

A PARTING WORD.

Again we must urge upon our friends the necessity of sustaining the New Northwest. We are compelled to leave home without having time to settle our business as we desired.

We shall be at home again by about the first of May. How many of you will organize societies, raise clubs for the New Northwest, and otherwise carry forward the glorious work of Human Rights during our absence?

SOME COGITATIONS.

We were much interested at the prayer meeting in the Presbyterian church on last Friday evening, the last occasion upon which we had opportunity to be present at these meetings before the sailing of the steamer.

Knowing well the timidity with which many of our brethren in the ministry regard the enfranchisement of woman or the most indefinite allusion thereto, it was not without some trepidation that we stood before the people and exhorted the women to systematize their work by beseeching the law-makers with singing and prayer.

In close sympathy with him is the man who fears that women will be subjected to jeers and exposed to insult at the polls, that men will lose their high chivalric regard for women if they thus mingle in the common crowd.

The young ministers were very much perturbed at this. They thought we had enough of laws, and good enough ones; that it was religion we needed; just as if religion would prosper under laws that protect the terrible curse of drunkenness.

Mr. Izer read, with much emphasis, an account, clipped from some eastern newspaper, wherein it was related that the women of a certain town, by prayer alone, had dried up every rum hole.

God works by plans, and His plans, which man would so often thwart by over-righteousness, are the embodiment of plainer practical common sense. We meet turns upon one or more of the objections we have noticed, so it is quite superfluous to mention others. Suffice it to say that most of them are the result of false education, prejudice, selfishness and want of proper investigation.

OBJECTIONS WHICH AMOUNT TO NOTHING.

In view of the unanswerable argument offered in favor of Woman Suffrage, and of the rapid and triumphant progress of the movement in our State and nation, it would seem that intelligent men and women would cease to advance or urge the thread-bare and oft-answered objections which have constituted the entire arguments against it for the past two decades.

Our numbers are being constantly augmented by the addition of persons who formerly opposed the enfranchisement of women, from the fact that they had given the subject no thought—had never properly weighed and considered the arguments for and against it—and whose position against it was solely the result of prejudice.

But there are yet vast numbers who continue to offer the stereotyped objections, unmodified of the fact that they have become stale from constant repetition, and forceless from frequent refutation.

In vain we attempt to argue with, console or comfort this poor fellow. The terrible ghost which his prejudices have conjured up will not down; and he daily attempts to stay the progress of the inevitable by the rehearsal of feeble and witless objections such as these.

Why was it necessary to depose "one female copyist" in the federal employ? Simply because that copyist could not vote. Nothing could be plainer than the Tribune's statement, and nothing more to the point than its argument.

Man does not protect woman. Millions of women are to-day suffering the bitterest provocations in this so-called land of plenty. It behooves them to protect themselves. With the ballot they can secure protection; without it, when thrown upon their own resources, they are placed in perilous positions.

It will be remembered that the State Temperance Alliance, at its recent session, passed a new party resolution, and appointed a committee, whose duty it should be to issue a call to the friends of temperance to meet at some time and place designated to take such steps and adopt such measures as might seem expedient and practicable for organizing a separate and distinct independent political action in the coming State election.

Most of the opposition with which we meet turns upon one or more of the objections we have noticed, so it is quite superfluous to mention others. Suffice it to say that most of them are the result of false education, prejudice, selfishness and want of proper investigation.

WHY ARE THE PEOPLE POOR?

Eastern exchanges are loaded with graphic descriptions of the suffering entailed upon the unfortunate women and children who are out of employment, funds and credit in the great cities.

Deep-thinking public financiers have many times practically demonstrated the fact that no business will justify an outlay of more than three per cent. per annum as interest upon the capital employed, and that not one business-interest, company or corporation in five hundred is prepared to go on with its transactions if collaterals were suddenly withdrawn and immediate payment of Gold and silver, instead of human labor, were, in fact, made the standard of wealth, and land, instead of human life, its surety.

THE RING OF TRUE METAL.

When sober they had no intention of harming anyone; and were not aware of having done so till informed of the fact by the sailor, a few hours after their arrest.

It rejoices my heart to hear this subject agitated, for I believe it will lead me to seek for some means, as yet untried, to accomplish its downfall.

While I have great faith in the power of prayer, and believe that the fervent prayers of righteous men and women avail much, I know there are many things which cannot be accomplished by prayer alone.

When a ship is at sea in a gale, tempest-tossed and in danger of being driven on the rocks, would a wise commander sit idly in his cabin, his crew riotous and drunken, his passengers indifferent and his ship, with all sail spread, rushing to certain destruction?

"ONE FEMALE COPYIST."

We call special attention to an article from New York Tribune in this issue under the above caption.

Could Horace Greeley have foreseen, less than two years ago, the significant fact that the Tribunes themselves of to-day would be leveled in such masterly fashion when he then promulgated that woman must not vote, because man made it his business to protect her, wouldn't he have changed his tactics?

Oh, friends of the temperance cause, if you would have your prayers prevail, perforce them with good deeds, work and watch as well as pray. If you call upon woman to assist you in your efforts to vanquish the dread monster, and place upon her must if you succeed, fall in her hands the only means by which it can be accomplished.

The only way to effect any permanent good, in this matter, is to bring to bear the strong arm of the law, to lay the axe at the root of the tree.

Men unaided cannot, will not do this. Were women enfranchised, they would speedily put it out of the power of loved ones to degrade themselves below the level of the brutes, by drying up this prolific source of so much misery and woe.

THE NEW TEMPERANCE PARTY.

It will be remembered that the State Temperance Alliance, at its recent session, passed a new party resolution, and appointed a committee, whose duty it should be to issue a call to the friends of temperance to meet at some time and place designated to take such steps and adopt such measures as might seem expedient and practicable for organizing a separate and distinct independent political action in the coming State election.

A VOICE FROM THE PENITENTIARY.

OREGON STATE PENITENTIARY, SALEM, March 10, 1874.

It is with unfeigned delight that I avail myself of your permission to address a letter to you at your home in Portland.

In your lecture here you said that "you would be happy to send any of our number who would write to you such papers or papers as he might wish to read." And, as there are a number of us who are anxious to read Mrs. Victor's story, "Judith Miles," I hope to be forgiven if I presume too far on your kindness, in asking you to send me the back numbers of your paper containing it.

While we are not of those who expect to see a party succeed in determining to any considerable extent the result of the coming political contest, we are yet glad to see temperance people at work. Now that the Temperance Reform is being so strongly agitated, it is well to bring every auxiliary possible to the aid of the agitators.

Two years ago Miss Dolly Runkle, of Des Moines, Iowa, commenced as clerk in the extensive dry goods establishment of Knight Brothers, without any previous experience. A few days since, Mr. Knight being unwell and unable to make purchases that the house required, the duty devolved upon a young lady, who bought from samples seven thousand dollars worth of goods, and, to use Mr. K.'s own language, "did it as well as any merchant in town could have done it."

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"One Female Copyist."

They found her in the Interior Department in the office of the Fifth Auditor. She has been there all the time.

Mr. H. B. Blackwell stated that this charge was entirely unfounded. The petition had been sent only to responsible and well-known citizens, with the request to obtain only signers of twenty-one years and upwards.

It is not muscular but moral. It is an authoritative expression of opinion, and implies intelligence, patriotism and conscience. Women are not, in any sense, the inferiors of men. They are different but equal.

Mr. Blackwell hoped that the Committee would, first of all, ask the Legislature to give women Presidential and Municipal Suffrage by amending the election laws. This would confer the right to vote in town and ward meetings for all officers except Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and members of the Legislature.

Mr. Blackwell said that it had been considered, and that able lawyers had expressed an affirmative opinion. The old Province Charter gave suffrage to freemen first under the Crown, and then to women and children.

Mr. Samuel E. Sewall rose to speak upon the legal question, but yielded the floor to Miss Mary E. Eastman. Miss Eastman stated the equality of education and opportunity to which women are subjected in consequence of their disfranchisement.

THE QUESTION OF WOMAN'S RIGHTS. The dispatches have told us within a few days how the House of Representatives in the Legislature of two great States—Michigan and Iowa—have formed an article to be submitted to the people regarding the elective franchise.

We are assured that Woman Suffrage in Wyoming Territory was not a failure, and that it works well enough in Utah. Certainly the world has ceased to make light of the subject, and even ridicule aimed at the leaders of the cause, is not directed at the cause itself.

A smart Danbury woman does the work for a family of nine, milks two cows, and keeps track of thirteen cents' worth of groceries.