

ANOTHER  
**COCKBURN TEMPERANCE HOTEL,**

13, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN, BEDFORD ST., STRAND, LONDON.

100 Rooms. New Passenger Elevator. Electric Light. Telephone. Very Moderate.  
Telegrams: "PROMISING," LONDON. Mrs. A. D. PHILP, Proprietress.

THE **WOMAN'S**

A Weekly Record and Review devoted to the interests of Women in the Home and in the Wider World.

Edited by  
**MRS. FENWICK MILLER.**

**SIGNAL**

No. 170, Vol. VII.

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

APRIL 1st, 1897.

Every Thursday, ONE PENNY WEEKLY.

Principal  
Contents  
OF  
This Issue.



A Lady as a Lecture Agent: Interview with Miss Edith Pond. *By the Editor.*

Words of Weight on Women's Questions:  
No. I. Condorcet's Essay, "On the Rights of Women to Citizenship."  
*Translated by Dr. Alice Vickery.*

Women's Liberal Federation Meeting at Norwich.

Our Sisters in India: Conclusion.

Growing Old. *By Mrs. Livermore.*

Signals from Our Watch Tower:

Failure of the Anglo-American Arbitration Treaty.  
The Women's Suffrage Bill in the House of Lords.  
The Women's Protest and a Moral. The Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund and Vivisection.  
Women Poor Law Guardians. Marriage Dofes.  
Women in Railway Carriages. Lady Gardeners, etc., etc.

Women's Suffrage: Report of the Central National Society.

Our Free Circulation Fund.

Treasures and Troubles: Chapter XIII.

Our Open Column:

Nurses. The Statue of Jesus at Duxhurst. &c., &c., &c.

"STRONGEST AND BEST."  
*Health.*

**Fry's**  
PURE CONCENTRATED  
**Cocoa**

Dr. ANDREW WILSON, F.R.S.E., lecturing on Foods, says: "The chief text in the Gospe of Nutrition is that Tea and Coffee are not Foods at all, while Cocoa is an admirable and sustaining diet." Than FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA, no better food product of this nature can be obtained or used.

Try also FRY'S MALTED COCOA a delicious combination of FRY'S PURE COCOA and EXTRACT OF MALT (*Allen & Hanbury's*).

"Its dietetic and digestive value is beyond dispute."—*Lancet.*

OVER 200 GOLD MEDALS AND DIPLOMAS.


Paris Kid, 2/11, 3/6, 3/11, 4-Button. Paris Suede, 2/11, 3/6, 3/11, 4-Button.  
Chevette, 2/11, 3/11.

Price Lists free on application.

**GLOVES \* GLOVES \* GLOVES**


Of any make fitted on previous to purchase at  
**J. S. GREGG'S (FIRST FLOOR), 92, New Bond St.**

**Carter's Little Liver Pills**



Is. 1 1/2d. at Chemists. Cure all Liver ills.

Four size and shape of Package.



FOR HEADACHE, FOR DIZZINESS, FOR BILIOUSNESS, FOR TORPID LIVER, FOR CONSTIPATION, FOR SALLOW SKIN, FOR THE COMPLEXION.

Wrapper printed blue on white.

**Cure Torpid Liver, Sallow Complexion, Bilious Headache.**

**BUT BE SURE THEY ARE CARTER'S.**

Carter's Little Liver Pills are sometimes counterfeited. It is not enough to ask for "Little Liver Pills"; CARTER'S is the important word, and should be observed on the outside wrapper, otherwise the pills within cannot be genuine. Do not take any nameless "Little Liver Pills" that may be offered. But be sure they are CARTER'S.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

INSTITUTIONS, EDUCATIONAL, APARTMENTS, SITUATIONS VACANT AND WANTED, and Similar Matter. 15 words for 1s., each 10 Additional Words, 6d. Four insertions for the price of Three. ADVERTISEMENTS must be prepaid and sent to the Office, 80, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

**HOTELS, HYDROS, &c.**

**THE DEVONSHIRE HOUSE TEMPERANCE HOTEL,** 12, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C. This First-Class Temperance Hotel is centrally situated for business or pleasure in the heart of the City. Telephone No. 3485. Telegraphic Address, "Exterior, London." H. G. CHALKLEY & SONS, PROPRIETORS.

**BOURNEMOUTH.**

**MIDLAND HOTEL,** opposite Bournemouth West Station. Well-appointed Family Hotel and Boarding House. Electric Light. Excellent Cuisine. Tariff moderate. Busses to all parts. Special boarding terms. Apply—MANAGERESS.

**NEW CROSS HYGIENIC HOME AND SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL CULTURE.** Under the Care of Miss RHODA ANSTEY, New Cross, South Petherton, Somerset. For delicate Girls and Ladies. To strengthen and restore to health by means of Gymnastics, Swedish Medical Movements and Massage, Pure Air, Pure Food, Out-door Occupations, &c. Specially recommended for the Cure of Spinal Curvature, Flat Chest and Round Shoulders, Anemia, Dyspepsia, and many Nervous Affections. Apply for Particulars.

**PARIS.** Central, near Louvre. Comfortable Rooms, with or without board, from 3 to 8 francs. Ladies and families. Paris Branch of W.C.T.U. Temperance Restaurant. English Reading Room. Moderate Terms. Apply (enclosing 2d. stamps), Lady Secretary, 205, Rue St. Honore.

**EDUCATIONAL.**

**EDUCATION ON SOUTH COAST.**

**THORNELOE HIGH SCHOOL, BRIDPORT, DORSET.** Principal, Miss BUSSELL (Cambridge Woman's Examination, Cambridge Teacher's Certificate). Successful preparation for Oxford and Cambridge Locals, Examinations of Royal Academy and Royal College, etc.

**SPECIAL PROVISION FOR DELICATE GIRLS,** Who while able to continue some lessons need treatment and watching. Resident Health-Mistress from Hampstead Physical Training College. Swedish Gymnastics, Medical Movements, &c. Sea-bathing, Tennis, Hockey, Cricket. The climate of Bridport is very suitable for delicate girls, while Thorneloe House is particularly well situated. References to Educational Authorities, Medical Men, &c. also to Miss R. ANSTEY, South Petherton, Somerset. The Spring Term will commence on *Wednesday, May 6th*.

**BOARDING SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN COLLEGE,** THE FOSSE, LEICESTER. Principal, Miss MORGAN. Preparation for usual examinations, Froebel Union Certificates, &c. Inclusive Terms, 30 Guineas per annum. Comfortable Home for Children whose parents reside abroad. Reference permitted to the Mayor of Leicester, J. HERBERT MARSHALL, Esq., J.P.

**Dr. Mary J. Hall-Williams (M.D., Boston)** Will Lecture to Ladies at the WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL UNION, 405, Oxford Street, W. (entrance in Thomas Street), on the first Wednesday of each month, at 4 p.m. Silver Collection taken. Lectures, February 3rd, March 3rd, April 7th May 6th and June 2nd.

**HOLIDAY ENGAGEMENT**

**WANTED** by German Lady, Berlin Diploma, Oxford Certificate, fluent French, fifth year in present situation. Address—FRAULEIN N., Corsbie West, Newton Stewart, N.B.

**THE MOST NUTRITIOUS COCOA**

**EPPS'S**

**GRATEFUL-COMFORTING.**

**COCOA**

WITH FULL NATURAL FLAVOUR.

**NEW PUBLICATIONS.**

**A BOOK FOR LADIES.** The information contained in this book ought to be known by every Married Woman, and it will not harm the unmarried to read. No book is written which goes so thoroughly into matters relating to married women. Some may think too much is told; such can scarcely be the case, for knowledge is power and the means of attaining happiness. The book can be had in envelope from Dr. ALLINSON, Box Z, Spanish Place, Manchester Square, London, W., in return for a Postal Order for 1s. 2d.

**SOUPS. SAVORIES. SWEETS.** With a Chapter on Breads. By H. B. T. 2nd Edition. Price 1s. 6d. Published by JOHN HEYWOOD, Manchester and London.

**NEW PUBLICATIONS.**

**JUST PUBLISHED.**

**DISEASES OF CHILDREN.** By DR. ALICE VICKERY. Price 1/- HENRY RENSHAW, 356, Strand, W.C.

**THE VEGETARIAN DEPOT.**—Domestic Agency Department. All kinds of goods kept:—Food specialties, soap, candles, gloves, crockery, books, &c. 96 Crawford Street, Baker Street, W.

**A CERTIFICATED Monthly Nurse (L.O.S., diploma) disengaged; abstainer.** Apply Nurse rshall, Fenecbar, High View-road, Upper Norwood, S.E.

# THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL

## A WEEKLY RECORD AND REVIEW FOR LADIES.

Vol. VII., No. 170.]

APRIL 1, 1897.

One Penny Weekly.

### A LADY AS A LECTURE AGENT.

#### AN INTERVIEW WITH MISS EDITH POND.

ONE of the most familiar names in America is that of Major Pond, who has been for many years past, the most enterprising and successful of managers for lecturers in the United States. When a letter of introduction informed me that his daughter had come to London, to endeavour to organise here some public appearances for a young negro poet and reader named Dunbar, I at once desired to know how it had come about that such an enterprise had been undertaken by a lady.

Miss Edith Pond consented, with American wisdom and promptness, to be interviewed. In a businesslike spirit, she desired to talk about Mr. Dunbar; to tell me that he is the first poet that his race has produced; that his work is full of beautiful thoughts, and that as a reader of his own poems he is quite a novelty, and a very pleasing and successful reader, with good voice and presence. In America he reads to public gatherings, she says, as well as in drawing-rooms; but over here Miss Pond expects most success for him as a drawing-room entertainer during the coming season.

"But it is you who interest me, Miss Pond," said the Interviewer. "I want to be told how you came to enter upon this business, and what you have done in it?"

"Well, you know, my father has for many years had the largest business of this kind that exists in America, and I have gone into it simply in order to help him. This visit to England is the first thing I have done entirely on my own account, though I have often had all the arrangements to make in advance for lecturers engaged by my father."

"Do you consider it a business in which a lady is likely to succeed?"

"Why, certainly I do, judging by my own experience. The business is partly persuasive, getting editors to put in your notices and so on, and they will do more for a lady than for a man. Then, again, women don't want to 'see life' or go 'on sprees'; they go to a new town on business and stick to business, and the reverse habit injures many men as 'advance agents.'"

"Is it your custom to yourselves engage the halls and make all the arrangements, or do you 'farm out' your lecturers to local societies?"

"When we have a very successful lecturer we prefer to keep him for ourselves. For instance, Ian Maclaren, who has been one of the most successful of all the English visitors that America has ever had, we arranged for entirely, after just his first lecture, which he gave in New York for the St. Andrew's Society, a great charitable association of Scotchmen in Canada and the United States. After that, I went everywhere as his 'advance agent,' and made all the arrangements on my father's behalf with very great success."

"In what manner do you do most of your advertising?"

"One wants to have some ideas to make advertising successful. Of course there are always the newspapers. Our journals as a rule will take a great deal more notice of personal matters than most English newspapers. I would supply them with interesting articles, sometimes as much as a column long, about the attraction that was coming. I would almost live in the newspaper offices until I had got a promise in each one to have my advance notices inserted. Of course I need not tell you that they were accompanied by advertisements, but still the newspaper gentlemen want persuading a little to put in what one desires. In New York I did a great deal for Ian Maclaren by circularising. We arranged for him six morning readings in the Waldorf Hotel, the most splendid and costly place in the city, and charged two dollars (7s. 6d.) for each seat. In order to get a fashionable audience to meet this fashionable price, I addressed and sent out 3,000 circulars, each with a two cent stamp on it, so that it might have been a personal letter. This, with a few advertisements in the newspapers, filled the hall for the first reading; and that proved so successful that at every reading afterwards we had to send away many who desired to attend."

"When you go to country places, I suppose you travel alone?"

"Oh, yes, travelling in America is very pleasant, and I found that I obtained more courtesy and attention by going alone and doing everything myself. Of course different speakers can be worked in different ways. When I acted as advance agent for my father with Max O'Rell I went a good deal to the theatrical people; for Ian Maclaren I relied entirely upon the religious people. In the first great town that I worked for him I reserved the large platform entirely for the ministers of the town, and sent each of them a ticket free with a note asking if he would accept it. Then, for the Sunday before the reading, I sent again to each of them asking if he would announce the occasion from the pulpit, and, as they had already accepted my courtesies, most of them did not refuse this favour in return, which had much to do with the success of the meeting."

"Women are allowed to do much more important work, and are treated much more seriously in business in America than here," remarked the Interviewer.

"That is certainly the case," replied Miss Pond, "I find there is a great difference here in the manner of men towards a business woman; I think that is largely due to our system of co-education. Girls and boys go right into the same primary schools, and work side by side, and in almost all our colleges and universities they take the same degrees, and compete for the same prizes; and all through the best brains are often found in the girls' heads; and so it never occurs to our

men to look upon themselves as superior, or better able to do anything than the women with whom they have worked on equal terms from their earliest childhood. But I find all your business arrangements very different here from those in America."

"We are much more polite here; is that what you mean?"

"I quite admit that—your shopkeepers and servants, and, indeed, all classes of people, are very polite, and it is delightful; but there are many things that are not so pleasant. For instance, when I go to an office here I find a man outside, a porter perhaps, or a boy, who want to make me tell him all my business. I say I want to see his principal. He says that the principal is very busy. Then I reply 'so am I, yet I must wait right here until I can see him'; so then, after a bit, I get in, and I don't see the great crowd; there is no sign of a rush. The fact is, all your business men make themselves more precious to be seen than our President does."

"But," said the Interviewer, "if people in business saw everybody that came they might have no time to themselves."

"They make time in America," said Miss Pond. "Wherever you go you can always see, even if only for a short time, any person, however important. There is my father, with as much business as most people; yet if anyone wants to see him they go right in, provided there is no one else there. If he finds they are of no importance, or he does not want to talk to them, he does not look at them, or listen much, and presently says, 'You had better come another time'; but they can always see him for a bit. And so it is with everyone, however busy or important, in America. The fact is," she added, smiling, "none of you over here work at all. I don't see how you make any money. In America we go with a much greater rush."

A little more interesting chat followed on the success or otherwise, as lecturers, of various English visitors to the States. Miss Pond avers that most English people go round with an offensive air of superiority—that they have an obvious intention of making game of their entertainers, even while accepting the gracious and free hospitality of America! But the Interviewer tried to persuade her that this was only a mannerism, and that English visitors to the States are generally, as assuredly the speaker herself was, charmed with the genial, gracious, warm welcome they receive, and proud to think that the great New World is the child of this Motherland.

Lecturing, it may be mentioned, has been always more popular in America than in England. In part, no doubt, this depends on the greater diffusion of education, but in part also upon the more generally comfortable circumstances of the American population of all working grades, allowing them, with ease, to pay fees adequate to compensate first class men and women for engaging in this form of labour, which is not the case in England.

## WORDS OF WEIGHT ON WOMEN'S QUESTIONS.

Under this title we shall give an account of some of the most celebrated writings by which the way was prepared for woman's advance in education, occupation, and freedom. Included in this series will be Mary Wolstonecraft's "Vindication of the Rights of Women," John Stuart Mill's "Subjection of Women," Harriet Martineau's, Hon. Mrs. Norton's, Miss F. P. Cobbe's, and other celebrated writings.

### CHAPTER I.

#### CONDORCET'S ESSAY

"Sur l'admission des femmes au droit de Cité." On the Admission of Women to the Rights of Citizenship. Date, 1789.

#### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

To find the first germ of the modern Woman's Movement, we must go back to the days of the French Revolution. Although the series of events which we know under that title culminated in a wild saturnalia of bloodshed and cruelty, it began in the most enlightened ideas and the most fearless consideration of human rights and political justice. While the subject of the proper relationship of the masses to the classes was under consideration, it naturally happened that some few clear thinkers perceived the necessity also of endeavouring to ascertain whether the relations between men and women were based upon justice, and were the best calculated to promote human happiness and progress. The work which is generally considered as the pioneer upon this topic, Mary Wolstonecraft's "Vindication of the Rights of Women," was preceded by an essay by one of the most influential and most honourable of the thinkers on the side of democracy, the Marquis de Condorcet.

What he wrote in 1789 is in 1897 almost commonplace. It is not indeed yet translated into fact, but his ideas are now familiarised in almost all ears, and warmly endorsed by a very large number of the best minds amongst both sexes. To properly appreciate his essay it must be remembered that it was the first; and that the subjection of one sex to the other has been based more deeply upon prejudice, vanity and apparent self-interest than ever was the subjection of a democracy to an aristocracy, so that greater clearness of thought, and justness of perception, was required in the first persons who attacked sex domination than was needed for those who endeavoured to secure a recognition of the human rights of those born to lowly station.

For the translation which follows of Condorcet's Essay we are indebted to Dr. Alice Vickery. It will interest some readers to know that the great leader of the modern Woman's Movement, John Stuart Mill, was certainly acquainted with this essay, as the Editor possesses a quotation from it written in Mill's own autograph. The passage which Mr. Mill noted in the original French is that which begins "It has been said that women are never governed by reason" down to the word "respectable."

"Custom may familiarise mankind," begins Condorcet, "with the violation of their natural rights to such an extent, that even among those who have lost or been deprived of these rights, no one thinks of reclaiming them, or is even conscious that they have suffered any injustice."

Certain of these violations (of natural right) have escaped the notice of philosophers and legislators, even while concerning themselves

zealously to establish the common rights of individuals of the human race, and in this way to lay the foundation of political institutions. For example, have they not all violated the principle of the equality of rights in tranquilly depriving one-half of the human race of the right of taking part in the formation of laws, by the exclusion of women from the rights of citizenship? Could there be a stronger proof of the power of habit, even among enlightened men, than to hear invoked the principle of equal rights in favour of perhaps some 300 or 400 men, who had been deprived of it by an absurd prejudice, and forget it when it concerns some 12,000,000 women?

To show that this exclusion is not an act of tyranny, it must be proved either that the natural rights of women are not absolutely the same as those of men, or that women are not capable of exercising these rights.

But the rights of men result simply from the fact that they are rational, sentient beings, susceptible of acquiring ideas of morality, and of reasoning concerning those ideas. Women having, then, the same qualities, have necessarily the same rights. Either no individual of the human species has any true rights, or all have the same; and he or she who votes against the rights of another, whatever may be his or her religion, colour or sex, has by that fact abjured his own.

It would be difficult to prove that women are incapable of exercising the rights of citizenship. Although liable to become mothers of families, and exposed to other passing indispositions, why may they not exercise rights of which it has never been proposed to deprive those persons who periodically suffer from gout, bronchitis, &c.? Admitting for the moment that there exists in men a superiority of mind which is not the necessary result of a difference of education (which is by no means proved, but which should be, to permit of women being deprived of a natural right without injustice), this inferiority can only consist in two points. It is said that no woman has made any important discovery in science, or has given any proofs of the possession of genius in arts, literature, &c.; but, on the other hand, it is not pretended that the rights of citizenship should be accorded only to men of genius. It is added that no woman has the same extent of knowledge, the same power of reasoning, as certain men; but what results from that? Only this, that with the exception of a limited number of exceptionally enlightened men, equality is absolute between women and the remainder of the men; that this small class apart, inferiority and superiority are equally divided between the two sexes. But since it would be completely absurd to restrict to this superior class, the rights of citizenship and the power of being entrusted with public functions, why should women be excluded any more than those men who are inferior to a great number of women?

Lastly, shall it be said that there exists in the minds and hearts of women certain qualities which ought to exclude them from the enjoyment of their natural rights? Let us interrogate the facts. Elizabeth of England, Maria Theresa, the two Catherine's of Russia—have they not shown that neither in courage nor in strength of mind are women wanting? Elizabeth possessed all the failings of women. Did these failings work more harm during her reign than resulted from the failings of men during the reign of her father, Henry VIII., or her successor, James I.? Have the lovers of the Russian Empresses exercised a more

dangerous influence than the mistresses of Louis XIV., of Louis XV., or even of Henry IV?

Will it be maintained that Mistress Macaulay would not have expressed her opinions in the House of Commons better than many representatives of the British nation? In dealing with the question of liberty of conscience, would she not have expressed more elevated principles than those of Pitt, as well as more powerful reasoning? Although as great an enthusiast on behalf of liberty as Mr. Burke could be on behalf of its opposite, would she, while defending the French constitution, have made use of such absurd and offensive nonsense as that which this celebrated rhetorician made use of in attacking it? Would not the adopted daughter of Montaigne have better defended the rights of citizens in France in 1614, than the Councillor Courtin, who was a believer in magic and occult powers? Was not the Princesse des Ursins superior to Chamillard? Could not the Marquise de Chatelet have written equally as well as M. Rouillé? Would M<sup>me</sup>. de Lambert have made laws as absurd and as barbarous as those of the *garde des Sceaux*, of Armandville, against Protestants, invaders of domestic privacy, robbers and negroes? In looking back over the acts of those who have governed the world, men have scarcely the right to be so very uplifted.

Women are superior to men in the gentle and domestic virtues: they, as well as men, know how to love liberty, although they do not participate in all its advantages; and, in republics, they have been known to sacrifice themselves for it. They have shown that they possess the virtues of citizens, whenever chance or civil dissensions have brought them upon a scene from which they have been otherwise shut out by the pride and tyranny of men in all nations.

It has been said that women, in spite of much ability, of much sagacity, and of a power of reasoning carried to a degree equalling that of subtle dialecticians, yet are never governed by what is called "reason."

This observation is not correct. Women are not governed, it is true, by the reason (and experience) of men; they are governed by their own reason (and experience).

Their interests not being the same (as those of men) by the fault of the law, the same things not having the same importance for them as for men, they may, without failing in rational conduct, govern themselves by different principles and tend towards a different result. It is as reasonable for a woman to concern herself respecting her personal attractions as it was for Demosthenes to cultivate his voice and his gestures.

It is said that women, although superior in some respects to men—more gentle, more sensitive, less subject to those vices which proceed from egotism and hardness of heart—yet do not really possess the sentiment of justice; that they obey rather their feelings than their conscience. This observation is more correct, but it proves nothing; it is not nature, it is education; it is social existence which produces this difference.

Neither the one nor the other has habituated women to the idea of what is just, but only to the idea of what is *honnete* or respectable. Excluded from public affairs, from all those things which are judged of according to rigorous ideas of justice, or according to positive laws, the things with which they are occupied, and which are affected by them, are precisely those which are regulated by natural feelings of honesty (or rather, propriety) and of sentiment. It is, then, unjust to allege, as an excuse for

continuing to refuse to women the enjoyment of all their natural rights, motives which have only a kind of reality because women lack the experience which comes from the exercise of these rights.

If reasons such as these are to be admitted against women, it will become necessary to deprive of the rights of citizenship that portion of the people who, devoted to constant labour, can neither acquire knowledge nor exercise their reason; and thus, little by little, only those persons would be permitted to be citizens who had completed a course of legal study. If such principles are admitted, we must, as a natural consequence, renounce the idea of a liberal constitution. The various aristocracies have only had such principles as these for foundation or excuse. The etymology of the word is a sufficient proof of this.

Neither can the subjection of wives to their husbands be alleged against their claims, since it would be possible in the same statute to destroy this tyranny of the civil law. The existence of one injustice can never be accepted as a reason for committing another.

There remain, then, only two objections to discuss. And, in truth, these can only oppose motives of expediency against the admission of women to the right of voting; which motives can never be upheld as a bar to the exercise of true justice. The contrary maxim has only too often served as the pretext and excuse of tyrants; it is in the name of expediency that commerce and industry groan in chains; and that Africans remain afflicted with slavery; it was in the name of public expediency that the Bastille was crowded; that the censorship of the press was instituted; that accused persons were not allowed to communicate with their advisers; that torture was resorted to. Nevertheless, we will discuss these objections, so as to leave nothing without reply.

It is necessary, we are warned, to be on guard against the influence exercised by women over men. We reply at once that this, like any other influence, is much more to be feared when not exercised openly; and that, whatever influence may be peculiar to women, if exercised upon more than one individual at a time, will in so far become proportionately lessened. That since, up to this time, women have not been admitted in any country to absolute equality; since their empire has none the less existed everywhere; and since the more women have been degraded by the laws, the more dangerous has their influence been; it does not appear that this remedy of subjection ought to inspire us with much confidence. Is it not probable, on the contrary, that their special empire would diminish if women had less interest in its preservation; if it ceased to be for them their sole means of defence, and of escape from persecution?

If politeness does not permit to men to maintain their opinions against women in society, this politeness, it may be said, is near akin to pride; we yield a victory of no importance; defeat does not humiliate when it is regarded as voluntary. Is it seriously believed that it would be the same in a public discussion on an important topic? Does politeness forbid the bringing of an action at law against a woman?

But, it will be said, this change will be contrary to general expediency, because it will take women away from those duties which nature has reserved for them. This objection scarcely appears to me well founded. Whatever form of constitution may be established, it is certain that in the present state of civilisation among European nations there will never be more than a limited number of citizens required to

occupy themselves with public affairs. Women will no more be torn from their homes than agricultural labourers from their ploughs, or artisans from their workshops. And, among the richer classes, we nowhere see women giving themselves up so persistently to domestic affairs that we should fear to distract their attention; and a really serious occupation or interest would take them less away than the frivolous pleasures to which idleness, a want of object in life, and an inferior education have condemned them.

The principal source of this fear is the idea that every person admitted to exercise the rights of citizenship immediately aspires to govern others. This may be true to a certain extent, at a time when the constitution is being established, but the feeling can scarcely prove durable. And so it is scarcely necessary to believe that because women may become members of national assemblies, they would immediately abandon their children, their homes and their needles. They would only be the better fitted to educate their children and to rear men. It is natural that a woman should suckle her infant, that she should watch over its early childhood. Detained in her home by these cares, and less muscular than the man, it is also natural that she should lead a more retired, a more domestic life. The woman, therefore, as well as the man in a corresponding class of life, would be under the necessity of performing certain duties at certain times according to circumstances. This may be a motive for not giving her the preference in an election, but it cannot be a reason for legal exclusion. Gallantry would doubtless lose by the change, but domestic customs would be improved by equality in this as in other things.

Up to this time, the manners of all nations have been more or less brutal and corrupt. I only know of one exception, and that is in favor of the Americans of the United States, who are spread, few in number, over a wide territory. Up to this time, among all nations, legal inequality has existed between men and women; and it would not be difficult to show that, in these two phenomena, the second is one of the causes of the first, because inequality necessarily introduces corruption, and is the most common cause of it, if even it be not the sole cause.

I now demand that opponents should condescend to refute these propositions by other methods than by pleasantries and declamations; above all, that they should show me any natural difference between men and women which may legitimately serve as foundation for the deprivation of a right.

The equality of rights established between men, by our new constitution, has brought down upon us eloquent declamations and never-ending pleasantries; but up till now, no one has been able to oppose to it one single reason, and this is certainly neither from lack of talent nor lack of zeal. I venture to believe that it will be the same with regard to equality of rights between the two sexes. It is sufficiently curious that, in a great number of countries, women have been judged incapable of all public functions, yet worthy of royalty; that in France a woman has been able to be regent, and yet that, up to 1776, she could not be a milliner or dressmaker ("marchande des modes") in Paris, except under cover of her husband's name; and that lastly, in our elective assemblies, they have accorded to their rights of property what they have refused to their

\* Before the suppression of "jurandes" in 1776, women could neither carry on the business of a "marchande des modes" (milliner and dressmaker) nor of any other profession exercised by them, unless they were married, or unless some man lent or sold them his name for that purpose.—See preamble of the Edict of 1776.

natural right. Many of our noble deputies owed to ladies the honour of sitting among the representatives of the nation. Why, instead of depriving of this right women who were owners of landed estates, was it not extended to all those who possessed property or were heads of households? Why, if it be found absurd to exercise the right of citizenship by proxy, deprive women of that right, rather than leave them the liberty of exercising it in person?

## WOMEN'S LIBERAL FEDERATION.

The proceedings in connection with the visit to Norwich of the delegates from the federated Women's Liberal Associations were brought to a conclusion by a conference held in the Assembly Room of the Agricultural Hall. There was a large attendance of ladies, amongst whom were the delegates from the Federation Executive and the twenty-four associations who sent representatives. Lady Battersea presided.

Mrs. Sheldon Amos moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—"That this meeting condemns State regulation and sanction of vice, whether by Contagious Diseases' Acts or otherwise, alike upon moral, constitutional, and sanitary grounds. It protests against the efforts which are being made to re-establish a system which is utterly antagonistic to the moral and religious convictions of the people of this country, which is degrading to men and unjust and oppressive to women, and which has failed even in its professed sanitary aims. After twenty years of continued and painful agitation the women of this country convinced Parliament of the abominable character of this system, and its repeal was passed through the House of Commons without a dissentient voice. This meeting recognises that the endeavour to re-establish it imposed on women the obligation of renewing that agitation, and pledges itself to an uncompromising opposition to the re-imposition of the system in any form whatever." In the course of a vigorous and thoughtful speech Mrs. Sheldon Amos said that it would be better to go to India openly as a conquering pagan nation than to send missionaries to promote Christianity on the one hand and at the same time to subject a conquered race to such degradation.

Mrs. Bamford Slack, in seconding the motion, hoped that so great a blot as the enactment of this proposed measure would not be passed in the jubilee year of our Queen.

Mrs. E. O. Fordham having supported the motion, it was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Countess Alice Kearney moved the adoption of the resolution on the Women's Suffrage Bill which had been passed at the public meeting held on Thursday afternoon, viz.:—"That this meeting rejoices that the Parliamentary Franchise (Extension to Women) Bill has passed the second reading by so large a majority, and urges all Liberal and Irish Nationalist members to do all in their power to secure the passing of the Bill through the House of Commons this session." The countess said that this Bill rests on a property qualification, but that while she herself preferred the system of New Zealand, where everyone over 21 years of age possesses the franchise, she thought it would be a mistake to refuse this half loaf. The men had not refused the Reform Bill of 1832 because it did not go so far as others which have been passed since, but they were always ready to accept whatever was offered, and then ask for more. It was a curious argument for Liberals to bring forward that women should not have the vote because they might swamp the voice of the men, since it was one of their principles that the majority should rule, unless it could be shown to be manifestly on the side of wrong. The very same men who said they feared that the possession of the vote would be accompanied by a loss of refinement, and surely it is more likely that delicacy and refinement and womanliness would be lost in canvassing drunken and dirty men than by recording a vote once in four or five years in a clean, police-protected room.

Mrs. Mottram having briefly seconded the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The next subject on the agenda paper was that of temperance. Mrs. Bamford Slack moved:—(A) "That in re-affirming its loyal adherence to Liberal principles and measures, this conference of the Women's Liberal Federation expresses its unwavering confidence in those truly democratic proposals which would give to all ratepayers, irrespective of sex, the option of exercising local control over the liquor traffic by means of the direct veto." (B) "That this conference regards with grave concern the evidence given before the Royal Commission on the Licensing Laws as to the widespread and unchecked evils of drinking clubs, and trusts that as a result of this evidence the Government will introduce a Bill without delay to check the tendency towards free trade in drink, and to regulate such clubs in the interests of public sobriety and morality, and thus to remove the odium now often attaching to party political clubs." It was, she urged, not the direct veto, but mis-statements on the subject, which had caused defeat at the General Election. Now that all had been lost that could be lost by it, Liberal candidates should win all the support they could by boldly appealing to the great national conscience on the matter. Earlier efforts having proved failures a new departure broadly based on the people's will was justified, and this measure was in accordance with the principle of trust in the people, and was necessary in order to put an end to the political ring which threatens to throttle and control the commonwealth itself. People may gibe and say men cannot be made sober by Parliament. Temperance reformers were not so fanatic as to expect this, but they could, by Act of Parliament, give people an opportunity of becoming more sober. The evidence given by magistrates' clerks, police-constables, and others had shown that sooner or later most clubs degenerate into mere unlicensed drink shops, the small subscription charged being often returned in the form of a bonus.

Mrs. Idris having seconded the motion, Lady Battersea referred to her own experience as one of the two ladies appointed by the Government to visit the female convict prison, where she had been begged by the women themselves to use her influence to get the convicts to sign the pledge before leaving the gaol that some of their temptation might be taken away. The motion was then put and carried.

Mrs. Homan, of the London School Board, moved a resolution with regard to the Government Education Bill, to the effect that no grants of moneys should be made without some provision for securing its application to the improved efficiency of the schools, and for the direct representation of the parents and those who provide the money on the boards of management. After a very clear explanation of the manner in which grants are at present distributed by the Central Education Department, Mrs. Homan referred to the way in which important amendments were rejected by Mr. Balfour as trivial alterations, and to the natural result of the diminution in the amount of subscriptions which would be certain to follow the knowledge that a school had received an additional grant of 5s. a head, and then pointed out the very unjust manner in which the grants would be distributed, most going to those districts which have refused to pay their proper share, while those which now have a shilling rate are to be punished for having already done their duty to their children. The Act had come not from the parents, nor the teachers, nor the ratepayers, nor even from the "man in the street," but from one section of the Church party, and it was placed not in the hands of the head of the Department (Sir John Gorst), but in the hands of men who had not the requisite technical knowledge on the subject.

Mrs. Miall Smith having seconded the resolution, and Miss Page having supported it, Mrs. Fallow raised an objection to the charge of inefficiency which had been brought against the teachers in the poor country schools, but it was pointed out that in doing so she had pronounced a judgment on these schools which she had described as sadly understaffed and very ill-provided with the necessary appliances. The resolution was then agreed to.

On the motion of Miss Garland, of Plymouth, seconded by Miss Cassels, of Hornsey, the resolution on the subject of Crete, lately passed by the local executive, was adopted by the conference. It was as follows:—"That this meeting of the Norwich Women's Liberal Association hereby expresses its deep sympathy with and admiration of the splendid services now being rendered by Greece to the great cause of liberty and freedom, and its earnest hope for the ultimate success of those services in regard to the liberation of Crete from Turkish authority, and at the same time desires to place on record its intense indignation at the part which England and England's forces have been and are being made to play in the Cretan question through the pusillanimity and ineptitude of the present Government."

A vote of thanks to Lady Battersea concluded the proceedings.

## OUR SISTERS IN INDIA.

AN INDIAN MAN'S CONFESSION.

An Address delivered to the INDIAN SOCIAL REFORM SOCIETY at Sukkar, by Mr. DAZARAM GIDUMAL.

(Concluded from last week.)

(From *The Indian Social Reformer*.)

LET us now pass to the fifth act of woman's tragedy—the act in which she is called upon to play the part of a daughter-in-law. Torturing her in her infancy—curtailing her playtime—curtailing her schooling—saddling her too early with the duties of a wife—you must needs also hand her over to the tender mercies of a mother-in-law. And what a life is it? Can you tell me how many waking hours you actually spend with your wife? Do you make up to her for all she suffers at the hands of an unsympathising mother-in-law? Do you even spare as much time for her as for your cow or for your horse? You have all sorts of resources—What has she? You can improve yourselves in a thousand ways. You can learn what may profit your soul. But what can she learn? Here is Mrs. Annie Besant lecturing you about the doctrines of the Vedas. But though Mrs. Besant is welcome to read, mark and digest those scriptures—our women are supposed to be disqualified to even taste a little of their honey! Is not this a monstrous doctrine, my brethren? Do not lay the flattering unction to your souls that you are doing your duty to your women to the best of your lights? No! you aren't—None of us is, so long as our

WOMEN HAVE NO EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

for intellectual, moral and spiritual culture, and are consigned to a domestic tyranny which fritters away all their energy in patient suffering. It is in our power to take out the sting from this sort of life, it is in our power to prevent no little pain by exerting all our natural influence, by sweet reasonableness, by loving remonstrance, by prudent and considerate interference. But our hearts have grown hard and callous, and we seldom realise the sufferings, silently borne in our homes, or lift our little finger to alleviate them. Is not this our fifth sin?

The sixth act of this sinful tragic drama is early maternity. Ignoring the teachings of physiology, some of us used to perpetrate what the law now punishes as a crime. But there are still violations of physical and moral laws, which are not treated as crimes, but which nevertheless bring their own punishment with them. We sin deeply against our women not only as wives but as mothers of our children. There is a beautiful description in the Ramayana of the care Rama took of Sita, when she was in the condition which Englishmen call interesting, but which is not very interesting to

us. Do we take such care of our wives? Do we even see that they have proper medical help when their terrible travail, intensified by early marriage, is upon them? Do you know how bungling and blundering often entail permanent injury, and, in no few cases, diseases hard to cure? I requested several gentlemen at Shikarpur to get us Dais who might be properly trained in the Dufferin Hospital. But though promises have been given to me from time to time, not one of them has been fulfilled. So much for our tender-heartedness? Again,

WOE UNTO THE WIFE WHO GIVES BIRTH TO A DAUGHTER.

A gentleman told me the other day he was going to get his son married again, because his daughter-in-law brought forth only children of her own sex! And he actually believed that the poor woman was responsible for the result! It is thus we add insult to injury—brutality to injustice! What hope is there for us, so long as one half of our race is treated in this fashion? An English poet sings of the time when there will be

"Everywhere

Two heads in council, two beside the hearth,  
Two in the tangled business of the world,  
Two in the liberal offices of life,

Two plummetts dropt for one to sound the abyss  
Of science, and the secrets of the mind."

But can we look forward to such a time in our own land, when we have not yet learnt the barest rudiments of justice to our own wives, our daughters, our sisters, our mothers, and are ignorant of even our own ignorance?

I come now to our seventh sin, the last act of the tragedy, and the saddest. I mean the sorrows of widowhood. Lay your hands on your hearts, and say if you have done your duty by the widows in your community. I know that in some castes widow re-marriage is allowed. But there are numerous others, in which it is not, and the condition of virgin-widows specially is deplorable. But I care not if you do not marry them, for marriage is not the sole end of a woman's existence. But if you do not marry them, give them at least some training which may make them useful members of society. Let us not assume that woman ought only to be a wife. Even if you assume this, see that your widows become ministers of mercy, angels of grace. But alas! what have we done to them in the past? If we had but a little imagination, if we could transport ourselves to the bourne whence no traveller returns, if we could with our mind's eye see our own daughters as they are after their term of earthly toil and trouble, they would tell us: "Oh, father; I came to you a divine embryonic soul, I was a trust in your hands. You should have let my little soul grow and expand its wings and see the Father of all light and life. But you imprisoned me in my bodily shell, and you did nothing to help it emerge thence into the sunlight of God's beauty. There were no true pleasures for me, no pleasures of memory, none of imagination, none of hope, none of communion or divine vision. See my

LITTLE UNFLEDGED, STUNTED, BLIND-FOLDED SOUL.

It is no better than it was. You have violated your trust, for you opened not the windows of my soul, and I have yet to grope in darkness and ignorance—darkness and ignorance that bring their own curse and that spread a blight on your future. Be wise to-day, and be more merciful to your own flesh and blood." But

## GROWING OLD.

By MRS. LIVERMORE.

No stage of human life into which Nature conducts us by a regular and universal course can ever be regarded as an evil. Neither can it be destitute of advantages and enjoyments, if one lives in obedience to the laws of one's being. Cicero tells us in his "De Senectute," written nearly a hundred years before Christ, that "only those who have no resources of happiness within themselves are uneasy in any stage of life, and that this is peculiarly the case with respect to old age."

It cannot be denied that it is commonly regarded a misfortune to grow old. Solomon called old age "the evil days, when we shall say we have no pleasure in them." Dr. Johnson declared that "old age had brought him naught but decrepitude." Carlyle's stern and sad life deepened into a cheerless, starless evening, and went out in a night of gloom. But history abounds in illustrations of contented and charming old age, and we have them with us, glorifying life, to-day. Cicero said: "I have well-nigh finished the race, and perceive in myself, with much satisfaction, a ripeness for death. I look on my departure, not as being driven from the world, but as leaving an inn." Dr. Arnold says: "Old age is the holy place of life, the chapel of ease from weary labour." Another calls it "the Sabbath of a life-time—the rest that precedes the rest that remains."

Many, both illustrious and more everyday people, have been living illustrations of an old age which was a glorious consummation of true, useful, unselfish and long lives.

"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap;" and the old age of any person will be the result of the life he has lived. The whole record of our lives is laid up within us. What we *have been* previous to that age. Whoever would have a happy and lovely old age must prepare for it, as whatever the old age may be, it is the certain result of a lifetime. There must be a physical preparation for it, for good health is essential to successful and happy living all the way through. Sick people form a part of the waste and burden of daily life, tightening the brakes on the progress of friends and kindred, and adding to the weight of the millstone about their necks.

No virtue is more excellent in an aged person than cheerfulness, and old age without it is "a Lapland winter without a sun." It is a trait of character requiring cultivation, for there is much in life that militates against it. Fretfulness and despondency are very common faults of persons who have got beyond their youth. "The world would be better and brighter," says

## BE NOT WEARY IN WELL-DOING.

To go on tilling a thankless soil, to continue to cast bread upon the waters and to find no return, has caused many a true heart to faint with inward bleeding. Yet this is full often the test of our fidelity. It is a noble thing to continue faithful action, like Noah, throughout a lifetime, amid ridicule, reproach, and unbelief; but it is not every man who could endure to do so. Most of us need success to sustain our courage, and we serve our Master with more spirit when we see immediate results.—*Spurgeon*.

Sir John Lubbock, "if people were taught the duty of being happy, as well as the happiness of doing our duty. To be happy ourselves is a most effectual contribution to the happiness of others."

To have constant occupation to the end of life is a great help to cheerfulness, as well as a great blessing. "I have lived long enough," said Dr. Adam Clarke, "to learn that the secret of happiness is never to allow one's energies to stagnate." And bodily and mental decay are both retarded, even in old age, by the constant, but not excessive exercise of our powers. Michael Angelo, at the age of 83, wrote exquisite sonnets, and made drawings, plans and models for use in architecture and sculpture. Handel, at 75, produced oratorios and anthems. Haydn composed "The Creation" at 65, and at 77 was moved to tears of joy by its harmonies when he heard it performed at a concert. Linnaeus was still a devoted botanist at 77, and exclaimed, "I am happier in my work than the King of Prussia!" Humboldt kept young to 90 in scientific studies and publishing the results of his investigations. Mary Somerville, Caroline Herschel and Maria Mitchell ceased not from their labours with the stars, though the dusty years lengthened behind them, and they halted only when the gate of death swung open for their passage to a larger life.

But to work and live only for oneself will by no means promote one's happiness. On the contrary, it is sometimes a fruitful source of intense misery. The secret of many a joyless life, which has gone out in bitterness, insanity or suicide, may be found in the selfishness which dominated it from its beginning to its close. Only that work which is done wisely and lovingly for others is rewarded with perennial joy. For that is to live in love, which is to live in God. And to live in love is to live in everlasting youth.

Whoever shall enter old age by this royal road will find the last of life to be the very best of life. The fever of life is over with the aged. They do not fear the world, for they have learned how rightly to estimate it. They do not lament the days that are gone, nor the pleasures that have departed, for they know a grander tomorrow awaits them than has ever dawned upon their vision. They have mastered the tasks assigned them in this first school of the soul, and are awaiting their promotion to wiser teachers and nobler studies. Like the poet Whittier, they "reason from blessings seen, to greater, out of sight," and abide in the conviction that death is but a circumstance in a life that is unbroken, and that the soul survives the change unharmed. And so, with calm serenity, they await their inevitable turn to pass out into "that other chamber of the King, larger than this, and lovelier."

LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT

*Josie Liebig*

FOR WINTER NIGHTS.

A perfect extract of the Finest Beef, highly concentrated. Cheapest for Beef Tea and Kitchen use; it goes such a long way.

FOR WINTER NIGHTS.

## THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

*A Weekly Record and Review of Woman's Work and Interests at Home and in the Wider World.*

Editor—Mrs. FLORENCE FENWICK MILLER.

Corresponding Editors—THE LADY HENRY SOMERSET and MISS FRANCES E. WILLARD.

Editorial Rooms and Business Offices, to which all letters, advertisements, subscriptions, and enquiries should be addressed, 80 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

THE WOMAN'S SIGNAL will be sent post paid to any address, in Great Britain or abroad, on receipt of subscriptions:

12 months for ...	6s. 6d.
6 " " " " " "	8s. 8d.
8 " " " " " "	1s. 8d.

Or can be had to order, One Penny weekly, from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom; also sold at Messrs. Smith's Railway Bookstalls.

Published Every Thursday, Price One Penny.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED

By MARSHALL AND SONS, 125 Fleet Street.

### NOTICE

All communications intended for insertion must be written on one side only of the paper, and the writer's name and address must be given, not necessarily for publication. The Editor cannot answer correspondents privately, except on the business of the paper strictly.

If a stamped and addressed wrapper be attached to a manuscript offered for publication, it will be returned if declined; but the Editor cannot be responsible for the accidental loss of manuscripts, and any not accompanied by a wrapper for return will be destroyed if unaccepted. Space being limited and many manuscripts offered, the Editor begs respectfully to intimate that an article being declined does not necessarily imply that it is not considered an excellent composition.

### SIGNALS FROM OUR WATCH TOWER.

It is to be deplored that evil influences have carried the day in the American Senate, and that the Arbitration Treaty is brought to nought. It has been altered to a mere provision that whenever a question arises between the Governments of England and America, the question of whether there shall be arbitration may be laid before the Senate. This is what children call "Thank you for nothing." Of course, arbitration may be and always might be proposed in any given case. The object of the general Treaty negotiated between President Cleveland and Lord Salisbury, and thus brought to nought by the Senate, was precisely to settle now, in a calm hour, that the passions and misunderstandings of a possible future moment should be guarded against by a standing agreement to arbitrate on any and all such topics.

That such sources of passionate and serious disagreement between this country and the United States are in the nature of the case not very frequently encountered, made it more easy to negotiate such a

general treaty of arbitration by depriving it of any probability of frequent application. But none the less it was a precious concession to the growing sense of the evil and unjustifiable wickedness of war that such a treaty should be made between the rulers of the two great English-speaking nations; and it is deeply to be regretted that the forces in opposition should have proved too strong in the American Senate for the ratification to be effected.

Lady Frances Balfour, writing in the name of all the Woman Suffrage societies with the exception of that one which Mr. Radcliffe Cooke in the House of Commons described as consisting of "Miss Cozens and her mother," has addressed a letter to the *Times* pointing out that the Women's Franchise Bill, introduced by Lord Templeton, was not sanctioned by the societies, but was brought forward in direct defiance of their protest and plea made to Lord Templeton himself. It is obvious that no good purpose could possibly be served by introducing into the Upper House a measure for reforming the House of Commons, since it would be so unseemly and opposed to precedent for the Lords to pass any reform Bill not already accepted by the Commons, that it would be practically impossible for them to do so, even were friends of Woman's Suffrage in a large majority amongst them. That under such circumstances Lord Templeton only succeeded in getting the "previous question" carried is not a matter to cause any great discouragement, but, so far as it goes, it is disadvantageous, and nothing else.

This protest in the name of the large Woman Suffrage societies has drawn forth a pert rejoinder from Miss Cozens, who, however, finds no excuse for the blunder in tactics to which she has succeeded in instigating Lord Templeton than the statement that the noble lord introduced his Bill into the Upper House before the debate in the House of Commons. This is no excuse. A blunder is not the less a blunder because committed six weeks ago, instead of two. The only question is whether it is or is not a blunder to introduce a measure into the Upper House that it cannot possibly constitutionally carry, even if willing, and so to expose that measure to an apparent defeat that is perfectly inevitable. Miss Cozens and the few people who work with her in what she pretentiously and misleadingly calls her "Parliamentary Committee for Woman's Suffrage," are authoritatively informed that this course of action is a mischievous one, in the unanimous judgment of those who are the oldest and best informed Women Suffrage workers. That this produces no impression on her mind or that of her few allies is perhaps unfortunate, but not inexplicable.

Miss Cozens cannot, however, be excused for the combined impudence and treachery of ending her letter to the *Times* in the following derogatory manner:—

"It is well that these senseless jealousies and bickerings between rival societies should (*sic*) cease. They retard the movement, and in some degree justify the criticism that women are not sufficiently enlightened to exercise the franchise."

It is certainly deplorable that such events should occur, but they have no bearing at

all on the suitability of women to exercise the franchise. Miss Cozens may honestly suppose that what seems to the Women Suffrage leaders a great mistake is a wise proceeding; but whatever motive actuates her, her doings reflect credit or discredit only on herself, and not at all on other women, as pointed out here last week.

In view of the determined effort being made in military circles to revive Contagious Diseases Acts for India, a ladies' protest is being circulated for signature expressing "undying opposition to such legislation." It is signed by the wives of several English bishops, namely, Mrs. Maclagan, Mrs. Creighton, Lady Laura Ridding, the Hon. Mrs. Talbot, Mrs. Moorhouse, Mrs. Perowne, and also by Mrs. Wilberforce, the Countess of Carlisle, Lady Frederick Cavendish, Lady Phear, Lady Foster, Mrs. Sheldon Amos, Lady Scott Moncrieff, Miss Florence Balfour, &c.

Two at least of the ladies who have signed this declaration have on a previous occasion declared themselves as opposed to the enfranchisement of their sex. They must surely now be compelled to perceive that this denial of the need for women to exercise the one and only effective means of making their influence practically felt was a grave mistake. It is logical, from one point of view, for a woman to declare that she thinks her sex has no right to interfere with Government—that it is men's affair and should be left exclusively to them—and that therefore she thinks women should not vote. But for a woman to claim the right to form and express opinions on such topics, and yet to express herself as unwilling to take up the one instrument that can give force to her hand—the vote, by which alone she can practically influence legislation, is most inconsistent and unwise. Earnest and sensible women can hardly fail to perceive the inconsistency of this position; and when their conscience and their sense of duty are truly aroused on some public question, they can hardly fail to feel the need of, and therefore to desire, the vote.

One more of the noble, unselfish and devoted early workers for women has passed over, in the person of Miss Emily Shireff, who has died at the age of 82. From the first, Miss Shireff and her attached sister and friend, Mrs. William Grey, took part in those movements which have contributed at once to widen the outlook of women and to better their equipment for serious work. She was for many years a member of the Council of Girton College, of the Girls' Public Day School Company, of the Teachers' Training and Registration Society, and president of the Froebel Society. Keenly interested in all, she threw herself most warmly into the work of the two last-named. She took a large share in establishing the professional training of teachers, especially in founding and developing the Maria Grey Training College, and also in the work of the Froebel Society; and her services to these two causes were invaluable. Among her writings are a "Life of Froebel," "Kindergarten Essays," and "The Kindergarten," in all of which the philosophical insight with which she faced educational problems is noteworthy. Miss Shireff and Mrs. Grey were the daughters of Rea

Admiral Shireff. Mrs. Grey, though she has been for some years in delicate health, has the grief to survive her sister.

The Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund is being largely supported, but not without a dissenting voice, for a meeting is announced to be held at St. James's Hall to protest against the hospitals being placed beyond the reach of public opinion, by this large fund freeing them from the necessity to appeal for subscriptions, without a simultaneous arrangement for some public control of their internal management. Unbounded trust is reposed by a confiding and ignorant public in the medical profession. The trial of Doctors just over in Paris and the recent revelations of the Chelsea Hospital for Women operations and their fatality, however, show that the medical profession is no more than any other free from possibility of needing reform and alteration, and the salutary and judicious pressure of public opinion for that end.

Perhaps we hardly realise how large the difference in our social state is because of the Queen's long existence from the state which we should have had if she had been taken away, or had chosen to abdicate, a quarter of a century ago. The Prince of Wales is in favour of vivisection. It would be no objection to him that the endowment of the hospitals by his Fund would place them beyond the reach of public criticism, and therefore set them free to be officered exclusively by vivisectors, with the extremely probable consequence that the spirit which justifies cruel experiments upon animals by the possibility that those experiments may produce a great balance of good for all time to come, would be carried into their wards and used in the experimental treatment of destitute patients. The justification for stating that the Prince of Wales is in favour of vivisection is the fact that he called and spoke at a meeting at the Mansion House for the purpose of founding a Pasteur Institute in London. It was at this meeting that Sir James Paget made his wild statement that Pasteur had saved 10,000 persons from dying of hydrophobia within five years, the fact being that the death-rate from this cause, both in England and France, had risen instead of fallen during those identical years, and that it amounted to an average of only between 25 and 30 persons per annum in each country for those and previous years. The Queen, on the other hand, spontaneously addressed a well-known letter to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, expressing her fear that great cruelty was caused to animals by scientific experiments, and her hope that their sufferings would be minimised as far as possible.

A very satisfactory report was rendered at the annual meeting of the Society for Promoting the Return of Women as Poor-Law Guardians, held last week at Lord Brassey's house in Park-lane. Notwithstanding the loss of several women guardians by death and retirement, a slight increase in the number of women serving on Poor-Law Boards was reported. At the same time it was pointed out that the total—900—was a very small proportion of the 22,000 guardians elected throughout the country. Of the 900, 91 were on metropolitan boards. Four counties—Cambridge, Hants, Rutland and Radnor—were still without women guardians, but it was hoped that when

vacancies occurred eligible candidates would be found. In London, Chelsea, St. Giles's, St. George's, Bloomsbury, St. Olave's, Westminster and Whitechapel were also without women on their boards; nor was it lost sight of that there were yet some 300 boards throughout the kingdom on which there were no women. Early steps for promoting the election of eligible women in the spring election of 1898 were urged upon those present.

Reference was made, in the recent articles from the pen of Miss Edith Barnett in this paper, entitled "The Future of Women Who Work," to a friendly society for women of the educated class, called "The Work and Leisure Court of the United Sisters' Friendly Society." An "At Home" of this Court was recently held, at which the interesting observation was made by Mr. Edward Braybrooke, the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, that experience was disproving the fear which used to be entertained that women in friendly societies would "malingering," or pretend to be ill, in undue numbers, so as to obtain their sick-pay without being properly entitled to it. Mr. Braybrooke asserted (what indeed most of us who know women as workers would beforehand have believed) that on the contrary, women's friendly societies find a tendency among our sex to work beyond their strength and not give in before it was imperative.

I am asked to mention for the information of such of our readers as are teachers, an effort which the Teachers' Guild is making with the object of assisting them to provide for themselves in case of sickness and accident, by the establishment, under the actuarial advice of Mr. A. W. Watson, of a Teachers' Guild Friendly Society. The general secretary of the Guild, 74, Gower-street, will be glad to furnish any teacher who may apply to him with further information on this matter.

The Marquis of Bute has placed £1,000 in the hands of the Cardiff Town Council, the yearly income of which is to be given to some girl or girls of the poorer classes in Cardiff, whose marriage might be impeded for the want of such a sum. The gift is to commemorate his lordship's silver wedding. Before receiving the dowry, the bride and bridegroom have to be reminded of the origin of the foundation, and to have read to them the first eleven verses of the second chapter of St. John. On what principle the unfortunate Town Councillors are to proceed in choosing from amongst the probably numerous candidates is apparently not laid down; but apart from that initial difficulty, it is doubtful policy to encourage improvident marriages by means of bribes or doles.

With regard to the danger of ladies travelling alone in railway carriages, a lady signing herself "A Season Ticketholder" writes:—

"It seems to me that the safest way for travellers to avoid dangers of all kinds would be to have all compartments open two feet from the roof of the carriages, as is the case on the Underground. This insures safety, as the least cry for help would be heard, prevents the annoyance of the guard's entrance as in corridor carriages, and yet insures privacy for conversation. This plan would enable all classes to feel secure, and be a very easy way for the

companies to alter their carriages if they find it needful. As a constant traveller by underground and on main lines, I find absolutely no reason to complain of draughts or publicity from the arrangements of this kind practised on the Metropolitan Railway."

I cannot agree with the last observation. I find it very uncomfortable in the underground carriages to carry on a conversation that I know is audible in the next carriage without being able to see who may be seated there; but if the top space of the partition were filled with glass to the depth of eighteen inches of the part on it would answer the purpose equally well, and this would obviate all possible objection. This is not much to ask of the railway companies, and, surely, in building their future carriages, at any rate, they might comply with so reasonable a request as this one. By this simple means the travellers in adjoining carriages could see what was happening, and could easily be called upon in case of need.

Gardening does not seem so suitable an occupation for women as was at first supposed, if we are to judge by the fact that of 82 women who have joined the Horticultural College at Swanley in the last five years only 17 have completed the full two years' course. And, indeed, not only is digging obviously hard work for women, but the stooping needed in the lighter operations of weeding, seed-sowing and transplanting, would be apt to cause suffering to many women. On the other hand, the Horticultural College authorities state that "every properly qualified student on leaving the college has been able to get paid employment, and testimonials have been received from their employers as to their efficiency for the work they have undertaken."

Our interesting little contemporary, *The Table*, points out a serious omission in the programme of the Earl's Court "Victorian Era" Exhibition. No attempt is to be made to show the great progress of British cookery during the period. Our contemporary truly observes that in this direction as well as in so many others we are far more fortunate than our grandparents. "Perhaps a model kitchen of the average householder of 1837, and a set dinner-table of the same period, would give as fair an idea as possible of the strides we have taken in gastronomic art, but of course, besides having made endless improvements in kitchen utensils, stoves, and downstairs arrangements generally, as well as having acquired a fuller knowledge of cookery itself, these six decades have also seen some wonderful changes in food itself. We get a greater variety of everything than our grandparents could command, and as regards preserved goods and food preparations generally, the change that has been wrought is so wonderful that one cannot think the exhibition, comprehensive and interesting as it will be, will be thoroughly complete without exhibits of a culinary character."

A happy thought in connection with the exhibition is to have a display of portraits of the mothers of eminent personages. Certainly, the bringing up of a wise, good man or woman, is a performance that deserves honour and more recognition than it has yet received.

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CENTRAL NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

FOUNDED 1872.

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

The Society seeks to achieve this object:—

- 1. By acting as a centre for the collection and diffusion of information with regard to the progress of the movement in all parts of the country.
2. By holding public meetings in support of the repeal of the electoral disabilities of women.
3. By the publication of pamphlets, leaflets, and other literature bearing upon the question.

Treasurer—Mrs. RUSSELL COOKE.

Subscriptions and donations should be sent to Mrs. CHARLES BAXTER, Secretary, Central Office, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria-street, S.W.

Subscribers are entitled to receive the Annual Report and copies of all literature.

The Monthly Report of this Society is now published in the WOMAN'S SIGNAL, which will be sent to Subscribers the first week in each month. We hope many of our members will take this paper in every week.

Cheques or Post Office Orders may be made payable to the Treasurer or the Secretary.

LECTURING CAMPAIGN AND ORGANIZATION FUND.

The following donations have been received since last month's report:—

Table with 3 columns: Name, Amount (£ s. d.), Total (£4 6 6)

NEW AFFILIATION.

Fenton (Staffs.) B.W.T.A. has affiliated with the Society.

ANNUAL MEETING, PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The annual meeting of the Central Council, and the general meeting of the Society, will be held in the Council Chamber, Westminster Town Hall, on Tuesday, April 27th, at 3 and 4 o'clock.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

Feeling that the work at the present time is so important, the Committee earnestly hope that wherever it is possible, meetings, large and small, will be held all over the country between this and June 23rd.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

It may be well to set at rest the fears of some who erroneously suppose that the failure of Lord Templeton to secure a division on his Women's Suffrage Bill in the House of Lords means that the question is shelved for the present session.

Combined Sub-Committee of the Suffrage Societies, and its fate, which was foreseen and indeed inevitable, in no way affects the prospects of the Bill, which has had so favourable a start under Mr. Begg's able management.

MEMBERS IN FAVOUR WHO DID NOT VOTE ON FEBRUARY 3RD—

- L Acland, Rt. Hon. A. H. D., York, W.R. Rotherham. Voted in favour, 1892.
L Allen, W., Newcastle-under-Lyme. A friend.
L Ashmead-Bartlett, Sir E., Sheffield, Ecclesall. Voted for 1883, 1884, 1886.

- L Horniman, F. J., Penryn and Falmouth. Declared in favour, 1895.
L Hozier, James, Lanarks. South. Voted for, 1892.
L Hunt, Sir F. Seager, Bt., Maidstone. Wrote in favour, 1895.

- L Savory, Sir J., Bt., Westmoreland, Appleby. Promised by letter, 1892.
L Seton-Karr, Henry, St. Helens. Voted for, 1886 and 1892.
L Shaw, C. E., Stafford. Favourable letter, 1892.

MEETINGS.

Mrs. Charles Mallet lectured at Lambeth Baths, on March 5th, when the following resolution was passed, and sent to Sir M. White Ridley, Mr. H. M. Stanley, M.P. for North Lambeth: "That this meeting approves of the vote passed by the House of Commons on the second reading of the Parliamentary Enfranchisement of Women Bill, and declares its approval of the principle, that the vote should be given to women on the same terms as those on which it is, or may be given to men."

On Thursday, March 11th, a largely-attended meeting in support of Women's Suffrage was held at the Blackheath Concert (small) Hall. The Rev. Brooke Lambert, Vicar of Greenwich, presided, and was supported by Mrs. Haweis and Miss Florence Balmagne.

The Chairman said he had taken a great interest in Women's Suffrage for many years. He considered it would be only an act of justice that the franchise should be extended to women.

House of Parliament would come to see that the cause was a truly holy and Christian one, and that they would remove all obstacles and give women what was their right. (Applause.) Miss Florence Balmagne, in seconding the resolution, said the question of Women's Suffrage had come to an important point.

The resolution was put and carried, three hands being held up against it.

DRAWING-ROOM MEETING.

A large gathering assembled at Mrs. Roberts-Austen's, Royal Mint, on Thursday, 25th March. Lady Grove presided. Mrs. Stopes moved:—"That we record our full sympathy with the movement in favour of Women's Suffrage, and pledge ourselves to do all in our power to further the passing of Mr. Faithfull Begg's Bill now before Parliament."

THE MOSAIC OF LIFE.

"MASTER, to do great work for Thee, my hand Is far too weak! Thou givest what may suit, Some little chips to cut with care minute. Let each stone by thy Master hand of grace, Form the Mosaic as 'Thou wilt for me, And in thy Temple give it place."

A PLEA FOR PITY.

"For pity makes the world Soft to the weak, and noble for the strong. Unto the dumb lips of his flock he lent Sad pleading words, showing how man, who prays For mercy to the gods, is merciless, Being as god to those; albeit all life Is linked and kin."—THE LIGHT OF ASIA.

FREE CIRCULATION FUND

For placing the WOMAN'S SIGNAL in public libraries, reading rooms, and sending to Editors of newspapers and other influential persons.

Table with 3 columns: Name, Amount (£ s. d.), Total (£63 12 6)

Further subscriptions are respectfully asked for.

This fund now amounts (after deducting subscriptions given for and applied to specific purposes) to a sufficient sum to send a free copy weekly for three months, by post, to 500 addresses. The offer of a free copy, supplied by our readers' generosity, to be laid on the Reading-room table, has been courteously accepted by the following Librarians of Free and Public Libraries:—

A copy will also be sent for some weeks to each of the Members of Parliament who have (as recorded in Mrs. Baxter's report) given some expression of willingness to vote for Women's Suffrage, but failed to be in their places on February 3rd.

Mellin's Food advertisement for infants and invalids. Includes text: 'For INFANTS and INVALIDS. MELLIN'S FOOD. When Prepared is similar to Breast Milk. Samples post free from Mellin's Food Works, Peckham, S.E.'

much desired that the Fund should reach £100 speedily, and further contributions will be gratefully received.

The Editor cannot express how cheered and encouraged she personally feels by this generous help and interest. While she cannot expect to escape some errors of judgment, or hope that everything in the paper can always please all readers, she will endeavour more earnestly than ever, if possible, to make the paper represent the woman's cause respectably, both intellectually and morally, and to be a source of help, both for the home and wider duties and interests, to her kind and extending circle of readers. Many of the subscriptions have been accompanied by most gracious and generous words of appreciation—words well calculated to make the Editor regret that she cannot be more worthy of them and to rejoice at the same time in the opportunity of serving that receives such loving recompense. Perhaps one such dear letter may be quoted, just to show how the women who read the SIGNAL care for the advance and development that it represents:—

To the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL.

DEAR MADAM,—I have much pleasure in enclosing postal order for — towards your Free Circulation Fund, and shall be glad if you will put it down as coming from —.

I must take this opportunity of expressing the great admiration we feel for your ably-conducted paper, and also the earnest hope that its circulation will continue to increase. It is the only paper which deals with so many aspects of woman's life and interests, and therefore ought to be supported by every woman in the kingdom. We take in two numbers weekly, one for ourselves, and one for sending abroad, and I keep a list of friends' names, and recommend the paper at every opportunity.

When the new year began, I must confess I felt a little disappointment at first in not having the editor's weekly leading article, but the excellent "Signals from Our Watch Tower," especially those since the Woman's Suffrage Bill have amply supplied their place. How excellent, too, were the remarks upon that foolish habit of calling people "old women!" My father and brother were equally pleased with them, and needed no "conversion" on my part! I will never tolerate the expression again.

With best thanks my dear madam, for your noble championship of our sex.—Yours faithfully—

March 26th, 1897.

## TREASURES AND TROUBLES.

### A DOMESTIC SCIENCE STORY FOR YOUNG MOTHERS.

#### CHAPTER XIII.

"Is my daughter really not well enough to get up, Dr. Baynes?" asked Mrs. Hamilton, when she had been three weeks with Elfie, and was getting very anxious to go home.

It was nearly two months since Elfie had lost her baby; she had been greatly weakened by the consequences of the shock to her; but now she was, for all that the doctor could see, fairly well again. Still, there was no apparent change in herself. She seemed never to wish to rise, nor to converse; she was indifferent to everything around her, and would have appeared perfectly apathetic, but that sometimes she cried quietly by the hour together.

Mrs. Hamilton felt sure that Elfie only needed "arousing." She had, as she thought, been very patient about it, but now it was getting so inconvenient to her to stay there longer, that she resolved to take the matter into her own hands.

The question to the doctor was her first step towards this end.

"I certainly think Mrs. Crofton would be all the better if she could be got to exert herself a little more," said Dr. Baynes.

"If she went downstairs, and out for a drive?"

"Downstairs, yes; but I would not take her out for a few days after that. What rather troubles me is her lack of energy, and if you compel her to make too much exertion in that nervous condition the end may be a complete physical breakdown, that will throw her quite back upon our hands again."

"But you do think it would be well to get her to move?"

"Yes, if you can persuade her to do so, certainly."

Mrs. Hamilton considered this sufficient authorization to do what she would, with the object of "arousing" her daughter.

"I am going to take you downstairs this afternoon, Elfie," she said, in her most managing manner. "The doctor says there is no reason whatever why you should stay up here all day any longer, and I am sure you ought to make an effort now, for Hugh's sake, and mine, and your own too. You never were a selfish girl, but I must tell you that I think you are nursing your grief very selfishly. You are putting me to inconvenience, and making everybody belonging to you miserable, and, of course, it can't do any good."

Her flow of words had by no means ended, but Elfie looked so pleadingly up at her, and interrupted her with "very well, mamma,"—an unconditional surrender to her orders—in so pathetic a tone, that she stopped for the moment. She abated none of her resolution, nevertheless. By three o'clock, Elfie was dressed, and had been assisted downstairs to the drawing-room, where she lay upon a couch, looking out of the window at the stretch of lawn with its bright flower beds, and at the sunshine dancing upon the grass, with the boughs of the trees for partners, and the gentle winds for music. But Mrs. Crofton neither saw this pleasant scene, nor quaffed the sweet, warm air, nor heard the twittering choir of the birds. Her mind was half-unconsciously following its accustomed track, while her thoughts were busy with devices for obtaining her accustomed refuge from the burden of her sorrows.

The track and the refuge of her thoughts were both unknown to her mother. Elfie had not been able to speak of them even to Bertha, who had been her entire and sole confidant from her infancy upwards till now. Some unseen influence had seemed to bar her lips from utterance of what was most in her mind; and when her sister was talking to her, and endeavouring by every tender art to draw her into

conversation, it had seemed to Elfie, while she lay apparently passive, as though some wild thing within her brain were shrieking unheard, in demand for pity for her speechless sufferings. All she had gone through recurred incessantly to her mind; and how she had come to love and to delight in the tiny form, the little sucking lips, the wee aimless hands stroking her bosom; and, at last, in what agonies she had seen her baby die. This was her haunting train of thought. But, besides this, the whole plan of her life seemed to have been overturned with brutal suddenness, and it was the hasty way and the unkind words in which her husband had told her that she was never going back to her London home, and that he was a ruined man, that had unfitted her for enduring with fortitude the after-blow. But in her thoughts it was her dead baby, that would not leave her for a moment, that made her so helplessly incapable, even of talking about her feelings, and far more so of throwing them off.

Now the sad truth must be added; this morbid state of feeling, natural enough for a while, was perpetuated and confirmed by the source to which the unhappy girl turned for relief from the haunting misery of her one idea. It was, alas! the source to which her mother herself had advised recourse in the sufferings of the illness and weakness of Elfie's early married life—habitual drinking of alcohol. The practice begun in those early days had been continued under the temptations of lassitude and over-excitement ever since; and thus the victim had acquired the habit of flying to wine as her resource against every unpleasant feeling, and as an aid to the endurance of all kinds of distress. But never had she, as the phrase goes, taken "more than enough," till this period of utter break-down. Now she had been seeking forgetfulness in the same way in which she had often before sought comfort; and she had not found forgetfulness till she had passed into a state of semi-stupidity. Each time that she recovered from the effects of wine, her depression became deeper, and the tyranny of her troubled thoughts more oppressive; and each time she was, therefore, left only more ready to destroy her memory and her senses again in the same manner.

Neither Bertha nor Mrs. Hamilton had suspected this fatal truth, in the least degree. The odour of the liquor had not revealed it to them, for they both knew that she took wine frequently, by the doctor's orders. And while Elfie lay still, and kept silence, there was not sufficient indication of her true state to arouse

## Cannot be induced

to go without it. Thousands of people who have tried DR. TIBBLES' VI-COCOA—as an experiment—now use it regularly, and could not be induced to go back to the sickly, insipid, and often injurious preparations previously used. It is a Proved Success. Not a medicine, but a strengthening, stimulative, and restorative Food Beverage. Pleasant and palatable, and embodying the numerous principles contained in Malt, Hops, Kola, and Cocoa, it imparts nourishment and builds up strength. 6d., 9d. and 1/6. Dainty Free Sample sent post free on mentioning this paper—a postcard will do.

Address: DR. TIBBLES' VI-COCOA, Ltd., Suffolk House, CANNON ST., LONDON, E.C.

so painful a suspicion in minds so unprepared to entertain it.

Mrs. Crofton lay on her couch, her eyes shut, with the tears stealing slowly at intervals down her cheeks. Her mother sat near her, not speaking, lest she should sleep; but presently seeing the tears, Mrs. Hamilton said kindly and affectionately—

"Do you feel ill, love?"

Poor Elfie! longing as she was for the stimulants which she would have got from her nurse upstairs, she had been pondering painfully how she was to get some here and now. With the self-consciousness of one just stepping beyond her own control on the slippery path of intemperance, she had not dared to ask outright. The opening thus made, however, she could no longer resist.

"I'd like—some wine!" she said, slowly and softly.

The request seemed quite natural to Mrs. Hamilton. She took the keys from her pocket (for she, of course, had now assumed charge of the household affairs), and herself got the wine from the dining-room, which was across the hall. She poured out a glassful of port from the nearly full decanter, and aided her daughter to rise and drink it.

It was by no means enough for Elfie, but she did not venture to ask for more. This quantity somewhat relieved her feelings, and she lay

quite still. Mrs. Hamilton thought before long that she was sleeping.

Now an afternoon nap was one of Mrs. Hamilton's special manners and customs. She used to say she "just closed her eyes for ten minutes," but an onlooker would at any time have averred that she took about half an hour's good, sound, comfortable snooze. Seeing her daughter lying so placidly, Mrs. Hamilton thought she knew of no reason why she should not take this customary "closing of her eyes" if she remained in the room, where, as she would have said, "a breath would waken her." There was a second couch in the drawing-room. It stood in a nice, shaded spot—between the two windows, and, before long, Mrs. Hamilton, with her handkerchief over her face, was quietly reposing thereupon.

The afternoon was warm. There was not a sound that could disturb; the hum of a thousand insects mingled with the gentle rustle of the bushes, scarcely stirred by the breezes that swept softly past; a bee buzzed by now and then, and a little bird chirped in a nest. But, by comparison with St. John's Wood, the silence was perfect.

What with the heat and what with the quiet, Mrs. Hamilton's eyes remained quite closed for an hour. When at length they opened, she went over to inspect her charge forthwith.

There was a terrible change. Poor Mrs. Hamilton had never seen her daughter with

such an aspect. Her eyes were half open and rolled upwards; the mouth too was open; and her breathing was noisy and distressed.

In her alarm, the mother shook her daughter a little, and called on her name. Elfie moaned slightly, and turned her head on the pillow, but was not aroused. Mrs. Hamilton rang the bell violently, and the nurse was soon in the room.

"Run for the doctor!" cried the alarmed mother. "Send somebody instantly, nurse!"

Mrs. Hamilton had never in all her life known greater shame than such as comes from some trifling awkwardness. She learned then, through her child's fault—through the fault which she had herself unwittingly incited—she learned then for the first time what that terrible sensation was like, when the old nurse, regarding her young lady wisely, said—

"If I was in your place, ma'am, I wouldn't send for no doctor—I'd keep it quiet. She's only—drunk a drop too much!"

(To be continued.)

For three hundred years the historical tide in the affairs of men has set towards personal and civil liberty. We are feeling the effect of this movement, often greatly to our personal inconvenience. But it is impossible to turn it. It remains only to direct it.

\* \* \*  
LET US NOT LOVE IN WORD, BUT IN DEED.  
St. John.

## SUCCESS. COCKBURN TEMPERANCE HOTEL,

13, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, Bedford Street, Strand, LONDON.

Telegrams: "PROMISING," LONDON.  
Mrs. A. D. PHILP, appreciating the very liberal patronage hitherto accorded to her at Cockburn House, 9 and 10, Endsleigh Gardens, and regretting her inability to accommodate many intending patrons for lack of room during the past two seasons, is pleased to announce to the public that she has secured the above Hotel premises, containing large and numerous public rooms, and accommodation for 150 guests, by which she hopes to cope with the expected large influx of visitors to London during the coming season, due to Diamond Celebrations. Bedrooms very quiet.

It will be newly and comfortably furnished throughout, and open for reception of guests early in March. Owing to its excellent position, in close proximity to the Strand, Trafalgar Square, Westminster, New Law Courts, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and all Places of Amusement and Railway Stations, Mrs. Philp hopes by her close personal attention to the comfort of guests, combined with Moderate Tariff, that she will continue to receive the very liberal patronage hitherto accorded to her. Large Halls for Public Dinners, Meetings, Concerts, &c.

It will be the finest, largest, and only well appointed HOTEL in LONDON built from the foundation for the purpose, conducted on strictly Temperance principles. New Passenger Elevator, Electric Light, Telephone, and latest improved Sanitation. Telegraphic Address: "Promising," London.

Mrs. Philp will give her general superintendence to all three of her Hotels, and will spare no effort to make all her patrons comfortable and at home.  
NOTE.—In connection with, and under same management—  
COCKBURN HOUSE, 9 & 10, ENDSLEIGH GARDENS, opposite EUSTON (Telegrams—"Luncheon," London)  
and COCKBURN HOTEL, 141, BATH STREET, GLASGOW, and COCKBURN TURKISH BATHS.

Highest Award at Food and Cookery Exhibitions, London, May, 1895 and 1896.  
Supplied to HER MAJESTY the QUEEN and ROYAL FAMILY.

# HOVIS BREAD & BISCUITS

## CURE INDIGESTION.

IMITATION IS THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY.  
6d. & 1s. Samples of BREAD & BISCUITS on receipt of Stamps.  
Purchasers are requested to see that all Bread is stamped "HOVIS."  
Ask your Baker or Grocer for HOVIS FLOUR for Home use. Packed in Bags of 3½ lbs. and 7 lbs.  
If any difficulty be experienced in obtaining "HOVIS," or what is supplied as "HOVIS" is not satisfactory, please write, sending sample (the cost of which will be defrayed), to  
**S. FITTON & SON, MILLERS, MACCLESFIELD.**  
**BEWARE!** Bakers recommending another Bread in place of "HOVIS" **BEWARE!**  
do so for their own profit.

## GENUINE GRAPE JUICE.

FREE FROM ALCOHOL.  
Price List, Testimonials, Etc., POST FREE ON APPLICATION.  
**UNFERMENTED WINES**  
Congress, Madeira, Alto-Douro, Muscat, Marsala, Red Alicante.  
Reputed Pints, 14/- to 20/- per dozen.  
Reputed Quarts, 24/- to 36/- per dozen.

EXCELLENT COMMUNION WINES.  
SMALL SAMPLES of any four of the above will be sent carriage free on receipt of 2/6 by  
**F. WRIGHT, MUNDY & Co.**  
Merton Road, Kensington, London, W.  
The above Wines are recommended by the Unfermented Wine Dept. of the B. W. T. A.

NEW HARRISON SWIFT GOLD MEDAL  
**KNITTER**  
KNITS Stockings ribbed or plain, GLOVES and CLOTHING in WOOL, SILK, or COTTON. INSTRUCTION FILE. Lists free per post.  
8 GOLD MEDALS for the "HARRISON" and "SWIFT" MACHINES.  
HARRISON KNITTING MACHINE CO. LTD.  
Works: 45, Upper Brook St., Manchester.

## SPRING CLEANING.

LADIES who are the possessors of any valuable modern or antique lace, which is in need of cleaning, cannot do better than entrust it to Mr. Gregg, the well-known Court glover, of 92 New Bond-street, as he has a great speciality for cleaning lace, and is particularly successful in raising the pattern, a feat which is not often accomplished by the lace cleaner. Lace veils, collars, sleeves, handkerchiefs and ball dresses of all descriptions are undertaken at this establishment, and finished off in a superior manner. Feathers are beautifully dyed, cleaned and curled within a few days, the renovation of ostrich feather fans being a special feature. Mr. Gregg has been so successful with his department for cleaning and dyeing that he has now added a great many things to the list of what he undertakes, such as gowns, blouses, Court gowns, sunshades, gentlemen's cricketer and tennis suits, also table-covers, curtains and other things of the kind. All enquiries on this subject should be made by letter, addressed to the Cleaning and Dyeing Department (first floor), 92 New Bond-street, W.


## FORGED BANK OF ENGLAND NOTES.

The unpleasant discovery has recently been made that a number of forged Bank of England Notes are in circulation. These spurious £20 notes apparently emanated from Vienna, where the printing and watermark were so skilfully executed that experts in such matters have been almost deceived. Considering the large profit accruing from successful forgery of Bank Notes, it is not to be wondered at that occasionally persons are prepared to risk detection. The art of imitation, however, is not confined to such valuable commodities as Bank Notes; let any ordinary article of household consumption become popular, and there are people who will at once bring out something looking as near akin to the original as the law will allow, but often differing widely from it in intrinsic value. Take for instance an article like Liebig Company's Extract, which through the efforts of the Liebig Company, has now become a household word. The Company's success has given rise to numberless imitations, many being called by Liebig's name, but in this case the public can more easily detect the original than in the case of the Bank Notes, as the Liebig Company's alone carries the inventor's signature, J. v. Liebig, in blue.

MESSRS. STREET & Co., Advertising Agents, of 30, Cornhill, E.C., and 5, Serle-street, W.C., announce that, in consequence of their increasing business, and for the convenience of their West end clients, they will open on Monday, 5th April, a branch at 164, Piccadilly, London, W.

**Good!**

It's Mason's



**MASON'S EXTRACT OF HERBS FOR MAKING NON-INTOXICATING BEER**

The most palatable thirst-quenching, refreshing, animating tonic drink produceable.

For every OPEN-AIR WORKER and all employed in shops, mines, manufactories, and mines.

**IMITATED BUT NOT EQUALLED.**

Agents Wanted.

One 6d. bottle makes 8 gallons. Of all Chemists & Stores.

Sample Bottle Free 9 Stamps 2 for 15 Stamps.

**NEWBALL & MASON, NOTTINGHAM.**

**MASON'S (NOTTINGHAM) COFFEE ESSENCE (THE BEST MADE)**

ESTABLISHED 1848

**KINGSFORD'S OSWEGO PREPARED CORN**

IS THE ORIGINAL OF ALL CORN FLOURS GOES FARTHEST AND GIVES GREATEST SATISFACTION

**HUGON'S REFINED BEEF SUET FOR COOKING, PUDDINGS, FRYING, PASTRY, &c.**

ONE LB. EQUALS 2 LBS. OF RAW SUET.

**"ATORA" BRAND** 8d PER POUND



MOTTO: "For God and Home, and Every Land."

NATIONAL  
BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION  
President: The Lady Henry Somerset.  
VISIT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO BRISTOL,  
APRIL 3RD TO 7TH, 1897.

On SATURDAY, APRIL 3rd, a Prayer Meeting will be held for all workers.  
Neville Honse, 19, Berkeley Square, 7.30 p.m. Miss Savill will Preside.

SUNDAY.—Gospel Temperance Services will be arranged wherever possible.  
MONDAY, APRIL 5th.—Praise and Prayer Meetings. Blind Asylum. 3 p.m. Miss Gorham, Superintendent of the Evangelistic Department of the B.W.T.A., will Preside. Mrs. Bishop, of Swansea; Mrs. A. J. Crossfield, of Reigate. Collection.

MONDAY, APRIL 5th, at 7.30 p.m.—A "Y" Meeting will be held at the Blind Asylum Music Hall, Queen's Road, Clifton. Speakers: The Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, Superintendent of the "Y" Department of the B.W.T.A., and Sister Kathleen, the "Mother" of the "Bird's Nest" at "The Farm Home" for Inebriate Women, Duxhurst, near Reigate. Seats free. Collection.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6th, 11.30 a.m.—A Bible Reading will be given by Mrs. R. Pearsall Smith, Author of "The Secret of a Happy Life," "Frank," etc., etc. Small Victoria Rooms. Collection.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6th, at 2.30 p.m.—Conference and "School of Methods" by leading workers.—President, Mrs. Eva McLaren, Acting Vice-President of the B.W.T.A. Subjects: "The Departmental System," "Political Department," "Loyal Temperance Legion Model Meeting," etc. A limited number of Reserved Seats, 1s. Collection.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6th, at 8 p.m.—Public Meeting, Victoria Rooms. William Howell Davies, Esq., J.P. (ex-Mayor), in the Chair. Speakers: Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. R. Pearsall Smith, The Ladies of The West of England Guitar and Mandoline Society will kindly play from 7.25 to 7.55, with Selections during the evening. Reserved Seats—Sofa Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Second Seats, 1s.; Back Seats free. Collection in aid of the Work.

The Executive Committee will be held on Wednesday at Tyndale Chapel Schoolroom, Oakland Road, White Ladies Gate. (For members only.) For further particulars, address Miss M. M. LURY, 8, Grove Place, Redland, Bristol, from whom Tickets can be obtained.

## Miss SADLER,

High-Class Corsetière,  
SPECIALITY: ABDOMINAL CORSET

"One of the most popular Corsetières of the present day is Miss SADLER, of 211, Oxford Street. She thoroughly studies the peculiarities of each individual figure, but is specially successful with ladies who are inclined to be stout."—Sunday Times, May 3rd, 1896.

211, OXFORD STREET.

## Our Private Advertisement Column.

READ CAREFULLY.  
TERMS:—Sixpence per insertion for the first twelve words, and one penny for each further four words; four insertions for the price of three if no change made in four. Figures count as one word, if in a group. Advertisements should reach us by Monday morning for the same week's issue. We reserve the right to refuse any advertisement without giving a reason.  
In replying to an advertisement in this column, when the advertiser's own address is not given, but only an office number, write your letter to the advertiser and enclose it in an envelope; close this, and write where the stamp should go, on the outside, the letter and number of the advertisement, and nothing more. Put the reply or replies thus sealed down in another envelope, together with a penny stamp for each letter you want sent on, loose in your envelope to us; address the outer envelope "WOMAN'S SIGNAL, Office, 39 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London, W.C.," stamp to the proper weight, and post. We will then take out and address and forward your replies to the advertiser, and further communications will be direct between you both. Postcards will not be forwarded.

## Dress.

A. 249. FRENCH Boots, Melie's best glove kid, size 37.9 (narrow five), hygienic heels, smart and best quality, suit slender tall girl, too narrow for owner, never worn. Cost 25s. at Peter Robinson's, sell 12s. 6d., great bargain.

## Private Lodgings and Board.

C. 124. WIDOW Lady taking good house in or near town would be glad to hear from one or two ladies or gentlemen who would join her as paying guests. Moderate, inclusive terms.

## Situation Wanted.

F. 116. GOVERNESS (35) desires engagement. Higher Cambridge honours. Four years abroad. English, French, German, music, painting.

## Miscellaneous.

E. 136. FRENCH Novels, Sale Cheap, or Exchange. Good Writers. Please send list of what offers.

E. 137. 4 VOLS. Cloth. The Household Physician, by J. MCGREGOR-ROBERTSON, M.B., illustrated with 400 figures and plates. 8vo. size. Cost 30s. Price 28s.

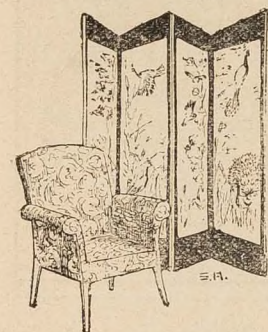
E. 139. SPLENDID Lady's Safety, Beeston pneumatic tyres. All latest improvements, including Zylonite frosted gear case, only ridden twice, in thorough condition. Price £8 10s.

SPLENDID Prize Fowl. Houdan Cock, 4 Hens, 41 2s. 6d. Light Brahma ditto, 21. White Leghorn Cock, 3 Hens, 15s. 6d. Young Toulouse Gander, 10 lbs weight, 10s. 6d. McKEAN, Laragh, Castle Blayney, Ireland.

## HOME TALK.

## THE WARM CORNER

is the welcome corner in these draughty days of winter, when the fire glows warm and cheerful; but—this fire, and its warmth, draw the cold air into the room whenever a door is opened, and underneath the door all the time, if the door does not fit tightly. A loose mat, laid against the entry, is pushed away every time anyone comes in. It is better to tuck a little strip of felt along the bottom of the door itself. A screen, again, does wonders in keeping draughts out; and there is no more cheerful sight for an income than a comfortable armchair and a screen.



of the door itself. A screen, again, does wonders in keeping draughts out; and there is no more cheerful sight for an income than a comfortable armchair and a screen.

## A WINTER TROUBLE

that affects many of us is cold, chilly hands and feet. They come from defective circulation and poverty of the blood. Poor blood is what the doctors call anæmia, always a prevalent trouble where women are concerned. It gives pallid cheeks, flat figure, languidness, and a way of being easily tired. Very often it is the first step towards "decline," or, as people call it, consumption. Better stop it in time. It is good to be rosy and well, if you can. Here is a true story. Miss Richardson, daughter of the manager of a large brick-works at King's Dyke, Whittlesey, in Cambridgeshire, is a picture of health. Yet, a little while ago, she was in a consumption. Doctors attended her, but the girl made no progress, and became so weak that all quite expected her to die, as consumptive people do die. By the merest accident, the father found out what can be done by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. He read it, and said to his wife, "Here's somebody advertising, and if only half what he says is true there's hope for Jane yet." The same night he sent for a box of Pills, and before half the box was gone, saw a marked change. Miss Richardson is, in her father's words, "A woman again, and quite well." Her disease was a decline—consumption; but there are no signs of that now. She was so weak that she could do nothing; it appeared as if she had'nt the strength to walk. But Dr. Williams' Pills entirely cured her.

This is an example for all women who feel languid; have a pain in the chest or the back, or feel the need of a tonic. These Pills—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People—can be bought at the chemist's at 2s. 9d. a box.

## DO NOT MAKE A MISTAKE.

Have the genuine Pills which cured Miss Richardson, as I have just told you. They are only to be had in a wooden tube or box in a closed pink wrapper, bearing the full name, "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People." In case of any doubt it is better to send to the makers (the address is Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, 46, Holborn-viaduct, London, E.C.) than to accept any substitute, for these Pills are not like ordinary medicine.



## A PRETTY TIPPET AND MUFF.

This is, as you see, a very stylish addition to a dress or cloth jacket—a tippet fashioned in velvet and trimmed with ostrich feather and chiffon killings, and a fascinating muff en suite. When the brighter weather allows of lighter and daintier toilettes this will be found useful.

## WASHING BABY'S HAIR.

Whenever baby's hair is washed it should be very carefully dried afterwards. Neglect of this will frequently give the child a cold in the head, which, if neglected, may lay the foundation of a deafness that will go on increasing until, in later life, it may become permanent. It is best that the baby's hair should be washed at bedtime, to avoid draughts.



## TO CURE RHEUMATISM.

More cases of rheumatism than of any other disorder prevalent at this time of the year have been cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They act by strengthening the blood and nerves; people subject to rheumatism should use them at once. These Pills have cured numerous cases of other disorders which arise from impoverished blood, such as muscular weakness, loss of appetite, shortness of breath, pain in the back, nervous headache, and all forms of female weakness, paralysis, locomotor ataxy, sciatica, influenza, anæmia, and palpitation. You can buy them at the chemists', but take care that the package bears the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and in case of doubt send direct to Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, 46, Holborn-viaduct, E.C., as the Pills can be had post-free at 2s. 9d., or six boxes for 13s. 9d. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are not a purgative. Pills sold loose, or from glass jars, are not Dr. Williams'—don't accept them.

## CHARACTER IN HANDWRITING.

This is the handwriting of an honest working

*I was discharged from the Baker Trainers Society on the certificate of three doctors here on Longdon as permanently and totally disabled by my complaint, and for a long time I was wholly prostrated and unable to do anything at all.*

man, and is part of a letter written by him in answer to certain enquiries regarding his health. For Mr. Bilton has had a wonderful and eventful history. He is to-day a strong, active, and hard-working man. Only three years ago he was in such a state that ordinary medicine could do nothing for him. Week after week the friendly society to which he belonged paid him his sick allowance, and furnished him with the best medical attendance, until at last, although three doctors had seen him in consultation, he was pronounced absolutely incurable, and totally disabled by cystitis, or bladder disease. "Practically Dead" is the expression used to describe his condition, and the friendly society treated him as dead. He was paid his full discharge money with the usual legal formalities, and lay down, paralysed, pain-racked, and helpless, to die. Nearly two years afterwards he was led to use Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. After only a few doses he began to feel power returning to his paralysed limbs. He persevered, still without hope of permanent benefit, but grateful for even a little ease in his pain. Strength began to return to his muscles. The stiffness left his bones. Almost wild with the return of hope, so long a stranger to his heart, he continued the Pills, until at length he found himself hale and hearty, eager for work, enthusiastic and strong.

He has been actually re-admitted to the friendly society on the certificates of the same doctors. On re-examining him, after the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, they found him fit for work. This is only one of the thousands of cases in which Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured paralysis, locomotor ataxy, consumption,

rheumatism, anæmia, sciatica, St. Vitus' dance, kidney and bladder diseases, and nervous troubles. They are the greatest tonic in the world, and especially suited to the ailments of ladies.

## FREE TO "WOMAN'S SIGNAL" READERS.

If you are not well, and do not understand your ailment; if you are ill and wish to be well; write an account of your case to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, 46 Holborn-viaduct, London, E.C., and ask whether Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are good for your case. If they are not, you will be told; if they are, you will, no doubt, hear of other cases like your own that have been cured by them. Mention the name of this paper, and you will have a prompt reply.

## Our Open Columns.

[The Editor does not hold herself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents. Discussion is invited on the subjects here written upon.]

## NURSES À LA MODE.

To the Editor of the WOMAN'S SIGNAL.  
DEAR MADAM,—Having read with great interest Lady Priestley's paper on "Nurses à la Mode," and also the replies to it in our paper, I would suggest that a second grade of nurses should be formed to meet the pressing needs of that class of people who can manage to pay, say £1 a week, for assistance during sickness, but to whom the nurses' fees, standing at their present rate, are almost an impossibility.

I quite agree with the remark that "there is no such thing as a born nurse," but at the same time many people have a special aptitude for nursing, just as others have for music, painting, &c. Could not such be trained, say for a twelvemonth, and in that time be fitted for ordinary plain nursing? In cases of consumption and many other complaints they would be invaluable, and, I think, would in no way clash with fully-trained nurses.

F. KEMP FURNER.

Calluna, Bournemouth.

## THE STATUE OF JESUS AT DUXHURST.

DEAR MADAM,—Being much interested in the discussion on the statue which Lady Henry Somerset intends to place on the village green at Duxhurst, may I ask some questions concerning the matter, which I, in company with many more of our members, would like to have cleared up?

Firstly, Has any individual a right to place a statue of any description upon public land, without the consent of the controlling authorities?

Secondly, Who are the controlling authorities at Duxhurst? I had supposed, but I may be in error, that the village of Duxhurst was the property of the B.W.T.A. If this is so, would not the sanction of the elected representatives of the B.W.T.A. (i.e., the executive committee) be necessary before any steps could be taken, and as there is so much warm feeling on the subject, would it not be more constitutional and more likely to give general satisfaction if the whole question could be referred to the annual council meetings, by which time the views of all the branches could be ascertained, due notice of such a resolution being given to the branches. Trusting that I have not trespassed too largely upon your valuable space,—I am, yours very sincerely,

SOPHIA M. STEPHENS,

Hon. Sec. Falmouth and

Penryn Branch B.W.T.A.

Ashfield, Falmouth.

THE Duke of Westminster will preside at the annual meeting of Miss Meredith Brown's Homes (the Shaftesbury Institute Mission), which will be held at Grosvenor House on Wednesday, May 26th.



# Cadbury's cocoa

"Represents the standard of highest purity at present attainable in regard to Cocoa."—*Lancet*.

Far superior to tea or coffee for nourishing and strength-imparting properties, and for Breakfast, Luncheon, Tea, or Supper—whenever wholesome refreshment is necessary—may be safely and beneficially resorted to.

Everyone interested in Nursing Matters should read

## The NURSING RECORD.

Edited by Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK.

Published every Saturday.

Price One Penny.

Contains all the Nursing News of the week; Articles by well-known Medical Men and Nurses;



Notes on Science, Art, Literature, and the Drama; Hospital News; Discussions by Matrons in Council, etc., etc., etc.

11, ADAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

# CEREBOS

# TABLE

# SALT

"Day by day, grain upon grain, the subtle Nature-Builder deposits a store of strength in the skeleton and the tissues of the body, but we must supply her with the materials, or she will not build the highest and best."

### REPORT FROM

SIR CHAS. A. CAMERON, M.D., D.P.H. (Cambridge)  
F.R.C.S.I., M.R.C.P.I., F.I.C.,  
PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY, R.C.S.I.,  
Medical Officer of Health for Dublin. City and County Analyst.

"I have carefully examined a specimen of 'Cerebos Salt' and find that it includes a substantial proportion of phosphates, such as are necessary to the formation of bone and muscle. I consider it a very nice form in which to take the salt as a condiment, whilst at the same time introducing to the system valuable phosphates."

CEREBOS TABLE SALT is used at every meal by thousands of **DOCTORS** and their families because it adds strength to all the food in which it is used, and by the upper ten thousand **LADIES** on account of its dainty appearance and fine quality. It has been adopted and is exclusively used at all the Gordon Hotels at home and abroad, the Hotel Cecil, and all the other highest class **HOTELS** everywhere, because it is the nicest, driest, best Table Salt; economical in use, and requiring no crushing or preparation.

SOLD AT ALL THE BEST GROCERS AND  
- - - STORES IN LARGE LINED TINS.