

# WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.

EDITED BY LYDIA E. BECKER.

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JANUARY 1, 1884.

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**ST. ALBANS.**—A Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 17th, 1884, in the Council Chamber, St. Albans, in support of the Measure for Extending the Parliamentary Franchise to Women possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote. The Chair will be taken at Eight o'clock by the Mayor, JAMES FISK, Esq. For further particulars see local announcements.

THE NEW VOLUME.

**WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE JOURNAL.**—Volume XIV. January to December, 1883. With coloured cover, price, post free, One Shilling and Tenpence.—London: Trübner and Co.; or at the office of the *Women's Suffrage Journal*, 28, Jackson's Row, Manchester.

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## THE MARCH OF REFORM.

Sung at Reform Meetings in 1832; Revived at the Birmingham Jubilee Reform Meeting, 1882.

WORDS ADAPTED TO BE SUNG AT WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MEETINGS.

By ATTWOOD.

The musical score is written in G major and 2/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Allegro'. The lyrics are: 'Lo, we an-swer! See we come, Quick at Freedom's ho-ly call, We come, we come, we come, we come, To do the glor-ious work of all. And sis-ters, raise from sea to sea The sa-cred watch-word "Li-ber-ty;" And sis-ters raise from sea to sea, The sa-cred watchword "Li-ber-ty." God is our Guide, and, &c.'

God is our Guide, and in His name  
From hearth, from workshop, and from loom,  
We come, our ancient rights to claim,  
Those rights, with duties, to resume.  
Then sisters, raise from sea to sea,  
The sacred watchword "Liberty."

God is our Guide, no sword we draw,  
We kindle not war's battle fires;  
By union, justice, reason, law,  
We claim the birthright of our sires.  
We raise the watchword "Liberty,"  
We claim our birthright to be free.

Played at the Annual Meeting of the Manchester National Society for Women's Suffrage,  
Town Hall, Manchester, 1883.

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WITH the new year the movement for the franchise for women enters on the most critical period that it has experienced since the commencement of the agitation seventeen years ago. The decisive conflict which may crown the efforts of our leaders with a substantial measure of success appears to be at hand, and victory may loom in the near future. The Government are expected to introduce a Bill dealing with the extension of the franchise to duly qualified householders in counties at the beginning of the session. It is to be hoped that in framing their measure the Government will take into consideration the weighty expressions of opinion in favour of including in it provisions for the extension of the franchise to duly qualified women, which have been conveyed to them from various quarters. In any case the question will be laid before Parliament in the course of the debates on the measure, but the precise mode of action cannot be determined till the provisions of the Government Bill are known. Meantime our friends may rest assured that the Parliamentary supporters of women's suffrage will make the best use of the opportunity afforded by the introduction of a Reform Bill, to obtain the recognition of the principle and the enactment of provisions for giving it practical effect.

The opening of Parliament is fixed for the fifth of February, and we earnestly exhort our friends to make use of the short intervening time by using every effort that lies in their power to press the question on the attention of the Government.

THE year that has just closed has been marked by greater advances in public opinion in regard to the franchise for women, and more significant manifestations of such advance, than have occurred during any similar period since the movement began.

The first point scored in the year's record of events was the presentation to Mr. GLADSTONE of a Memorial, signed by 110 Liberal members of Parliament, stating that in the opinion of the memorialists no measure for the assimilation of the borough and county franchise will be

satisfactory unless it contains provisions for extending the suffrage without distinction of sex to all persons who possess the statutory qualifications for the Parliamentary franchise.

The next event was the debate and division on Mr. MASON'S resolution, when the hostile majority which had been 116 in the last division was reduced to 16—a result which seems to have been accepted among members as a virtual success, and one that presages actual victory at no distant date.

Among expressions of opinion outside Parliament the first in time and in significance was the vote of the Conference on Parliamentary Reform, convened by three federal Liberal Societies, the London and Counties Liberal Union, the National Liberal Federation, and the National Reform Union, which met at Leeds on October 17th. At this great and representative gathering of Liberal Associations a resolution declaring that any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all local elections, was carried by an overwhelming majority.

This was followed by the affirmation of a similar resolution at the annual meeting of the National Liberal Federation, which took place at Bristol in November.

The resolution was also adopted by the Edinburgh United Liberal Association, the Manchester Liberal Association, and other political associations, which had not hitherto committed themselves officially to the adoption of the principle of women's suffrage. The resolution has been also passed, along with a general resolution on Parliamentary reform, at meetings promoted by the Mid-Cheshire Liberal Association at Northwich, by the Salford Liberal Association at Broughton and at Pendleton, and at Congleton by the Liberal Club. The resolution has been adopted by several of the ward Liberal clubs in Leeds, by the Liberal Associations of Morley and Horbury, and by the General Council of five hundred at Oldham.

These manifestations of opinion afford a most satisfac-

tory retrospect of the proceedings of the past year, and a very encouraging prospect for the future.

MEETINGS have been held during the past month at Sudbury, Bury St. Edmunds, Winchester, and Bournemouth, addressed by Miss CAROLINE BIGGS and Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT. Mrs. SALMON also spoke at Bury St. Edmunds. Mrs. BUTLER presided at Winchester. Meetings have been held at Bromley, addressed by Viscountess HARBERTON, Mrs. ASHTON DILKE, and Miss MULLER; and at Glossop by Miss BECKER, Mrs. MOSS, and Miss LAURA WHITTLE. Drawing-room meetings have been held at Norwood, when a paper was read by Mrs. STREATFIELD; and at Bournemouth, by the kindness of Mrs. LANGTON, when Miss BIGGS and Mrs. CHANT spoke; and at Leeds, by invitation of Rev. B. G. and Mrs. WILKINSON, addressed by Miss ANNA WILKINSON and Mrs. OLIVER SCATCHERD. Lectures have been delivered by Mrs. FENWICK MILLER at Liberal clubs at Greenwich, Notting Hill, Kensal Green, and Bow, and by Miss BECKER at Marsden and Darlington. The annual meeting of the Edinburgh Society took place under the presidency of Mrs. M'LAREN. The other ladies who took part in the proceedings were Miss WIGHAM, Miss JANE E. COBDEN, Mrs. OLIVER SCATCHERD, Miss LOUISA STEVENSON, and Miss MAITLAND.

Liberal meetings at which resolutions in favour of women's suffrage were passed have been held at Northwich, under the auspices of the Mid-Cheshire Liberal Association; at Broughton and Pendleton, promoted by the Salford Liberal Association; and at a soirée in connection with the Congleton Liberal Club. Miss BECKER attended and spoke at Northwich and Broughton, and Miss CAROLINE BIGGS attended as a deputation at Congleton. At Pendleton no lady spoke; the resolution was incorporated, as at Northwich, with the original resolution relating to reform, instead of being moved separately, and its support was left in the hands of the mover and seconder, Mr. W. MATHER and Mr. H. J. ROBY.

MR. GLADSTONE'S speech on the 22nd December to the working men of Derby illustrates that law of uniformity by which the lines of human action are framed, in a way that should be hopeful to the toilers after a Reform Bill which shall do justice to women. Mr. GLADSTONE told his hearers that in old times "the view which was taken of the enlargement of the franchise was that people were, in the first place, extremely unwilling to hear anything

about it, and excessively reluctant to have any of it, in however small a quantity"—in fact, that they looked on it as physic.

Now this is precisely what many do at this day in regard to the franchise for women. They say women do not want it, women dread it, dread to be wearied by canvassers, jostled at polling booths. So these people talk as if it were in truth "physic" for them. But, to quote again from Mr. GLADSTONE, "the extension of the franchise was not physic; it was health and strength and food for the constituencies," and here his hearers cheered for they felt he spoke truly. Be it so, if truly for men in the past, then truly for women also in the future; since the same ingredients produce the same effects on the human system generally, without distinction between WILLIAM and ANNE. Wherefore, what is the food of the brother cannot be the physic of the sister, and as that now is found to be food for men which once was considered physic, so that now treated as a nauseous draft for women shall be found strengthening food.

H. B.

NEWS of a victory comes to us across the Atlantic. The Legislature of Washington Territory has passed a Bill for the enfranchisement of women, which has now become law. The final vote took place at Olympia on November 15th. The Bill was reported by the Chairman of Committee on Elections (Mr. BURK) with a recommendation "that it do pass." The President pronounced the formula—"If there is no objection the Bill will be put on its final passage now." The roll was called over, and the Ayes carried the Bill.

On Monday, the 19th, Governor WILLIAM A. NEWELL formally announced that he would sign the Woman Suffrage Bill, and thereby make the women of Washington Territory free beyond recall. In anticipation of this favourable action of the Governor, guns had been placed in the public square for a salute, and friends stationed in the churches of the city to proclaim the news. The announcement that the Governor had agreed to ratify the Bill was the signal for the booming of cannon and the ringing of bells. In the evening, the population of Olympia, augmented by the legislators and visitors from various parts of Oregon and the Territory, joined in a grand ratification meeting, and next day the celebration was supplemented by a banquet to the members of the Legislature and other guests at Columbia Hall.

On November 22nd, the Governor signed the Bill with a gold pen given him for the purpose by ladies of Olympia.

This ceremony completed the formalities of legislation. The Bill comes into operation on the 15th January instant, after that date, therefore, the women of Washington Territory enter into full possession of their electoral rights, though there is no election at which they can vote until November.

As early as the year 1869 the amendment to the election law in Washington Territory was proposed to the Legislature of Olympia, then receiving but five votes in that body. This was followed in 1871 by the circulation of a paper, the *New North West*, within the boundaries of the Territory, advocating the justice of the enfranchisement of the women of the commonwealth. In the autumn of the same year Miss SUSAN B. ANTHONY, accompanied by the senior editor of the *New North West*, made a tour of the Sound country, speaking in the principal towns, then scarcely more than villages. The people listened passively at first, but soon the leaven began to work, until at last the cause became irresistible. Two years ago the political rights of the women of Washington Territory were held in abeyance by the negative votes of seven members of the Council, three of whom have since announced their conversion. No sooner was the present Legislature chosen than the friends of the movement took fresh courage; they made another attempt, and their efforts were rewarded by a two-thirds vote in the House, and a reversal in the Council of the vote of 1881, and the consummation of the enfranchisement of women in Washington Territory.

WASHINGTON Territory constitutes the extreme North-Western portion of the United States south of the British Possessions. It is the northern portion of the Territory of Oregon, and was separated from the latter when the southern portion of Oregon was made a State. The Pacific coast of Washington Territory extends from the mouth of the Columbia River, which separates the Territory from Oregon on the South, to the Straits of San Juan, which run between the mainland and Vancouver's Island. Washington Territory is bounded on the north by British Columbia, in the Dominion of Canada. Olympia, the capital city of the Territory, is situated at the head of Paget Sound, a deep, land-locked bay, or inland sea, with many large islands, to which access is obtained from the Straits of San Juan, through Admiralty Inlet.

THE process of obtaining an amendment of the suffrage

laws is much simpler in a Territory than in a State. In a Territory it suffices that the Bill should pass both Houses of the Legislature, and be ratified by the Governor. The Bill becomes law in fifty days after it has been signed.

But in a State it is not sufficient that such a Bill should pass both Legislative Chambers. Before a Bill for extending the franchise can become law in a State it must pass in the State Legislature in two successive sessions. Should it pass this ordeal the measure is then submitted to a *plébiscite* of the existing electorate. If a majority vote against it the Bill is lost.

THE difficulties in the way of electoral reform in a State may be imagined by picturing to oneself the difficulties that might be placed in the way of a measure for extending the suffrage in the United Kingdom, if it were necessary that such a Bill had not only to pass both Houses of Parliament in two successive sessions, but afterwards to be submitted to the direct vote of the three millions of men who compose the present electoral body. Such a process would be formidable even in this country, where the electors are householders or ratepayers of some standing in the constituencies, the majority presumably heads of families. The difficulty is tenfold greater in the States, where every youth becomes an elector as soon as he is twenty-one years of age, and where six months' residence is the only additional qualification for a vote. It is scarcely to be wondered at that the Bills for the enfranchisement of women, which passed the Legislatures of Colorado three or four years ago, and of Nebraska in 1882, should have been lost when submitted to the votes of a miscellaneous electorate of such a character.

IT is hoped that better fortune may attend the Bill for the enfranchisement of women citizens, which passed the Legislatures of Oregon, first in 1881 and a second time last year, the sessions of the State Legislature being biennial. The measure will be submitted to the popular vote during the present year, and it is believed that the establishment of the principle in Washington Territory will have a powerful influence on public opinion in the mother State when the vote of Oregon shall be cast on the question of the enfranchisement of her women citizens.

THE Rev. T. BUDGER, an emigrants' chaplain, calls attention to the fact that the emigration of practically only one sex is having a demoralising effect upon the people at home and the colonies abroad. The English are emi-

grating by thousands to Manitoba and Canada, but there are very few women among them.

There are in England and Wales, according to the census tables for 1881 just published, 990,000 more females than males. If emigration continues to proceed on the present lines the disproportion of the sexes will tend to increase perpetually.

The evil is a real and serious one, both for the mother country and the colonies, but it cannot be dealt with in this country by legislation. The remedy lies in encouraging women to more independent habit of thought and action in teaching them that it is not their duty to remain at home passive till fate or chance calls them forth to the active duties of life, but to take their destiny into their own hands, and if they do not find scope for their powers at home to seek their fortunes, as their brothers do, in new countries where they are needed, rather than remain to swell the disproportionate number of women at home.

Women migrate from rural to urban districts in search of occupation and livelihood within the four seas. It is but carrying the process of emigration further to "seek fresh woods and pastures new" beyond the seas.

MID-CHESHIRE LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.  
EXTENSION OF THE COUNTY FRANCHISE, INCLUDING  
WOMEN.  
GREAT MEETING AT NORTHWICH.

On December 12th a great meeting was held in the Market Hall at Northwich, under the auspices of the Mid-Cheshire Liberal Association, for the purpose mainly of proposing for adoption resolutions in favour of the assimilation of the borough and county franchise. The hall had been specially fitted up for the occasion by Mr. W. Leicester, and was effectively decorated with flags, shields, and appropriate mottoes. There was a very large audience, a number of ladies occupying seats in the gallery. The arrangements for the meeting were admirably carried out under the direction of Mr. A. Fletcher.

Mr. G. W. LATHAM, of Bradwall Hall, president of the association, occupied the chair, and amongst others present were Mr. W. E. Briggs, M.P. for Blackburn; Mr. J. Tomkinson and Mr. D. Duncan, Liberal candidates for West Cheshire; Miss Lydia Becker and Mrs. M'Cormick (Manchester), Rev. J. B. Lloyd (Knutsford), Rev. W. Gellay, Rev. F. Carter, Rev. Francis Minton (vicar of Middlewich), Rev. G. K. Walker (Middlewich), Messrs. J. T. Brunner, R. Verdin, E. Brewtnall, J. A. Swanwick, R. Shaw, T. W. Killick, A. E. Paterson, A. Fletcher, J. Brophy (Altrincham), J. Hughes (Middlewich), J. J. Dixon, John Thompson, H. I. Thompson, E. Milner, T. Williamson, G. Slater, J. Slater, T. A. Johnson, F. Forgan, Johnson Fletcher, C. Green, E. B. Harlock, B. H. Crisp, G. Arrowsmith, A. Arrowsmith, P. Watson, H. Hurst, R. G. Mentha, T. Thrutchley, T. Handley, J. Handley, W. Handley, O. Leak, T. Hulme, Joseph Millington, H. Leak, W. Newall, T. Leicester, J. J. Watts, W. Milne, J. Mills, J. Thomson, G. Bowen, Francis Milne, J. Butter, H. Capes, C. Lawrence, J. Bennett, R. Hewitt, E. Cooper, J. Earl, W. Boosey, C. J. Brown, H. Smallwood, W. Jones, George Carter, E. Hodgkinson, S. Williams, J. M'Intyre, G. Rooke, E. Pickering, &c.

The CHAIRMAN, who was received with applause, said: Ladies and gentlemen, This crowded meeting, that sea of upturned faces which I see before me now, this platform full of good and staunch Liberals, is, if we wanted one, our apology for holding

this meeting to-night. In the course of his address the Chairman said, according to the census of 1881, there were in the boroughs inhabited houses to the number of 2,098,892; and there were voters in these boroughs in England and Wales 1,591,451, so that if you deduct 20 per cent there are the same number of voters as of inhabited houses, and of that 20 per cent we may take 15 per cent to be due to the fact that women occupy and are ratepayers in these houses. But now in the counties there are 2,724,952 houses, but only 932,860 voters. If the same proportion was kept in the counties as in the boroughs, we ought to have 1,344,000 additional electors in England and Wales. I think that fact shows clearly how many people at the present time are kept outside the franchise.

Mr. ROBERT VERDIN, who was received with cheers, said he rose with pleasure to move the following resolution: "That this meeting is of opinion that the admission to equal electoral rights of the unfranchised householders of the counties should be carried out at the earliest possible time, and earnestly calls upon the Government to give precedence to a measure for that purpose next session; and further that, in the opinion of this meeting, any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote, have now the right to vote in all matters of local government." He thought he might venture to assume from the numbers which he saw before him that they were of opinion that this resolution should be carried out by Parliament at the earliest possible day, and he also felt confident that they considered that the rights should not only be extended to the working men of the county who lived in a house at less than £12 a year, but that the fair sex who had to pay their rates and taxes should have equal participation in that extension. (Applause.) As good Liberals they would only be doing their duty to assist their sisters to that right when it was given to men.

Mr. J. BROPHY, a working man, of Stretford, seconded the resolution. He stood before them that evening as one of a class which the Legislature, perhaps in its wisdom, had seen fit to brand as political outcasts, or as individuals who were not entitled to the possession of a vote. (Hear, hear.) When he told them that for the cottage which sheltered him and his family he paid an annual rent of £12, he thought it formed a qualification for the possession of the franchise, especially when he remembered that a man who held a lease of the annual value of £5 was entitled to vote in the election of a county member, as was also a freeholder of 40s. a year. (Applause.) What then were the reasons for denying him that right, for such he regarded it? Was it because that class to which he belonged were politically ignorant, and therefore not to be trusted with a vote? Such at least was the Tory theory of the question. That there was a vast amount of political ignorance among that class upon whom they were trying to confer the franchise he admitted; but whether that ignorance was chargeable to them as a class, or whether it was chargeable to those who occupied a higher social position, and whose duty, he maintained, it was to improve the political education of the people—(applause)—the improvement of the political education of the working classes—let casuists decide the question. The broad fact still remained that this ignorance did exist amongst the working classes to a certain extent respecting political questions. Wherever there was ignorance at all there was too much of it, and it could not be too speedily removed. But his complaint was not so much against that political ignorance of the working men as it was against that imperfect state of our law which shut them out from the enjoyment of their rights as men and citizens. (Applause.) So long as that state of the law was unnecessarily continued, obedience to those laws on the part of those men looked to him like an act of injustice, for he held the notion—and if he was wrong he was open to correction—that every man who was called upon to obey the laws ought to have a voice in their enactment. (Applause.)

The resolution was supported by Mr. TOMKINSON, Liberal candidate for West Cheshire.

The CHAIRMAN said it ought to have been explained that the third part of the resolution referred to the fair sex. He was glad to say they had a representative of that sex present in the shape of Miss Becker—(cheers)—and she had kindly consented to say a few words that evening, and he hoped she would convince them that the one objection that rose up in some of their minds against the woman householder, that women were all of the opposite side in politics,

was not correct, and that she would show them she was as good a Liberal as any in the room.

Miss BECKER said it was no new thing to her to attend a public meeting and to speak in favour of the enfranchisement of the people; but this was a new experience to her, because usually her appeals had been addressed to an assemblage of men who themselves were in possession of the suffrage, and who were asked to bestow it upon other claimants. She supposed that most of the men who were present were very much in the same position as herself; they were men who felt that they had a right to a share in the councils of the nation; they were men who were conscious that their labour added to the wealth of the country; they were men who were conscious that their intelligence was a portion of the mind and intelligence of the country which needed to be represented before that representation could be considered in any sense complete. And if she had gathered rightly the indications, there were besides Liberal friends some Conservative friends present, who perchance themselves were left out under the present system of the law, but who would have no objection to receive that vote, because there was a great deal of human nature in Conservatives as well as Liberals. (Laughter and cheers.) And she had no doubt that when those gentlemen got those votes, and when those ladies got theirs, the country would be very much better represented than it was at present. (Cheers.) If she had gathered rightly, most of the gentlemen on the platform were persons who were themselves in full possession of political rights. All those gentlemen had their own votes, and they had the influence which belonged to them as men of intelligence and position, who were devoting their energies to the service of their fellow-men. There was, however, on the other end of the platform, in the person of the gentleman who seconded the resolution, a representative of another class. He called himself "a political outcast," and he came to speak for himself. She was another "political outcast." (Laughter.) And every word of his speech she echoed in her own mind, and if she were going to speak for the women householders, she did not know that she could do better than echo his words. He said he paid a rent for his house of £12 a year, and yet he had not a vote. She had a house, and she paid a rent of £26 a year for that house, and she had not a vote. (Laughter.) Could that man be a Liberal who would say, "Yes, the householder who pays £12 shall have a vote, and the householder who pays £26 shall not have a vote?" She did not think that would be considered liberal in any assemblage of Liberals. The chairman had referred to one objection which appeared to be in the minds of many Liberals with regard to the possible effect on parties in the House of Commons in case women had votes. She thought the gentleman who preceded her had answered the objection, because he said one of the objections to giving votes to the working men was that they were ignorant, and he very properly asked why it was so. Why, surely it was the fault of those who had all the power, and who had neglected to provide for the full education of the people. (Cheers.) So she said when a man accused women of political ignorance, she said men had all the schools in their hands, all the power in their hands, and if they had left women ignorant, surely they had no right to turn round and allege their own wrong as a reason for perpetuating political injustice. (Laughter.) The Mid-Cheshire Liberal Association was lately represented at a great conference at Leeds, and that conference distinctly decided that in the measure of household suffrage which they asked the Government to bring in, all the householders of the country were to be represented, and the women householders were not to be left out. The chairman had given some figures as to numbers, and he said that the inhabited houses in boroughs were 20 per cent more than the electorate, and of the 20 per cent of houses which did not vote he thought 15 per cent must be deducted for those which were occupied by women. Now, why should 15 per cent which were occupied by women, and which were taxed exactly the same as others, why should representation be withdrawn from those households? Then, again, there were many who said, "Oh yes, your claim is right enough; but this is not the time to put it forward." They believed that now was the time for those who had not votes to come and put in their claim; and to whom should they come but to the Liberal party throughout the kingdom? She committed the cause with the very greatest confidence to the hands of those men who had shown themselves so just and generous in the preparation of the resolution, and which she hoped would be passed unanimously by the meeting. (Cheers.)

Mr. W. E. BRIGGS, M.P., thought, considering the time at which they had now arrived, they would think it quite impossible for him to make what was called a political address. Still there were one or two things which might have been spared by preceding speakers about which for a moment or two he should like to occupy their attention. That was to say, if they could find persons to hear him after the two "outcasts" who had spoken—(laughter)—both of whom he thought they would acknowledge had displayed no mean eloquence, representing either sex to which they belonged. Indeed, if he might say it, the latter had fully convinced him, as well as them—if, by-the-bye, their mothers-in-law and wives had not already taught them—that eloquence was not the gift of the male sex alone. (Laughter and cheers.) With Miss Becker's main contention it would be impossible to differ. If they went upon a rate-paying basis, there was not the slightest doubt that Miss Becker and many like her were more able to exercise the franchise than many he could name, whose only interest in political life seemed to be to come to meetings for the purpose of disturbing them. (Hear, hear.) However, the resolution would all be put together, and he had not the slightest doubt would be passed unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN read the resolution, which he put to the meeting. On putting "against" no hands were held up, on which he said that, so far as he could see, the resolution had been carried unanimously. (Loud cheers.)

LIBERAL SOIREE AT CONGLETON.

RESOLUTION IN FAVOUR OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE ADOPTED.

The second annual soirée in connection with the Congleton Liberal Club was held in the Town Hall on December 19th. The room was decorated with flags and banners, &c. About three hundred sat down to tea. After tea a meeting was held at which His Worship the MAYOR (Thomas Cooper, Esq.) presided, and there were also present on the platform Miss C. A. Biggs and Mrs. M'Cormick, who attended the meeting as a deputation from the National Society for Women's Suffrage; G. W. Latham, Esq., J.P. (Liberal candidate for Mid-Cheshire); J. S. Leadam, Esq. (of London); John Nash Peake, Esq.; F. W. Warrington, Esq., J.P.; Messrs. John Latham, C. Berisford, Broadhead, Maskery, Pattison, Head, Kent, A. S. Sheldon, Bodley; Revs. Joseph Moore and John Ford; and Alderman Salt, Councillors Barton, Conder, Howard, Moss, Norris, Shepherd, Taylor, J. Worrall, and W. Worrall.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said in the course of his remarks that it could not be part of his duty to enter into the various matters which were at the present time agitating the political arena of this country, which would, no doubt, be fully entered into by the gentlemen, and he might add the ladies, around him. It was a well-known and recognised fact that he was a ladies' man, and he was a staunch supporter of the rights of women.

Mr. JOHN LATHAM moved the first resolution.

Mr. CONDER seconded the resolution, which, after a speech from Mr. LEADAM, was carried unanimously.

Mr. ALFRED S. SHELDON moved the next resolution, and in doing so said he looked for the support of the ladies. The resolution was, "That, in the opinion of this meeting, any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all matters of local government." There were three reasons for his moving this resolution: the first was that they had promised the National Society for Women's Suffrage that the matter should be brought before the meeting, and it could only be done by means of passing a resolution; the second was that the women had the right of voting in all matters of local government, and he did not see why they should not exercise the franchise in Parliamentary matters; and the third and last was because he believed that taxation and representation went together. He believed it to be a perfectly right thing that those who paid the rates and taxes should have the right to say how the money should be spent. If they would not give the women the franchise, then let them be excused from paying the rates.

Miss BIGGS, who met with a very cordial reception from the audience, said that she felt very great honour in being allowed to second that resolution. The Liberals were now trying to get the franchise for men in the county, because they thought they had just as much right to it as the men in the towns; but did they not think that it was very unfair that the women in the boroughs, who

possessed just the same qualification as men, should not enjoy the same privilege? She asked the men to put themselves in the place of the women. The men had the House of Commons and one House of Lords over them, but the women, in addition to the House of Commons, had two Houses of "Lords" over them. (Laughter.) The women had helped many members to get into their present position, and now these members must help them. The widows of farmers had been turned out of their homes, not because they had been unable to carry on, but because they had no vote to give. They only asked for this vote, and then they would be in the proportion of but one woman to seven men. She heartily seconded the motion. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the motion to the meeting, which was carried with only three or four dissentients.

#### LIBERAL MEETINGS IN SALFORD: WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CARRIED.

##### BROUGHTON.

The members for Salford (Messrs. B. Armitage and A. Arnold) addressed a public meeting on December 18th, in the Cobden Hall of the Broughton Liberal Club. Mr. JESSE BRYANT presided, and there was a large attendance. Among those present were Mr. Edwin Winsor, Mr. J. C. Zigomala, Mr. J. Sofiano, Mr. J. Lee, Mr. J. Lanyon, Mr. J. Kenyon, Mr. J. Dyson, Mr. D. B. Armstrong, Mr. J. B. Jenkinson, Mr. T. Parry, the Rev. Robert Craig, Mrs. Armstrong, and Miss Becker.

After the passing of the first resolution, The Rev. R. CRAIG moved: "That in the opinion of this meeting any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualification which would entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all matters of local government." It seemed to him that the adoption of the principle embodied in this resolution would simplify the matter of the franchise and settle the question for a very long time. To confer the right of voting on all householders, whether women or men, was one of the claims of justice.

Miss BECKER, in seconding the resolution, urged that all persons who paid rates and taxes ought to have a voice in the representation of the country. The question of intelligence had been raised. She hoped she was as intelligent as an agricultural labourer, and she believed that women householders generally were intelligent as he. (Hear, hear.) Nay, if to be an agricultural labourer was to be a qualification, there were a good many women who were agricultural labourers. It had been calculated that to enfranchise the county householders would add two millions of voters. That was to say it would make the electorate of this country about five millions, and if the franchise were extended to women there would be about 800,000 of them put on the electoral roll.

The resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority, those who filled the hall voting solid for it, and only three hands from the back bench being held up against it.

##### PENDLETON.

On December 19th Mr. B. Armitage, M.P., and Mr. A. Arnold, M.P., addressed a large meeting of their constituents in the Pendleton Town Hall. Mr. B. ARMITAGE (Sorrel Bank) presided, and among those present were Mr. W. Mather, Mr. H. J. Roby, Mr. Alderman M'Kerrow, Mr. H. Roper, Mr. J. Burnett, Mr. James Addison, Rev. J. W. Kiddle, Rev. J. Seagar, Mr. T. Bradford, and others.

Mr. WM. MATHER (president of the Salford Liberal Association) proposed a resolution that, to meet the just expectations of the country, a measure should be introduced by the Government early in the coming session to assimilate the franchise in counties to that now existing in Parliamentary boroughs; that the franchise of Ireland should be extended and placed on equality with that existing in other parts of the United Kingdom; and that any measure for the extension of suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all matters of local government.

Mr. H. J. ROBY, in seconding the motion, referred especially to the clause relating to the franchise to women, and said that while refraining from anything like dictation to the Government on the new measure, it was the duty of the Liberals to suggest the lines on which they would like it to be based. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was unanimously adopted.

## LIBERAL ASSOCIATIONS.

### ASHFORD LIBERAL CLUB.

At a meeting of the club held on November 4th the following resolution was adopted and ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Gladstone: "That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who, in all matters of local government, have the right of voting."

### WEST HAM.

At a meeting of the committee of the West Ham Liberal Association, on December 18th, a resolution in favour of the franchise for women was passed and a copy forwarded to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

### BACUP LIBERAL CLUB.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Bacup Liberal Club, held on December 13th, the following resolution was adopted: "That, in order to meet the just expectation of the country and to fulfil the pledges given at the last general election, this council is of opinion that a measure for the extension of the franchise should confer on householders and lodgers in the counties the same electoral rights as those enjoyed by householders and lodgers in Parliamentary boroughs, and should extend to Ireland the franchise enjoyed by Great Britain; and that, in the opinion of this meeting, any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which should entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all matters of local government." Copies of the resolution were ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Gladstone and to the Marquis of Hartington.

### OLDHAM.

At a meeting of the General Council of five hundred, held on December 20th, the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That this meeting regards the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to female householders as just and reasonable, and would hail with satisfaction the introduction of a Government measure which would confer the franchise on all female householders, whether resident in counties or boroughs."

### LIBERAL ASSOCIATIONS IN YORKSHIRE.

The following Liberal Associations in Leeds have passed resolutions in favour of the franchise for women, and sent copies to Mr. Gladstone:—Kirkstall Liberal Association, Wortley Liberal Association, East Hunslet Liberal Association, West Hunslet Liberal Association, New Wortley Liberal Club, Central Ward Liberal Association, and West Ward Liberal Association. The Horbury Liberal Club and the Morley Liberal Association have also passed the resolution and forwarded copies to Mr. Gladstone.

### ELECTION OF THE LEEDS LIBERAL "SIX HUNDRED."

Meetings of Liberal electors were held on December 19th for the purpose of electing representatives to serve on the general committee of the Six Hundred of the Leeds Liberal Association for the ensuing year. Among those elected for West Ward is Miss Louisa Carbutt. Mrs. Oliver Scatcherd is among the eldest representatives of Headingley Ward. This is, we believe, the first time ladies have been elected on such committees.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS.

### WELLINGTON.

A crowded meeting, in support of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, was held in the Town Hall, Wellington, Somerset, on November 3rd. Mrs. BEDDOE (Clifton) presided.

In the course of her address, Mrs. BEDDOE said she would like to say to gentlemen present that the quality which Englishmen most prided themselves upon possessing, and justly so, was the quality of justice. In the name of common justice, then, why refuse to this self-supporting class of ratepayers—not the least industrious, not the least intelligent, certainly not the least law-abiding—that which they seemed anxious to even thrust upon others. (Hear, hear.) To the women present, especially the contributing class, she would

say, "consider well what you are about." This was no trifling matter. That "tide in the affairs of men" of which Shakspeare spoke had arrived for them. If these rights and privileges were not secured for women by the next Reform Bill, in all probability there was no one in that hall who would live to see them secured. Above all things let them not be alarmed by that oft-repeated but most foolish observation that politics were not meant for women. By politics were meant the affairs of the nation, and surely the religion, the morality, the healthfulness of the country were matters of as much importance to women as to their sons or brothers.

Miss BLACKBURN then addressed the meeting, after which discussion was invited, in which Mr. BOND, Mr. F. T. ELWORTHY, and Mr. BATSTONE took part.

The Rev. W. M. BLAKE, after some prefatory remarks, moved the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be granted to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote. And the meeting hereby authorises the chairman to sign a petition to the House of Commons on its behalf, and memorials to Viscount Kilcoursie and Mr. Elton, the candidates for this division of the county."

Dr. MEREDITH, in seconding the resolution, said the request contained in it was a very moderate one and preferred in modest terms.

The resolution, as proposed and seconded, was then put and carried all but unanimously, only two voting against it.

At the close of the meeting petitions to the House of Commons were signed in favour of the extension of the suffrage to women.

### WIMBLEDON.

A public meeting was held at the Lecture Hall on December 4th. There were about 200 people present, the majority of whom were ladies. Mr. H. W. LAWRENCE took the chair.

The CHAIRMAN made a few remarks as to the question of extending the franchise throughout the country during the present session, and said that they ought to consider how it should be extended; numbers of people, occupiers of houses, were now quite disfranchised by the present laws.

Miss MULLER, member of the London School Board, then spoke, and on rising was very well received. She concluded by moving a resolution to the effect that in the opinion of that meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications entitling men to vote; and that petitions to Parliament to this effect be signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting. Also that memorials be drawn up asking the members for Mid Surrey, Sir Henry Peek and Sir Trevor Lawrence, to support any measure having these objects in view.

Mrs. ASHTON DILKE seconded the resolution.

Mr. NORMAN BAZALGETTE proposed an amendment that at the present time it was not expedient that the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women. He said if he could be convinced that all women were the same as the mover and seconder of the resolution, he should at once become a convert. He did not think, however, that they were so, and for that reason he was opposed to the movement. Supposing the franchise was extended to women from that very night, what better would they be? None. Women can now, if they wish, influence their husbands in the giving of their votes. And if they fail to influence them, then let a woman go to someone's else's husband. Let her go to her father, or her brother, and—he was almost going to say—her aunt. The whole mainspring of the movement was the presumed injustice of mankind, an injustice which he held did not exist. In conclusion he asked those ladies present to devote their talents to other more pressing and useful social improvements, and give up the promotion of a senseless, useless, and mischievous agitation.

Mr. HUMPHRIES seconded, and remarked that although six or seven years ago he was a supporter of the movement, for various reasons he had been led to change his opinion and oppose the question. He also said that although the ladies who had just spoke seemed so exultant over the passing of the Municipal Reform Act, yet really it was only through an accident that it had been carried.

Mr. S. FENTON supported the resolution.

Mr. WALLIS, who had been interrupting the speakers, and creating a disturbance throughout the evening by his senseless ejaculations, agreeing with neither one side nor the other, here rose to speak, and said: "It's all bosh, I won't have any more of

it; there's no harm in that." A kindly gentleman from behind, however, pulled him back to his seat.

Miss MULLER replied upon the discussion.

The amendment was then put to the meeting, and declared lost by the chairman.

The original motion was put to the meeting and also declared carried, although there were many dissentients from the chairman's ruling.

A vote of thanks to the chairman was carried *nem. dis.*

### SUDBURY.

On December 6th a well-attended public meeting was held at the Town Hall, Sudbury, Suffolk, under the presidency of the MAYOR (R. Mattingly, Esq.), when addresses were delivered by Mrs. Ormiston Chant and Miss Caroline Ashurst Biggs. Notwithstanding the inclement evening the hall was nearly filled, a large number of ladies being present. The Mayor was supported on the platform by the two lady delegates, and by Mr. Jonathan Grubb and Mr. W. L. Lewis, and in the body of the hall were, among many others, Rev. C. J. Stower, Rev. W. Courtnall, Rev. J. H. Kelly, Messrs. Howard Molyneux, E. Clover, G. Mumford, T. Elliston, sen., G. G. Whorlow, Dr. Fletcher, J. Hunt, E. L. Oliver, H. M. Ives, S. Hunt, &c.

The MAYOR, who was very cordially received, in opening the proceedings said that in taking the chair that evening he felt that his duties would be of a very simple character. He should, however, just like to say that he was thoroughly and heartily in sympathy with the movement of the association for obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women, believing it was founded on sound principles. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GRUBB moved: "That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who, in all matters of local government, have a right of voting."

The Rev. W. COURTNALL briefly seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. THOS. ELLISTON, sen., and Mr. ORMISTON CHANT. The CHAIRMAN put the motion, which was carried with only three dissentients, amid much applause.

The second resolution was proposed by Mr. LEWIS, who said that he had been asked to move the next resolution, which he did with pleasure. The resolution put into his hands was as follows:—"That a petition to both Houses of Parliament based on the foregoing resolution be adopted and signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting, and that memorials be presented to Thos. Thornhill, Esq., and Wm. Biddell, Esq., members for West Suffolk, asking them to support any measure dealing with the extension of the suffrage without distinction of sex to all persons possessing the statutory qualifications."

Mr. J. F. HILLS seconded the resolution, after which Miss C. A. BIGGS addressed the meeting.

The resolution was put by the CHAIRMAN, and carried *nem. con.* amid considerable applause.

Mrs. CHANT proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, which was seconded by Mr. LEWIS, who said he was very pleased to see their town taking a part in great public questions, by holding public meetings, and they were indebted to the Mayor for the opportunity of doing so that evening. (Cheers.)

The motion was carried by acclamation and his Worship responded.

On the motion of Mr. WHORLOW, seconded by Mr. GRUBB, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the ladies who had attended as a deputation and for their eloquent and interesting and practical addresses.

Miss BIGGS acknowledged the compliments and the proceedings terminated.

### BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

On December 7th a meeting was held at the Town Hall, Bury St. Edmunds. There was a very numerous attendance, including many ladies, though it was observed that the male sex considerably predominated. Mrs. C. E. SALMON presided; and there were also on the platform Mrs. Ormiston Chant and Miss C. A. Biggs (who attended as a deputation from London), Rev. M. Cumming (Baptist), and Rev. J. Preston (Wesleyan).

Mrs. SALMON, in opening the proceedings, said she regretted exceedingly the absence of Mrs. Lucas, who, from circumstances beyond her control, had been unable to fulfil her engagement. She

was among those who thought that women who had the statutory qualification, and exercised the privilege of voting in municipal matters, ought not to be debarred from taking part in the greater questions affecting Parliament. In short, she felt that there were many reasons why such women should have a Parliamentary vote; but not one satisfactory one why they should not. (Applause.) She had no doubt the ladies who would address the meeting would explain the question more fully. (Applause.)

The Rev. M. CUMMING said he had that day received a letter from the Mayor of Sudbury (Mr. Mattingly), which informed him that a very successful meeting had been held in that town the previous evening in support of women's suffrage. The deputation of ladies who were present that evening—(applause)—had the previous night delivered splendid speeches. Liberals and Conservatives favoured the movement, and the editor of the Sudbury newspaper had moved one of the resolutions. (Applause.) He (Mr. Cumming) had pleasure in moving the following: "That in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, and who in all matters of local government have the right of voting." (Applause.) He said although this was a political question it was not a party one, and he expressed his sympathy with the movement. (Applause.)

Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT addressed the meeting. The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried, only a few hands being held up against it.

The Rev. J. PRESTON expressed full sympathy with the objects of the meeting, and moved a resolution to the effect: "That a petition be sent to both Houses of Parliament, based on the foregoing resolution, and that E. Greene, Esq., M.P., and J. A. Harcastle, Esq., M.P., be asked to support any measure dealing with the enfranchisement of women who possessed the same statutory qualification as men." He expressed a hope that female suffrage would exercise a grand influence in bringing about temperance reform.

Miss C. A. BIGGS, on rising to address the meeting, was received with hearty plaudits. After her address, the resolution was carried.

Mr. FLOYD proposed a vote of thanks to the lady who had so ably presided and to the deputation.

Mr. FRELOVE seconded the motion, and it was agreed to *nem. con.* Mrs. CHANT having acknowledged the compliment, the proceedings terminated.

#### WINCHESTER.

On December 13th a meeting was held at St. John's Rooms, Winchester, at which Miss Caroline Ashurst Biggs and Mrs. Ormiston Chant, the latter a descendant of Edmund Burke, two well-known advocates of the cause, were announced to speak on the subject of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women. The chair was taken soon after eight o'clock by Mrs. Josephine Butler, who briefly introduced her visitors to the audience. At the conclusion of the addresses of Miss Biggs and Mrs. Chant a resolution in furtherance of the extension of the franchise to women, and that Lord Baring and Mr. Moss, the city members, be requested to support the same, was carried with but one dissident. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Butler for presiding brought the proceedings to a conclusion.

#### BOURNEMOUTH.

On Friday evening, December 15th, a meeting was held in the Small Town Hall, Bournemouth, in connection with the subject of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women. Mr. J. M'WILLIAM presided, and there were on the platform Mr. J. Cutler, Mrs. Chant, and Miss C. A. Biggs.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, explained its object. He then called on

Mr. J. CUTLER, who moved the first resolution:—"That in the opinion of this meeting the Parliamentary franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote, who in all matters of local government had a right of voting."

Mrs. ORMISTON CHANT seconded the resolution.

The motion was then put and carried with but three dissentients. Mr. CARTER moved "That petitions to both Houses of Parliament, and memorials to Mr. Horace Davey, M.P., the member for the borough, and to the members of the county, asking them to support any measure for the extension of the franchise which shall

include properly qualified women, be signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting."

This resolution having been put to the meeting was carried with but three dissentients.

A lady, whose name did not transpire, then moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was seconded by Mrs. CHANT, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the vote, said this was no party question, and he hoped the members of that division of the county would think over the matter and vote in favour of women's suffrage. The meeting then terminated.

#### BROMLEY.

A well-attended meeting was recently held at the Town Hall, Bromley Kent, in support of the extension of the Parliamentary franchise to women. Mr. W. H. BOSANQUET presided; and there were also upon the platform the Viscountess Harberton, Mrs. Ashton Dilke, Miss Lillie Stacpoole, Mrs. Lynch (hon. sec.), Miss Müller, and Mr. John Macdonell.

The CHAIRMAN said this was the first public meeting which had ever been held in Bromley for the purpose of discussing this question. Whatever differences of opinion existed, most unprejudiced persons would agree that the question had assumed a position of so much prominence that it was only reasonable that such a meeting as this should be called in Bromley to discuss it.

Viscountess HARBERTON moved the first resolution: "That by the exclusion of women from the right to vote in the election of members of Parliament, a considerable portion of the property, intelligence and industry of the nation is deprived of representation in the House of Commons; and that, in the opinion of this meeting, the Parliamentary suffrage should be given to women on the same condition as it is granted to men." In a very short time, the law would be so altered that every householder would have a vote. (Applause.) Women were householders, many of them, and paid in their share of taxes to the general fund, and yet the privileges about to be conferred on all other householders were to be denied to women! Why should women be considered outside the pale of civilisation, as indeed they were by reason of the anomalous distinction proposed to be made. They were not afraid of the "responsibility of the political burden" which a political speaker had recently expressed his unwillingness to place upon them. The Government of the country professed to be representative, but it would never be truly so until all classes were represented. It was the absolute duty of every woman to come forward and demand this, their sacred right, as earnestly as they would oppose tyranny and oppression. (Applause.)

Miss MÜLLER, a member of the London School Board, seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr. JOHN MACDONELL, and carried.

Mrs. ASHTON DILKE proposed the second resolution: "That a petition to the House of Commons be adopted and signed by the chairman on behalf of this meeting; and that memorials to Sir Charles Mills and Viscount Lewisham, requesting them to support Mr. Mason's 'Bill to remove the Electoral Disabilities of Women,' be signed by the chairman and forwarded by him." No class, she said, could properly and satisfactorily legislate for another class; and men, though very kind, did not understand the requirements of those who were denied the right of having a voice in the making of the laws which governed them. Speaking of the suggestion that constituencies should pay the election expenses of their representatives, Mrs. Dilke pointed out how unfairly it would operate upon women ratepayers; and remarked that, although they had to bear their proportion of the expenses of inquiries into bribery and corrupt practices at elections, they had not even the chance of being bribed. (Laughter.)

Miss LILLIE STACPOOLE seconded the resolution, which was also carried, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Miss BABB.

#### GLOSSOP.

A public meeting in support of the measure for extending the Parliamentary franchise to women who possess the qualification which entitle men to vote was held in the Town Hall, Glossop, on December 18th. Notwithstanding the weather was disagreeable there was a good attendance. Councillor T. P. HUNTER, who presided, was supported by Miss Lydia Becker, of Manchester; Miss

## LECTURES.

### GREENWICH LIBERAL CLUB.

On December 3rd Mrs. Fenwick Miller, M.L.S.B. for Hackney, delivered a lecture at the Greenwich Liberal Club, entitled "Women and the New Reform Bill," when there was more than an average audience. Mr. JOHN BELL, M.A., presided.

On the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. A. H. S. TAYLOR moved: "That in the opinion of this meeting the electoral disabilities of women should be removed, and that no new Reform Bill will be satisfactory which denies to duly-qualified persons the right to exercise the franchise on the ground of sex, and that a petition to both Houses of Parliament and a memorial be signed by the chairman on behalf of this meeting."

Mr. FELTHAM seconded.

Mr. R. S. JACKSON moved as an amendment: "That while this meeting is of opinion the franchise should be conferred upon women possessing the same qualification as men, it considers that it is inexpedient to deal with this question in the coming Reform Bill, as being likely to imperil the passing of that measure."

Mr. POWER seconded, but the amendment was declared lost by a narrow majority.

The resolution adopting memorial and petitions was carried by a considerable majority.

### PROGRESSIVE CLUB, NOTTING HILL.

On November 25th Mrs. Fenwick Miller delivered her lecture "On Women and the New Reform Bill" at the Progressive Club, Notting Hill. Mr. Nieass occupied the chair, and, in his introductory remarks, expressed himself fully in favour of the enfranchisement of women. At the conclusion of the lecture the president of the club moved the adoption of memorial and petitions, which, having been seconded, was unanimously carried.

### COBDEN CLUB, KENSAL GREEN.

On December 16th Mrs. Fenwick Miller lectured at the above club "On Women and the New Reform Bill." There was a large attendance, and the chair was occupied by Mr. Emanuel Hopes (the president of the club), who reminded the members that he had long been an advocate of the representation of women. At the conclusion of the lecture Mrs. Fenwick Miller moved the customary resolution. Mr. Theyre seconded; after which the "previous question" was moved as an amendment in a long speech by Mr. Mahoney. After a reply by Mrs. Miller the division was then taken, when eight persons voted for the previous question, and a forest of hands appeared against it. The original resolution was carried with acclamation, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks.

### BOW LIBERAL CLUB.

On Thursday, December 20th, Mrs. Fenwick Miller lectured at the Bow Liberal Club on "Women and the New Reform Bill." The customary memorial and petitions were moved by Mr. Albricht and seconded by another member of the club, after which Mr. Reynolds offered opposition, stating that he should have voted against the Married Women's Property Act, and that he believed that the suffrage would introduce dissension into families. The Chairman (Mr. J. Branch), before putting the resolution, expressed himself in favour of the enfranchisement of women householders. The resolution was carried with only three dissentients in an audience numbering about two hundred and fifty. Mr. Hilditch proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Miller, which was warmly accorded.

### MARSDEN LIBERAL CLUB.

On December 4th Miss Lydia Becker, on behalf of the National Reform Union, Manchester, delivered a lecture in the Mechanics' Hall, Marsden, near Huddersfield, in connection with the Marsden Liberal Club. Mr. J. B. Robinson was in the chair. There was a good attendance, a considerable proportion consisting of ladies. Miss Becker's lecture was on women's suffrage, of which it is well known she is one of the foremost and most eloquent advocates.—The lecturer, in pithy and well-balanced sentences, forcibly exposed the absurdity that women, who, being ratepayers, could vote for all kinds of representatives, in all sorts of governing bodies, should be deprived of the right of voting for representatives in Parliament. She carried the audience with her.—At the close of the lecture, which occupied an hour, Mr. Fred Beaumont moved the following

Laura Whittle, of Liverpool; Mrs. Moss, of Hyde; Mrs. M'Cormick, of Manchester; Mrs. Harrison, Miss Smith, Rev. W. Harrison, Councillor Garside, &c.

Councillor HUNTER said that his duty on that occasion was a very pleasing one. Their demand was a simple one, and it was a marvel to him how it had been kept so long in the background. It was now coming to the front, and before long they should hear more about it. He was in sympathy with the movement, and he hoped that what they were agitating for would soon become law. (Cheers.)

The Rev. W. HARRISON said he had great pleasure in moving the following resolution: "That, in the opinion of this meeting, any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all matters of local government, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone."

Mr. Councillor GARSIDE seconded the resolution.

Miss BECKER addressed the meeting in support of the resolution, which was carried heartily and unanimously.

Mrs. MOSS then moved the following resolution: "That petitions to both Houses of Parliament, based on the foregoing resolution, be adopted and signed by the chairman on behalf of this meeting; and that a memorial to Lord Edward Cavendish and John F. Cheetham, Esq., members for the Northern Division of Derbyshire, requesting them to support the bill to remove the electoral disabilities of women, be signed by the chairman and forwarded by him."

Miss WHITTLE seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr. HALL, who said that he was sure if what had been said had the effect upon the minds of the audience that it had had upon his own, the meeting would not have been called in vain.

Votes of thanks to the chairman and lady speakers brought the proceedings to a close.

### DRAWING-ROOM MEETINGS.

#### NORWOOD.

A drawing-room meeting of the Norwood Branch of the Ladies' National Association was held on Friday, December 7th, at 10, Percy Villas, Upper Norwood. A paper, entitled "Ought repealers to be in favour of women's suffrage," was read by Mrs. W. H. Streetfeild, hon. sec. of the Ladies' Committee of the above association. This paper dealt with the real root of all legislation in favour of men over women—namely, the unjust exclusion from the franchise of women who fulfil the statutory qualifications which enable men to vote. After the reading of the paper resolutions were put to the meeting in favour of memorials for repeal and also for petitions in favour of granting the suffrage to women. Both resolutions were carried *nem. con.*

#### BOURNEMOUTH.

A well and influentially-attended drawing-room meeting was held by the kindness of Mrs. Langton, at the Red House, Derby Road, Bournemouth, on the afternoon of Friday, December 15th. The chair was taken by Admiral Sir James Sullivan, K.C.B., who, in a short speech, expressed the sympathy which for many years he had felt in the subject. After an eloquent address from Mrs. Ormiston Chant, Miss C. A. Biggs moved the adoption of a petition from the meeting. This was seconded by Miss Le Geyt, and cordially assented to. After votes of thanks to Sir J. Sullivan for presiding, and to Mrs. Langton for her kind hospitality, the meeting separated.

#### LEEDS.

On December 11th a drawing-room meeting was held by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Wilkinson, at their house, Belle Vue Road. It was well attended, several women householders being present. Miss Anna Wilkinson, of York, in a well-argued speech, showed how women's suffrage was the power to compel many reforms, which women working in various ways earnestly desired. Mrs. Oliver Scatterd spoke next, and urged those present to join the society. Several did so. Mr. Hartley proposed, and Mr. Barwell seconded, that a petition to Parliament, and memorials to Herbert Gladstone, M.P., and Sir Andrew Fairbairn, M.P., be signed on behalf of the meeting by Mrs. B. G. Wilkinson, and forwarded. The meeting was a most enjoyable and successful one, the intelligent sympathy of the audience being much valued by the promoters.

resolution: "That, in the opinion of this meeting, any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all matters of local government."—Mr. Thomas Hirst seconded the resolution, and it was carried without a dissentient.—On the motion of Mr. J. Sykes, seconded by Mr. R. Batty, a cordial vote of thanks was awarded by acclamation to Miss Becker, and a similar compliment to the chairman closed the proceedings.—*Huddersfield Examiner*.

## DARLINGTON.

On December 19th, a lecture, under the auspices of the Darlington Women's Liberal Association, was delivered in the Mechanics' Hall, Darlington, by Miss Becker. Mr. J. G. Blumer was called upon to preside. Among those present on the platform were Mr. S. Hare, Mr. G. S. Gibbs, Mr. G. Lucas, Mr. J. Webster, and several ladies. At the conclusion of the lecture Mr. G. S. Gibbs moved the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this meeting any measure for the extension of the suffrage should confer the franchise upon women who, possessing the qualifications which entitle men to vote, have now the right of voting in all matters of local government, and that copies of this resolution be sent to Mr. Gladstone and members for the county and borough." Mr. S. Hare seconded, and it was carried, there being two dissentients. Mr. Geo. Lucas moved a vote of thanks to Miss Becker, which was seconded by Mr. J. Webster and carried. It was resolved, there being but one dissentient, that the chairman append his name to a petition to the Houses of Parliament.

## DEBATING SOCIETIES.

## BEDFORD PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Bedford Parliamentary Debating Society on November 14th, the Rev. W. P. Beckett (the Chairman of Committees) presided. There was a large attendance of members, and a fair number of visitors and ladies. The subject for discussion was Women's Suffrage, which was introduced by Mr. A. Hill (Premier), who was supported by Mr. H. Hawthorne, Mr. W. J. Hamson, Mr. J. Mulrenan, Mr. W. Rolls, and Mr. A. Ager; the opposition being led by Mr. Brown, Mr. Bull, Mr. Lissack, and Mr. Baker (Leader of the Opposition).—The opener having replied, the following resolution was carried without a dissentient voice:—"That in the opinion of this House the Parliamentary Franchise should be extended to women who possess the qualifications which entitle men to vote."

## MAIDSTONE.

At the meeting of the Maidstone Parliamentary Debating Society on November 12, the right hon. member for Stoke-on-Trent, Mr. A. E. Rowcroft (Home Secretary), moved:—"That in the opinion of this House the right of voting at Parliamentary elections, which the Reform Act of 1867 conferred upon men, should be extended to women householders."—Mr. Hoar (Leader of the Opposition) seconded the motion. He said it was the first occasion on which he had been able to second a motion coming from the other side of the House. The motion was supported by Messrs. G. L. Graham, G. F. Baker, Neame, J. Clifford, M. Styles, C. Baker, and Mr. W. Haynes (Premier); and opposed by Mr. J. Emery, Mr. G. Baker, and Mr. A. W. Smith. Mr. Rowcroft briefly replied, and the House divided. For the resolution, 26; against, 22; majority, 4.

## NEATH PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

In the Parliamentary Debating Society of Neath a Bill for the extension of the Parliamentary electoral franchise to women was prepared and brought in on October 16th by "Secretary" Mr. E. C. Curtis, Mr. S. T. Evans, Mr. "Chancellor" W. Lewis, and "Mr. Attorney General." The Bill was "read a third time and passed" November 14th, 1883.

## BROMLEY.

At the first meeting of the Bromley Debating Society, in the School of Arts, on the 22nd November, the president of the society, Mr. Bosanquet, maintained the right of women ratepayers to the Parliamentary suffrage, Mr. Crowther, of Keston, being in the chair. Mr. Ratcliffe opposed the motion; and eight or ten speakers, including one lady, contributed to the discussion. The resolution

was lost by nine votes to seven. The rules of the society admit of ladies becoming members. A large number of non-members were present, but were not allowed to vote.

## MANCHESTER PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

At the sitting of the Manchester Parliamentary Debating Society in November, held in the Memorial Hall, a resolution on women's suffrage, identical with the one submitted in the House of Commons on July 6th, was after a three nights' debate eventually carried by a majority of four. The resolution was introduced by Mr. T. C. Abbott, and about twenty speakers took part in what may fairly be called an animated and interesting discussion. On the night of the division many of the supporters were absent in order to support the resolution in the Manchester Liberal Association.

## BRIDGWATER.

Women's suffrage formed the subject of the discussion of the "Bridgewater Ladies' Mutual Improvement Society" on November 30th, when papers were read for and against the movement, and a vote in favour was carried by fourteen to two.

## SPEECHES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

## MR. ALFRED ILLINGWORTH.

At a large gathering, at Oakworth, near Keighley, when Mrs. Holden, wife of Mr. Isaac Holden, M.P., held an "At Home," to give the Liberals of the district an opportunity of meeting the Rt. Hon. John Bright, Mr. Alfred Illingworth in compliance with a request by the guests, read a short address. Speaking of the franchise, he said he would like to see every qualification destroyed, excepting the resident one, and that which was tantamount to it, the lodger qualification. Unmarried women should also be placed in possession of the franchise.

## MR. RANKIN.

Mr. Rankin, M.P., addressing his constituents at Leominster, on November 19th, expressed himself in very decided terms in favour of the extension of the franchise to women.

## LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

## SIR H. TYLER.

Sir H. Tyler, M.P. for Harwich, writes as follows in reply to the memorial from the meeting at Dovercourt, to Mr. Cottingham, the chairman, 26th November: "I have duly received your note and memorial, which shall have my attention. Would you kindly let me know how many there were at the meeting in question, and, as far as you can, indicate to me the persons who were present."

## MR. R. MOSS.

The following letter has been received from Mr. Moss, M.P., in reply to the memorial forwarded from the meeting at Winchester, on December 13th:—

Weston Grove, Southampton, 17th Dec., 1883.

Dear Madam,—I have to acknowledge receipt of the memorial agreed to at a meeting held at the St. John's Rooms, Winchester, on the 13th inst., asking me to support the extension of the franchise to women. In reply, permit me to say that the subject shall receive my earnest consideration. It would be difficult to express a positive opinion upon the subject until the promised Bill for the extension of the franchise is before the House and the country.—I remain, yours faithfully,  
R. Moss.  
Mrs. Josephine Butler.

A similar letter was received from Viscount Baring, M.P.

## THE REPRESENTATION OF BRISTOL.

## SELECTION OF A LIBERAL CANDIDATE.

On December 6th an adjourned meeting of the Liberal Five Hundred was held at Colston Hall, Bristol, in order that Mr. J. D. Weston and the Hon. Bernard Coleridge, whose names had been submitted that the Five Hundred might select a candidate at the next election, should address the meeting previous to a ballot being taken.

## SCOTLAND.

## EDINBURGH NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

The annual meeting of this society was held on December 19th, in No. 5, St. Andrew Square. There was a large attendance of ladies. Mrs. M'LAREN, president of the society, occupied the chair, and among those present were Professor Lindsay, Glasgow; Rev. Dr. Adamson, Rev. Messrs. Masson and Graham, Colonel Davidson, Dr. Carment, Mrs. Oliver Scatterd, Leeds; Miss Jane Cobden, London; Mrs. Hodgson, Miss Simpson, Miss Louisa Stevenson, Miss Wigham, and Miss E. Kirkland.

Mrs. M'LAREN, in taking the chair, said: Though every argument against women's suffrage had been long ago exhausted, yet events were continually occurring which added interest to the movement, showing on what true and important lines they were moving and what vantage ground had been gained. They had in Edinburgh been stimulated afresh during the past week by a visit of Miss Ellice Hopkins. She had come to their city to tell of the degradation of the women of this country; and this meant the degradation of the men of the land also. It seemed to her that Miss Hopkins' mission was to arouse some of the Christian women connected with the churches to look into the causes of the fearful evils which surrounded them, and which the churches hitherto had seemed utterly unable to cope with. Were the causes of these evils traced to their source, it will be found, as Miss Hopkins acknowledged, that the unequal and unjust laws which press women down were the cause of much of their degradation. The women who worked in this great suffrage question owned the same high call to their work which Miss Hopkins had been called to obey. They called Him Master whose ears had long been pierced by the agonised cries of the crushed ones, whose outcast lot was in such wide contrast to that which was intended when woman was created to be man's equal and companion on the earth. If man were created the head of the woman, she (Mrs. M'Laren) feared he had hardly been faithful to the position assigned him, for they found womanhood crushed in almost every nation. Still, women, intellectually and spiritually, had adorned all times, and she would like to quote what their friend Miss Maitland, herself one of the noblest of women, whose life had been one of great self-sacrifice for her sex, said so beautifully, when addressing an audience in that room, "In the New Testament the true position of women was defined, for they were recognised as fellow workers with men, and the coming of Christ had bridged over the distinction between the sexes, for male and female were one in Christ Jesus." This had been too much considered as having only a spiritual application. But Christ's teaching applied chiefly to this life, which was to be a preparation for the life to come, and the "politics of the New Testament" sanctioned no injustice to any member of the great human family; the same laws were laid down for all, both moral and spiritual. Miss Hopkins was surprised to find how many benevolent associations were at work in Edinburgh to aid friendless girls and women. There was certainly no lack of zeal amongst good women; still their work accumulated rather than diminished; and it would always be so until they could raise the position of womanhood. But she would ask them, so long as a woman, even yet a bride, could be obliged to leave her husband because of his cruelty and flee to her own friends for protection, and when her child was born, which ought to have cemented the happiness of her married life, that husband could appeal to the Scottish law to force that child from its mother's arms to be given to him, even when its health peculiarly required a mother's care, and the judge could give it to that father, and also decree such a refinement of cruelty as to make that poor distracted mother pay the costs of the lawsuit which resulted in robbing her of her child; tell me, is such a law calculated to raise wifehood, or motherhood, or womanhood in the estimation of either the men or women of our country? What lesson can such a law teach the rising youth of our land? And that was no isolated case, for that judgment was given on the plea that in all similar cases the finding had been the same. But the sensation which this case gave rise to showed that the conscience of the country was being roused on the question of the wrongs from which women suffered, and it was the agitation on this question of women's suffrage which was rousing it. If women had not been injured to such unjust laws, they would have risen with one voice in Edinburgh, and have protested against that iniquitous sentence. But

The Hon. BERNARD COLERIDGE at the former meeting had expressed his support of women's suffrage, and in reply to a question put at the close of his address said he would vote for the extension of the franchise to women.

Mr. WESTON, in the course of his address, said: Then next, as a subordinate matter in connection with the franchise, I would say that every man and woman who occupies a house and pays rates and taxes should be entitled to vote—(cheers)—I shall therefore vote for the suffrage being extended to women.

After the addresses of the candidates a ballot was taken, with the result that Mr. J. D. Weston was adopted as the Liberal candidate at the next election in place of Mr. Samuel Morley, who has intimated his intention of retiring at the termination of the present Parliament.

## MR. ARCH ON WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Mr. Joseph Arch gave a lecture on December 11th, under the auspices of the Bristol Radical Reform Association, at the Vestry Hall, Pennywell Road, Bristol, on "Land Laws and the County Franchise." After dealing with the claim of the agricultural labourers to the franchise, he went on to speak also in favour of the claim of women householders. He said that he had been a politician since he was nine years old, and how he came first to be a politician was this: He was working for a farmer, a man who had put some £3,000 into his farm, and had a wife and four sweet little children. The farmer died, and he (young Arch) was astonished to find that his wife could not touch his property, and in a few months would leave the farm. He heard the carrier who came to take away her goods for her inquire why she was leaving, and heard the answer, because she had no vote. That was what first made him a politician. He should like, he added, that when he died his wife should be able to have his vote. She would be better able to give a vote than to meet the taxes when he was gone, but the vote would leave the house, though the taxpayer would not.

## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

## NOTTINGHAM.

At the triennial election of members of the School Board of Nottingham in November last eight candidates were nominated by the Liberal or unsectarian party, among whom was Mrs. Ann Cowen, hon. sec. for the Notts Branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage. The polling took place on November 29th. Mrs. Cowen was returned at the head of the poll with 20,408 votes. She received not only the largest number of votes, but was voted for by the largest number of electors, 8,043, of any candidate. The candidate second on the poll received 15,793 votes from 7,530 persons. The operation of the cumulative vote is such that it does not always follow that the highest number of votes is given by the largest number of electors. The result of the poll at Nottingham is, therefore, a very strong manifestation of public opinion in favour of the work of women on school boards.

## SWINDON.

The triennial election of the School Board for Swindon took place in November. There were fifteen candidates for nine seats. Mrs. Ada M. Brocklehurst Hack was nominated as an independent candidate, and though a deputation waited on her to ask her to withdraw on the ground that there were already many Nonconformist candidates in the field, she explained that she stood as a woman and not as a Congregationalist. Mrs. Hack was nominated by a Presbyterian, seconded by a member of the Church of England, and was returned second on the poll.

## HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE COMMITTEE.

A meeting was held at Cambridge Road, on December 17th, for the purpose of forming a branch of the National Society for Women's Suffrage in these towns. The committee consists of Mr. and Mrs. Eiloart, Mr. and Mrs. Gant, Mr. Elliott, Miss Dunk, and Miss Fricker Hall, with power to add to their number. Miss Fricker Hall, of Bonham House, Peverley Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, was appointed hon. sec., from whom any information or papers can be obtained.

most women only recognise the duty of some act of benevolence towards girls and women who may have been driven to despair or wrong-doing through the injuries which our laws have inflicted upon them.

They had been patient many years, No wild rebellious cry was theirs; But unto Heaven their groans and tears Went upward mingled with their prayers.

And she thanked God their prayers had been heard and were being answered; and she hoped Mr. Gladstone would dare to act upon the principle of true courage and righteousness rather than listen to anyone who could tell him that "Justice must be done though the heavens should fall," and in the same breath advised him to throw the women on one side.

Miss Wigham then read the annual report, which stated that the Convention of Royal Burghs, the Edinburgh Liberal Association, and eighteen Scottish Town Councils had passed resolutions in favour of the franchise being extended to women householders;

IRELAND. LISBURN.

On November 28th a meeting was held in the Friends' Institute, Lisburn; Mr. J. N. Richardson occupied the chair.—The Chairman said he appeared in his present position at the request of Miss Isabella M. S. Tod, of the North of Ireland Committee for Women's Suffrage, whom he would now call on to move the following resolution: "That the exclusion of women who are possessed of the statutory qualification from voting in the election of members of Parliament is injurious to those excluded and to the community at large."

PORTADOWN.

On November 29th a crowded meeting in connection with the women's suffrage movement was held in the Town Hall, Portadown. The chair was taken by Charles Johnston, Esq. The Rev. Mr. Elliott moved: "That the exclusion of women who are possessed of the statutory qualifications from voting in the election of members of Parliament is injurious to those excluded and to the community at large."

CANADA.

THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT IN TORONTO. PETITION ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL.

A deputation from the Canadian Women's Suffrage Association waited upon the Council of Toronto with the object of getting their support to their petition to be shortly presented to the Ontario Legislature for the extension of the municipal and parliamentary franchise to women.

Alderman BAXTER stated that considerable attention had been given by the press of late to the question of extending the franchise to women. At present the women who were possessed of property were disfranchised, and their property was not represented.

YEAS.—Aldermen Baxter, Blevins, Carlyle, Crocker, Denison, Downey, Evans, Hall, Hastings, Irwin, Leslie, Love, Millichamp, Murray, Pape, Piper, Ryan, Saunders, Steiner, and Turner.—20. NAYS.—Ald. Allen, Clarke, Davies, Sheppard, and Walker.—5.

DEPUTATION TO THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

On November 14th, at the Attorney-General's office, a deputation from the Woman's Suffrage Association waited upon the Government. Among those present were:—Mrs. M'Ewan, President of the Association; Mrs. Adam Miller, Mrs. W. B. Hamilton, Mrs. W. L. Mackenzie, Mr. James Beaty, Jr., M.P.; Captain M'Master, Mr. Robt. Jaffray, Mr. Ogden, Mr. M'Ewan, Mr. R. B. Hamilton. His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen Baxter, Ryan, and Carlyle. The members of the Government receiving the deputation were the Attorney-General, the Commissioner of Public Works, the Commissioner of Crown Lands, the Provincial Secretary, and the Provincial Treasurer.

After the usual introductions, Mrs. M'Ewan addressed the members of the Government. She said that in company with other ladies and gentlemen she, as President of the Canadian Woman's Suffrage Association, appeared before them to ask them to bestow upon women possessing the same qualifications that entitle men to vote the right to vote in Parliamentary and municipal elections.

Mayor BOSWELL said he appeared as representing the City Council, which had recently adopted a resolution requesting the Government of Ontario to pass a law to grant the franchise to women. If the women would have been satisfied with a resolution in favour of granting the municipal franchise simply to their sex, there would not have been a dissenting voice to its adoption.

Mr. BEATY, M.P., said he sympathised strongly with this movement. Aldermen Baxter, Ryan, and Carlyle, Captain M'Master, Mr. Robert Jaffray, Mr. Ogden, Mr. M'Ewan, and Mr. R. E. Hamilton spoke in support of the memorial.

Mr. BADGEROW, M.P.P., promised to give the subject his earnest consideration, and hoped something would be done in the direction indicated.

Mr. MOWAT (Attorney-General), in reply, said the subject was to him one of great interest. There were two things to be considered when important legislation was required. It generally appeared that there was some great practical evil to be remedied. The interests of men and women were in the main, of course, identical, and he was not now aware of any measure which would have been carried if women had had votes which had not been carried. There was only one subject, that of temperance, in regard to which it was suggested that legislation would have been more restrictive than now. He had not any evidence of that. As many men as women were assisting in the temperance work. A quarter of a century ago the laws in regard to women were in a very different condition from that of to-day. They were barbarous, and it was difficult to understand how they could have remained in force so long.

The deputation then withdrew.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS, FROM NOVEMBER 28 TO DECEMBER 28, 1883.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Mr. Thomasson (special donation to Meeting Fund) £100 0 0, Mrs. Garnett £50 0 0, Mrs. Thomas Hare £1 1 0, Miss Heppel £1 0 0, Mrs. Savile £1 0 0, Mrs. Charles Minns £0 10 6, A Friend (through Miss Hall) £0 5 0, Miss Emily Reid £0 5 0, Miss Anthony £20 5 0, Mr. Samuel Saunders £0 2 6, Miss Heblethwaite £0 2 6, Miss Van Putten £0 2 6, Mrs. Edmonds £0 2 6, Mrs. Somers Help £0 2 6, Collected at Mrs. Fenwick Miller's lecture at Brighton £1 5 3, £157 4 3.

Laura M'Laren, Treasurer, 20, Parliament-street, S. W.

MANCHESTER SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS, DECEMBER, 1883.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes "Poppun" £100 0 0, Mrs. Stephenson Hunter £5 7 0, Mrs. Sheffield £2 2 0, Miss Sargeant £1 2 6, Rev. G. Twentyman £0 10 6, Mr. E. V. Neale £0 10 0, Rev. Thos. Crow £0 10 0, Mrs. S. L. Helm £0 10 0, Mr. J. H. Reynolds £0 5 0, Mrs. Aldridge £0 5 0, Mr. J. S. Garland (two years) £0 5 0, Rev. Thos. Gasquoine £0 5 0, Miss Lamplough (Derby) £0 5 0, Miss Ellis £0 4 0, Mrs. Jowett £0 2 6, Mrs. Braithwaite £0 2 6, Mr. Joseph Taylor, J.P. (Pontefract) £0 2 6, Miss Dunlop £0 2 6, Miss Carter (Derby) £0 2 6, Mrs. Johnson £0 2 6, Mr. Norton £0 2 6, Mrs. Gooch £0 2 6, Mrs. Wright (Leeds) £0 1 3, Miss Booth £0 1 6, Miss Nicholson £0 1 6, Mrs. Barwell £0 1 6, Miss Halliday £0 1 6, £113 10 6.

S. ALFRED STEINTHAL, Treasurer, 28, Jackson's Row, Manchester.

BRISTOL AND WEST OF ENGLAND.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS, FROM NOVEMBER 20 TO DECEMBER 21, 1883.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Miss Kennedy (proceeds of Sale of Work) £25 9 4, Mrs. Garnett £20 0 0, Miss Priestman £5 0 0, Mrs. Arthur Tanner £1 1 0, Miss Butler (Kerry) £1 0 0, Mr. Bartlett £0 10 6, Rev. A. C. Macpherson £0 10 6, Mrs. G. H. Leonard £0 10 0, Mrs. Malleon (Cheltenham) £0 10 0, Miss Pease £0 10 0, Miss L. Thomas £0 10 0, Rev. G. Gould £0 5 0, Miss Sturge (Cotham) £0 5 0, Mrs. Harding £0 3 0, Mrs. Peck £0 3 0, Mr. Andrews (Cardiff) £0 2 6, Miss Ball £0 2 6, Mrs. Barlow £0 2 6, Mrs. Bullard (Clastonbury) £0 2 6, Mrs. S. Budgett £0 2 6, Mrs. D'Oursey £0 2 6, Miss Elliott £0 2 6, Mr. E. M. Field £0 2 6, Mr. Jennings £0 2 6, Mrs. Perry £0 2 6, Mrs. R. B. Rutter £0 2 6, Mrs. R. B. Rutter £0 2 6, Miss Roberts £0 2 6, Miss C. Stevens (Wivoliscombe) £0 2 6, Mrs. Stone £0 2 6, Mrs. Waring £0 2 6, Miss Mayrick £0 2 0, Miss Carwardine (Falfield) £0 1 6, Mrs. Hodges £20 1 6, Mrs. Hall (Bridgwater) £0 1 0, ABERYSTWITTH, Mrs. William Williams £0 10 0, Mr. Peter Jones £0 5 0, Miss Edwards £0 2 6, Mrs. J. M. Jones £0 2 6, Mr. Richard Jones £0 2 6, Mrs. Roberts £0 2 6, Mrs. G. D. White £0 2 6, Mr. P. Williams £0 2 6, STREET, Mr. J. Clark £0 10 0, Mrs. F. J. Clark £0 5 0, Mrs. Clothier £0 5 0, Mrs. Impey £0 5 0, Mrs. Porter £0 2 6, YEovil, Mrs. Marsh £1 0 0, Mr. Bealford £0 5 0, Mrs. Caines £0 2 6, Mrs. Chapman £0 2 6, Mrs. Clincker £0 2 6, Mr. Edwards £0 2 6, Mr. Fudge £0 2 6, Mr. Helliar £0 2 6, Mr. Mags, F.G.S. £0 2 6, Mrs. E. Pittard £0 2 6, Mrs. C. W. Pittard £0 2 6, Mr. Swatridge £0 2 6, Mr. Tyte £0 2 6, £65 3 4.

ALICE GRENFELL, Treasurer, 1, Cecil Road, Clifton. Office: 20, Park-street, Bristol.

SALE OF WORK, BRISTOL.—A sale of work, arranged by Mrs. and the Misses Kennedy, was held at their residence, Linden House, Redland, on December 4th and 5th, the proceeds of which were handed over to the Committee of the Bristol and West of England Society for Women's Suffrage. Contributions were kindly sent by Dr. Agnes M'Laren; Miss Wright, Edinburgh; Mrs. Dawson, Blackheath; Miss Spender, Bath; Misses Hanson, Clifton; and many other friends in Clifton and elsewhere. Dramatic pieces were performed in the evening by Miss Kennedy, Mr. G. Kennedy, Mr. F. Baber—the musical part by Dr. Kennedy, Blackheath. The Committee acknowledge with thanks £25. 9s. 4d., received from Miss Kennedy as the result of her kind effort.

NOTTS BRANCH.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO DECEMBER, 1883.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Mrs. E. W. Enfield £1 0 0, Mr. C. A. Booth £0 10 0, Mr. E. S. Cowen £0 10 0, Mr. Alderman Gripper £0 10 0, Mr. C. H. Torr £0 10 0, Mrs. Medhurst £0 6 0, Mrs. Bedells £0 5 0, Mrs. Dowson £0 5 0, Mrs. Jardine £0 5 0, Mrs. Eames £0 5 0, Miss Eames £0 2 6, Mrs. H. A. Allport £0 2 6, Miss Armitage £0 2 6, Mrs. Cokayne £0 2 6, Mrs. Medley £0 2 6, Mr. Jos. Wright £0 2 6, Mrs. Trumax £0 2 0, Misses Dodson £0 2 0, Mrs. Burt £0 1 0, Miss Bloore £0 1 0, £5 7 0.

ELIZA HIND, Treasurer, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham.



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