bevington, Mrs.	...	0	5	0			
Beattie, Mrs.	...	0	5	0			
Brooksbank, Mrs.	...	0	5	0			
Beckwith, Mrs.	...	0	4	0			
Bristowe, Miss	...	0	4	0			
Burnett, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Bartlett, Mrs.	...	0	2	6			
Bellot, Miss C. E.	...	0	2	6			
Blandy, Mrs.	...	0	2	6			
Britco Owen, Miss E.	...	0	2	6			
Bevington, Miss Ada	...	0	2	6			
Brenner, Miss C. S.	...	0	2	6			
Blake, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Beale, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Bellot, Mrs.	...	0	1	0			
Bowden, Mrs.	...	0	1	0			
Behren, Mrs.	...	0	1	0			
Crosfield, Miss	...	2	2	0			
Crookshank, The Misses	...	1	1	0			
Cayford, Mr. E.	...	1	1	0			
Crawford, Miss Sharnan	...	1	1	0			
Courtney, The Rt. Hon. L., M.P.	...	1	0	0			
Collins, Dr. W. J.	...	0	10	0			
Cowen, Mrs.	...	0	10	0			
Crewe W. L. Assoc.	...	0	10	0			
Cobb, Mrs. H. P.	...	0	10	0			
Cash, Mrs.	...	0	7	6			
Cook, Mrs.	...	0	5	0			
Carter, Mrs.	...	0	5	0			
Clarke, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Clifford, The Rev. Dr.	...	0	5	0			
Carpenter, Mr. Thos.	...	0	5	0			
Charles, Mrs.	...	0	5	0			
Coventry W. L. Assoc.	...	0	5	0			
Cozens, Miss	...	0	5	0			
Cleaton Moor W. L. Assoc.	...	0	5	0			
Clifford, Mrs.	...	0	2	6			
Carey, Miss E. J.	...	0	2	6			
Crewe, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Cook, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Clodd, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Cornish, Miss	...	0	2	6			
Costelloe, Mrs.	...	0	2	6			
Cameron, Mrs.	...	0	2	6			
Cust, Miss	...	0	2	6			

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.  
April 1st, 1891, to March 31st, 1892.

	£	s.	d.
Cantwell, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Chrystal, Miss ...	0	1	0
Dilke, Mrs. Ashton ...	5	0	0
Debenham, Mrs. Frank ...	1	1	0
Dalton, Mr. H. R. S. ...	1	0	0
Dowson, Mrs. H. Enfield ...	1	0	0
Dickson, Mrs. ...	0	10	6
Duncan, Mr. W. S. ...	0	10	6
Davison, Miss ...	0	5	0
De Paris, Miss Constance ...	0	5	0
Drinkwater, Miss Julia ...	0	5	0
Doucura, Miss ...	0	5	0
Dulwich W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Dyke, Mrs. Emilie ...	0	2	6
Drew, Miss F. C. ...	0	2	6
Dickinson, Miss Violet ...	0	2	6
Dobson, Mrs. Allan ...	0	2	6
Dobson, Mrs. George ...	0	2	6
Derby, Mrs. Fleetwood ...	0	2	6
Dickinson, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Dodd, Miss Kate ...	0	1	6
Dobson, Miss E. ...	0	1	0
Daly, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Egerton, Lady Grey ...	3	0	0
Ellis, Miss Jane ...	1	1	0
Estlin, Miss ...	1	1	0
Eve, Mrs. ...	0	10	6
Engert, Mr. A. ...	0	10	0
Elliston, Miss ...	0	3	6
Eynon, Mrs. ...	0	1	6
Eichbaum, Mrs. ...	0	0	6
Fletcher, Mrs. ...	2	2	0
Fisher Unwin, Mr. ...	0	10	6
Fowes, Mr. A. ...	0	10	0
Franks, Miss ...	0	5	0
Foster, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Fellowes, Miss M. E. ...	0	5	0
Ford, Colonel ...	0	2	6
Fowler, Miss J. Allen ...	0	2	6
"Friend" N. Islington ...	0	2	0
Fennell, Mrs. ...	0	2	0
Farquharson, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Glover, Mrs. Susan ...	2	2	0
Griffith, The Dowager ...			
Lady Waldie ...	2	0	0
Gwynne, Mr. ...	0	10	0
Grimes, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Gibson, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Goddard, Mr. J. G. ...	0	2	6
Garnet, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Greenwood, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Grigsby, Mrs. H. E. ...	0	2	6
Grover, Miss ...	0	2	0

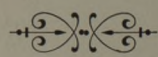
	£	s.	d.
Goudge, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Gaffnay, The Misses ...	0	0	6
Hopwood, Mr. C. H., Q.C. ...	2	2	0
Haycroft, Mrs. Wyatt (2 years) ...	2	2	0
Hopwood, Miss Jane ...	1	1	0
Hales, Prof. (2 years) ...	1	0	0
Herford, Mrs. ...	1	0	0
Howard, The Chevalier Alexandre ...	1	0	0
Hamer, Mrs. ...	0	10	0
Haig, Miss C. Wolseley ...	0	10	0
Hamilton Cleve, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Hopgood, Miss Rachel ...	0	5	0
Hull W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Hackney N. W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Hornsey W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Heywood W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Harbert, Mr. F. ...	0	5	0
Hailes, Mr. T. W. (2 yrs.) ...	0	5	0
Hill, Miss G. ...	0	2	6
Hill, Miss E. ...	0	2	6
Hardcastle, Miss ...	0	2	6
Hardcastle, Miss B. ...	0	2	6
Harris, Miss Olive B. ...	0	2	6
Henderson, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Hawkins, Miss ...	0	2	6
Harker, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Holloway, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Harrison, Mr. G. F. ...	0	2	6
Harris, Miss ...	0	2	6
Harris, Miss Jessie ...	0	2	6
Headland, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Hooper, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Hills, Miss M. E., B. A. ...	0	2	6
Haig, Miss F. E. ...	0	2	6
Homan, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Handley, Miss ...	0	2	6
Henderson, Mrs. (Stoke Newington) ...	0	2	0
Hewitt, Miss Amy ...	0	1	0
Hale, Miss S. ...	0	1	0
Head, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Hooper, Mrs. (St. Peter's Park) ...	0	1	0
Hogg, Miss Margaret ...	0	0	6
Ipswich W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Islington, North, W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Jamieson, Mr. W. B. ...	2	2	0
Jones, Mrs. R. Compton ...	1	1	0
Joseph, Miss ...	0	5	0
James, Mrs. Guilyn C. ...	0	5	0
Justice, Miss ...	0	2	0
Johnson, Mrs. Jack ...	0	1	0

	£	s.	d.
Jones, Mrs. Bligh ...	0	1	0
James, Miss ...	0	0	6
Kemble, Mrs. H. ...	2	0	0
Kingston W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Knowles, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Kensington, South, W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Keighley W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Kilgour, Miss ...	0	2	6
Kilgour, Miss M. S. ...	0	2	6
Kitton, Miss ...	0	2	6
Kellett, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Leon, Mrs. G. L. ...	1	1	0
Leeds, Mr. & Mrs. J. R. ...	1	1	0
Liepmann, Miss ...	0	10	0
Lough, Mrs. ...	0	10	0
Lidgett, Miss ...	0	2	6
Morrison, Mrs. Frank ...	200	0	0
McLaren, Mrs. Ch. ...	5	0	0
McKee, Miss E. C. ...	2	2	0
Mead King, Miss ...	1	0	0
Mason, Miss Bertha ...	2	0	0
Morgan, Mrs. E. ...	0	15	6
Mead Corner, Mr. ...	0	10	0
McCulloch, Mr. John ...	0	10	0
Morgan-Brown, Mrs. ...	0	10	0
Murray, The Rev. Francis ...	0	10	0
McLavery, Mrs. ...	0	10	0
Morgan-Brown, Miss ...	0	7	6
Miers, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Mansfield W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Moore, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Myers, Miss Clara ...	0	5	0
Mile End W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Morgan-Thomas, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Martyn, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Morgan-Brown, Miss B. ...	0	2	6
Morison, Miss ...	0	2	6
Martin, Miss ...	0	2	6
Milligan, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Mackay, Mrs. Forbes ...	0	2	6
McKerlie, Miss ...	0	2	6
Mills, Miss ...	0	2	6
Matthews, Miss Honor ...	0	2	6
Matthews, Miss May ...	0	2	6
Masters, Mrs. A. ...	0	2	6
Minett, Mrs. ...	0	2	0
Mercer, Mrs. Harriet ...	0	1	6
Menzies, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Nightingale, Miss ...	1	1	0
Newnham, Miss ...	1	0	0
Nottingham Women's Suffrage Society ...	0	10	0
Naoroji, Dadobhai ...	0	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Notts. W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Newport and Monmouth W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Nathan, Miss ...	0	2	6
Northcroft, Miss ...	0	2	6
Oglivie, Mr. Graeme ...	2	0	0
Oldman, Mrs. ...	1	1	0
Owen, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Pennington, Mrs. ...	10	0	0
Phillipps, Mrs. Wynford ...	2	2	0
Portsmouth W. L. Assoc. ...	1	0	0
Poppleton, Mrs. ...	0	10	6
Purdie, Mrs. ...	0	10	0
Pagliardini, Mr. Tito ...	0	10	0
Partridge, Mrs. ...	0	8	6
Plymouth W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Penge and Beckenham W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Payson, Miss ...	0	5	0
Pembroke Dock W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Paddington W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Pateley Bridge W. L. A. ...	0	5	0
Pennack, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Phillipps, Miss March ...	0	2	6
Pickthorn, Mrs. ...	0	1	0
Ransom, Mrs. ...	1	1	0
Ryley, Miss ...	1	1	0
Ravenstein, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Rossettie, Mr. ...	0	5	0
Rochdale W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Reid, Mrs. Broadley ...	0	5	0
Robinson, Miss ...	0	5	0
Ripon W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Ryder, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Reed, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Richardson, Miss ...	0	2	6
Rogers, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Savile, Mrs. Twemlow ...	2	0	0
Slack, Mrs. ...	1	1	0
Shore, Miss Arabella ...	1	1	0
Swanwick, Miss Anna ...	1	1	0
Shaw, Mr. Thomas ...	1	1	0
Schloss, Mr. D. F. ...	1	1	0
Smith, Mr. E. H. ...	1	0	0
Spokes, Miss M. ...	0	10	0
Saunders, Mr. & Mrs. H. C. ...	0	10	0
Sickert, Mrs. W. ...	0	10	0
Shaw, Miss F. M. ...	0	7	6
Sibthorp, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Southport Guild of the Unrepresented ...	0	5	0
Stott, Mrs. ...	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Stanbury, Mrs. ...	0	5	0	Tanner, Miss S. J. ...	0	2	6
Smith, Mrs. Wm. ...	0	5	0	Tomkins, Miss ...	0	2	0
Staffordshire, North, W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0	Taylor, Mr. W. H. ...	0	1	6
Sunderland W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0	Tuckett, Miss ...	0	1	0
Stewart, Miss Gertrude ...	0	5	0	Unwin, Mrs. Ludovic ...	1	0	0
Swansea W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0	Verschoyle, The Rev. John ...	1	0	0
Southport W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0	Von Keischl, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Skerritt, Miss ...	0	5	0	Vincent, Miss ...	0	5	0
South Shields B.W.T.A. ...	0	5	0	Vickery, Dr. Alice ...	0	5	0
Spence, Mrs. ...	0	4	0	Vine, Miss S. ...	0	2	6
Sayer, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Vaughan, Miss S. ...	0	1	0
Sieveking, Miss ...	0	2	6	Well-wisher for Winter's Work ...	200	0	0
Stocker, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Williams, Miss ...	5	0	0
Stevenson, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Woodall, Mr. Wm., M.P. ...	2	2	0
Sherbrook, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Wilson, Miss Lucy ...	1	0	0
Simpson, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Wells, Mr. T. H. ...	1	0	0
Stewart, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Weiss, Mrs. ...	1	0	0
Scott, Mrs. Ratty ...	0	2	6	Westminster W. L. A. ...	0	13	0
Seamore, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Walker, Mrs. Ingram ...	0	10	6
Stokes, Dr. Woodley ...	0	2	6	Willson, Miss A. E. ...	0	10	6
Smith, Mrs. Eustace ...	0	2	6	Wall, Miss ...	0	10	0
Smith, Mrs. Pearsall ...	0	2	6	Walker, Mrs. (Doncaster) ...	0	7	6
Smith, Miss Pearsall ...	0	2	6	Woodward, Miss G. M. ...	0	5	0
Slatter, Miss ...	0	2	6	Williams, Mrs. Carvell ...	0	5	0
Sharp, Miss M. C. ...	0	2	6	Wells Div. of Somerset W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Skerritt, Miss Alice M. ...	0	2	6	Waterall, Mr. Nathaniel ...	0	5	0
Southey, Mrs. ...	0	2	6	Westmott, Mrs. ...	0	5	0
Sieveking, Miss Emmeline ...	0	2	0	Wakefield W. L. Assoc. ...	0	5	0
Schweitzer, Mrs. ...	0	2	0	Watkin, Miss ...	0	2	6
Sinclair, Mrs. ...	0	2	0	Williamson, Miss ...	0	2	6
Smith, Miss ...	0	2	0	Webber, Miss ...	0	2	6
Smith, Mrs. Shaw ...	0	2	0	Warner, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Schiller, Mrs. ...	0	1	0	Whitaker, Mrs. ...	0	2	6
Sargent, Mrs. ...	0	1	0	Walker, Miss Abney ...	0	2	6
Scott, Mrs. ...	0	1	0	Wadsworth, Miss ...	0	2	6
Shapland, Miss H. ...	0	1	0	Whelpton, Miss H. ...	0	2	6
Thomasson, Mr. J. P. ...	100	0	0	Wilson, Mrs. Ramsay ...	0	2	0
Taylor, Mrs. Thomas ...	2	0	0	Williams, Mrs. ...	0	2	0
Tanner, Mrs. A. ...	1	1	0	Wimbold, Mrs. John ...	0	1	0
Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. ...	1	0	0	"Woman first & Party second" ...	0	1	0
Temple, Sir Richard, Bt. M.P. ...	1	0	0	York Women's Suffrage Society ...	1	10	0
Thomas, Miss ...	0	10	6	Young, Mr. T. ...	0	10	0
Turle, Mr. ...	0	10	0	Yardley, Miss ...	0	10	0
Todhunter, Mrs. ...	0	10	0	Yeattes, Mrs. ...	0	5	6
Tidsdale, Miss Eleanor ...	0	10	0	Y. ...	0	2	6
Thorndike, Mr. ...	0	5	0	Z. ...	200	0	0
Toomer, Mr. R. ...	0	5	0	Zimmerman, Miss ...	0	2	6
Tolmé, Mrs. ...	0	5	0				
Todner, Mr. & Mrs. Claude ...	0	5	0				
Tournier, Miss E. A. ...	0	2	6				
Turle, Miss ...	0	2	6				
Turle, Miss S. A. ...	0	2	6				
Thomson, Miss A. C. ...	0	2	6				
Thomas, Miss E. J. ...	0	2	6				

TWENTY-FIRST  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY  
FOR  
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE  
29, PARLIAMENT STREET, LONDON, S.W.



London:  
WOMEN'S PRINTING SOCIETY, LIMITED  
66, WHITCOMB STREET, W.C.

—  
1893

CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S  
SUFFRAGE.

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## Twenty-first Annual Report

OF THE  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1892-1893.

In presenting their Twenty-first Annual Report, the Committee feel that some explanation is due with regard to the space of time covered by the Twentieth Report. Owing to the fact that the Annual Meeting was not held in the spring as usual, the Report was carried on for some months after March 31st, the end of the working year. They trust their readers will therefore pardon the repetition of some of the principal events, which really took place during the Society's twenty-second year.

### SIR ALBERT ROLLIT'S BILL.

The event of the year was undoubtedly the debate on Sir Albert Rollit's Bill, which took place on April 27th, 1892. A verbatim report of all the speeches has been published, and can be obtained at the office of the Society. The following is the wording of the Bill :—

#### A BILL TO EXTEND THE PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE TO WOMEN.

Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :

1. This Act may be cited as the Parliamentary Franchise (Women) Act, 1892.
2. Every woman who—(a) in Great Britain is registered or entitled to be registered as an elector for any Town Council or County Council; or (b) in Ireland is a ratepayer entitled to vote at an election for Guardians of the Poor; shall be entitled to be registered as a parliamentary elector, and when registered to vote at any parliamentary election for the county, borough, or division wherein the qualifying property is situate.

(Prepared and brought in by Sir Albert Rollit, Sir A. Borthwick, Viscount Wolmer, Mr. W. McLaren, Mr. Penrose FitzGerald, Mr. T. D. Sullivan, Mr. T. W. Russell, Mr. Burt and Mr. Ernest Spencer.)—April 27th, 1892.

Though your Committee regret to say that the Bill was lost by a small majority of 23 votes, it is interesting to note how superior was the tone of the debate to that of previous years. There was comparatively little argument against the Bill as it stood, and it would undoubtedly have passed its second reading had it not been for the fear that this was only the first step towards a much greater change. The immediate cause of the defeat was, however, Mr. Gladstone's letter to Mr. Samuel Smith, advising members to vote against the Bill. To this is undoubtedly due the fact that 22 Liberals who had formerly supported Women's Suffrage, now voted against the Bill. Had they adhered to their former convictions the second reading of the Bill would have been carried.

The following is an analysis of the Division:—

(Pairs and Tellers included.)

	IN FAVOUR.			AGAINST.			Total.	
	Known Friends.	or Unknown Doubtful.	Changed Votes.	Known Opponents.	or Unknown Doubtful.	Changed Votes.		
Conservatives	73	16	3	92	40	35	9	84
Lib. Unionists	13	5	—	18	16	10	1	27
Glad. Liberal	43	14	—	57	31	31	22	84
Nationalists	7	5	—	12	—	6	1	7
Totals	136	40	3	179	87	82	33	202

### ANALYSIS OF DIVISIONS SINCE 1867.

The following diagrams and explanatory notes give interesting statistics of the Divisions which have taken place on Women's Suffrage since the year 1867:—

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Number who Voted or Paired.			Percentage of those who Voted who were in favour of Bill.		
	LIB.	CON.	TOTAL	LIB.	CON.	TOTAL
1867	146	137	283	43	11	29
1870	145	70	215	64	44	57
1871	223	164	387	45	36	42
1872	235	169	404	50	30	40
1873	244	167	411	50	30	42
1875	175	200	375	57	36	45
1876	182	228	410	52	29	39
1878	186	204	390	59	22	40
1879	144	176	320	51	17	32
1883	210	128	338	63	23	48
1884	284	125	409	14	68	34
1886	172	93	265	60	62	61
1892	149	178	327	44	49	42
AVERAGE	192	157	349	50	35	4

TABLE II.

DIAGRAM OF NUMBERS WHO VOTED OR PAIRED.

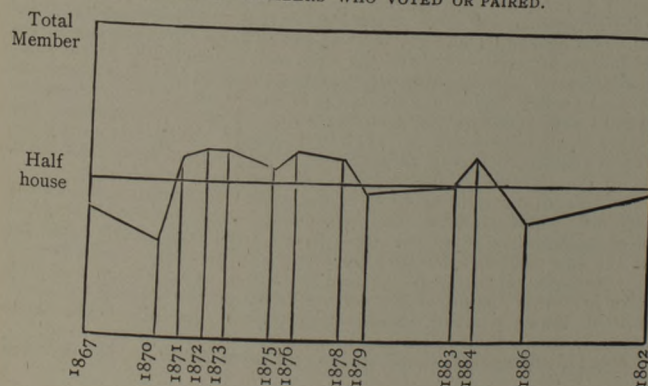
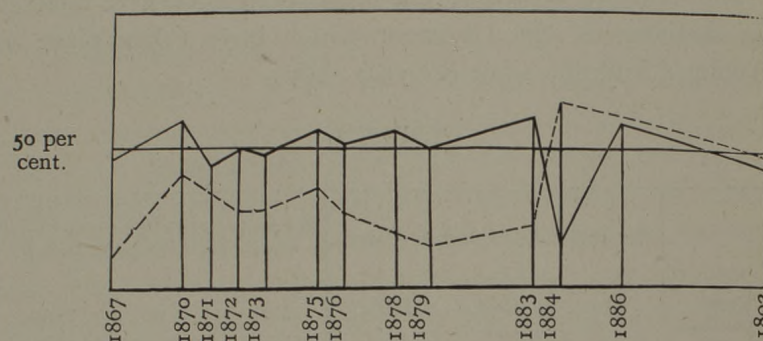




TABLE III.

PERCENTAGE OF VOTES IN FAVOUR.



The three tables here given show in a very clear and interesting form the proportion of members of Parliament who in previous years have voted on the question of Women's Suffrage, and the proportion of Liberals and Conservatives who have supported it. The first table is divided into two parts. The first part shows for each year, when a Bill or Motion was before the House, how many Liberals and how many Conservatives took part in the division or paired, either for or against Women's Suffrage. It will be seen that on an average 349 members have expressed their opinion in this way. As the House consists of 670 members, it is clear that very nearly half of them have evaded their duty, and have declined to vote either for or against the measure. The second portion of Table I. shows the percentage who voted in favour of Women's Suffrage; and further, the percentage of Liberals and Conservatives respectively who voted for the measure as compared with the members of the same parties who voted against it. Thus for example, to take the figures for 1892, the total number of members who voted or paired was 327. Of these 149 were Liberals or Nationalists, and 178 were Conservatives or Unionists. Of the total 327, there were 42 per cent. who voted for the Bill, and consequently 58 per cent. voted against it. Out of the Liberals who took part in the division, 44 per cent. voted for the Bill, and consequently 56 per cent. voted against it; and out of the Conservatives who took part in the division, 49 per cent. voted for the Bill, and consequently 51 per cent. voted against it. In reference to these figures it must be remembered that the Conservatives had a majority in the House of about 80, and therefore naturally their numbers would be larger than those of the Liberals. The average result is that 41½ per cent. of members voting have voted for Women's Suffrage; that of Liberals voting, 50 per cent. have voted for it, and of Conservatives voting only 35 per cent. have voted for it.

The second and third tables give the same information in the form of diagrams. Table II. shows the percentage of members who voted or paired on both sides out of the whole House. It brings clearly before the eye the fact that an enormous number have absented themselves on every occasion. It should be the earnest effort of women to prevent this. There are many members who are indifferent on the subject, but whose sense of justice prevents them voting against the Bill. The active opponents muster their full strength, the lukewarm friends stay away.

Table III. corresponds to the second portion of Table I. The darker of

the two irregular lines shows the percentage of Liberals who voted for the Bills out of the total number of Liberals voting; and the dotted line shows the percentage of Conservatives who voted for the Bills out of the total number of Conservatives voting. The most remarkable feature is that shown for the year 1884. The Liberals who voted for the Suffrage dropped to 14 per cent. of the total voting, while the Conservatives rose to 68 per cent. of the total Conservatives voting. This division was on Mr. Woodall's amendment to the Reform Bill of 1884 which gave votes to the agricultural labourers. Mr. Gladstone strongly opposed its insertion in his Reform Bill, solely on the ground that it would overload the Bill. It is, however, well-known that he was compelled to take this course by the Marquis of Hartington and Sir Henry James, who were then in his government and who threatened to resign if he did not do so. He therefore urged the Liberal party to reject the amendment without regard to its merits. The result was a wholesale desertion for the time being of Liberal members, who could easily have carried it had they stood firm, without any detriment to the chances of the Reform Bill. At the same time there was a large increase of Conservative support, as that party recognised the great injustice of excluding women when 2,000,000 more or less uneducated agricultural labourers were being enfranchised. It is interesting to note that since then the percentage of supporters in each party among those who voted has been nearly equal, with a slight Conservative preponderance.

The Tables are highly interesting and instructive, and they will repay careful examination. They teach women the necessity for renewed effort and also show them how great are the difficulties they have to overcome.

#### FRIENDLY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

As the result of the General Election in July, seventy-two of the opponents who voted against Sir Albert Rollit's Bill were not returned to the new House of Commons. On the other hand, fifty-three of our former supporters have either, we regret to say, withdrawn from a Parliamentary career or have not been re-elected.

Of the members of the present Parliament, at least 300 are known to be in favour of Women's Suffrage, while very few of the new members are known to be against it. The opinions of a large number are doubtful, and it should be the duty of friends of the cause to obtain promises from these members that they will give it their support. The position of the question in the new Parliament is therefore on the whole believed to be quite as good as it was in the late Parliament.

## MR. CHARLES McLAREN'S BILL.

On the opening day of the present session a considerable number of members balloted for precedence, in order to bring in a Women's Suffrage Bill; of these Mr. Charles McLaren obtained the most favourable place; but even he was only twenty-third. When it is remembered that about 300 members balloted for their various Bills, it will be seen that the chances of any one member are very small; and it is only the first twelve or fifteen who have any reasonable hope of bringing their Bills on for discussion. Mr. Charles McLaren, however, brought in the following Bill, which was backed by Mr. Courtney, Sir Wilfred Lawson, Viscount Wolmer, Mr. Webb, Mr. Carvell Williams, Sir Algernon Borthwick, Mr. James Stuart, Sir Albert Rollit, and Mr. Jebb.

## A BILL TO EXTEND THE PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE TO WOMEN.

Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Representation of the People (Extension to Women) Act, 1893.
2. In all Acts relating to the qualification and registration of voters, or persons entitled or claiming to be registered and to vote in the election of Members of Parliament, wherever words occur which import the masculine gender the same shall include women for all purposes connected with and having reference to the right to be registered as voters and to vote in such election.

Your Committee learnt with much pleasure that the Bill was in the hands of Mr. Charles McLaren, remembering the valuable help he gave during the former Parliaments in which he sat, and they knew that he would again render the best service in his power.

The most favourable place which could be obtained for the Bill was that of second order on March 8th. The first order was a Bill regarding the Rating of Machinery; but the debate upon this was so unduly prolonged, that the Bill was not disposed of till twenty-five minutes past five. In the five minutes that remained, Mr. Charles McLaren formally moved

the Second Reading of his Bill, and Sir Henry James moved the adjournment of the debate, which, owing to the lateness of the hour, had to be agreed to; and there is no chance that any other day during the present Session can be obtained for the debate.

## AMENDMENTS TO REGISTRATION BILL.

The friends of Women's Suffrage in Parliament are, however, not idle.

Viscount Wolmer has given notice in the House of Commons of the following motion:—

"After second reading of Registration of Electors' Amendment Bill, to move, that it be an instruction to the Committee that they have power to provide for the registration of duly qualified women to vote at Parliamentary elections."

Lord Wolmer will also move on the Scotch Registration of Voters' Bill an amendment identical with that of which he has given notice in the English Bill, providing for the registration of duly qualified women to vote at Parliamentary elections.

It is also hoped the question of the right of women to vote in the proposed Home Rule Parliament may be discussed, and Mr. Walter McLaren has given notice of amendments to that effect.

## DISTRICT AND PARISH COUNCILS' BILL.

Although the Franchise Bill was shelved, the Government have materially improved the position of women in administrative affairs, by inserting in their Local Government Bill clauses which will entitle women both to vote for and to be elected to District Councils. On this subject your Committee passed the following resolution:—

"\* That this Society tenders its sincerest thanks to the Right Hon. H. Fowler, M.P., and the other Members of the Government, for having recognised in the Local Government Bill the right of women both to vote for and to be elected to Parish and District Councils; but it trusts that the Bill may be so amended as to enable married women to vote for these Councils if they have the necessary qualifications."

\* Since the adoption of this Resolution on March 7th, legal authorities have declared that certain amendments are necessary in order to make the Bill satisfactory to women

## CHANGE OF SECRETARIES.

Miss Cicely Philipps, who had so admirably fulfilled the duties of Secretary since February, 1891, resigned her position, owing to her marriage with Dr. W. Donald Smallpeice, which had taken place in August. Your Committee carried unanimously the following resolution :—

“ That this Committee accepts with much regret the resignation of the Secretary, Mrs. Smallpeice, and while congratulating her upon her marriage, it cannot but regret the loss of her valuable services, and desires to express its high appreciation of the ability and energy which she has shown during the period of her Secretaryship.”

Miss Torrance, Assistant Secretary, having also sent in her resignation, the following resolution was unanimously carried :

“ That this Committee much regrets that Miss Torrance has announced her desire to resign her office of Assistant Secretary, and while accepting her resignation, the Committee expresses its sense of her long and valued services and her devotion to the work. It sincerely hopes that she may be equally successful in any future work she undertakes, and assures her that her long connection with this Society will be always warmly remembered by its members.”

Permanent Secretaries were not appointed till Christmas, and during the interim Mrs. Morgan-Browne, Miss Gertrude Stewart, and Miss Paterson carried on the work of the office.

At their meeting on December 13th, your Committee appointed Miss Gertrude Stewart, Secretary, and Miss Edith Clinton, Assistant Secretary to the Society.

## LITERATURE.

One branch of the work which has greatly increased during the past year has been the issuing of literature, for which there has been a great demand from men's literary and debating societies, and from political associations, both of men and women. Literature, and in many cases speakers, have been sent to the following and many other places :—Wrexham, Leicester, Ipswich, Dublin, Wigan, Liverpool, Camborne, Battersea, Surbiton, Wolverhampton, Islington, Dundee, New Cross, Holloway, Warwick, Broughty Ferry, Ayr,

Oxford, Holborn, Cambridge, Brighton, Wishaw, Richmond, Friar's Lane, North Shields, Stowmarket, Elgin, Denbigh, Hull, Bideford, Cuckfield, Hampstead, Seacombe, Portobello, Chelsea, Woking, Egham, Thetford, Westminster, Gateshead, Kingston-on-Thames, Glasgow, Somerville Hall, Bishop Auckland, Stourbridge, Brixton, Shanklin, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, Newport Pagnell, Hornsey, Cork, Spilsby, Carlisle, Barnsbury, Southport, Wotton-under-Edge, Chilworth, Bedford, Deptford, Spitalfields, Eastbourne, and Norwich.

## EXTENSIONS OF WORK.

## AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

The Affiliated Societies have increased during the past year from **fifty-seven** to **sixty-eight**. Your Committee would be glad if more Societies would affiliate with them, believing as they do in the truth of the old saying that “unity is strength”. They therefore hope that all political and social societies sympathising with their aims and objects will send in applications for affiliation to the secretary.

The **Corresponding Members** have done much good service to the cause, especially in ascertaining the views of candidates at the time of the General Election, both by private correspondence and questions at public meetings.

Recent events and numerous questions from all parts of the country have shown more clearly than ever that there is a growing respect for the subject, and a desire to ascertain how many there are who wish women to have the vote. In order to answer these questions, and to increase the membership of the Society, the following scheme of organisation has been adopted :—

## SCHEME OF ORGANIZATION.

## PARLIAMENTARY DIVISIONS.

There are 646 separate constituencies in the United Kingdom, of which 473 are in England and Wales alone. It is proposed to regard each Parliamentary Division (not Counties or Towns) as a separate district, in which the question of Women's Suffrage must be separately worked.

## CORRESPONDENTS.

For the purpose of working up the question, and arousing interest in the cause, the Committee wish to establish in every Parliamentary Division a correspondent, or where necessary two or three correspondents, whose work it shall be to watch over the interests of Women's Suffrage in his or her district as shown below, and to make a monthly report to the Central Office in London.

## COLLECTORS.

For the purpose of getting men and women to subscribe to this Society—a subscription of any amount to constitute membership—the Committee propose that there should be in every constituency collectors, appointed by and under the supervision of the correspondents, whose duty it shall be to collect subscriptions, and transmit them to such correspondents.

## UNITED EFFORT.

To show what might in time be achieved by systematic and united effort, the Committee would point out that if in every one of the 473 English and Welsh Constituencies only 50 persons would subscribe, say 10 at 5s., 20 at 2s. 6d., and 20 at 1s.—besides occasional guineas and half-guineas—that would mean about 24,000 members for this Society, and an income of nearly £3,000 a year; all of which could be usefully employed in promoting the cause of Women's Suffrage by holding meetings, distributing literature, and otherwise.

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

The names of the subscribers in each constituency, except where individuals object, will be printed from time to time, and a copy of the list kept by the correspondent.

## SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

Special reference has been made to England and Wales as being nearer at hand and more ready for a beginning, but with the growth of this organization the Committee look forward to the hearty co-operation of Scotch and Irish supporters of Women's Suffrage.

## SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME.

Such is the scheme which is proposed. Its success will largely depend upon the well-directed efforts of the correspondents and the zeal of the collectors. The work of each individual correspondent need not be burdensome if it be done regularly and systematically. The aim of the scheme is the enrolment of thousands of members by making efforts to get subscribers in hundreds of places at the same time.

In addition to this it was decided that a list of men and women favourable to the Suffrage should be obtained, to be kept at the Central Office as a record for further use. Forms for signature will be supplied to friends who will undertake to collect names.

Your Committee will be glad to receive names and addresses

of any friends willing to help in either of these schemes. They want co-operation and united effort all over the country in order to be able to answer Mr. Gladstone's challenge that "it should be ascertained that the womanly mind of the country is with deliberate purpose set on securing the parliamentary vote."

## MEETINGS.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held in the Westminster Town Hall on Thursday, November 3rd, at 3.30.

The meeting was largely attended, friends of the cause from all parts of the country being present. The proceedings were distinguished throughout by earnestness and unanimity. Professor Stuart, M.P., was in the chair.

Mrs. Stanbury moved, Mrs. Hicks seconded,

"That the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts be adopted," which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Foulger moved, Miss Gittins seconded, Mrs. Sunley supported: and it was carried unanimously.

"That this meeting, being earnestly desirous that progress should be made in Parliament with the Extension of the Franchise to Women, respectfully urges the supporters of the principle in the House of Commons to take every means in their power to obtain the decision of the House upon the subject during next Session."

Mrs. Morgan-Browne moved, Mrs. Frank Morrison seconded, and it was carried unanimously—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be accorded to the Chairman and speakers."

Besides this, meetings have been addressed by Mrs. Ormiston Chant at Ruabon, Cardigan, Stoke-on-Trent, Deptford, Hull, Carlisle, Doncaster, Chichester, Teignmouth, Exeter, Plymouth, Keighley, Pateley Bridge, Knaresborough, Harrogate; by Mr. McLaren at Penge; by Mr. Morgan Browne at South Bristol, Westminster Debating Society, Battersea, and Penge; by Mrs. Sheldon Amos at Wolver-

hampton and Idle; by Mrs. Stopes at Stratford-on-Avon, Kew, Nottingham, Sydenham; by Mrs. Stanbury at Aberdare, Merthyr Tydvil, Long Eaton, Langley Mill, Cotmanhey, Codnor, Heanor; by Mrs. Morgan-Browne at Richmond, Bedford, Royston, Womersley; by Mr. A. Webb, M.P., at Richmond; Mrs. Massingberd at Maidenhead; Mrs. F. Hunt at Chelsea; Miss Friend at Morpeth, Alnwick, Amble, Sudbury, Camberwell; Mrs. Eva McLaren at Egham; Mrs. Mallet at Central Hackney and Sittingbourne.

Drawing-room meetings have also been held at the houses of the following ladies:—Mrs. Twemlow Savile, Mrs. Hinton Stewart, Mrs. Leeds, Mrs. O. V. Morgan, Mrs. Stapley and Mrs. Beatty, addressed by Mrs. Wynford Philipps, Mrs. Charles McLaren, Hon. Mrs. Arthur Pelham, Mrs. Bamford Slack, Mrs. Morgan-Browne, Miss Conybeare, Miss Friend, Mrs. Massingberd, Mrs. Stopes, and Miss Shaw, Baron Dimsdale, Colonel Savile, Mr. O. V. Morgan, Mr. Stapley, Mr. Beatty, Mr. Morgan-Browne and others.

The best thanks of your Committee are due to all the speakers who have so kindly helped, and also to those ladies who have been good enough to lend their rooms. They will be grateful to other kind friends who may be willing to help in this respect.

#### SOIRÉE.

On May 6th, 1892, your Committee entertained the Committees of the London and District Women's Liberal Associations and other friends in the Gallery of the Royal Institute, Piccadilly. Considerably over 700 guests assembled, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Haldane, Q.C., M.P., opened the proceedings with a powerful speech on Women's Suffrage, which was followed by other short addresses, intermingled with a charming musical Programme kindly arranged by Mrs. Massingberd.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

### NEW ZEALAND.

The news that reached us in the autumn that Women's Suffrage was an accomplished fact in New Zealand, was somewhat premature; the Bill passed both Houses, but failed to become law, owing to a difference between the two branches of legislature on a matter of detail.

Sir John Hall in a letter says:

"The great principle contended for has been approved by the whole Parliament, and will, I doubt not, be given effect to in its next Session."

It is with much regret that your Committee have since learnt that Sir John Hall has retired from active political life, but they trust he may still be able to promote the passing of a Bill for giving the Suffrage to Women.

### KANSAS.

The Kansas Legislature has passed, by a large majority, a Bill providing that there shall be submitted to the people, at the next General Election, a proposition to confer the elective franchise on woman. The vote in the House stood 94 to 7, and in the Senate 28 to 5. It has gone to the Governor for his signature. The Popular Party are generally in favour of Woman Suffrage, and as they are in a majority in the State, it is likely that the measure may be ratified and become a law.

### WYOMING.

The following concurrent resolution has been passed in both Houses of the Legislature in Wyoming:—

"That the possession and exercise of Suffrage by the women in Wyoming for the past quarter of a century has wrought no harm and has done great good in many ways: that it has largely aided in banishing crime, pauperism, and vice from this State; and that, without any violence or oppressive legislation, it has secured peaceful and orderly elections, good government, pure politics, and a remarkable degree of civilisation and public order; and we point with pride to the facts that after nearly twenty-five years of Woman Suffrage not one county in

Wyoming has a poor-house, that our gaols are empty, and crime, except by strangers, in the State is almost unknown; and as the result of experience we urge every civilised community on earth to enfranchise its women without delay.

"Resolved, That an authenticated copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the Governor of the State to the Legislature of every State and Territory in this country and to every legislative body in the world; and that we request the press throughout the civilised world to call the attention of their readers to these resolutions."

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

The news from Halifax is that the Bill conferring this boon on women has been read a second time in the Legislature. It is a thorough-going Bill, providing that women should enjoy the franchise on exactly the same terms as men. And not only single women who have the property qualification, but married women also. The husband and wife may both vote.

#### QUEENSLAND.

A deputation of ladies has waited on the Premier to urge the consideration of the question of Woman's Suffrage by the Government. The Premier is said to be in favour of the principle.

#### OBITUARY.

Your Committee greatly regret to record the death of Mr. William Summers, M.P. for Huddersfield, which took place at the end of last year at Allahabad.

He was one of the warmest friends of Women's Suffrage in the House of Commons, ever ready to speak for the cause and not deterred from supporting it by the frowns of those who sat on the Liberal front bench. His last speech on the subject was delivered at the great Princes' Hall meeting, held in the spring of last year.

The cause of the emancipation of women has also suffered a great loss in the death of Madame Venturi, who for many years was one of the most strenuous workers for the Suffrage, as well as for the repeal of laws injurious to women.

We have lost a good friend, too, by the recent death of Mr. John Nieass of Kensington, a well-known ex-Chartist, whose considerable influence with his fellow-workmen was always used to promote every movement which the most enlightened and progressive among women have had at heart for the last forty years, as tending towards their own emancipation and towards moral reform.



	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Charrington, Mr.	-	2	6	Dowson, Mrs.	-	1	0	0
Charrington, Miss	-	2	6	Drew, Mrs. and the Misses	-	1	1	0
Clarke, Mrs. J. P.	-	10	0	Drew, Miss F. E.	-	2	6	
Clarke, Miss	-	5	0	Drinkwater, Miss Julia	-	5	0	
Clegg, Mrs.	-	2	6					
Clifford, Rev. J., D.D.	-	5	0	Edwards, Mrs. LeLacheur	-	10	0	
Close, Miss E. C. H.	-	0	9	Edwards, Mrs. Martyn	-	1	0	0
Close, Miss K. R. M.	-	0	9	Ellis, Miss	-	1	1	0
Close, Miss E. M.	-	0	9	Elliston, Miss	-	2	6	
Cobb, Mrs. H. P.	-	10	0	Engert, A. C., Esq.	-	1	10	0
Colby, Miss	-	5	0	Ennon, Miss	-	2	6	
Colchester W. L. Assoc.	-	5	0	Estlin, Miss	-	1	1	0
Connah-Boyd, Mrs.	-	10	0	Eve, Mrs. H. W.	-	10	0	
Conybeare, Miss	-	2	0	Exmouth W. L. Assoc.	-	5	0	
Cook, Mrs.	-	7	6					
Cook, Miss	-	2	6	Falconer, Miss G.	-	1	0	
Cooke, Mrs. Russell	-	5	0	Fallow, Mrs.	-	3	0	
Cormack, Mrs.	-	1	0	Fellowes, Miss M. C.	-	5	0	
Corner, Mrs. Mead	-	10	6	Fitzwygram, Sir F., Bart.	-	1	0	0
Courtney, Rt. Hon. Leonard	-	1	0	Fletcher, Mrs.	-	2	2	0
Coventry W. L. Assoc.	-	5	0	Flint W. L. Assoc.	-	5	0	
Cowen, Mrs.	-	10	0	Footner, Miss	-	1	0	
Crawford, Miss Sharman	-	6	0	Forbes-Mackay, Mrs.	-	2	6	
Crawhall, Miss	-	2	6	Fordham, Mrs.	-	2	6	
Crewdson, Mrs. W.	-	2	6	Forsyth, Mrs.	-	0	1	
Crewe W. L. Assoc.	-	5	0	Fowler, Miss J. A.	-	5	0	
Crewell, Miss	-	2	6	"Franchise"	-	10	0	
Crosfield, Miss	-	1	0	Franks, Miss	-	5	0	
Cruikshank, The Misses (2 years)	-	2	2	Fraser, Mrs.	-	1	0	
Cust, Miss Beatrice (2 years)	-	5	0	Fraser, Miss	-	5	0	
Cust, Miss Caroline	-	2	6	Freethy, Mrs.	-	5	0	
				French, Mrs.	-	5	0	
				"Friend," per F.B.	-	1	10	0
Dakin, Miss A.	-	2	6	Galer, Mrs.	-	1	6	
Dalton, Miss	-	5	0	Gaskell, Miss	-	10	0	
Daly, Miss	-	2	0	Georgeson, G., Esq.	-	5	0	
Dandy, Miss	-	1	0	Gilliat, Mrs. John	-	10	0	
Davies, Miss Mary	-	1	0	Gilson, Miss	-	5	0	
Davies, Miss J. Maude	-	1	0	Glover, Mrs.	-	2	2	0
Davison, Miss	-	5	0	Goddard, Mr.	-	2	6	
Dawkins, Mrs. E.	-	1	0	Goldschmid, Miss	-	1	0	0
De Paris, Miss	-	5	0	Goudge, Mrs.	-	1	0	
Derby, Mrs.	-	2	6	Graham, Mrs. A. D.	-	2	6	
Dickinson, Miss V.	-	2	6	Greenwood, Mrs.	-	2	6	
Dickson, Mrs.	-	10	0	Greenwood, Mrs. (Croydon)	-	1	0	
Dimsdale, Baron	-	11	11	Gregory, Mrs.	-	0	3	
Dobson, Mrs.	-	2	6	Grenfell, Mrs.	-	5	0	
Dobson, Mrs. J. A.	-	2	6	Griffith, The Dow. Lady	-	1	0	0
Dobson, Miss	-	1	0	Griffith, Miss K.	-	10	6	
Dobson, Miss Enone	-	1	0	Grigsby, Mrs.	-	2	6	
Docwra, Miss	-	5	0	Grimes, Mrs.	-	5	0	
Dolbeskoff, Madame	-	5	0	Grove, Miss (2 years)	-	10	0	
D'Orla, Miss	-	1	0	Grover, Mrs.	-	2	6	
Down, Mrs. Langdon	-	2	0	Grover, Miss	-	5	0	

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		
Guest, Mrs.	-	1	1	0	Leeds, Mrs.	-	1	1	0
Guildford W. L. Assoc.	-	1	0	0	Leeds, J. R., Esq.	-	1	1	0
Gwynne, Miss (2 years)	-	1	1	0	Leicester Society for Woman's Suffrage	-	15	0	
					Leon, Mrs.	-	1	1	0
Hackney, North, W. L. A.	-	5	0	Leonard, H. Selfe, Esq.	-	10	0		
Hall, Mrs. Newman	-	5	0	Lidgett, Miss	-	10	6		
Hall, S., Esq.	-	2	6	Lindsay, Professor	-	3	0		
Hamer, Mrs.	-	10	0	Lough, Mrs.	-	10	0		
Harbert, F. P., Esq.	-	5	0	Lough, Miss	-	1	6		
Harker, Mrs.	-	2	6						
Harris, Miss M.	-	2	6	Maclaverty, Mrs.	-	1	1	0	
Harris, Miss J.	-	2	6	Maidenhead B.W.T.A.	-	5	0		
Haslam, Miss E. R.	-	1	0	Malleson, Miss	-	1	0		
Hawkins, Miss J.	-	2	6	Mann, Mrs.	-	1	0		
Heycroft, Mrs.	-	1	1	0	Mansfield W.L.A. (2 yrs.)	-	10	0	
Headlam, Mrs.	-	1	1	0	Martin, Mrs. H.	-	2	6	
Heatherley, Mrs.	-	1	0	Martindale, Mrs.	-	5	0		
Henderson, Mrs.	-	2	6	Mason, Mrs.	-	1	1	0	
Herford, Mrs.	-	1	0	Mason, Miss Bertha	-	2	0	0	
Hewitt, Miss	-	1	0	Massingberd, Mrs.	-	16	1	0	
Heywood W. L. A.	-	5	0	Masters, Mrs.	-	2	6		
Hill, The Misses	-	5	0	May, Mrs.	-	5	0		
Hinde, Miss. E.	-	2	6	McKee, Miss E.	-	2	2	0	
Holar, Mrs.	-	2	6	McLachlan, Mrs.	-	1	1	0	
Holland, Mrs. John	-	1	1	0	McLaren, Mrs. Charles	-	5	0	0
Holloway, B. W. T. A.	-	5	0	McLaren, Mrs. Duncan	-	1	1	0	
Hollway, Mrs.	-	2	6	McLaren, Mrs. Eva	-	1	0	0	
Holmes, Mrs.	-	6		McLaren, W. S. B., Esq. M.P.	-	1	0	0	
Hope, Mrs. A.	-	10	0	Meade-King, Miss	-	1	0	0	
Hopper, Miss	-	2	0	Meehan, Miss	-	2	6		
Hopwood, C. H., Esq.	-	2	2	0	Menzies, Mrs.	-	1	0	
Hull W. L. A.	-	5	0	Mercer, Mrs.	-	2	6		
Hull, Miss Pauline	-	2	6	Merthyr Tydvil W.L.A.	-	5	0		
				Meyrick, J., Esq.	-	10	0		
Ilkeston W. L. A.	-	5	0	Meyrick, Mrs.	-	10	0		
Imeson, Miss S.	-	2	6	Middleton, Miss F.	-	5	0		
Imeson, Miss A.	-	2	6	Miers, Mrs.	-	2	6		
Ingram-Walker, Mrs.	-	10	6	Mills, Miss M.	-	2	6		
Ipswich W.L.A.	-	5	0	Minett, Mrs.	-	2	0		
Isaac, Miss	-	9		Mitchell, Mrs. E. H.	-	1	1	0	
Islington, North, W.L.A.	-	5	0	Mitchell, Dr. Julia	-	5	0		
				Moore, Mrs.	-	5	0		
James, Mrs. Gwilym	-	5	0	Morgan, O. V., Esq.	-	2	2	0	
Johnson, Mrs. S. J.	-	3	0	Morgan-Browne, Mrs.	-	10	0		
Johnston, Mrs. P.	-	10	0	Morgan-Browne, H., Esq.	-	5	0		
Jones, Mrs. Bligh	-	1	0	Morison, Miss C.	-	5	0		
Jones, Mrs. R. Compton	-	1	1	0	Morrison, Mrs. Frank	-	200	0	0
Joseph, Miss	-	5	0	Müller, Miss	-	10	10	0	
Justice, Miss H.	-	2	0	Mullion, Miss	-	2	0		
Kensington, North, W.L.A.	-	5	0	Murray, Rev. F.	-	10	0		
Kilgour, Miss	-	2	6	Myers, Miss Clara	-	2	6		
Kingston W. L. Assoc.	-	5	0						
Kimble, Mrs.	-	2	0	0	Nantwich W. L. Assoc.	-	5	0	
Kitton, Miss	-	2	6						
Knowles, Mrs.	-	5	0						



	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Narberth W. L. Assoc. -	5	0		Robertson, C. A., Esq. -	2	6	
Neligan, Miss A. -	2	6		Robertson, Mrs. I. Forbes	5	0	
Newcastle W. L. Assoc. -	1	1	0	Rochdale W. L. Assoc. -	5	0	
Newnham, Miss -	1	0	0	Roe, Mrs. -	1	0	
Newport and South Mon-				Rogers, Mrs. -	2	6	
mouthshire W. L. A. -	5	0		Rollason, Mrs. -	2	6	
Newtown W. L. Assoc. -	5	0		Roller, Mrs. -	10	0	
Nichol, Miss -	5	0		Royston W. L. Assoc. -	5	0	
Nightingale, Miss -	1	1	0	Rubie, Mrs. -	1	0	
Northcote, H. S., Esq. -	1	1	0	Russell, Lady Agatha -	10	0	
Nottingham Suffrage Society	10	0		Russell, Miss -	1	0	
				Russell, Miss (Weymouth)	1		
Ogilvie, Graeme, Esq. -	1	1	0	Ryley, Miss -	1	1	0
Owen, Mrs. (2 years) -	10	0					
				Sandbach W. L. Assoc. -	5	0	
Pagliardini, Cavallerio Tito	10	6		Savile, Mrs. Twemlow -	2	0	0
Pagson, Miss -	5	0		Sayer, Mrs. (2 years) -	7	6	
Pankhurst, Mrs. -	2	6		Schiller, Mrs. -	2	6	
Pardie, Mrs. -	10	0		Schloss, D. F., Esq. -	1	1	0
Parnell, Mrs. -	1	0	0	Seamore, Mrs. -	2	6	
Parsons, Miss -	1			Shapland, Miss K. -	1	0	
Partridge, Mrs. -	8	6		Sharpe, Miss -	2	6	
Pears, Mrs. -	1	0	0	Shaw, Mrs. -	1	1	0
Pearson, Mrs. Sharpe (2 yrs.)	1	0	0	Sherbrooke, Mrs. -	5	0	
Pelham, The Hon. Mrs. A. -	5	0		Shore, Miss Arabella -	2	2	0
Pembroke Dock W. L. A. -	5	0		Shore, The Misses -	10	6	
Penge & Beckenham W.L.A. -	5	0		Shore,—Esq. -	5	0	
Pennack, Mrs. -	2	6		Sibthorpe, Mrs. -	10	6	
Pennington, Mrs. -	5	0	0	Siekert, Mrs. Walter -	10	0	
Perry, Mrs. -	1	0		Sieveling, Miss Emmeline	2	6	
Phear, Miss -	1	6		Simpson, Mrs. -	2	6	
Philipps, Mrs. Wynford	2	2	0	Sinclair, Mrs. -	2	0	
Phillips, Miss March -	2	6		Slack, Mrs. Bamford -	2	1	0
Phillips, Miss F. -	5	0		Slarks, J. L., Esq. -	2	0	
Pike, L., Esq. -	10	6		Slatter, Miss -	2	6	
Pillow, Mrs. -	1	0		Smith, E. H., Esq. -	1	0	0
Pitman, Mrs. -	1	0		Smith, J., Esq. -	2	0	
Plowden, Lady (3 years)	1	10	0	Smith, Mrs. W. -	5	0	
Pochin, Mrs. -	5	0	0	Somerset, Wells Division,			
Poppleton, Mrs. -	1	1	0	W. L. Assoc. -	5	0	
Portsmouth W. L. Assoc. -	1	0	0	Soundy, Mrs. -	5	0	
Prince, Mrs. -			6	Southport W. L. Assoc. -	5	0	
				Southport Guild of the			
Ramsay, Mrs. -	1	0		Unrepresented -	10	0	
Ramsay, Miss A. -	1	0		Spokes, Miss M. -	10	6	
Ransom, Mrs. -	1	1	0	Stamford, Mrs. -	2	6	
Raphael, Mrs. -	1	0		Stanbury, Mrs. -	5	0	
Ravenstein, Mrs. (2 years)	10	0		Stanley, Miss M. -	0	6	
Read, H., Esq. -	1	1	0	Starkie, Mrs. -	2	0	
Read, Mrs. -	2	6		Steeds, Miss Hester -	1	0	
Redruth White Rose				Stevenson, Mrs. -	2	0	
Union -	5	0		Stewart, A. D., Esq. -	1	0	6
Reid, Mrs. Broadley -	5	0		Stewart, Miss Gertrude	1	2	6
Revell, Mrs. -	10	0		Stewart, Miss S. -	2	6	
Rhyl W. L. Assoc. -	5	0		Stewart, Miss M. -	2	6	

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Stewart, Mrs. -	2	6		Vincent, Miss -	5	0	
Stocker, Mrs. -	2	6		Vine, Miss A. A. -	5	0	
Stockport W. L. Assoc. -	5	0		Vine, Miss S. S. -	2	6	
"Suffrage Work" -	200	0	0				
Sunderland W. L. Assoc. -	1	6	0	Wadsworth, Mrs. -	2	6	
Swansea W. L. Assoc. -	5	0		Wall, Miss -	10	0	
Swanwick, Miss Anna -	1	1	0	Wallis, Mrs. J. (2 years)	10	0	
Sykes, Mrs. -	3	0		Ward, Mrs. W. -	10	6	
Syven, Mrs. -	0	6		Ward, Mrs. Councillor -	10	6	
				Warner, Mrs. F. -	1	1	0
Tanner, Mrs. -	1	1	0	Warner, Mrs. -	2	6	
Tanner, Miss S. J. -	1	1	0	Warren, Miss -	10	6	
Tanner, Miss -	2	6		Warwick and District W.			
Taylor, Mrs. Tom -	5	0	0	L. and R. Union -	5	0	
Taylor, W. H., Esq. -	2	6		Waterall, Nathaniel, Esq.	5	0	
Temple, Sir R. -	1	0	0	Wates, Joseph, Esq. -	1	1	0
Templer, Mrs. -	1	0		Watkins, Miss -	2	6	
Thomas, Mrs. -	10	0		Weiss, Mrs. -	1	0	0
Thomas, Mrs. (Hackney)	2	6		Wells, T. H., Esq. -	1	0	0
Thomas, Miss C. M. -	2	6		"Well-wisher" for Win-			
Thomas, Miss E. J. -	2	6		ter's Work -	200	0	0
Thomasson, Mr. and Mrs. -	100	0	0	Westmacott, Mrs. -	5	0	
Thompson, Mrs. (2 years)	5	0		Westminster W. L. Assoc.	5	0	
Thompson, Miss Catherine	5	0		Whelpton, Miss -	2	6	
Thomson, Miss A. C. -	2	6		Whiston, Miss -	2	6	
Thorndike, Mrs. -	5	0		Whiteman, Mrs. -	1	0	
Tisdale, Miss -	10	0		Willaston W. L. Assoc. -	5	0	
Todhunter, Mrs. -	10	0		Williams, Mrs. (Kentish			
Tolmé, Mrs. -	5	0		Town) -	2	6	
Tooley, Miss -	2	6		Williams, Mrs. -	2	6	
Tournier, Miss E. A. -	2	6		Williams, Miss Caroline	5	0	0
Travers, Miss (2 years) -	1	0	0	Williamson, Mrs. (2 years)	5	0	
Tritton, C. E., Esq. -	1	1	0	Williamson, Miss -	2	6	
Tucker,—Esq. -	2	0	0	Wilson, H. J., Esq. -	2	2	0
Tucker, Mrs. -	2	0	0	Wilson, Mrs. R. -	2	0	
Turkey, Miss Janet -	1	1	0	Winbolt, Mrs. -	1	0	
Turle,—Esq. -	1	10	0	Wilson, Miss -	2	6	
Turle, Miss -	2	6		Woodward, Miss -	5	0	
Turle, Miss S. A. -	10	0		Woodwiss, Mrs. -	5	0	
				Wyburnbury and Shav-			
Unwin, Mrs. (Chilworth)	1	1	0	ington W. L. Assoc. -	5	0	
Unwin, T. Fisher, Esq. -	10	6					
Unwin, Mrs. Fisher -	1	1	0	Yardley, Miss C. M. -	10	0	
Unwin, Mrs. Ludovic				Yeatts, Mrs. -	5	0	
(2 years) -	2	2	0	Young, T., Esq. (2 years)	1	0	0
Vickery, Dr. Alice -	5	0		Zimmern, Miss A. -	2	6	

### Affiliated Societies.

Alnwick Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Bell, Clive House, Alnwick.

Bedford and North Beds Women's Suffrage Society.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Edwin Ransom, 24, Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

Bridport Women's Suffrage Society.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Russell Carpenter, Bridport, Dorset.

Brighton Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Brignall, 31, College Road, Brighton.

Bristol Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Secs.*—Miss Tanner, 4, Beaconsfield Road, Clifton, Bristol.  
Miss M. Priestman, 37, Durdham Park, Redland  
Bristol.

Cardiff Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss A. M. Vaughan, 70, Llandaff Road, Cardiff.

Charlton Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Bentley, 560, Woolwich Road, New Charlton.

Cleator Moor Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Richardson, 51, High Street, Cleator Moor,  
Cumberland.

Colchester Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss L. Bedwell, 65, High Street, Colchester.

Coventry Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. James Cramp, The Firs, Radford Road, Coventry.

Crewe Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss K. H. Bland, Helmsville, Highton, Crewe

Dulwich Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Rubie, 38, Lacon Road, East Dulwich.

Edinburgh Society for Women's Suffrage.

*Secretary.*—Miss Kirkland, 13, Raeburn Place, Edinburgh.

Exmouth Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Lilley, 1, Raleigh Villa, Exmouth.

Flint Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. L. H. Williams, Pendre, Flint

Guildford Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Tayler, Mount House, Guildford.

Hackney, North, Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Samson, 22, Paget Road, Stoke Newington.

Haslington Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Pedley, Winterley House, Haslington, nr. Crewe.

Heywood Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Hardman Heywood, 18, Seymour St., Heywood.

Holloway British Women's Temperance Association.

Mrs. Lynn, 56, Hilldrop Crescent, Camden Road, N.

Hornsey Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Hindley, Lightcliffe, Shepherd's Hill, Highgate, N.

Hull and East Riding Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Bremner, 1, Clyde Terrace, Anlaby Road, Hull.

Hyde Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Morten, 50, Chapel Street, Hyde.

Ilkeston Division of Derbyshire Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Slack, Greenhill House, Ripley, near Derby.

Ipswich Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Owen, Gresham Lodge, Westerfield Road,  
Ipswich.

Islington North, Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Menzies, 149, Brecknock Road, N.W.

Keighley Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—W. Smith, Esq., Liberal Agent, Keighley.

Kensington North, Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss G. L. Mallet, 132, Cromwell Road, S.W.

Kensington South, Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Broadley Reid, 70, West Cromwell Road, S.W.

Kingston and District Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. H. Minett, Brooklyn, Park Road, Kingston Hill  
Surrey.

Leicester Women's Suffrage Society.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Edith Gittins, Salisbury Road, Leicester.

Mansfield Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. J. Harrop White, St. John's Place, Mansfield.

Merthyr and District Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Peter Williams, 3, Somerset Place, Merthyr Tydvil.

Mile End Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. M. Gould, 7, St. Paul's Road, Bow, E.

Milford Haven Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss McCall, 3, Hamilton Terrace, Milford Haven.

Nantwich Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Jackson, The Crofts, Nantwich.

Narberth Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Thomas Morgan, 2, North Buildings, Narberth.

Newcastle Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Moffat, 36, Falconar Street, Newcastle.

Newport and South Monmouth Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss G. E. Smith, 108, Stow Hill, Newport, Mon.

Newtown Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Evans, St. Mary's Villa, Newtown, N. Wales.

Nottingham Women's Suffrage Society.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Cowen, The Ropewalk, Nottingham.

Notts West, Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Allen, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham.

Paddington Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss A. L. Browne, 58, Porchester Terrace, W.

Pateley Bridge Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Daykin, Glass House, Pateley Bridge, Yorkshire.

Pembroke Dock Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Williams, 33, Laws St. South, Pembroke Dock.

Penge and Beckenham Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss A. W. Friend, 52, Kent House Road, Sydenham.

Plymouth Women's Liberal Association.

*President*—Miss Latimer, 3, Glenside, Plymouth.

Portsmouth Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Whiting, St. Augustine, Livingston Road, Southsea.

Redruth (Camborne Division of Cornwall) White Rose Union.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Dungey, Plain aw Gwarry, Redruth.

Rhyl Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Walker, Epworth College, Rhyl.

Ripon Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Terrell Garnett, Lucan House, Ripon.

Rochdale Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Watson, Horse Carrs, Rochdale.

Royston Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Titchmarsh, High Street, Royston.

Sandbach Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Bygott, Congleton Road, Sandbach, Cheshire.

Somerset (Wells Division) Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. A. Tanner, 9, Durdham Park, Clifton, Bristol.

Southport Guild of the Unrepresented.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Thew, 7, Trafalgar Road, Birkdale, Southport.

Southport Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Ryley, 14, Grosvenor Road, Birkdale, Southport

South Shields Branch of the British Women's Temperance Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Sanderson, Westloe Village, South Shields

Staffordshire, North, Women's Liberal Association.

*President*—Mrs. Holden Byles, Shelton, Hanley.

Sunderland Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Angus, 9, Grace Terrace, Sunderland.

Swansea Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss C. Wynne Thomas, 13, Bryn Rd., Swansea

Wakefield Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Treas.*—Miss Stonehouse, St. John's, Wakefield.

Warwick Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Boddington, High Street, Warwick.

Westminster Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Lidstone, 108, Horseferry Road, S.W.

Willaston Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss Eliza Handford, The Hollies, Willaston, near Nantwich.

Wolverhampton Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. John Jones, Ireton Lodge, Wolverhampton

Women's Progressive Society.

*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. Grenfell, 36, Stratford Road, Marloes Road, Kensington, W.

Wyburnbury and Shavington Women's Liberal Association.

*Hon. Sec.*—Miss E. J. Jenkins, The Crofts, Nantwich.

CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S  
SUFFRAGE.

FOUNDED 1872.

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

The Society seeks to achieve this object—

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

TITLE AND RULES, REVISED, 1888-9.

1. *Title.* The title of the Society is the "Central National Society for Women's Suffrage."
2. *Membership.* The Society consists (1) of all persons accepted by the Executive Committee, who signify approval of its object and who pay a subscription of any amount; (2) of organisations, so long as they are approved by the Executive Committee, which signify adherence to its object and pay an annual affiliation fee.
3. *Central Council.* The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Central Council, consisting:—
  - (a) Of delegates duly elected by each duly affiliated body in the following proportion: one representative for not less than 25 members; two representatives for 50 members; three representatives for 100 members; four representatives for above 100 members. Four representatives to be the maximum number sent by any affiliated body. The affiliation fee shall be 5s. for each representative sent to the Council.
  - (b) Of all Subscribers of whatever amount to this Society, provided they shall have been Subscribers for three months.
  - (c) Of the Executive Committee and of all the Vice-Presidents.
  - (d) The Central Council shall elect the Vice-Presidents.

4. *Executive Committee.* The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than 50 members to be chosen from the subscribers and from members of affiliated bodies, and shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting of the Central Council. The Executive Committee shall conduct the general business of the Society subject to the approval of the Central Council, and appoint its own officers, and shall make rules for the conduct of its own business. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies occurring in its members, and to add to the Vice-Presidents provisionally. Five members shall form a quorum. The Committee shall meet in London.

5. *Annual Meetings.* The General Meeting of the Society shall be held annually to receive the Report and consider the future work of the Society. The Annual Meeting of the Central Council shall be held before each Annual Meeting of the Society. Twenty-eight days' notice shall be given of such Annual Meetings to each affiliated body, and Subscribers to the Society.

6. *Special Meetings.* Special Meetings of the Central Council shall be called by 10 Members of the Executive Committee (including the honorary officers) or by 50 subscribers, or at the request of any six of the affiliated bodies; 14 days' notice of such meetings shall be given to every member of the Council. The notice shall specify the matters to be considered, and only such matters as are so specified shall be discussed at the meetings.

7. *Nomination of the Executive Committee.* Written nominations for candidates for election to the Executive Committee, together with the names of two subscribers as proposer and seconder, or of the affiliated body nominating, shall be sent to the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual Meeting of the Central Council.

8. *Accounts.* The accounts shall be presented, duly audited, at the annual meeting of the Society. The Auditor shall be appointed by the Central Council.

9. *Alteration of Rules.* No alteration shall be made in any of the Rules except at a General Meeting of the Society, of which fourteen days' notice, specifying the proposed alteration, shall have been given to the Executive Committee, to each affiliated body and to the Subscribers.

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# POSITION OF WOMEN

UNDER THE

## Local Government Act, 1894,

Popularly known as  
THE PARISH AND DISTRICT COUNCILS ACT.

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### INTRODUCTORY.

#### PARISH MEETINGS AND PARISH COUNCILS.

The Local Government (England and Wales) Act, 1894, makes new provisions for parochial government in all rural parishes, by Parish Meetings and Parish Councils.

#### DISTRICT COUNCILS AND LONDON VESTRIES.

The Act also provides that, not only in rural parts but throughout England and Wales, there shall be a class of Councils, to be termed District Councils, intermediate between Parish Councils on the one hand and County Councils on the other. (i.) In all Rural Districts\* (the Poor Law Union being taken as the unit of area and that part of it which is rural termed "Rural District") Rural District Councils are to be created. (ii.) In Urban Districts which are not Boroughs the existing sanitary authority (in most cases a Local Board) is to be reformed, and transformed into the District Council. (iii.) In Boroughs (that are not County Boroughs) the existing Town Councils are to be deemed District Councils, although in most respects outside the operation of the Act. Further, the Act renders possible the reform of the London Vestries, for it decrees that the provisions as to the election of District Councils in Urban Districts which are not Boroughs, and those respecting the qualification of the electors and of the persons to be elected, shall apply in the case of the London Vestries.

#### GUARDIANS.

The Act provides for re-modelling the constitution of Boards of Guardians throughout England and Wales, including London. There will, as heretofore, be a Board of Guardians for every poor law union. There will no longer be ex-officio Guardians.

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\* See Map on p. 4.

The Act also provides that in Rural Districts there shall be no separate Election of Guardians, but that the rural District Councillors shall sit as Guardians for the parishes which elected them as District Councillors, being joined on the Board of Guardians by the Guardians elected by any Urban District within the same poor law union. In all Urban Districts, whether boroughs or not, and in Metropolitan Districts, there will be a special election of Poor Law Guardians.

#### NEW REGISTER.

For the purpose of the election of the above Bodies, the Act creates a new Register, to be termed the Register of Parochial Electors. Parochial Electors, and no other persons, will have the right of voting in Parish Meetings and of electing Parish Councils, of electing District Councils (other than Town Councils), the London Vestries, and Boards of Guardians. It is noteworthy that in all these elections the separate parishes or wards of parishes elect their representatives separately. Whenever a poll is taken voting will be by ballot, and plural voting is disallowed.

#### POSITION OF WOMEN UNDER THE ACT.

The rights secured to women by the Act include their ancient parochial rights, and are large, but not equal to those secured to men.

#### ELECTORS.

In respect to the right to vote, women cannot as readily become Parochial Electors as men can. The new Register is to be made up of the Local Government Register and the Parliamentary Register. It follows that all women who can at present vote in County Council elections can be registered as Parochial Electors. Moreover, it is provided that marriage shall not disqualify a woman for voting in elections under this Act, provided that husband and wife shall not both be qualified in respect of the same property. The provision that marriage shall not disqualify is a great gain, for, with respect to elections under the Act\*, it puts an end to the anomaly of one revising barrister admitting married women's names, and another elsewhere refusing them. The inequality

\* County Council and even Town Council elections are not "elections under the Act."

between the electoral rights of men and women under the Act is introduced by the inclusion of the Parliamentary Register. This inclusion newly confers full parochial rights on three classes of men, without conferring them on the same classes of women: the three classes referred to are male owners, male lodgers, and men enjoying the service franchise.

#### CANDIDATES.

In respect to the right to be elected, all Parochial electors may be candidates in all elections under the Act, *i.e.*, for the Parish Council, the Council of an Urban District not a Borough, the Rural District Council, the Board of Guardians, and the London Vestry, and residence during the whole of the twelve-months preceding an election is an alternative qualification for standing as a candidate, provided that the residence required shall be in the case of a Parish Councillor residence in the parish or within 3 miles thereof, in the case of a District Councillor residence in the district, and in the case of a Guardian, residence in the poor law union. Thus, for the first time, it is provided by statute that women, married and single, may be candidates for Local Boards (now "Urban District Councils"), and for the London Vestries. As has been seen above, it is easier for a man to qualify as a parochial elector than for a woman, but the residential qualification is equal as between men and women, married and single, and will be invaluable as enabling many married women to give their services as Guardians, as District and Parish Councillors, and as members of London Vestries. There is, again, another qualification, which, as the law stands at present (women being ineligible as Town Councillors), will afford to men, and to men only, a third means of qualifying as Guardians and as Rural District Councillors: the provision is that if in any poor law union a Parish is wholly or partly within a Borough, every person who is eligible as Councillor for the Borough shall be qualified to be elected a Guardian for the Parish and a District Councillor for the Rural District (if any) comprised in the union.

In some Boroughs it has hitherto not been possible for a woman to be a candidate for the office of Poor Law Guardian, but this disability is removed, for the Act repeals so much of any Local Act as relates to the qualification of a Guardian.

Parish and District Councils will choose their own Chairmen. Women are not disqualified.

The Chairman of a District Council, "unless a woman," will, by virtue of the Office, be a Justice of the Peace. Women are thus explicitly disqualified from becoming magistrates under this Act.

CLAUSE 84.—(1).—"The first elections under this Act shall be held on the eighth day of November next after the passing of this Act, or such later date or dates in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four as the Local Government Board may fix."

### MAP

of one Poor-Law Union, showing (i.) twenty-five rural Parishes, forming one Rural District; (ii.) two Urban Districts, not being Boroughs; (iii) one Borough.



Borough of Honiton.

Urban Districts, not being Boroughs.

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## MEETING IN ST. JAMES'S HALL,

ON

NOVEMBER 10th, 1893.

A DENSELY crowded Meeting in the cause of Women's Suffrage was held in St. James's Hall on the evening of Friday, the 10th of November. The Rt. Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P., presided, and amongst those on the platform were:—The Hon. Lady Grey Egerton, Lady Dorothy Nevill, Lady Jane Taylor, Mrs. Cotton-Jodrell, Mrs. Leonard Courtney, Mrs. Eva McLaren, Mrs. Bateson, Mrs. Haweis, Mrs. Bamford Slack, Mrs. Russell Cooke, Miss Sharman Crawford, Miss Gwynne, Mr. & Mrs. Leeds, Mrs. Massingberd, Mrs. Morgan-Browne, Mrs. Müller, Miss Spicer, Hon. Mrs. Stephen Coleridge, Mrs. Roller, Mrs. Sheldon Amos, Mrs. Mallet, and many others.

For an hour before the proceedings commenced a charming selection of music was performed by the Pompadour Band.

During the evening the Chairman announced that Mrs. Josephine Butler was unable to be present and had telegraphed "Sickness of relative detains me. As one who has worked for many years to redress the deepest wrong done to womanhood, I have desired and steadfastly prayed for the granting of our just demand for the Suffrage. I am with you in spirit and have been for thirty years firmly convinced that the interests of all demand Women's Suffrage, not women's interests only." Also that Mr. Arthur Balfour—(hisses and applause)—had written greatly regretting that the multitude of his public affairs put it out of his power to be present. Letters had also been received from Lord Wolmer, Lady Henry Somerset, Mr. George Wyndham, Mrs. Garrett Anderson, Colonel Cotton-Jodrell and others. The Chairman also drew attention to the fact that those ladies who had not already signed the Appeal would be able to do so on leaving the Hall.

The CHAIRMAN on rising to address the Meeting was received with great applause and said:—Ladies and Gentlemen, it is not my purpose to occupy much of your time this evening, and I shall abstain from speaking at any length for two reasons. In the first place, I am strongly of opinion that a Chairman abuses his privileges who abridges the moments left to those who succeed him; next to the duty of dispensing justice and keeping order within an assembly is the duty of respecting the rights of those who have come to address it, and as there is a long list of eloquent and eminent persons whom you would like to hear, it would be unpardonable in me, simply because I am the man in possession—(laughter)—to go on speaking—occupying moments which are due to them. But secondly, I have this reason for being brief: that so far as I am concerned, this argument is closed. (Hear, hear.) We have been fighting it through many years, but we have come to a position in which there is left no serious antagonist. On all sides we see evidence of the increasing occupation of women in political work, and no development of our Institutions is suggested by whatever party may be in power, but it is taken as a matter of course that women are equally interested with men in their organisation, and that women equally with men, shall have the right of being represented in the bodies we set up to govern us. (Hear, hear.) This was done, now some years ago, in respect to Municipal Institutions, and whenever, as at this time of year, Town Councillors are elected, women occupiers, equally with men, have a voice in the choice of those who shall administer the affairs of the town in which they reside. And from Town Councillors we have gone on to give them votes in that which perhaps more deeply interests the welfare of the multitudes of the people—the administration of the Poor Law. (Applause.) We have done that not merely in admitting women to give votes for those who shall sit on Boards of Guardians, but we have had the satisfaction of seeing women themselves taking a leading and a beneficial part in the work of these Boards. And when, in the course of democratic extension, the time came for popularising our counties, women were admitted to votes for the County Council; and in the Bill now before Parliament women are given equal rights, or are proposed to be given equal rights, with men, in voting for Parish and District Councils. (Cheers.) All parties are thus committed to that for which we are contending; nor can any other result be anticipated when we realise the fact that there is no party in the State but is now eager to enlist women amongst its workers and amongst those whose influence shall be brought to bear upon the opinion of the country, and to attract supporters to the parties they advocate. The Primrose League has been the occasion of many a scoff, but its bitterest and most scornful enemies must admit that this League enlisted women in the work of their cause and showed that, in their opinion at all events, women, equally with men, were interested in the institutions of the country. The Liberal Federation has followed the lead of the Primrose League, the Liberal Unionists have not been behind in copying their example; and now that we have the spectacle on every side of women being thought worthy and capable of persuading others how they shall give their votes, and what opinions they shall hold, is it to be tolerated any longer that women, those thus capable of advising, should be incapable of voting,—should be capable of inculcating opinions in others, and incapable of expressing those opinions for themselves.

(Hear, hear.) We have no doubt left among us a certain number of survivors of a large host who without being ready to give any reason for their opposition are content to say with the enemy of Dr. Fell that they don't like Women's Suffrage. They are a dwindling body, they are passing away, and since they are diminishing and since their day is going, we may, I think, let them expire in peace. (Laughter and cheers.) It is enough for us that here in the United Kingdom all leaders of opinion, all organisations of political action, are deeply committed to the co-operation of women in political life, and nothing is done to extend the activity of our fellow citizens without women being held entitled to participate with men in the functions so entrusted to them. It may be that we members of Parliament, uncertain which way women's votes will be cast, knowing we are in the saddle, and not knowing what accident may throw us out, it may be that some of us are unready to face a change which affects ourselves, but if we are all of opinion that women should vote for Town Councillors—which we are not—and for County Councillors—which we may not be—and for Parish Councillors—only a fraction of whom can be ourselves—we cannot hesitate to confess that argument and precedent are all against our reluctance and we must give way. (Hear, hear.) And we are able to say that not in Great Britain and Ireland alone, but in kindred communities elsewhere, the cause of Women's Suffrage is progressing. There was a time when we had to rely upon poor little Wyoming, a distant unknown territory associated in the minds of most of us with that Lady Gertrude of whom Campbell wrote. Well, Wyoming is a rising and a growing place, and if there were no other in the world we should hail with satisfaction the testimony that Women's Suffrage is working well in that territory. Then came the Isle of Man, which covered itself with glory in giving women votes, and I am able to declare, after enquiry of the Governor of that very interesting Dependency, that no one thinks of reversing the step taken and that the people of the Isle of Man are exceedingly contented with what they have done and that those who hesitated at first are more than reconciled now the thing is accomplished. Well, from the Antipodes comes the last news that in New Zealand—(loud applause)—woman is enfranchised. No old community that, (hear, hear) no reactionary government there—and if there is one Government on the face of the earth more progressive than another I believe the Government of New Zealand is at this moment entitled to pre-eminence; but not merely the Government but the Opposition have co-operated in bringing about the result which is there accomplished. By one of those fortuitous occurrences which at times happen almost providentially in one's life, yesterday morning I got from New Zealand the statute—here is a copy of it—which gives to women the vote upon terms identical with those on which it is given to men. And then they have had elections in America, and from America the news this morning comes that in Colorado Women's Suffrage has won. It is suggested indeed by the correspondent who sends the news that women are scarce in Colorado and that the voters want to entice them over by giving them the Franchise. (Laughter.) There may be some truth in this, but however attractive the bait used to draw women to the far West, I rather think that Colorado has acted like Wyoming and we may look for other States in the West to follow the example thus set. Now with all



these evidences about us, and from the furthest parts of the sea, I hold, as I said, that the argument may be considered closed. We may demonstrate our opinion, but we know that the thing we seek for is inevitably ours and that it will be conceded within no distant time. (Applause.) I rejoice to think that we are near to the fulfilment of our desires, I can wait with patience for the full fruition which is at hand, and I hope that you will also join with me in congratulating ourselves upon the prospect which is so near, and that you will share my satisfaction on the near accomplishment of our wishes. And now without further trespassing on your patience and on the time of those who have come here to address you, I will call upon Mrs. Fawcett to move the first resolution. (Loud cheers.)

Mrs. FAWCETT said:—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, the resolution I have the honour of submitting to you is as follows:—

“That, in the opinion of this Meeting, the Parliamentary Franchise should be granted to women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men; and this Meeting urges upon Her Majesty’s Government and upon Parliament that, in any Bill dealing with the Franchise or with Registration which may be considered by the House of Commons, provision should be inserted to extend the Franchise to women; and this Meeting resolves to memorialise the Prime Minister in the terms of this Resolution.”

I am very glad that the resolution that has been placed in my hands raises before the Meeting the probability that the Franchise question will be re-opened in the very near future, because that brings our question of the admission of women to political privileges within the region of practical politics. It is, then, when the Franchise question is re-opened that we should earnestly desire the inclusion of women within the Parliamentary pale, should earnestly impress upon Parliament and the Government of the day both the necessity and the justice of extending the Franchise to women. It is for this purpose especially that an appeal, with which I think many here are familiar, has been promoted by a Committee of which I have the honour to be a member. It is now hoped that we shall all, sinking minor differences, unite together to impress upon the Government and upon Parliament the claim of women to the protection of Parliamentary representation. Under these circumstances, and with this prospect in view, we looked anxiously, I may say many of us looked anxiously, at the recent speeches that have been made by members of Her Majesty’s Government for some indication of what they intended to do upon this Franchise question, and I think, rather to my surprise, I may say, that light rose in a rather unexpected quarter. We know that the Home Secretary, Mr. Asquith—(hisses and applause)—is not distinguished as an advocate of Women’s Suffrage, that he has been, on the contrary, an opponent of it; but speaking not long ago at Glasgow he made use of these words, he said, “Before we have another appeal to the constituencies of the country, we desire to secure that that appeal should be made to a constituency which really reflects and represents the nation.” I should like to know what nation there is in the world that consists of one sex only. We must try to tie Mr. Asquith down to these words, and remind him, if he should show any symptoms of forgetting, that “male and female created He them,” and that to the end of time the inviolable law of Nature will be that a nation consists not of men only, but of men and women. (Applause.) We

shall have to ask our legislators to follow at a humble distance the teaching of Nature in this matter. Our opponents are very fond of saying that they rely upon Nature. We will ask them to try and follow the teaching of Nature, and whether in this matter when the time comes, the principle “One man, one vote,” is to be accompanied by the antagonistic principle, “No woman, no vote”? There was another favourable symptom in another speech of Mr. Asquith’s. We must not be in a hurry to condemn Mr. Asquith—everything that lives has the principle of growth in it, and his mind may be progressive and may be growing in this matter. In a later speech delivered at Leeds, Mr. Asquith said that he did not believe that a man could be a good Liberal if he were a Liberal only for the purpose of returning good men to Parliament—no doubt by good men he means members of the present Government—he must also be a Liberal, an active Liberal, in those matters which lie at his own door, and I am quite sure that meant on his own hearth, because he goes on, Liberal Government begins at home. Well, if Liberal Government had always been like charity and begun at home, I do not think we should have had any necessity to assemble in these large numbers this evening in St. James’s Hall to claim for women the benefit and protection of Parliamentary representation. I am sure that too many Liberals have been false to the principles of Liberalism in this matter, because every argument that is used by them to promote an extension of the Franchise among men is equally applicable to its extension among women; and I may say, speaking for myself, that I think that Liberalism tends to wear a somewhat disgusting aspect, when those who profess Liberal principles are ready and willing to put those principles in their pockets the moment they cannot put them into application on their own account. It tempts us to the thought that those which are supposed to be Liberal principles are merely catchwords, intended to catch voters—(hear, hear)—and do not represent conscientious and well-founded convictions. One of the principal leaders of the Liberal party at the present moment—not, I am afraid, of Women’s Suffrage, but of another matter—Mr. John Morley—(loud applause)—said: “There is only one thing that can destroy the Liberal party, and that thing will happen on the day when the Liberal party shall cease to be faithful to its own convictions and staunch to its own professions.” All we ask of Liberals is that they should be true to their own convictions and put into practical application this maxim with regard to representation and liberty which they have preached up and down the country for the last fifteen or twenty years. One word of advice to those women who are really eager to promote the Enfranchisement of their own sex. They will receive many invitations to take part in Parliamentary contests; many gentlemen will ask them to come and help them win a seat who do not think that women are fit to be entrusted with the vote. I advise my friends to decline all such invitations. They will have plenty of opportunities and chances, whatever political party or creed they adhere to, of giving their work and zeal on behalf of those men who are consistent in this matter of Women’s Suffrage—(hear, hear)—and need not put any gentleman in the ridiculous and humiliating position of asking women to work for him and at the same time not desiring to allow them to exercise the Franchise in a sensible manner. I give this advice the more readily because for several years I have acted upon it myself. I have found that it is a very reason-

able principle to be guided by, and it has saved me a little trouble in some directions, and has led me to act in a consistent manner. I think that in this matter we must learn to be consistent, and be taught by the general principles which guide human nature. One of Dickens' characters gave utterance to the aphorism "There's a deal of human natur' in a man." Well, this human nature leads a man very often to take all he can get and give very little in return. Human nature is apt to like a good bargain and not give anything for what it wants, if it can be had for nothing. And so long as women will go on working for Parliamentary candidates who are opposed to Women's Franchise, I think we shall not see this question progress as rapidly as we should like. In society the principle of success lies in making oneself agreeable, but in politics it seems to me it often lies in making oneself disagreeable. (Laughter.) We must have the courage to make ourselves disagreeable if we would win the cause for which we are pledging ourselves to-night. A few weeks ago a letter appeared in the *Times* in which our respected Chairman was seriously taken to account by a gentleman who signed his name as "Donald Cameron," writing from Egypt; he appeared to think that things were in a very bad way indeed because our friend supported Women's Suffrage, and his two arguments appeared to be mainly these: (1) that the British Empire was won by fighting, and that women could not fight and did not wish to fight; and (2) that this movement for the Enfranchisement of women would promote hatred between the sexes, or as he said in another part of the letter, vile recrimination between men and women. Let us look at these arguments.

(1.) The British Empire won by fighting. I am not one of those who disparage in any way the usefulness of the British army. I think there are some things worth fighting for. There are nations who have been able to do nothing but fight, and those nations have soon found themselves in this position, they had nothing left worth fighting for. (Hear, hear.) The history of the great progressive nations of the world is not written upon battle fields, it is a history of progressive social development, of gradual evolution, social, political, industrial, moral and religious, and of England still more than any other nation in the world, is it not true that its history has been written not only on battle fields, but in this progress of social evolution; and in this progress no unimportant part has been borne by the change which has been making itself felt in the position and sphere of women. If we look for a moment at the signs of this change we shall find an answer to Mr. Donald Cameron's second argument about recrimination between the sexes, because if we look back into the literature of the past, it is ten to one, if we find any reference to women at all, that that reference is in terms of contumely and scorn expressed in no restricted language. Take for instance St. Thomas Aquinas, who, as Mr. Coventry Patmore was so kind as to remind us a few weeks ago in his Volume of Essays, said that he considered woman "hardly a reasonable animal," and St. Chrysostom wrote of woman that she was a "necessary evil, a natural temptation, a domestic peril, a deadly fascination and a painted ill," and if we come nearer to our own times we may see something of this same spirit in the writings, for instance, of John Knox, who spoke of woman as "a port and gate of the devil," and again another writer said "destructive, damnable, deceitful woman." Passing to a later century still, we find the tone becoming more kindly, but still hardly as respectful as we now look

for, if I may recall to your memory in terms which I am sure Sir Wilfrid Lawson would not approve, the lines which spoke of woman as "an excuse for a glass." Well, if we contrast these sentiments with those which we now find in the writings of Tennyson, Browning, Meredith, do we not feel that Mr. Donald Cameron's fears about hostility between the sexes and vile recriminations may be set at rest? We claim then that this movement, far from causing hostility between the sexes, has put an end to that hostility which disgraced their relationship in former times. We claim to stand side by side with men as their friends and companions, not as their rivals. We are saying to men: "We are human as you are, treat us as such." (Applause.) Before I sit down I must say two words about the faith and the hope that is in us. Mr. Courtney has referred to the hope that is in us, and to the great encouragement those hopes have received within recent times. Hope, as we all know, "springs eternal in the human breast," and we have much to encourage that hope, especially that victory in New Zealand, to which our Chairman has alluded, and which I may tell you, although he did not, was much helped and promoted by the efforts of his brother-in-law, Mr. Oliver. I, too, had letters from New Zealand giving the details of that victory, and I was told that thousands of women were sending in their names to be placed upon the register of voters, thus contradicting those who assert that "women do not want the Franchise." There are other things that make our hopes high within us, many signs of new forces coming to our aid, I refer to that band of noble women who have been meeting this week at Leeds, the Central Conference of Women Workers, and also to the growth of that great movement to which Mrs. Josephine Butler has devoted her life. (Applause.) We deeply regret that she is not able to be present with us this evening, but we know that her heart and soul will be with us so long as breath remains in her body. We have hope also in the good work that women are doing in many directions, in the increasing industrial strength of women—in the good work being done by women as Factory Inspectors, Sanitary Inspectors, and work in connection with the Commission on Labour. But still for the work that we have in hand we need something higher than the evidence of material progress. We need faith in each other—I take that as a matter of course—but we need higher faith still, faith in the invincible power of goodness and righteousness. If we have that faith in us we shall never lose heart nor doubt for an instant of the final triumph of the cause we are striving for. Let us go on then in the spirit of the last verse that Browning gave us:—

One who never turned his back but marched breast forward  
 Never doubted clouds would break,  
 Never dreamed, though right were worsted, wrong would triumph,  
 Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better,  
 Sleep to wake.

✓ Sir WILFRID LAWSON, who was warmly received, said, in seconding the resolution:—Mr. Chairman, this is not the first time I have addressed an audience under your presidency, but in another place, and that audience, though not so numerous, was somewhat more turbulent. (Laughter.) But, Sir, whatever kind of mind the audience might be in in the House of Commons, whenever you have presided over it you have done so with signal and striking success. (Hear, hear.) And you had all sorts of people there,

all sorts of bad characters—(hear, hear)—every shade and colour of politics; you had Tories and Liberals, and Unionists, and Liberal Unionists, and Radicals and Irishmen of all sorts and sizes, and you managed to keep order among them all, and I believe you will keep order to-night, although we have here, as seen by the programme, persons of every shade of politics. Perhaps, Sir, it is rather more difficult here in one way, than in the House of Commons, because there none of them were women. We are mixed with women to-night, but I anticipate we shall have no rows. Why? Because we are all animated by one desire and aiming at one object, and I think it is a good object. What have we come here for to-night? Not to discover gold reefs with which to enrich ourselves, not to support any political faction, not to advocate any special line in general politics, not to promote class legislation of any sort, but to insist that the constitution of this country shall henceforth, if we can manage it, be based on justice and on justice alone. Why do we expect great things from that? Because I believe Mr. John Bright was right when he described justice as the miracle worker, and it is a miracle that we can be as friendly as we are. But we are not only for justice, but for freedom. It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that justice and freedom are Siamese twins—together they live, but separated they both die. And we say that a person is not free who is debarred by any fancied idea from exercising the rights of citizenship in a country called free; we say that the possessors of political power are unjust when they exclude any for these reasons from the exercise of that power. Why do the dispensers of justice and power act thus? Why do they keep women out of the pale of citizenship? Why, Mr. Chairman, you described it pretty well. They do not give any real reasons, but they say, "Oh, they are women," and I think that is about enough. You alluded to those lines about Dr. Fell, but you did not quote the whole of them, perhaps you do not all know them; I will repeat them and give you my version. The original was evidently written by a schoolboy who did not like his master:

"I do not like you, Dr. Fell,  
The reason why I cannot tell;  
But this I do know very well,  
I do not like you, Dr. Fell."

Now, I think that our opponents say this:

"We do not like the woman's vote,  
The reason why we can't denote;  
But still we can repeat by rote,  
We do not like the woman's vote."

This is about the long and short of it, I think, but still they are obliged to use some arguments, and when I found I had been pressed into the service to-night, I began to look up what the arguments of the enemy were, and I found a number of curious things. I found that the opponents of women's suffrage say, "Oh, you know, if you let women have the Franchise they will be under the influence of the clergy." (Hear, hear.) Well, why not? What are clergy for except to influence people? Fancy sending a boy to church and saying to him, "My dear boy, you must go to church to-day, but whatever you do you must not be influenced by anything the parson says." It is like the old farmer of whom Tennyson wrote:

"An I niver knaw'd whot a mēan'd but I thowt a 'ad summut to saäy,  
An' I thowt a said what a owt to' a said an' I coom'd awaäy."

If they really do so much harm to women and make them bad politicians, rather than disenfranchise the women let us disestablish the parsons. (Loud applause.) You see there is a remedy for every evil if we go the right way about it. Well then, Mrs. Fawcett alluded to this objection—politics have a great deal to do with wars and rumours of wars and expeditions and so forth—"You should not let women vote because they cannot fight." Mrs. Fawcett said they did not want to fight. I should not like to have to fight them, "But by jingo if they do"—(laughter)—that is all I can say. But look at these arguments. If nobody is to have a vote who cannot fight what is to become of old men or cripples, or Quakers? We must disfranchise them all. Nobody with a bodily infirmity must have a vote, and when the Registrar Officer goes round and finds that in all respects a man is entitled to vote, must he ask him "but have you got the rheumatism?" What nonsense it is, as if you could not vote for a person to do a thing because you cannot do it yourself. The next argument is, "Oh, they will all go together, they will swamp us." I have been swamped all my life by somebody or other, there has never yet been a reform that I have not been told "this will swamp somebody." Many people have an idea that all women are Tories. I do not think that is so, but that would have no effect upon me. I would vote for women to have the Suffrage if every one of them were Tories and not a sensible woman amongst them. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Why? Because I believe what Mr. Gladstone wrote some months ago. He said that the experience of a long life had taught him that liberty was a good thing in itself. But what nonsense it is to think women will all go one way. I sometimes read the proceedings of one of the Franchise Leagues and I have seen pretty sharp debates recorded there. Look at our temperance bodies; Lady Henry Somerset has had some fights; she did not find everybody on one side. And look at this great Home Rule question which bothers our lives out of us, women are all split up on that. You need not be at all afraid of women going in a mass. Then the next thing is, "They do not want it." Very well, what harm can be done? If they do not want it, I suppose they won't use it; it is only a Permissive Bill we want. We want to allow women to vote if they please. We are told they are not fit for it, what does that mean? It means that women are either morally or mentally inferior to men; which is it? Is it a deficiency of the head or of the heart? (Laughter, and a voice "the heart.") I do not think it is the heart. I am always guided by the evidence of my opponents. You remember, Mr. Chairman, that exhaustive speech which Mr. Samuel Smith made in the House last Parliament, strongly against women having the Franchise. He was frightened out of his wits. He said, "If you grant the Franchise to women, you will make them bishops." For my own part I do not see why they should not be made bishops. Mr. Samuel Smith said, "I freely admit that women possess a finer organisation than men, they are more unselfish, and generally speaking more moral and religious," and I say so too—(cheers)—and when Mr. Samuel Smith and I agree, it must be right. So much for their hearts, that is evidence enough, but now for their heads. Do you think that if women had a hand in politics they could possibly do anything more absurd than men?

(Laughter.) Let us take some instances of the way men go on; I won't say it is wrong, because the institutions are supported by many excellent people, I only say absurd. Men govern Europe. Everybody who professes the Christian religion professes to worship the Prince of Peace, and the way men show that respect is by keeping up four million armed men to cut other people's throats! I do not think women could do worse than that. A very able young fellow got up in the House of Commons the other day and told us he was very much engaged in civilizing the Matabele by shooting them! Then take the drink question. Everybody is in favour of sobriety and temperance, and the law under which we live is made by men so as to make people drunk by Act of Parliament. Well, I do not think women would do worse than that. Take a precedent that took place in the House of Commons last session. A great measure occupied our time, some thought it very bad, some thought it very good (we are all divided about it here). The curious part was that we worked away for eighty-two days at that great measure, and every man in the House knew that it could not be carried because it would be thrown out in another place. (I will not name the measure, it would be dangerous to do so here, but it was a great measure.) We sat there for eighty-two days, wrangling and jangling, conspiring and perspiring, and planning and slanging, and one might even say fighting, and yet every man in that House, Liberal or Conservative, knew that he might just as well have been in the Hebrides. Could women do anything more foolish than that? Nothing. We men are beginning to see that we want the help of women in our political life to make us a little more rational as well as respectable—(applause)—and I believe that this united movement of all parties, as I understand it, which we are supporting to-night, will hasten on the triumph of women. The Bishop of St. David's the other day said, "Politics is a noble profession." I want that noble profession to be still more ennobled by the influence of good and patriotic women, for this is an influence which will tend to the safety and welfare of our Sovereign and her dominions. (Great applause.)

Here a disturbance occurred at the back of the Hall, one of the audience calling out amid a good deal of uproar that he had an amendment to propose.

The CHAIRMAN:—I have had notice of a desire to move a rider to this resolution to this effect:—

"That no extension of the Franchise can be considered satisfactory short of Universal Adult Suffrage."

I have to state that this rider is irrelevant to the motion now before the meeting, and I should be perfectly justified in ruling it out of order. (Uproar in the gallery.) I have been assured by those who desire to support this rider that if permitted to speak they will only occupy the attention of the Meeting a very few minutes, and I have therefore decided to allow the rider to be moved by Mrs. Mary Gray, of the Council of the Social Democratic Federation, and seconded by Mrs. Marx-Aveling.

Mrs. MARY GRAY was received with much applause from the back of the Hall, and said:—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in moving this rider. We are not opposed to the Women's Suffrage, but we want a just Suffrage, and we claim that no Suffrage is just unless every man and woman over the age of twenty-one can share in this

enfranchisement. We say that while there are hundreds and thousands of men and women to-day starving, that these men and women should be allowed a vote, should be allowed to have a voice in the framing of the laws that rule them, and this resolution would only allow a very few women of my class a vote. I should not have a vote, and there are hundreds and thousands of women in the same position, and hundreds and thousands of men who would not have a vote, who are quite as intelligent and quite as capable of recording their vote as the women that are now claiming a vote to-night. (Hear, hear.) Well, I recognise that the women on this platform are quite as much social slaves as I am to-day—that they have wrongs that want to be righted. I am willing to work hand in hand, but I am not willing to exclude my own class or a portion of my own class. What I want is justice, freedom, equality, and I mean to fight for it. That is why the organization to which I belong has sent me here to-night, not to oppose the Women's Suffrage—because we want them to have the vote—but to advocate that every woman over twenty-one and every man over the age of twenty-one should have a vote. I do not wish to infringe upon the time of this meeting, but what I want to infer is that if you will only think of it in your own minds you will see that no enfranchisement is just that excludes any man or woman who has sufficient intellect from voting. We want to be educated up to the point of voting and we never shall be, we shall never get a proper education for our children, never get such disgraceful precedents exterminated as those we have just seen at Featherstone, until we get enfranchisement, and when we talk about women not sitting in Parliament because they cannot fight, I ask you do the men that legislate fight? No, they send other people to do the dirty work. And I contend that if women had a vote, or were allowed a seat in Parliament, that they would not use it to fight, but they would use it for peace, they would be more just, at least, than men have been hitherto; we should not have such misery and degradation if men and women were to stand side by side, shoulder to shoulder for the good of the whole human race. That is what I want. I want the children of the coming generation to grow up fit citizens to be entrusted with the vote, not that we should be thought simply rebels. We revolt against anything that is unjust, untrue, and I say that no vote, no enfranchisement that is not given to every man and woman is just. I care not what others may say, I stand here perfectly fearless, demanding justice for my class and for all other classes. They have denied me the right of education, they deny me the right to live, and therefore I have nothing to lose, I have nothing to fear, I have all the world to gain.

✓ Mrs. MARX-AVELING: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Comrades, we have been told to-night that all parties are represented here, the Chairman and other speakers mentioned the Tories and Liberals and the Liberal Unionists and the various shades into which these, or rather this one party, tail off—(hear, hear)—but we who are moving this rider are here for a party which has not been mentioned by the Chairman, but it is a party which is destined sooner or later to swallow up all the other parties. We are here for the Labour Party, for the Socialist Party. (Cheers.) We have been told that if women have the vote they would be led by the clergy, or that they would vote for the Tories or Liberals,—that is to assume that woman is a nonentity, an assumption which is never made in the case of man. We women have our class interests just as much as the men have,

and if to-day an election were to take place we know perfectly well that the miners and mine-owners have no interests in common. Do you suppose that the miners' wives have other interests than those of their class; do you imagine that the miners' wives, if they had the vote, would cast that vote for the Tories or Liberals or clergy rather than listen to the cry of their little children who are asking them for bread? That cry is ringing in the ears to-day of hundreds and thousands of women, and that cry is teaching the women and men of that class that they have nothing to hope from either of the other parties. It is teaching them to come to these meetings—as we have come—to demand Universal Suffrage in order that the class to which they belong may come forward and urge their rights. The women and men of the working class have one interest in common. We ask for Universal Suffrage, we ask for the Suffrage for the thousands of men who are to-day excluded from the vote. We want these men and women to have the vote to enable them to use it for the benefit of their class. For that we are here, for that we shall agitate, and we may rest assured of one thing, that there is no fear that the women of the working class will vote for either Tory or Liberal. They will vote for their own class, they do not care for party differences—they care everything for their own class. They take their stand upon class—the workers demand the vote.

The CHAIRMAN then put the rider to the vote of the meeting, but on a show of hands had no difficulty in declaring it was lost. The resolution was then put and adopted by a very large majority.

✓ Mrs. WYNFORD PHILIPPS said:—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, from this meeting at least we have learned one great lesson, that women will not be all on the same side in politics. Where at least will be the argument that all women will be Tories in the future? I am quite sure that all of us who have the welfare of women at heart will rejoice to know that in every class, in every section of the community, amongst all parties in Parliament and all sections outside Parliament, we have women with strong voices ready to advocate the claims of womanhood. There are so many women in every town, in every hamlet, and of every class down to the very poorest, who show their wisdom and their common-sense; there are so many modern, let me say civilised, women to be everywhere found in such increasing numbers, that it is most astonishing why the vote is so long refused to them. But if you quote these women, you are told they are "exceptional" women. Directly a woman speaks on a platform someone gets up and thinks he has settled the question by saying, "But other women cannot speak like you." What a national misfortune it would be if every voter could speak on a public platform, and we had got to listen to him or her, and what an equal misfortune it would be if the Franchise were limited to those who were able to express themselves with a loud voice. Now I find that when I make the most commonplace statement, express an ordinary everyday feeling for justice, show a faint gleam of humour, I am at once told, "Oh, it is all very well, but you are an exceptional woman," even although what I say is only what hundreds and thousands of other women think, and is interesting and important only because I speak of what many earnest workers among women are doing. But we are told, "Oh, these women are 'exceptional' and we must not

legislate for exceptions." That is all very well, but we must not legislate as if there were no exceptions. We know that there are so many different kinds of men, that we give them every chance in life to develop, we treat them as if they were made by hand, we recognise that they have been well and wonderfully made and have received their individual touches, but we treat women as if they had all been turned out in one mould, and a not very good mould at that. It is this that is galling to women, not the fact that great Dame Nature has made them women. The very women who are against Women's Suffrage themselves feel the disadvantages of being women, and are notable examples of those who would benefit by Enfranchisement. As Marie Bashkirtseff says (I quote that immature but impassioned genius in one of her bold impromptus, because in her wonderful book she had the courage to say what so many other people think and lack the courage to say):—

"Marriage is the only career for women: men have thirty-six chances, women only one—as with the Bank at the gaming-table, but nevertheless the Bank is almost sure to win; they say it is the same with women, but it is not so, for there is winning and winning.

"Oh profound ignorance, oh cruel venture!

"Even if we talked most reasonably, we should be subject to the old well-worn scoffs with which the Apostles of Women are overwhelmed. After all, there may be some cause for laughter. Women will always remain Women. But still, supposing they were brought up in the way men are trained, the inequality which I regret would disappear, and there would remain only that which is inherent in nature itself. Ah, well, no matter what I may say, we shall have to go on shrieking and making ourselves ridiculous (I will leave that to others) in order to gain this equality a hundred years hence. As for myself, I will try to set an example by showing society a woman who shall have made her mark, in spite of all the disadvantages with which it pampered her."

Now when people tell us that we must not legislate for exceptions, and point out the beauties and advantages of this one great chance for women, the marriage condition: we must remember in answering this argument that the number of exceptions, the number of necessarily independent women, is very rapidly mounting up. What chances are there for those women who are bound to be independent? Remember this, you never know what particular woman in life may have to earn her own living, and if so she wants to exist honourably. Though we think it impossible that we shall have to do so because we are supported by somebody else, because we are happily married, we can never know for certain what turns the wheel of life may take, and it ought to come home to us still more that we can never know which one of our children may be forced to support herself. Now until comparatively recently, there were but four chances given to women:—Marriage, domestic service, ill-paid labour in certain factories and other directions, or that last unspeakable vocation which now at least is no longer recognised by our nation, thanks to the advocacy of Mrs. Josephine Butler—(Applause)—who is our Women's Rights most noble champion. People might have been content to go on for a long time preventing women from having any well-paid employment, from flooding the fields of science, art, trade, finance and adventure, had not practical, personal, pressing reasons, forced them to face life for themselves, in ever increasing numbers. The census confronts us with the indubitable fact

that there will be one million old maids in the next generation—the “exceptions” in fact have mounted up so much that they can no longer be ignored. There is no blinking the fact that there are nearly four million wage-earners in this country who are bound to support themselves and who depend upon no man for their own honourable support. Now what has this necessity for work taught women? It has taught them that work is a blessing in disguise. Indeed, all women ought to work, all women who have started doing any work have learned that the worst kind of life is the useless life. (Hear, hear.) And a workless life is indeed a worthless life. There are many women who think they are busy who yet soon learn that if their mind is well trained, they might do far more work than they are doing; how can we help them to find out their worth? Professor Sidgwick, one of the great supporters of Women’s Suffrage, says we cannot overrate the power—the great silent power—of expectation. If we study the history of oratory we all know this, we all see this. If you appeal to men and women as heroes you find heroes to answer you; if you appeal to men and women as mere brutes you find animals ready to devour. Even from their earliest babyhood we underrate our women; we say to our daughters in the nursery, “You are only a girl,” but we say to our boys, “Show you are a boy.” If the former develops her muscles like her brothers she is called a tom-boy, if she studies she is called a blue-stocking. Now science tells us about Hypnotism, and our attention is daily drawn to the astonishing results of ordinary human influence. We mothers all sometimes “Kiss the place to make it well,” and we do make it well, and the Englishmen who won one of England’s greatest battles were no doubt greatly under the influence of the flash that ran all along the line, “England expects every man to do his duty.” Do we teach women from the beginning what *their* public duties are, and tell them that we expect them to do these duties? It seems to me that the very strongest of all reasons why we should claim the vote is the great effect it will have upon the *character* of our women, teaching them how to help the world by their wisdom, teaching them that they would be more womanly—not less womanly—if they care for all the other babies and not only for their own; and I say that the vote would be the recognition of *our nation’s great expectations of her womanhood*. There are many men in favour of women being educated, who approve of industrial and economic advance, and are yet against their Enfranchisement. They say, “We are going to do all that for them.” But they take a long time doing it, so long that women begin to think that they could do it a great deal better for themselves if they had the chance. The argument that men could do better for them than they could do for themselves is always used by the opponents to the extension of the Franchise. We do not say that women cannot get on without the vote, but what we do say is that she will get on a great deal faster with the vote and if she has a direct control in the choice of the legislators, educators and administrators. That most cheery of all reformers, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, just now parodied the old school lines on Dr. Fell; his poetic efforts inspired mine, and with all apologies, because I cannot do justice to my prototype, I would like to tell you in rhyme what occurred to me with regard to Women’s Suffrage:—

“In work she has naught but to ply with her needle,  
In politics naught but to try with her wheedle.

Whenever a champion both noble and staunch eyes her,  
He says, ‘There’s no cure but to quickly enfranchise her.’  
What good at her playtime to pet and to pamper her,  
If when she’s at work you do nothing but hamper her?”

Many of the laws which men have made are most unjust, the Divorce Law, which is a most unjust and iniquitous law—(hear, hear)—and the law with regard to the Guardianship of Children, which does not necessarily ensure to a good and innocent mother the custody of her children in the case of separation. These laws are so bad that if for nothing else but to have them altered it would be worth while for women to claim the right to correct them. But what we want is to see the condition of women in the labour markets improved. Women are under-trodden and under-paid just because they are women, and this is bad for both sexes, for it is bad for the men that women should under-sell them. Men have always helped themselves by banding together in strong Trades Unions, but it was always said that women could not unite, until recently, when the advanced women called them together and taught them a great new loyalty. The fact of public meetings and men thinking it worth while to address themselves specially to women, to study their needs and inspire them with a public spirit, will teach women self-reliance and self-respect, and give them courage to take a course they have never had the chance of taking before. It is interesting to know that the very men who are opposed to Women’s Suffrage are many of them—the best of them—in favour of women’s education. Their attitude reminds me of that of King Canute, who sat by the sea-shore and commanded the waves “Thus far and no farther.” Mr. John Morley, whose sympathy for John Stuart Mill makes us ever look to him for better things, in his life of Voltaire speaks of the Marquise de Chatelet, and he quotes Voltaire, who says “There are two great men, one of whom wears petticoats.” And then Mr. John Morley says: “There is probably nothing that would lead to so rapid and marked an improvement in the world as an increase in the number of women with the will and capacity to master Newton as thoroughly as she did.” With such encouragement as this no doubt women will study mathematics in ever increasing numbers, and we hope Mr. John Morley is prepared for the result, for we would remind him that two of our greatest women mathematicians have also been two of the staunchest supporters of Women’s Suffrage—Mary Somerville and Miss Philippa Fawcett, and is it likely that those great intellects that seek to count the stars and measure the orbits of the planets, will, when they come down to look upon the human sphere, be content to have that sphere circumscribed? Will they not be the first to learn and teach that woman’s true sphere is the “circumference of humanity.” Now let me turn for a moment to another class of opponents. There is a paper which, in a paradoxical moment, termed itself *Truth*.

“So far,” says *Truth*, “from approaching nearer day by day to female government, we are day by day receding farther from it. We shall soon, I hope, leave it out of sight altogether. I confess I shall be glad when we do. I regard the female Suffrage agitation as a mere ghostly, but wholly unreal nightmare. It is a great comfort to me to know that the vast majority of the best women so regard it also. The political devotees are rather at a discount among nice women and good women, who look after their families, women who inspire and support to so large an extent, control and direct large charitable undertakings, women who

enrich Literature and adorn Art, and embellish and refine life. These sort of women are not going about tramping in the mud and shrieking for votes."

(Poor Mr. *Truth*, his remarks remind me very much of the Frenchman who said, "I do not believe in ghosts, but I am very much afraid of them.") And he goes on to feel comforted that a vast majority of the best women regard things from the same point of view, especially "nice women and good women who look after their families, women who enrich literature and adorn art." With regard to artists, I hardly think *Truth* is quite right, since we can count the Misses Montalba, Mrs. Jopling Rowe, and many others among our greatest supporters, whilst in literature Mary Woolstonecraft, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Harriet Martineau, Annie Swanwick, Anne Thackeray, and later on in our own times that bright new genius we have lately welcomed, Mrs. Sarah Grand, are all ardent supporters of Women's Suffrage, and in charitable undertakings Lady Portsmouth, Miss Cons, Lady Aberdeen, Mrs. Josephine Butler and many others may be reckoned amongst us. The only reason I allude to what seems so trivial is this, that no barrier is trivial that can keep women away from our ranks. Oh, women, you who are gathered here to-night, I know that you could not listen to the history of what is going on round you and not feel your own hearts thrilled. It is possible that the voices of the women of this country may claim a new and a better kind of law in many directions. Women, women, I know that you yourselves would never be deterred from helping this great world by the feeling, "I should neglect my home, I should be unkind to my children, I should not look after my husband," but you *may* be deterred by another kind of argument—somebody may say it is not "nice." It is not the great fear of injuring your own womanliness, it is the fear that some unenthusiastic person may say that you are not "nice." Oh, it is not a great barrier, but it is a most effectual one. I remember a timid little lady of the old school going upstairs to bed and rushing back to the drawing-room saying, "I can't go to bed, there is a mouse on the stairs and he won't let me go by." (Laughter.) It is this little mouse upon the stairs of progress that to-day prevents so many women from rising higher and mounting upward. But day by day the women in our ranks persuade other women that they ought to come forward. We all realise that the fear of ridicule is stronger than the fear of failure, and it is this that causes many women not to take the moment of advocating the principles of reform. In deference to this amiable weakness, we no longer, perhaps, talk about being strong-minded, nor advocate any new costume whilst we plead for a vote, though if you asked us candidly we should probably be agreed that if you have a mind at all you had better have it strong, and if you wear a dress you had better have it rational. But let us never forget to pay a passing tribute to those pioneer women who are now sometimes held up to ridicule; had they not fought their way, had they not been there, we should not be here. What made those pioneer women cover their tender souls with a harsh exterior? If the wind blows and the rain pelts you put on a sou'wester and a mackintosh, if the sun shines you wear a Dolly Varden and a muslin gown. So it is in public work: when the rain of ridicule pelts and the storms of outrageous comment are harsh and severe, people put on a stern exterior; but let the sun of human approval shine upon the reformers, you may depend upon it they will add gracefulness and gracious-

ness as the fitting womanly garb of their strong souls. I am here to-night to move this resolution and to make a great appeal to you:—

"That this meeting expresses its heartiest approval of the appeal which is being signed by women in all parts of the country, in favour of their Enfranchisement; and calls upon every woman who desires the welfare of her sex and the promotion of social reforms, to join in obtaining signatures to the appeal."

One argument, remember, given to us is that women do not want the vote. If you do not want it you ought to want it, and never again say after to-night you do not want it until you have studied reverently and honestly the needs of your fellow-creatures. *Want* to raise your voice, *want* to cast your vote on behalf of great reforms! Come forward! To-night is your chance to follow the leadership of those great women who call on you to help in that great work that is to lead to temperance reform, to social reform. Women should claim the vote that their voices may be raised everywhere against oppression. Do not say, "We are in favour of the Suffrage" without signing your name, because during this year—during the next three months—every woman who does not sign her name loses an opportunity for good which will never come back again. You will have left a thing undone, do not say, "it is only a little thing and not does matter," it is the little things left undone that cause the great things to be left undone. Inasmuch as you sign your name you help on this great cause; inasmuch as you neglect to sign you hinder this great cause. Oh, believe it, that the training, the education, the increased opportunities will help women as mothers, as wives, as citizens. If you give a woman the training which will make her a good mother, wife, worker, artist, or even idler, you make her a capable citizen, who will benefit the State when she comes forward to help the State. It is useless to speak of the greatest of all grounds on which we claim enfranchisement to those who do not understand the desire for freedom, none can understand what freedom means who have not felt it; and those who can imagine what it is to be free, are already on their way to freedom. If you know some poor sorrowful invalid who has never been well, help to make her well, do not hope to describe to her what it is to be well, she will know it when she feels it. Freedom is the well-being of the spirit, and those who are once free will never be content to be fettered, unwell, unfree again. Let us then rise and claim this great reform in the spirit of a pioneer singer who says:—

"Oh sorrowing hearts of slaves,  
We heard your call from far;  
We bring the light that saves,  
We bring the Morning Star.  
Freedom's great things we bring you  
Whence all good things are."

✓ Mrs. BAMFORD SLACK said:—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, after the earnest and convincing speeches to which we have listened I feel sure that you will all agree with me that there is very little more left to say on this great subject. But there is a great deal more left to do and to that end we call upon your practical active sympathy. The platform has done its duty and now it remains with the audience to carry on that work, and that must be done in no uncertain spirit and no half-hearted way, if we are to attain

to the great end of the freedom of woman and to secure for woman her due place in the scale of created beings. It is useless to dream beautiful dreams if we want to accomplish any end, it is not enough to allow our enthusiasm to be roused by beautiful sentiments, it is not in this way that women will attain to perfect freedom. No, we ourselves must hew out the path so that others who come after us may enter into freedom, though they may never have heard of us, and may wonder when they hear of these efforts of to-day. Are we traitors to our kind that we should be indifferent to the well-being, the welfare of women, to the social and moral reforms which it is the mission of this generation, as it has been of none other, to fulfil. Shall we see our sisters bowed down, not only with work, with ill-paid labour, but shall we see them accomplishing that labour bowed down with the weight of unequal laws which past ages have imposed upon them; and, seeing this, shall not all true women determine to struggle until we are strong enough to be free, because it is a work that we women must do ourselves or it must remain for ever undone. (Cheers.) We know that this subjection of women to men has not only warped woman's own development, but it has hindered the whole progress of the race by creating to-day laws which are unjust and unequal to women, and because it has hindered women it has hindered the whole race, because we must never forget that what injures a part injures also the whole of mankind. Woman's cause is man's,—they rise or sink together, bond or free. And so it is that we believe that with the freedom of womanhood the whole of the human race will pass to a higher level of development. Thus our woman's demand for equal human rights and equal human opportunities is no mere woman's demand.—No, it is a great national question, it is a great and new development which in these latter days underlies all social advances and all moral reform, so much so that it has even been said that the very civilization of a country depends upon the position that the women of that country occupy. And yet in spite of this slow growth we are told that to give women the Parliamentary Franchise would be nothing short of a social revolution. We see that is impossible; it cannot be so from the very slowness of its growth. Why the whole history of mankind is a record of the triumph of the spiritual nature over the brute, and it is that fact which makes it possible for women to have advanced to their present position. And then those who have noticed women's humanising influence in the past, those who watch it going out into new spheres of activity in the present, and those who have felt the added strength of women's influence in solving these great social and moral problems, those are not the people to be alarmed by a loud-sounding word. But what if it be a social revolution? When we think of the conditions of Rome before the Goths, of France before her Revolution, and of our own England of to-day with its social corruption, its widespread vice, and its distinction between class and class, do we not feel that a social revolution which will give freedom to our women—(hear, hear)—may usher in a better day for England, a day of purer morals, nobler laws, when the common weal shall be the individual cry? But of a truth, if this is not a great social revolution, I think it is at any rate a great moral revolution, and thus we may well take heart because we all know that in the moral world you cannot pull down except by gentleness, and you cannot revolutionise except by sympathy. Then again, why do we women ask for the vote? One special

reason is not because we want to get the utmost that we can out of the State, but we want, one and all of us, to put the very best we can into the State in order that all classes of society, whether men or women, may get the best they can out of the State by living under England's improved conditions which we shall help to build. We do not ask for it in any mere selfish spirit, but because we have found out by reason of the work different women have tried to do for others, that it is only by the vote we can bring the worth of our womanhood into the service of the State. It is because we believe that a woman's influence joined to a man's influence make a perfect whole that we want to leave the impress of our womanhood on the Statute Book of our land. We want to incorporate in our laws those convictions born of the delicacy, the purity, the refinement, the elevation of our character, which Mr. Gladstone declares to be the source of our power. Can the State afford to do without the direct and represented interest of those virtues which are said to be essentially womanly? No, I do not think it can, any more than women can consent to be an unrepresented, and therefore a neglected class, in days when they have not only to weep, but also to work. And we say that this demand on the part of women is more than ever complicated by the further demand to have their work recognised as a factor in the world's growth. Women now ask to have freedom, ask to have equal wages for equal work. (Applause.) And do you suppose they will get this until they are represented? No, the employers will never pay men and women as equals until the law has declared that they are equals. And then we are told that the woman's sphere is the home. Oh, yes, what one word can better symbolise the affections and the duties that are connected with women, but would it not be well for the people who make that objection to be sure that home as an individual object exists? Oh, no, it is for the women who toil and suffer to keep themselves, that we ask for this vote in order that they may be able to secure better conditions for their work and better conditions under which they can live. (Hear, hear.) And then for the home itself. Do you not think that women when they have the vote will know how to bring a sufficient defence to that hallowed place in those laws which will build up the homes that are the strength of England. But then people tell us we are not ready. To that we can only reply that the best preparation for freedom and the best education for the vote is the responsibility of the vote; and to those time-serving politicians who dare to tell us that they are satisfied with the justice of our claim but refuse it on the grounds of expediency, we can retort "that it is never wrong to do right." What is morally right cannot possibly be politically wrong. Now we want to enlist all the noble men and women actively on the side of right. We want to enlist them on the side which will abolish different codes of morals for men and women, different penalties for crime for men and women, different rates of wages for men and women, and all those inequalities in the relation of the sexes of a Government which only recognises women as equal to men when there is a question of punishment and taxation. And we women say that taxation without representation is tyranny. Now I think we can agree to set aside all other differences, and in the sacred name of womanhood let us join hands one with the other to claim freedom for the women of England. I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN then read the resolution, which was carried.



Mrs. MALLET rose to propose a vote to the Chairman. She said: There is one reason why the Chairman deserves a vote of thanks which is perhaps not known to everybody in the Hall. You may perhaps think that in demanding the vote women are asking for something new, on the contrary the new thing is to deny us the vote. Long ago, when the constitution of England began in Saxon times, in Norman times, and all the later times, women had the Parliamentary Franchise as well as men, and they were deprived of it by an accident. A certain member for the county of Cornwall, that is for the borough of Liskeard, spoke of women as not having the vote, there was no statute and no law against them until long afterwards. It is now a member for the same county who wishes to roll off the reproach of his predecessor and to give to women—(hear, hear)—that freedom of which they were accidentally, unintentionally and unjustly deprived. For all these reasons I beg you to accord your heartiest vote of thanks to Mr. Leonard Courtney, our present Chairman.

Mrs. STANBURY seconded the vote of thanks.

The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to those who had addressed the meeting.

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