

The Woman's Journal.

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The Woman's Journal.

A Weekly Newspaper, published every Saturday in Boston, devoted to the interests of Woman—to her educational, industrial, legal, and political Equality, and especially to her right of Suffrage.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The bill granting municipal suffrage to women has passed the Kansas Senate by a vote of twenty-five to thirteen, almost two to one. The Kansas Senate has done itself more honor than the Senate of the United States. The vote stood:

AYES—Senators Allen, Bawden, Blue, Codding, Congdon, Crane, Donnell, Edmonds, Green, Humphrey, Jennings, M. C. Kelley, H. B. Kelly, John Kelly, Kellogg, Kimball, Kohler, Miller, Redden, Ritter, Rush, Shean, Wasson, White and Young—25.

NAYS—Buchan, Case, Harkness, Harwi, Hewins, Kirk, Lingenfelter, Lloyd, Lowe, Marshall, Pickler, Sheldon and Smith—13.

Senators Barker and Granger were absent. Had they been present, Mr. Barker would have voted nay and Mr. Granger yea. The Topeka Capital says:

"Great rejoicing was manifested throughout the Senate Chamber when the result of the balloting was announced. An honest, just and upright victory had been won for the best element of society."

"About a wagon-load of petitions" have been sent in to both branches of the Legislature, the Kansas City Journal says, asking for municipal suffrage. A small "remonstrance" has also been sent in from the town of Independence—a most inappropriate place, so far as its name is concerned, to be the source of a petition in favor of taxation without representation.

There were some amusing incidents during the controversy over the bill. A bouquet was sent to Senator Pickler, who had presented a minority report against municipal suffrage—a bouquet not exactly anonymous, but labelled somewhat vaguely, "From the women of Kansas who do not wish to vote." It also bore the inscription, "History honors the man who is brave enough to do what is right." But it is probable that the historical honors reserved for the men who oppose woman suffrage will be much like the honors now rendered to those who opposed Catholic emancipation, the abolition of negro slavery, and the various reform bills of the past.

Mrs. Helen M. Gougar also sent bouquets to Senator Pickler and Senator Harkness who had joined with him in the minority report against woman suffrage. She said, in an accompanying note:

"May the perfume of the flowers be more lasting than any intention you may have to vote against the pending municipal suffrage bill. Please note the fact that history records the names of those with dishonor who have hindered the progress of human liberty. Women are human."

The Senators returned flowery answers, perhaps to match the bouquets. Senator Harkness dictated a note which said:

"While he regrets his ability to gratify a wish so beautifully expressed at this time, yet he feels that the sentiment which prompts his action upon the municipal suffrage bill is based upon a principle instilled by Him who breathed the perfume into the flowers, and which recognized in woman a being, although 'human,' of a more refined nature than that of man, and even by nature adapted and designed," etc.

Senator Pickler said:

"Dear Madam—Your beautiful bouquet received, as also your kind note. In the latter you say 'women are human.' I deny the statement, and brand it as a libel on the sex. They are angels."

And he launches forth into praise of

Joan of Arc. The "Woman Suffrage Cook Book" has been a great success. The next thing ought to be a woman suffrage just book, to record some few of the comical things said by our opponents, in the effort to show why women should not vote.

The Legislature of Maine is asked to submit a constitutional amendment to the voters, giving full suffrage to women. In Augusta, February 3, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, of Boston, made an earnest plea in favor of giving the ballot to her sex. Next day a hearing was accorded by the Legislature. Some of the most prominent men in Maine are identified with this movement, whose origin dates back to 1873, when the late John Neal and 100 others in Portland set the ball in motion. Probably the sentiment in favor of placing women on the same footing as men in the enjoyment of political rights, is stronger in that city than in any other place in the State. Some of its best-known citizens are among its advocates, among them Congressman Reed, Josiah H. Drummond, Gen. Neal Dow, Rev. Dr. Bashford, Dr. F. H. Gerrish, A. A. Strout, Charles F. Libby, and others. Portland's delegation to the Legislature is in full sympathy with the movement. Among its leading advocates in other parts of the State are Congressman Dingley, who is a vice-president of the Maine Woman's Suffrage Association, and Lewis Barker, of Bangor. Earnest friends of the cause outside of Portland are found in Augusta, Winthrop, Lewiston, Auburn, Rockland, Ellsworth, Calais, Biddeford, and many smaller towns. The woman suffragists are working vigorously in urging their measure upon the attention of the law-makers.

A despatch dated Feb. 3 says that the Supreme Court at Olympia has pronounced the woman suffrage law of Washington Territory unconstitutional. It adds that the law was passed in 1885. This is a mistake. It was passed in October, 1883. A question was raised, a year or two since, whether the act was not made invalid by a technicality. The law requires that every act of the Legislature should have its title written at the top, and this formality had been neglected in the case of a number of the acts passed by the Legislature of 1883, the woman suffrage bill among others. But it was found that the succeeding Legislature had re-enacted woman suffrage by inserting in an act regarding the registration of voters the words "male or female," and declaring that "his" should everywhere be interpreted to mean "his or her." This act had its title duly written at the top; and even if the first bill has been pronounced invalid, we hope the second will be found to hold firm.

Mrs. Lucy S. Barber, who voted the entire State and Congressional ticket at the recent New York election and was arrested for so doing, has been discharged by U. S. Commissioner Angel. The Springfield Republican says:

"Mrs. Lucy Sweet Barber gets off without penalty so far as the federal authorities are concerned. United States Commissioner Angel, with the concurrence of District Attorney Lockwood, discharged her from arrest yesterday, holding that the State courts have jurisdiction. But it is understood that her prosecutors brought the case before the commissioner because of a doubt they had that she could be punished under State law. A good many lawyers regard her defense as a strong one under the constitution and statutes of New York."

A committee appointed by the National Woman Suffrage Association called on the President last week Friday, and presented a memorial asking him to veto the Edmunds Bill or the Tucker substitute for it, whichever shall pass Congress, unless the clause can be struck out which provides for disfranchising the non-polygamous women of Utah. The President said he would give the memorial his careful consideration. He recognized that it was a serious matter to disfranchise any class of citizens.

In the Massachusetts House of Representatives, on the 2d inst., on motion of Mr. Quincy, of Quincy, it was ordered that the committee on Woman Suffrage consider the expediency of legislation providing for the submission to the female citizens of any city or town who would be qualified to vote therein if they were of the male sex, of the question whether female

citizens shall be given upon the same terms as male citizens the right to vote for city officers, or for town officers and in town meetings, in such city or town, and providing that in case a majority of the ballots cast by such female citizens return an affirmative answer to said question, then female citizens of such city or town shall be given the aforesaid right; also the expediency of legislation providing that in case female citizens of any city or town, who would be qualified to vote therein if they were of the male sex, not less in number than a majority of the whole number of male citizens who voted at the last annual municipal election or town meeting therein, petition to be given upon the same terms as male citizens the right to vote for city officers or for town officers and in town meetings in such city or town, then female citizens of such city or town shall be given the aforesaid right; also, the expediency of legislation providing for the submission to the qualified voters of any city or town at its annual municipal election or town meeting, of the question whether female citizens shall be given upon the same terms as male citizens the right to vote for city officers, or for town officers and in town meetings, in such city or town, and providing that in case a majority of the ballots cast upon such question return an affirmative answer thereto, then female citizens of such city or town shall be given the aforesaid right."

The political significance of the recent vote on the Woman Suffrage Amendment in the U. S. Senate is beginning to be recognized and appreciated. An analysis is given in our columns this week. This vote will give a fresh impetus to the movement.

The Albany Evening Journal, the eminent Republican paper of New York, in its leading editorial on the woman suffrage debate and vote in the U. S. Senate, says:

"Whatever may be thought of the propriety of woman suffrage, it cannot be disguised that the tendencies of the times are all in favor of putting women on an equal plane with man. It has always seemed preposterous that general suffrage should be given to men regardless of their qualifications, while it has been denied to women regardless of their capacity and ability to discreetly comprehend what that right involved. The trend of public sentiment during the nineteenth century has been altogether in favor of giving woman every right that man has had. Looking at the question in the abstract, it is difficult to understand why a mere difference in sex should involve a difference in the rights of humanity. If an educational qualification were imposed upon the rough scuff and scum of male voters, and if women who were gifted by education and by experience, and who thoroughly comprehended what the right to vote meant, were given the elective franchise, there might seem to be some equilibrium established in the matter. But to open the polls to every tramp, inebriate, or idiot who can handle a ballot and make his way to the ballot-box, and to deny to women who represent property-interests, intelligence and education the right to take part in the choice of those who are to administer public affairs, seems to be a barbarian fit for the enlightened age in which we live."

During the past year, 215,636 pages of woman suffrage literature, in the form of tracts and leaflets, have been sent out from the office of the WOMAN'S JOURNAL.

The case of Mrs. Professor Emmons should open the eyes of women to the helplessness of their position, and their need of the ballot. Professor Emmons wished a divorce. He charged his wife with insanity. Mrs. Emmons was brought into court to let a trial decide whether she was insane. There, in a crowded courtroom, the judge, the jury, the lawyers, all men, she stood to prove her sanity. The court ordered that no women should be admitted. The New York Mail and Express rejoiced at the exclusion of women "whose curiosity led them to crowd divorce trials." It did not occur to the Mail and Express that when women may be arraigned, as Mrs. Emmons was, their sanity and their domestic life both under discussion, and they themselves helpless, other women not only may be "curious" but must be anxious to know what the law may do to them, since men alone make the laws and hold women subject to them. Neither did the editor consider what it must have been to Mrs. Emmons, on trial of her sanity, to be deprived of even the support the presence of women would give. Surely women need a voice in making the laws

THE U. S. SENATE DEBATE.

On the 25th of January, 1887, Senator Blair, of New Hampshire, called for the consideration of the Woman Suffrage Resolve. The difficulty of getting it considered and voted upon under the rules of the Senate is such, that every effort to do so has been thwarted since 1866. The baby born since then is now a voter. Strenuous efforts were made to substitute other questions for it. Senator Call, of Florida, asked for the continued consideration of his bill, "as a matter of great importance to thousands of people whose homes are threatened." But Senator Blair said:

MR. BLAIR—I must object, and I desire to say to the senator from Florida, that he will remember himself that, at the close of the last session I gave notice that, on the first day of the present session, I should call up the proposed woman suffrage amendment, which has been pending in this body and in Congress for twenty or twenty-five years without ever having reached a vote at all. On the second day of the session, the first not being available for that purpose, I did call up the resolution accordingly, and proceeded to discuss the subject, and it was in order for final action; but the opponents of the measure desired that it be delayed on account of the sickness and consequent absence of the senator from Georgia [Mr. Brown], a member of the committee, who desired to be heard on the subject. It was so arranged, and an order of the Senate made, which appears in the Record, that it should be laid aside with the privileges of unfinished business, to be called up at any time. With that understanding, the matter was laid aside for the time being.

The senator from Georgia appeared soon after the holiday vacation was over, and as soon as he could conveniently fix the time when he could address the Senate, I gave notice that I should call up the joint resolution. Last week I gave that notice, and stated fully all these circumstances. I have given notice twice this week that this morning, at the close of the morning business, I desired the consideration of this joint resolution. The morning hour has been occupied as it has been, and now I desire to ask that the unfinished business, the regular order, be informally laid aside that we may proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution referred to. Therefore I object to the request of the senator from Florida.

After a protracted struggle, it was voted to postpone other business, and Senator Blair said:

I now move that the Senate proceed to consider the joint resolution (S. R. 5), proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

The motion was agreed to; and the Senate, as in Committee of the Whole, proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER—The joint resolution will be read.

The chief clerk read the joint resolution, as follows:

Resolved (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States; which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said Legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

ARTICLE—SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

SEC. 2. The Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article.

MR. BROWN—Mr. President: The joint resolution introduced by my friend the senator from New Hampshire [Mr. Blair], proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, conferring the right to vote upon the women of the United States, is one of paramount importance, as it involves great questions, far-reaching in their tendency, which seriously affect the very pillars of our social fabric, which involve the peace and harmony of society, the unity of the family, and much of the future success of our government. The question should, therefore, be met fairly and discussed with firmness, but with moderation and forbearance.

No one contributes anything valuable to the debate by the use of harsh terms, or by impugning motives, or by disparaging the arguments of the opposition. Where the prosperity of the race and the peace of society are involved, we should, on both sides, meet fairly the arguments of our respective opponents.

This question has been discussed a great deal outside of Congress. Sometimes in bad temper and sometimes illogically and unprofitably, but the advocates of the proposed amendment and the opponents of it have each put forth, probably in their strongest form, the reasons and arguments which are considered by each as conclusive in favor of the cause they advocate. I do not expect to contribute much that is new on a subject that has been so often and so ably discussed; but what I have to say will be, in the main, a reproduction, in substance, of what I and others have already said on the subject, and which I think important enough to be placed upon the record in the argument of the case.

(Continued on Second Page.)

CONCERNING WOMEN.

MISS FRANCES E. WILLARD had a great reception in Washington last week.

MRS. NATHANIEL SILSBEE will soon publish a volume of reminiscences, called "A Half Century in Salem."

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON, of the Blade, (Petroleum V. Nasby's paper,) is vice-president of the Toledo Press Club.

MISS SOPHIE BAKUNIN, daughter of the famous Russian agitator, is a student of medicine in the University of Naples.

MRS. CLEVELAND does not use wine, or have it on table at her social entertainments at the White House.

MISS ADA KURTZ has been reappointed deputy sheriff of Franklin County, Pa. She has served one term with credit.

MRS. ADA M. BITTENBENDER was given a reception at Lincoln, Neb., on her return home, after six months absence in New York.

MRS. J. ELLEN FOSTER, of Iowa, is delivering a series of lectures in leading Philadelphia churches, under the auspices of the First Young Women's Christian Temperance Union.

MRS. RANSOM, wife of the U. S. Senator from North Carolina, is said to be one of the most highly educated women in the South. She fitted each of her six sons for college.

MRS. FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT gives the following directions for writing a novel: "You must have a pen, ink and paper. Use the first with brains, the second with imagination, and the third with generosity."

MISS ROSINA HEIKEL, the only lady doctor in Helsingfors, Finland, was lately waited upon by a deputation from the Woman's Union, who thanked her for undertaking the medical charge of the poor women and children of that town.

MRS. SALLIE JOY WHITE gave a very interesting account of her seventeen years' experience in journalism, at the meeting of the New England Women's Press Association, last Tuesday. The Association has fixed its headquarters, for the present, at 28 School Street, Room 68.

MISS FAIRWEATHER, M. D., of Chicago, has been offered the post of lady doctor at the Medical School for women at Agra, and the number of pupils has increased from six to sixty. The Female Hospital at Allahabad has made an excellent start, and Lucknow is doing its best to rival the neighboring capital. Women physicians are appreciated in India.

MRS. MARY A. LIVERMORE addressed a deeply interested audience on woman suffrage, last Thursday, in the hall of the House of Representatives, at Augusta, Me. A few days before, MRS. HELEN M. GOUGAR spoke on the same subject in the hall of the House of Representatives at Topeka, Kansas, before a large and intelligent assembly.

MISS MARIE LOUISE REQUES, a young lady of Morlaix, has received the degree of *Bacheliers-es-lettres*, with the qualification "good," from the Faculty of Literature at Rennes. This seems a strange item of news to come from conservative Brittany, a province which we associate chiefly with Bertrand Du Guesclin, Iseult of the White Hand, and all manner of old knightly legends and quaint superstitions.

MISS MARY MCCORMICK, who has just started, in Chicago, the "Girls' Co-operative Clothing Company," the first institution of its kind in the country, is described as a short, sturdy young woman, with a ruddy, healthy color, and resolute gray eyes. She says she has been earning five dollars a week running a "tacker" to fasten the pockets of pantaloons, as long as she can live on that amount of wages, and if there is any virtue at all in co-operation, she proposes to see whether women cannot reap the benefit of it.

MRS. L. P. LOWE has been elected State Librarian by the Tennessee Legislature. There was an exciting contest between the five candidates, all estimable ladies, and Mrs. Lowe did not win until the twenty-fifth ballot was taken. She is the widow of a Methodist minister, who left her penniless. Mrs. Lowe took the money she received from the insurance on his life and paid it to settle his debts, saying that not one blot should be left on her dead husband's name, "even for the sake of a living wife and eight living children." Since then, Mrs. Lowe has earned a support for herself and family with her own hands.