

REVIEW OF OUR NINTH VILLAGE LETTER

We find it very difficult to review a letter of the character of the one which we print upon our first page. The worthy brother tempers his steel of logic with the fire of innate conscientiousness.

If all men, or even a society of them, were like himself, then indeed would there be little difficulty about the relations of the sexes; but, unfortunately, there is one just man who lives according to the real requirements of the Bible.

We proceed now to treat very cautiously upon theological ground, while for a season we shall dare to tell our brethren of the ministry of what we think a very common error.

We think our brother jumps too hastily to conclusions when he says that "if Paul wrote anything from any sort of prejudice he was not inspired, and the Bible is therefore of no more authority than McCormick's Almanac."

We heartily agree with our brother that women get the necessary scope for the exercise of "rights" from the Bible, and we think we have thus far fully sustained his theory.

Such "objection" as the Bible teaches, wherein is perfect unity and perfect reciprocity of sin and feeling between husband and wife, is indeed a heavenly subject.

But, unfortunately, perfect men, even professing Christians, are as scarce in the present day as are the perfect women whom King Solomon immortalized in his remarkable eulogy.

Much of the complaints of women arise from the melancholy fact that the husband and wife are so seldom "of one flesh." They are so different as the antipodes, and nothing but high duty and holy principle make half of them endure the bonds, while kindly, very sane, break them ruthlessly.

We do not believe that the wrongs of women, merely, will be righted by giving them the ballot. We desire to see the day when the degrading wrongs of men as well shall yield to the magical influence of woman; when war shall cease; when despotism and corruption in high places shall be known no more; when intemperance, profanity and prostitution shall be excised from the world; when insanity, idleness and deformity are not; and when the white-winged dove of "Peace on earth" shall convey the glad tidings of great joy to all people, heralded by the sublime psalm of "Good will to men."

We regard the ballot as the great but silent power in the hands of men and women to accelerate this work. Conscientiously, earnestly and with a high resolve to benefit the world at large, we proclaim this gospel, and we invoke the aid of all good people in this important work.

MATRIMONIAL.

An illicit advertisement in Mrs. Duffway's paper for a wife, and she would be a plot who would answer it. A man who hasn't spunk and energy enough to start out and hunt one, is unfit to assume the responsible duties of a husband, and a woman who would reply to an anonymous "bid" for her person and estate through the columns of a newspaper is too unmodest or brainless for the sacred sphere of wifehood.

No doubt the gentleman whose rationale is thus called in question would consider himself ruined for life if he should chance to behold the above ridiculous "disturb." Our friend Brown doesn't often get on the rampage like that unless he's after a politician.

A gentleman who has had the advantages in early life of proper training is naturally very different when thrown among strangers. Opportunities for him to form the acquaintance of respectable ladies are rare indeed, unless he should break through the trammels of etiquette and force himself into society.

So far from there being anything improper or impudic in correspondence between the sexes, it is really the most proper mode of communication, infinitely better, more genuine and vastly more productive of good morals and decency than the time-honored system of "courtship" when the other inmates of the house are looked in slumber.

Then let our advertising friend take courage; let the ladies whose fancies have come to the New Northwest office, addressed to his chosen signature, be satisfied that they have been guilty of no impropriety; and let our friend of the Democrat enjoy his "Men of the present mode of wife-hunting to his heart's content, and rejoice that it is growing fashionable."

CRITICISM.

From a letter just received from the Corresponding Secretary of the Pacific Women Suffrage Association, we learn that the whole affair was a triumph success. Harmony and order prevailed. Even the public press, with the exception of the nervous, frightened and fidgety little Chronicle, was unanimous in its praise. Well, men and women are progressing. There is even hope that the San Francisco Chronicle will yet aspire to something like an infinitesimal degree of journalistic dignity.

And there is certain demonstration that the rights of women under the Constitution will be tested by women at the polls all over the Union on the occasion of the next Presidential election.

The Pioneer, a noble exponent of right and a fearless opponent of wrong, is constantly increasing in circulation, influence and usefulness. It is decidedly the best paper published in San Francisco. Its details of the Fair tragedy have been rather tedious, but we suppose the local interests attached to it have seemed to render a woman's presentation of the question necessary.

While Oregonians are far from thirsting for the woman's blood, the sentiment among them is prevalent that she should be imprisoned for life. We are proud of being able to assure Californians that respectability are not in favor of countenancing a violation of chastity by either men or women.

Woman suffrage gains rapid favor in Oregon, because influential men are more disposed to favor law and decency than are the majority of the San Francisco politicians, who are only wined with holy horror when the victims of men's seduction and desertion take the vindication of their case upon themselves.

A late Eastern paper says: "A lighted candle in the hand of a brave girl at Peoria, Oregon, kept a burglar at bay one night last month, until a party arrived and killed the burglar." Even so mental light repels brutality in all its shapes. A new rendering of "Beauty and the Beast."

WHAT SHE DID SAY.

The masculine press all over the coast has been busy in circulating an extract from a speech at the National Woman's Suffrage Convention, by Victoria Woodhull, in which she is reported to have said, "we mean to have a woman's vote, etc., etc. With the general coming of men, they omit the remark which directly led to the bold utterance which they print and condemn.

We give our readers the benefit of what Victoria did say, which in a message yesterday she repeated, which followed and which so frightened our brethren of the press. Men could make women believe almost anything if they chose while women had no newspapers; but, alas for them, their supremacy hath departed.

"We will have our rights. We may as well go to the bottom of the matter, and we will not fail. We will try you just once more. If the very next Congress refuse women all the legislative results of citizenship, if they, indeed, move so much as fall by proper deliberation as to withdraw every obstacle to the most ample exercise of the franchise, then we give here and now deliberate notice of what we will do next. There is no alternative left, and we have resolved on that. This Convention is for the purpose of this declaration. As surely as one year passes from this day, and this right is not fully secured, and unless it is secured, we shall proceed to call another Convention expressly to frame a new constitution and erect a new government, complete in all its parts, and take measures to maintain it as effectually as we can."

On the other hand, young ladies of intelligence are frequently deterred from the opportunity to form the acquaintance of gentlemen who are at all up to their standard of intelligence, profession or respectability.

A most interesting meeting of this Society was held last evening at the home of Messrs. Whalley and Fuchsheim. Darwin's theory of the origin of species was discussed, and the merits of Mrs. Victor's book "The River of the West" so far as it described the climate, soil and resources of Oregon. Among the most pleasant conversations of the evening were the anecdotes of the early history of Oregon and its prominent characters, many of whom have now a national notoriety, if not fame.

Will some gentleman have the kindness to satisfy our womanly curiosity? An answer admitted within the charmed circle of this society, as well as free discussion about the merit of women's looks? Are the "pleasant conversations" about Oregon's early history of enough interest to make the company of ladies agreeable? Is it a one-sided society like Securus of the North American? Is it designed to be a literary club "for gentlemen only," as appropriated as are most of the good things of this world to the sole use and enjoyment of the sterner sex? Tell us, some good brother, and enlighten our somewhat understanding.

PORTLAND WATER COMPANY.

We strongly advise the tax-paying lady citizens of Portland to organize a Water Company. The masculine commission which controls that important and necessary article has not only raised the water rent, but gauges will be fixed and extra charges will be made for all the water used exceeding a certain number of gallons. We have not been informed as to the number of gallons, but we estimate that the gauge will limit the supply of every family, so that those persons who are disposed to be at all cleanly shall pay dearly for the privilege.

Portland sadly needs another water company, and if gentlemen will not take the initiative part, let the ladies combine, hold a meeting, subscribe the necessary capital in shares, making their masculine friends to join the corporation, and we shall see if better water cannot be furnished to the city at more reasonable rates.

VIEWS OF A PORTLAND LADY.

This exhibition has been thoroughly disappointing during the past week, and the opinion is unanimous that it has proved a complete success. The most faultless critics in the audience could not object to the delightful feast offered them, but have warmly commended those who took part for using their talents as God intended they should, for their fellow beings' enjoyment as well as their own.

Our GIBBS. - Dr. De Lewis, in his admirable book on the above subject, says: "The modern belief, now so common, is that a woman's duty is a lady's part. There goes one! Now look that a pretty looking object! A big lump, three big bumps, a wilderness of crimps and frills, a holding up of the dress and a host of other things, which occupy most of the space within that little nondescript thing, ornamented with bits of lace, tulle, tails, etc., while her slip windows left on all day long of the dress are going to the window, which occupy most of the space within that outside rig. In the name of all the simple, sweet sentiments which cluster about a home, I would ask how is a man to fall in love with such a compound, and how is he to make a wife of it, an artificial, touch-me-not, wiggling curiosity?"

SENSELESS FOR THE LADIES. - Senseless is a word which I never heard of until I read it in a German magazine. It is used as it is said to be efficacious, and is vouchsafed by German chemists. It consists in dissolving one part of turpentine in three parts of alcohol and placing a table spoonful of the mixture in the water for the last rinsing. The clothes are to be immersed in this, well wrung out and placed in the open air to dry, not in a room. The bleaching action of the oil of turpentine consists in changing oxygen into ozone, which is exposed to the light, and in process the turpentine disappears, leaving no trace behind. It is so simple as to warrant one or more trials.

RECORD OF RECENT EVENTS.

The laborers' strike at Washington has resulted in an agreement with contractors to pay their employees \$2 per day.

President Grant is out with an opinion upon the result of the recent treaty with Great Britain. He says: "Every article received his signature and that of the Queen." It takes a good man and a wise woman to avert the horrors of war.

Mr. Fair has been sentenced to be hung on the 24th of July. The San Francisco masculine element of suffragists is much exercised because the feminine suffragists take a sensible interest in the unhappy fate of a member of their own sex.

A remarkable tornado lately occurred near Mason City, Illinois. Its path was from twenty to thirty feet in depth and about three miles in width, and upon this space no living thing was left.

The Federal army has been reduced to a peace footing.

Female Suffrage in England. Whether the agitation of the subject is destined to bring about practical results, it would be premature to say, but the advocates of female suffrage are moving in England with great activity, and names are now associated with that cause which certainly give it an appearance of strength.

At a recent meeting in favor of female suffrage held at St. James Hall, in London, under the Presidency of Sir Robert Anstruther, M. P., a large number of influential persons were present, and many others sent letters of sympathy. Among these were Mr. Thomas Hughes, Dr. Lyon Playfair, Lord Alton, Mr. Stanfield, Mr. Jacob Bright, Prof. Cliffe Leslie, Mr. McLaren and others.

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THE "MERCURY'S" VIEWS.

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RECIPE.

Baked Quail. - Boil half a pint of milk; beat six eggs thoroughly - yelks and whites separately; put half a teaspoonful of salt in each; add a level teaspoonful of sugar to each egg; beat all instantly into a deep dish; and pour all into the beaten eggs; pour a little longer time, will be better - set ten minutes. It should be of a delicate brown on top, and eaten right from the oven.

To Make Stale Bread Fresh. - Put the loaf into a clean tin, and cover closely with all water, and set into a steamer, or a kettle of boiling water, for half an hour; then remove from the tin, and it will look like fresh bread, and be really almost equal to a new loaf.

Save Milk Griddle Cakes. - Stir into one quart of sour milk enough flour to make the batter as thick as waffles; add an even teaspoonful of salt and two well-beaten eggs. Heat with a hot griddle, and add a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in water. This is very good, baked in waffle-iron.

How to Boiling Cakes. - Warm one quart of sweet milk, and rub into it two cups of boiled rice or hominy; throw in a little salt, and add enough wheat flour to make the batter as thick as waffles. Beat two eggs, and add to the batter, and half a teaspoonful of soda, unless you use the prepared flour. If you do, there will be no salt or soda needed.

Morning Biscuits. - One quart of flour, half a teaspoonful of salt, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, and one pint of sour milk, with half a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in it. - Work this into a dough; then rub into the dough half a cup of butter. Knead well; cut off small bits; shape them into biscuits; lay them in the bake cover close with a hot griddle, and let them stand over night, in a warm place in winter and a cool place in summer. Bake in the morning for breakfast.

Boiled Ham. - Cut the ham in very thin slices; pour boiling water over it, and leave where it will keep hot, twenty minutes; then wipe the slices dry, and lay on a hot griddle over the coals, and broil as quickly as possible; but do not scorch it.

One-Sided Cakes. - One cupful of better, two of sugar; heat to a white foam; add four eggs, beaten quite stiff; one cupful of corn-starch, one cupful of milk, two cupfuls of prepared soda, and flour with one teaspoonful of bicarb. soda. If you have no prepared flour, stir one teaspoonful of cream of tartar with the flour, and add half a teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in a teaspoonful of milk, the last thing, and bake immediately.

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WILLIAM DAVIDSON.

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