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The Woman's Journal

FOUNDED BY LUCY STONE.

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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EAST LONDON.

BY MATTHEW ARNOLD.

'Twas August, and the fierce sun overhead
Smote on the squalid streets of Bethnal
Green,
And the pale weaver through his windows
seen

In Spitalfields, looked thrice dispirited.
I met a preacher there I knew, and said,
'Ill and o'erworked, how fare you in this
scene?'

"Bravely!" said he, "for I of late have been
Much cheered with thoughts of Christ, the
living bread."

O human soul! as long as thou canst so
Set up a mark of everlasting light
Above the howling senses' ebb and flow,
To cheer thee, and to right thee if thou roam,
Not with lost toil thou laborest through the
night!
Thou mak'st the heaven thou hop'st indeed
thy home.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

At Montgomery, Aug. 8, woman suffrage got into the new Constitution of Alabama in a modified form. It was enacted that no city could issue bonds without submitting the question to voters. Amid great enthusiasm an amendment was adopted allowing women who pay taxes on \$500 of real estate to vote at all bond elections. But next day, on a motion to reconsider, this wise and equitable action was reversed, and the amendment was lost.

In the debate upon reconsideration, Aug. 9, some angry and disrespectful speeches were made against the measure. Among others, that of Hon. T. L. Long, of Walker, seems to have enjoyed an unwholesome preeminence. A correspondent says: "He spoke as loud as he could scream, with the gesticulation of a ruffian. I have never heard anything less chivalric or more savage uttered in the presence of dignified men who have mothers, wives, and daughters."

The privilege which it was proposed to confer upon women taxpayers was so limited in its scope that it would have been valuable chiefly as a recognition that in the case of women as in that of men "taxation without representation is tyranny."

But the debate is interesting and significant as being the first real discussion of the woman suffrage question ever made in the State of Alabama. Meanwhile the thanks of all self-respecting women and men are due to the brave and generous members who have fought the opening battle of Twentieth Century civilization in the Constitutional Convention of their State. The temporary postponement of a good cause is only victory deferred.

"There is no longer any such distinction, or division, as 'Eastern and Western' women," writes Lilian Whiting from Colorado to the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*. "We are all American women, united in a comprehensive community of interests—the interests of good citizenship, of contributing to the individual interest of each, to all that makes for education, temperance, the higher culture, for moral and spiritual development, and the broadening of every human interest. It is true that the Colorado women are somewhat in advance of us in the East, but they are very tolerant and gracious, and realize that although Colorado is far ahead of Massachusetts in certain respects—as in the political enfranchisement of women, for instance—they realize that it is no fault of Lucy Stone, or Mrs. Livermore, or Mrs. Howe, or Alice Stone Blackwell, that this is true. The star of empire, the star of the finest civilization the world has ever known, is shining over the 'Silver State,' this mountain-crowned, beautiful Colorado."

A Woman Suffrage Day will be celebrated next Friday, Aug. 23, by the suffragists of New York, at the Silver Lake Assembly. Harriet May Mills, the State organizer, has called a meeting at 10 A. M. at Assembly Hall on the grounds. This will be a symposium in which a number of prominent suffrage women will take part, including several State presidents. At 1 P. M. there will be held the great meeting of the day, addressed by Susan B. Anthony, Rev. Anna Shaw, and others.

On Sept. 7, the suffragists have been invited by Eldred Hubbard and the Roycrofters to hold a meeting in East Aurora. In addition to those named above, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton of Ohio, Rev. Anna Garlin Spencer of Rhode Island, Mrs. May Wright Sewall of Indiana, and others are expected.

After the great suffrage meeting in Buffalo, Sept. 9 and 10, announced elsewhere, there will be a conference Sept. 11 and 12, and on Sept. 13 Mrs. Sewall and Mrs. Fannie Humphreys Gaffney are planning a large meeting in the interest of the Women's Council.

Miss Wilde, our associate editor, is taking a vacation at West Thornton, N. H. Miss Turner is again at her post at No. 3 Park Street.

The Art Committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, through its first publication in the new century, has presented a concise report of what is being done by skilled women in certain definite lines of the fine and applied arts. A summary of its facts and suggestions will appear next week.

IN MEMORY OF A HEROINE.

At Southampton, on June 30, Lady Emma Crichton unveiled a handsome drinking fountain which has been erected as a memorial of the heroic stewardess of the *Stella*, Mrs. Mary Ann Rogers, who was drowned when the ill-fated steamer struck the Casquets two years ago. It will be remembered that Mrs. Rogers, seeing a lady passenger without a life belt, handed her her own, and went down with the ship.

The question of a memorial at Southampton was raised by Miss Frances Power Cobbe, and supported by Mrs. Annie J. Bryans, North Cray, Kent, and subscriptions flowed in readily. The fountain, which is designed in the old Norman style, has been erected on the Western Esplanade. Two hundred and fifty pounds, left over, have been invested with trustees for the benefit of the family of the deceased. The Mayor and Corporation were present, and, notwithstanding the heavy rain, a large concourse of spectators witnessed the interesting ceremony.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEBATED IN ALABAMA

"The Female Taxpayers of Alabama May Vote," "Mr. Craig Wins Victory in Convention," "Will be Red Letter Day," "Suffrage Open to Women in Special Elections." Such are the head-lines in the *Montgomery Advertiser* of Aug. 9, which preface the following announcement:

The sixty-sixth day of the Constitutional Convention, Aug. 8, will go down in history as a red letter day because it was on this day that the Convention took the first step towards woman suffrage in Alabama. Late yesterday afternoon Mr. Craig, of Dallas, who has frequently announced his views on the subject, succeeded in getting before the body an amendment providing that women taxpayers in Alabama may be allowed to vote in special elections called for the purpose of determining whether bonds shall be issued or debts incurred by political subdivisions of the State.

There were but few persons in the gallery and not a female figure was to be seen, but Mr. Fitts, of Tuscaloosa, eloquently championed the cause of the women taxpayers of the State, and called for an aye and nay vote. The Craig amendment was adopted.

Later an amendment by Mr. deGraffenreid, of Hale, was adopted. It restricts the voting capacity of women to those who own real estate to the value of \$500, and who live in the political subdivision affected and are over 21 years of age. Mr. Greer, of Calhoun, made a fervid appeal to the Convention not to make itself ridiculous by disfranchising the negro man and enfranchising his wife, but the amendment was adopted amid the greatest applause.

In another column the following details are given:

QUESTION OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Mr. Craig, of Dallas, sent up an amendment providing that women taxpayers shall vote on the question of bond issues and fixing taxes, and addressed the Convention. He declared that in property matters women had the same rights as men. He showed as an example a Montgomery woman who came near losing her property because of an increased property tax. She had no one to vote for her.

Mr. Fitts, of Tuscaloosa, spoke in support of the Craig amendment. He admitted there is a strong prejudice in Alabama against women voting, but common and even-handed justice demanded that women should have a right to vote when the property of women was to be voted away.

Mr. Boone, of Mobile, moved the previous question and it was ordered.

Mr. O'Neal, of Lauderdale, moved to table the Craig amendment.

A call for the ayes and nays by Mr. Fitts was sustained.

As the roll-call proceeded Mr. Boone, of Mobile, voted "aye, aye, aye," in a loud voice.

Mr. O'Neal, of Lauderdale, made the point of order that Mr. Boone had voted three times.

The presiding officer, Dr. Cunningham, of Jefferson, amid applause, instructed the clerk to count Mr. Boone one time.

Mr. Greer, of Calhoun, explained his vote by saying that he wished he could vote a thousand times to table the proposition.

By a vote of 48 to 59 the Convention refused to table the amendment. The vote was received with applause.

By a viva voce vote of 65 to 49 the Craig amendment allowing women taxpayers to vote on the question of levying taxes was then adopted. The announcement of the result of the vote was received with wild applause, and for a few minutes the Convention was thrown into disorder.

Mr. Boone, of Mobile, moved that the amended amendment be adopted and called for the ayes and nays.

The call was sustained, and by a vote of 65 to 46 the amended amendment was adopted.

Judge Coleman, of Greene, and Mr. Greer, of Calhoun, gave notice that they would move to reconsider.

RESTRICTIONS UPON WOMEN.

Judge Cobb, of Macon, sent up an amendment as an independent Section that women taxpayers may vote on elections held to determine the issuance of bonds, providing that they possess the educational, property, and good character qualifications contained in the Article on Suffrage.

Mr. deGraffenreid, of Hale, offered an amendment providing that the women

taxpayers must live in the city or town affected; she shall own \$500 worth of real estate, and shall not be under 21 years old before she can vote on bond issues or incurring obligations. This amendment was accepted by Judge Cobb.

Mr. Greer, of Calhoun, spoke against the whole proposition. He said the Convention was travelling too fast and was making itself ridiculous. No restrictions had been placed upon it. Negro men had been disfranchised and their wives had been enfranchised. If this thing must be done, he appealed to the Convention to do it in order. If women were to be allowed to vote, it should be restricted to white women, unmarried women, and women who resided in the locality to be affected.

Mr. Greer concluded his remarks by moving to adjourn, but the Convention refused to adjourn by a vote of 41 to 49.

Judge Coleman then discussed the proposed amendments. He said he had been opposed to woman suffrage, but was willing to bow to the will of the Convention, but he hoped the delegates would defer action over night to give them time to better consider it.

By a viva voce vote of 58 to 30, the deGraffenreid amendment was adopted.

At 6:50 o'clock the Convention, on motion of General Sanford, of Montgomery, adjourned until 9 o'clock next morning.

The *Montgomery Advertiser* of Aug. 9 comments editorially as follows:

"TAX-PAYING WOMEN AS VOTERS."

"In the discussion and settlement of the Suffrage Report by the Constitutional Convention, it refused to allow women the right to vote on an equal footing with men.

"Yesterday afternoon, however, the Convention, after an animated discussion, inserted an amendment in the Municipal Article giving a certain class of women the right to vote to a limited extent.

"The amendment permits women who are property holders to vote on questions of issuing municipal bonds or of incurring obligations. Only those women who can comply with the male suffrage qualifications as to age, good character, educational and property requisites, are admitted to the exercise of suffrage, even on these questions.

"A provision of this kind seems to be just and reasonable. In all our towns and cities there are many women who own considerable quantities of real estate and other property. They are large taxpayers, and are vitally interested in the amount of burdens to be laid upon their property and upon the disposition of the taxes they pay. It may be said that they usually have male relatives, who can voice their views at the ballot box. So they may have in many cities, but not in all. But those relatives have their own interests to represent; they cannot cast but their one vote each. The woman's property, at last, is really voiceless in the settlement of burdens to be put upon it, if she is kept from the polls.

"It may be said that few of these women will vote, if permitted. That is true of many men, and is not an effective argument. If the female property owner is given a voice in taxing her property, and chooses not to exercise it, that is her affair.

"This provision is similar to one in the new Louisiana Constitution, which is as follows:

Upon all questions submitted to the taxpayers, as such, of any municipal or other political subdivisions of this State, the qualifications of such taxpayers as voters shall be those of age and residence prescribed by this article, and women taxpayers shall have the right to vote at all such elections, without registration, in person or by their agents authorized in writing; but all other persons voting at such elections shall be registered voters.

"This permits the women's agents to vote for them on tax matters, going farther than the Alabama proposition.

"The matter is to be brought up for reconsideration this morning, but the vote yesterday was decisive—65 to 49. It is not likely that there will be change of enough votes to wipe out the amendment."

A fuller account of the proceedings on the 8th and 9th insts. will be found on page 261.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, announce for September, "Mrs. Green," by Evelyn Eloye Rynd; "A Crazy Angel," by Annette Lucile Noble; "Royal Rogues," by Alberta Bancroft; "Lights of Childhood," by Maud Ballington Booth.

CONCERNING WOMEN.

MISS GERTRUDE WOLFERS, of Pickering, Mo., is cashier of a bank in that place.

MISS BERTHA RUFFNER is manager of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad Company's Recreation and Information Bureau, with headquarters at 1216 Broadway, New York.

MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT gave a strong, logical argument in behalf of woman suffrage in her address before the Woman's Congress, at Onset, Mass., last week. Her topic was "The Development of Democracy."

MRS. CRAIGIE (John Oliver Hobbes) has just been elected a member of the Council of the Authors' Society. She is the fifth woman thus honored, the others being the late Charlotte Yonge, Mrs. Humphrey Ward, Flora Shaw, and the late Eleanor A. Ormerod.

CATHERINE I. DODD's article on the "Ideals of an American School Girl," which appears in *The Living Age* for August 10, describes and tabulates the results of recent inquiries about the ideals cherished by American school girls, in a manner diverting and illuminating.

MRS. MAY WRIGHT SEWALL opened headquarters and presided at a meeting of women at the Women's Administration Building at the Pan-American Exposition on August 7, and during the rest of the month will hold weekly conferences there, the immediate object of which is to explain the work of the International Council to the representatives of countries of South and Central America who visit the Buffalo Exposition, and to interest them to form national councils in their respective countries, and ultimately affiliate with the international organization.

MISS MATTIE BEALS, the telephone operator at Wichita, Kan., who drew second choice of the homesteads in the new Kiowa and Comanche country, was appointed city marshal of Lawton. The report comes that she has resigned after one day's term of office. Miss Beals is a self-reliant young woman, who expects to prove her claim by fourteen months' residence, but she found official life in the "mushroom city" too strenuous. The criminal record for the day included two men killed, one seriously wounded, a robbery of \$1,600, and numerous thefts.

SENORITA YSABEL MARIA DE LOS RIOS is the first woman postmaster in Cuba. She holds a commission to handle the mail at Gibra. She received a salary of \$1,200 a year as a clerk in the office. She displayed such executive ability that her appointment to take charge of it meets with the fullest approval of the department and patrons of the office. Senorita de Los Rios is the eldest of a family of thirteen children, and is in her 23d year. She is the daughter of the late Judge Jose de Los Rios, who was postmaster at Gibra at the time of his death. Senorita de Los Rios will shortly marry Charles W. Shaw, formerly of New York City, superintendent of carriers of the Havana post-office.

MISS MARY WILLIAMS MONTGOMERY, who has received the degree of Doctor of Oriental Learning, was born in Turkey twenty-seven years ago. Her mother was Miss Emily Reddington, of Rome, N. Y., and her father the Rev. E. R. Montgomery. Both went to Turkey as missionaries under the American Board (Congregational). Miss Montgomery lived in Turkey until she was twelve years old, when she came to this country to complete her education. She was graduated from Wellesley College in 1896, and from there went to Germany for a post-graduate course in Berlin University. Miss Montgomery is a sister of George R. Montgomery, professor of philosophy in the Yale Divinity School.

MISS ALICE SPENCER GEDDES, of Cambridge, whose brilliant scholarship at Radcliffe and in England have made her an enviable reputation among New England club women, announces a series of lectures to be delivered before the women's clubs of Massachusetts. "Swift and his Stella," "Literary Love Letters," "Coaching and Boating in England," "The Lost River of New Hampshire," "Some Living Heroines," "Noted Men and Women of Cambridge," and "The Power of American Women," are among the attractive titles chosen by Miss Geddes for her discourses, and she has treated them with wit and wisdom. Miss Geddes, who is actively identified with several leading clubs, may be addressed at 878 Massachusetts avenue, Cambridge.