

The Woman's Journal.

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The Woman's Journal.

A Weekly Newspaper, published every Saturday, in Boston and Chicago, 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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PRAYER.

Thy will be done!" our lips are trained to saying,
"My will be done!" our urgent hearts implore;
But while we look for gifts to crown such praying,
God's "No" has crushed us; we will pray no more.

We're slow to learn that we have asked insanely,
Misread the text, and so reversed the spell
Of benediction meant for all; not mainly
That I and mine may in its affluence dwell—

That we must loose the idols we are holding,
Ere we can rightly lift our hands in prayer,
Though life go with them, and our arms unfolding
That dear embrace drop nerveless with despair.

When, swerving downward, prone before God's altar,
Our eyes close blindly and we think all's done,
An arm uplifts us; and our steps that falter
Are guided forth, and lo! a day begun.

With morning brightness all the east is burning,
Although but now we deemed the daylight dead;
And up the rugged steepers our way discerning,
We ask for guidance and for daily bread.

Not bread alone, but all good gifts bestowing,
God's angel sends us strengthened on our way.
With sacrificial wine life's cup o'er-flowing,
And palms kept clean from idols—let us pray.

CELIA BURLEIGH.

BROOKLYN, L. I.

CHARITY.

Woman, with scorn on your beautiful face,
Radiant with velvet, and satins and lace;
Daintily lifting the snow off your skirt
Clear from the noxious and throng-trampled dirt;

Illy enough it becomes you to sneer
Thus at the outcast that passes so near.
Shrink as you may from the touch of her shawl,
She is your sister—your sister for all.

Look at her brow: 'tis fair as your own;
Nor has her cheek its bright blushes outgrown.
Ere you shall fasten disgrace on her name,
Wait till you know the temptation that came—

If it were weakness, or if it were crime,
Or some light romance, to girlhood sublime.
Maybe she loved, as we women do love,
Periling soul—aye, our birthright above.

Periling all for one low-spoken word
Seraphs themselves never tremblingly heard.
Maybe she loved—the old story again,
Woven with transport, and passion, and pain;
And the bright gold that she clasped turned to rust
Till but a handful of dead-lying dust.

Mistiness lies in the blue of her eyes;
Ah, do you see, 'tis a tear in disguise!
Who knows—when twilight empurpled the world,
And through the lattice the stars seem so cold—

Who knows the sobs that the night breezes hear,
Sobs strangely like the wail of despair?
See the iron bars hedging her track,
And, though her heart bleed, she may not go back.

Nothing but scorn at society's door—
Nothing but thongs for the life bruised and sore.
So the poor feet goaded on with a curse,
Plunge into paths where the darkness gets worse.

So the spurned soul, groping down 'mid the gloom,
Falters and falls into infamy's tomb.

"BRIDGET, I wish you would step over and see how Mrs. Jones is this morning." Bridget returned in a minutes with the information that Mrs. Jones was nty-two years, ten months and eight days old.

OUR CALIFORNIA LETTER.

Our "State Suffrage Convention"—the first assemblage of the kind ever convened on this coast—has just adjourned. From beginning to end, it has been a decided success. Even the weather has proved every way propitious. Immediately preceding convention time, we had a long, uninterrupted succession of dismal, stormy, gray days; so that the brilliant sunshine which once more burst forth on the 26th seemed the special smile of Heaven upon the "cause." The convention met at "Dashaway Hall" on Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 26th, and was called to order by Mrs. E. T. Schenck, who was unanimously chosen Temporary President.

ATTENDANCE.

The sessions of the convention were continued day and evening, throughout the remainder of the week, and were uniformly well attended. The evening audiences were most unexpectedly large, filling every foot of available space in "Mercantile," as well as "Dashaway" Hall.

THE EVENING SESSIONS

overflowed with good talk. No speakers from abroad were present, but the occasion developed a wonderful amount of hitherto unsuspected home talent. Delegates from the country told the condition of the "cause" in their respective districts; Hon. C. B. Denio, of Vallejo, delivered a humorous address, full of excellent local hits; Judge A. H. Crane, of Oakland, spoke of the legal status of women in California, Mrs. M. F. Snow, an ex-Bostonian, and Mrs. Pitts Stevens, of the Pioneer, read able and carefully prepared essays; Mrs. Laura DeForce Gordon, formerly a prominent Suffragist in Nevada, spoke weightily and well; and Mr. Ames discoursed with his customary fire and eloquence. Moreover, Mrs. Ames favored us with a little speech, brimful of enthusiasm for this great reform, and took her seat amid much applause. I am afraid we should have applauded her, all the same, if she had uttered rank treason to "the cause" that is near our hearts—so pleasant was the mere sound of her voice, flowing freely and cheerily on through the silence, like the murmur of a gladsome brook. In addition to these, and a host of other addresses, we had letters, endorsing this movement, from Hon. J. C. Hillyer, Rev. Dr. Scudder, and others of this region, and words of good will from Susan B. Anthony, Lucy Stone and M. A. Livermore, which were heard by the multitude with great interest.

THE DAY SESSIONS

were exclusively devoted to business. You of the East, who know well the work which attaches to any such gathering, do not need to be informed as to details. So I will only say that the Committee on Credentials reported a list of delegates numbering one hundred and twelve persons, and that the convention was permanently officered as follows:—President, Mrs. S. Wallis, Mayfield; Vice Presidents, Mr. J. A. Collins, Rev. C. G. Ames, Mrs. M. W. Coggins; Secretaries, Mrs. M. McKee, Mr. W. M. Rider, Mrs. H. T. Perry; Treasurer, Mrs. M. J. Collins.

Having perfected its own organization, the Convention proceeded, forthwith, to the formation of a State Suffrage Association. Most faithfully and earnestly did it toil through preambles, resolutions, constitutions, by-laws, enrollment of members, and election of officers; and now, in the words of one of our enthusiastic speakers, I am happy to inform you that

"CALIFORNIA HAS BEEN AND GONE AND DONE IT!" Yes, there is a "California Woman Suffrage Association" boasting, already, one hundred and forty-eight members. Its President is Mrs. A. A. Haskell of Petaluma, a black eyed, charming and capable little lady, who is sure to do the "movement" good, and only good; and its Corresponding Secretary is Mrs. Coelia Curtis of this city, an indefatigable worker for woman's enfranchisement. I should like to give the lengthy list of its remaining officers; but not daring so far to trespass upon your space, I restrain my inclination.

CALIFORNIA DETERMINES TO PLAY "A LONE HAND." Of course, the question arose—"Shall our new association become auxiliary to any Eastern body?" and in this connection the adjectives "American" and "National" came into very general use. It was ultimately decided that the California association remain independent for one year; but at the same time it was

Resolved, That our hesitation to connect the California Woman Suffrage Association with any national body does not imply, on our part, any want of confidence, sympathy or fellowship toward our coadjutors in the East, whose work and success is part of our common joy.

"TWO HEADS IN COUNCIL . . . TWO IN THE TANGLED BUSINESS OF LIFE."

This union of men and women in a deliberative body has been regarded with a great deal of curiosity by unbelieving outsiders. They have kept a sharp lookout for evidences of unusual depravity in our convention, but have been wofully disappointed in their expectations. There were wide differences of opinion among "the faithful," to be sure; there were brisk discussions, and there was no end of talk, pertinent and otherwise; but still there were few personalities indulged in, and, certainly, no knock-down arguments were advanced. In no instance did a defeated lady-candidate scratch anybody's face; in no instance did a lady cry, or pull anybody's hair, when her pet measure was "killed" by the House! In short, the women of this State have shown themselves no less serene and self-contained than the men; and may they live long to prove that they have neither been "demoralized" nor metamorphosed into "un-

sexed monstrosities," by depositing their ballots in the same box with those of their husbands, last Friday.

"FAREWELL! A SOUND THAT MAKES US LINGER."

We were just beginning to recognize one another's faces, and to like each other very much, when some unfeeling and remorseless individual moved to "adjourn sine die!" This being an undebatable question, we of the tender sensibilities and gushing affections were forced to submit in silence;—the gavel fell, the convention was ended, and its members dispersed. Amid all the grief of separation, we can only console ourselves with the hope of many another such grand reunion in the near future.

WESTERNER.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 30, 1870.

UTAH.

The women of Utah are actually enfranchised! Not by Congress, for the purpose of suppressing polygamy, as was urged by Miss Anthony at the recent Suffrage Convention in Washington, but by the men of Utah, for the ostensible purpose of supporting "the twin relic of barbarism."

The explanation of this apparent anomaly is found in the bill now before Congress for the forcible suppression of polygamy. The passage of that bill means civil war in Utah. It means to thousands of women, the compulsory sundering of all their domestic ties, such as they are. To thousands of mothers, a life-long legal and social stigma. To thousands of children, a decree of illegitimacy. To the ignorant and misguided believers in Mormonism, a suppression of their religious tenets. To all Utah, a surrender of the territorial independence for which they have withdrawn from civilization and endured many privations.

Is it wonderful under such circumstances, that the patriotic sentiments, religious convictions and domestic sympathies of these Mormon women are aroused? That they stifle for a time the natural feminine preference for monogamy? No close observer of human nature would have expected anything different.

Nor is it surprising that Brigham Young and his compatriots should thus appeal from Congress to the women of Utah to sustain the church and state and home as by Mormon law established. "Man's extremity is woman's opportunity." It is an additional evidence of Young's wonderful shrewdness and ability to rule. It is an added proof of the difficulty of enforcing good morals, in advance of public sentiment, by compulsory legislation against organic evils.

We doubt whether it is wise or right for Congress to attempt the forcible suppression of polygamy in Utah by the bayonet. Much better would it be to prohibit future polygamous marriages, and to provide ample legal protection for all women who wish to withdraw from such alliances. Let Congress leave this subject to the women immediately interested. Ratify Woman Suffrage in Utah. Remove the pressure which fear of invasion now exercises upon the minds and hearts of these people. Ensure to the women of Utah a free vote, and polygamy will soon cease to exist, without bloodshed or violence.

But if we attempt its extirpation by force, the result will be a cruel and costly war, accompanied by untold horrors of fire and robbery and massacre. The alternative is suffrage or subjugation in Utah. We prefer the former. "Let us have peace."

H. B. B.

LET US HAVE FAIR PLAY.

The announcement made in the WOMAN'S JOURNAL, of January 15, that, by one of the latest decisions of the Edinburgh University, women were admitted to its privileges, was received with joy. But our enthusiasm was much dampened by the next news from Europe, transmitted by a Tribune correspondent, to the effect that our trans-Atlantic sisters are to be admitted to that time-honored institution only on very unfair terms. They are allowed to attend the lectures of the professors, but not at the same time with men students; they must make such arrangements as they can for separate lectures. Dr. John Hughes Bennett had spoken strongly in favor of the admission of women during the discussion of the question, but what was the surprise of the five women applicants, after the decision in their favor, to find that he was not willing to repeat his course to them for less than one hundred guineas! This for a single course was appalling, and, after convincing him that they were utterly unable to pay so much, he finally condescended to take fifty. "The University of Edinburgh," says C. C., "has thus succeeded in putting two almost mortal hindrances in the path of women students. It obliges them to take the position of servants and other social pariahs who dine at the second table on cold scraps or on dishes half warmed over, substituting the weak, flavorless, uninspiring course of second-hand lectures delivered by an unwilling professor to them alone, for the moral and mental stimulus, the enthusiasm that would have resulted from their sharing the first delivery of them with the whole body of students. Secondly, it obliges them to pay a much higher price for the cold victuals thus grudgingly bestowed than the men pay for their hot and wholesome meal."

This is mean and disheartening; but just now we have a deeper cause for indignant protest nearer home. The New York dailies tell us that about one hundred of the men students of Bellevue are ignobly attempting to imitate and surpass the rowdism which

so disgraced the three hundred medical prigs of Philadelphia. The students from the Woman's Medical College, who are admitted to the clinics of Bellevue Hospital, say, that, feeling the sacredness of their profession, they have entered it with earnestness, and desire nothing more than to be allowed to pursue their studies quietly and peacefully. Their deportment has been invariably ladylike and reserved, and they are glad to acknowledge the courteous conduct of a majority of their fellow students. But the unworthy one hundred have shamelessly and repeatedly insulted these blameless, industrious, self-sacrificing women in attendance at Bellevue, by greeting their entrance with hisses, yells, showers of paper wads, and bits of orange peel, until, at a recent clinic, this abuse reached its climax. Coarse and vulgar speeches were made, a disgraceful drawing was dropped into the lap of one of the women, and a determination was openly expressed to drive them out. Dr. James R. Wood, the operating surgeon, spoke nobly in their defence, and asserted their right, granted by the State Legislature and the Hospital charter, to attend the clinics. At the subsequent lecture he invited all present into the lecture room of Bellevue College to witness an illustration. Five women repaired thither with the class, whereupon about thirty of the rowdies stalked out, and, stationing themselves about the door, made such noisy and threatening demonstrations that Professor Wood, at the close of the session, not deeming it safe for the intrepid five to pass through the angry crowd, had them escorted by a side door. Catching sight of them as they passed the gate, their base fellow students again saluted them with yells, hisses and insults.

This is done by the voters of "happy, proud America," and thereby their superiority to the gentle sex becomes manifest. "Seek room higher up" is the admonition of T. W. H. in these fair pages, and his electrical, invigorating sentences help us a long way in the right direction. But if we are to grow out of dwarfed and distorted womanhood, hindrances such as are above described, and a thousand others which they do but indicate, must be removed. The conservative must take his iron heel off the neck of woman before she can rise into the fullness of her stature. To train themselves into the highest excellence, the aspiring daughters of the race must have the avenues of education thrown fully open to them. One favored of the gods, a genius, may leap into greatness without much aid; but the rank and file of women, as of men, must have amplest opportunities for drill, in order to develop their best powers. Let us have fair play.

MARY F. DAVIS.

ORANGE, N. J.

WOMAN AS INVENTOR.

It is sometimes said that "Women cannot invent and should not vote." Let me preach a brief sermon on that text.

On the 22nd of August, 1867, Miss Lucy Johnson died at Elmwood (since incorporated in the city of Providence, R.I.), aged seventy-eight years. This lady invented seamless bags. She spun yarn for a piece of tow cloth when but nine years old, while she wove soon after entering her tenth year, and while too small to reach the treadles with her feet when sitting—the usual position.

She displayed much ingenuity during her girlhood in the manufacture of carpets and bed ticking, and while weaving the latter began to speculate upon the possibility of making a seamless bag.

Not seeing any practical utility in it, she abandoned the idea for the time, and devoted herself to the weaving of coverlets with four looms and four treadles, to twills and four ply carpeting.

In 1824 she wove seven pairs of seamless pillow-cases, and received a premium at the fair held at Pawtucket in October of that year. Those pillow-cases, still in a good state of preservation, are supposed to have been the first seamless bags ever made.

Ignorant of the value of her invention, Miss Johnson took no steps to secure a patent. Her mode of weaving has since been engrafted on the power loom and patented, yielding a fortune to the patentees, while Miss Johnson spent the closing years of life dependent upon friends and the charity of her native town.

The above facts are condensed from a memorial notice in Providence Journal of August 3, 1867.

SUCCESS TO WOMEN OF SCIENCE.

At the Faculty of Medicine at Paris, three ladies—one French, one Russian, and one American—have passed their examinations brilliantly.

Mrs. Arnott, wife of Dr. Niel Arnott, gave, not long ago, £2000 for scholarship in Natural Philosophy to two Ladies' Colleges in London.

At the recent meeting of the Coöperative Association in London, one of the speakers referred to the success which Madame Lemonnier has had in carrying out the union of industrial with general education in the schools in Paris, now under the management of Madame Sauvestre. In contrasting it with the limping House of Commons, he spoke as follows: "What a relief! restoring the attitude of the Cornell Professors was the result of a quietly and quietly won by the schools of Mme. Lemonnier in Paris, where female youths of Ithaca had thus far failed to do."