

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE O. S. W. S. A.

The members of the Executive Committee of the Oregon State Woman Suffrage Association, are requested to meet at the residence of Hon. O. B. Gibson, in this city, on Friday, August 14th, at 5 o'clock P. M.

By order of the President. Portland, August 6, 1874.

CLOSE OF VOLUME THIRD.

The present issue completes the third volume of the NEW NORTHWEST. We therefore take this time and method of returning our sincere thanks to those of our friends who have thus far accompanied us on our journalistic career.

And now, friends, as we enter upon a new volume with the renewed courage which augmented numbers and the progress of our cause gives, while we return to you, there, our sincere thanks, for favors in times past, we most respectfully ask a continuance of the same as the future, promising on our part, as heretofore, to use our best endeavors to give you a newspaper in the best sense of the term, and at the same time strike as many and hard blows as may be for Impartial Suffrage.

The beginning of a new volume is a splendid time to subscribe. Send in the names, good friends.

COUNTY CONVENTION.

It will be seen by reference to the minutes, published elsewhere, of a preliminary meeting of the Multnomah County Woman Suffrage Association, that a public convention of the same will be held on the evening of the 19th at Good Templars' Hall, in this city.

The regular meetings of the Association have been omitted for several months. It was deemed advisable by the officers and managers that this course should be pursued because of the time that many of the members were devoting to the temperance work.

Now, however, that that work has become systematized, the Suffragists have decided that "this also can they do and not leave the other undone." It is true that many of our good sister crusaders cannot see with us the vast importance of this work to which their efforts are only auxiliary, but we fully recognize the fact that it is impossible for all to see alike, and that all must walk by the light they have, and are justified in so doing.

We now expect to have a harmonious and enthusiastic meeting of the Woman Suffrage Association, and we hope that it will be understood that every one is invited, and that specially. Great care will be taken by the committee of arrangements to furnish a programme that will be interesting. Numerous persons have been invited to take part in the exercises, and it is believed that good and sufficient reasons will be given to demonstrate the justice and expediency of our claims to political equality.

The time is Wednesday evening, August 19th, the place, Good Templars' Hall, corner of Third and Alder streets, the theme, the Enfranchisement of Woman, the work, prompted by the needs of humanity, the watchword, EQUAL RIGHTS.

Do not fail, friends, to be on hand, to help us if you can, to oppose us if you must; in any case, come.

To substantiate our assertion made elsewhere concerning the relative progress of intelligence and Woman Suffrage, we reprint from the Toledo Journal a sample letter from one of the men who is in his own estimation "able to govern the State of Michigan yet?"

Henry B. Blackwell—Dear Sir—Your regard is at hand you greatly mistake the intelligence of the people of Michigan if you think that they will adopt the woman suffrage proposition the men of Michigan are able to govern this State yet and yet plan of no representation is to since a pretext to need comment no wave your money for your speakers do your cause more hurt than good we have 200,000 majority against the scheme yet proposition 1 was laid before the ladies and they voted as a unit against the question of giving woman a right to vote so I repeat to you that all money you spend in sending speakers to this State is thrown away like snow flakes against the wind

Yours Truly, F. R. M. Oswego, Livingston Co., Mich., July 3, 1874.

The tenth plank in the platform recently adopted by the Iowa State Republican Convention is no slender splinter which may or may not mean this or that, but staunch, strong, and unequivocal, capable of giving immense aid to the Republican party in that State, as well as powerfully advancing the cause of woman. We have hopes yet that the Republican party may return to the reformatory days of its infancy. Here is the plank.

That since the people may be entrusted with all questions of governmental reform, we favor the final submission to the people of the question of amending the Constitution so as to extend the right of suffrage to women, pursuant to the action of the Fifteenth General Assembly.

The election in Thurston county, W. T., on last Saturday, to decide whether the County Commissioners should be authorized to issue bonds for \$75,000 in aid of the Olympia and Tenino Railroad, resulted in favor of the measure. Two-thirds of all the votes cast were required, and the result shows about forty more than the requisite number. We rejoice with the people of Olympia over their railroad prospects. Washington Territory moves with the rest of the world.

A SOCIAL REVOLUTION.

The social and religious world is evidently upon the eve of social dissolution or supplantation. When a hideous ulcer, too monstrous to be admitted to public view, and yet too offensive to be hidden from octocory sense, becomes so offensively obstructive as to fill the entire atmosphere with the reekings of its rottenness, one of two alternatives is both necessary and inevitable—the patient must die, i. e., put off the old order of things and put on a new, which is all that is implied in the change we call death, or a supplantation must take place, by which the physical life of the patient may be sustained till another hideous ulcer grows, to be in turn subjected to similar treatment with similar consequences to the body afflicted.

The Beecher-Tilton scandal, over which the public has gazed for nearly a year, while bringing shame and sorrow to the brows and hearts of tens of thousands of the good and true, evidently brings trepidation to hundreds of thousands who fear that through this exposition in high places may be brought about a publication of their own complicity in things equally unlawful.

That our social system is rotten to the very core is proven not only by the great eruption now going on at its apex, but also by the feverish excitement under which the whole body corporate and corporal is laboring while the ulcer is being treated by physicians who evidently themselves need healing.

The philosopher and philanthropist—and to be one must necessarily include the other—who views both ulcer and patient in the light of science and reason, clearly sees that for all this moral rottenness there must be a cause, and that cause goes far back of the present effect, else the disease, naturally slow in its growth as compared to its present proportions, could not have assumed its present chronic type and so demoralized the victims under its immediate influence that they speak under "hallucination" and the witchery of a spell which causes them to apply new meanings to old, well-established, plain Anglo-Saxon words, hitherto supposed to signify just what they expressed. It causes them to equivocate, prevaricate, latitudinate, attitude, and anti-matrimony-mate. And what will it all amount to?

Evidently our present code of social ethics is at fault somewhere, or these things would not be. Excesses never grow upon a healthy body. No one not affected by a malady has a fever merely because others are sick. The fever shows that he is sick himself.

So we conclude that as the whole social body is affected by the scandal now supplanting in high places, the social system itself needs renovating and rebuilding in such a way that it will breed no more ulcers. How this may be done, we propose to show, in a series of carefully-considered articles as soon as we can get time to prepare the people to receive and comprehend them. Of course we shall give these opinions as our own.

Divers and sundry persons, have from time to time, out of the depths of their own innate nastiness of imagination, accused us—as we are reliably informed—of advocating, or at least tolerating the hideous doctrine of promiscuity and its kindred accompaniments.

When a woman has lived for nearly a quarter of a century with one man, and is still living with that one; who is the mother of a large family of children, and who has spent and is spending her life in their service, it would seem that her actions might speak louder than other people's suspicions. For this reason we do not stoop to banal words with such accusations for the benefit of the low and ignorant accusers who would not read them, and who would much prefer to believe us as wicked as themselves if possible.

But a social revolution is imminent. It must come. When a reservoir becomes so old and rotten that it will no longer safely bear the pressure of waters that are needed to sustain the life of a great city, is it better to dredge and rebuild until the receptacle bursts and deluges and destroys the city than to go to work bravely to build a new and more substantial reservoir? And ought not every plan to be submitted to the people that they might compare ideas and get the benefit of every builder's skill?

Acting upon this belief we propose to speak at length, as we have time and inclination upon the "social revolution and what should come of it."

ANNIVERSARY MEETING IN CALIFORNIA.

The fifth anniversary meeting of the first Woman Suffrage Society organized on the Pacific Coast took place in San Francisco on the twenty-seventh of last month.

It is represented as having been one of the most successful and enthusiastic meetings ever held in the State. The morning session was devoted exclusively to business.

The officers elected for the ensuing year are Mrs. Sarah Wallis, President; Mrs. Laura DeForce Gordon, Vice President; Mrs. Matthews, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Watson, Corresponding Secretary; one Vice President for about half the counties in the State, and a competent Board of Directors. Speeches, which were logical and interesting, as well as sparkling and witty, were given in the afternoon.

The evening session was largely attended, and the time fully occupied by several brilliant speakers. The speeches, though necessarily brief, were so manifestly to the point, as to elicit enthusiastic applause.

SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS.

While the friends of Woman Suffrage see many obstacles that have yet to be overcome, and some of the less hopeful workers are at times disposed to feel discouraged at the formidable front which the "Hill Difficulty" presents, it is yet true that we have much to encourage us in the steadfast endeavor to overcome future obstacles.

Among the things which tend somewhat to discourage even the most earnest and zealous workers in the great reform, is the stolid indifference of a large class, whose views cannot extend beyond the narrow limits of their own material horizon, and who accept as a divine decree the conditions which usage and prejudice impose upon them.

The feeble estimate which a large class of women have of the great capacities and needs of woman, is also frequent cause of disgust, if not discouragement. Yet, as an offset to this last, we can reflect that the power and capacity of woman is constantly developing and increasing on every hand, and that it will eventually be felt and recognized by even these.

It is, moreover, beyond the power of our opponents to stay, much less to sweep back the swelling tide, which has been, and is being, borne in on the ever expanding sea of opportunity.

And whether our triumph will date its beginning from the coming contest in Michigan, or it be our lot yet longer to labor and to wait, we are perfectly assured of its final consummation. And we believe that each of the rapidly recurring events that have marked the progress of the movement thus far, is a solid stone in the foundation upon which the grand structure of universal freedom will eventually be built.

In addition to the Michigan contest, which has enlisted for that State, this fall, so much of earnest endeavor, and such a noble army of helpers, we have also the State of Iowa coming up to the rescue. The action of her last Legislature decided to submit Woman Suffrage to the people, and now comes the Iowa Republican State Convention, with a resolution unanimously adopted endorsing that position.

This political endorsement will possibly aid its success at the polls, and in the event of its triumph, it will be again submitted to the Legislature, where, if approved, it will become incorporated in the Constitution. Yet if both Michigan and Iowa fail in the attempt to incorporate Woman Suffrage in their respective Constitutions, an important step will have been gained.

Two great States will have voted upon it, and the dominant party in one of them has endorsed it. The defeat would have in it many elements of victory—would, in fact, not show failure of principle, but that the times were not ripe for its advancement.

Intelligent, thoughtful persons will bear us out in the assertion that this struggle is to lift mankind, and woman-kind as well, from an impracticable, selfish, superficial view of life, to a higher standard of excellence, and to the practical, unselfish performance of mutual duties and obligations.

This class of persons know that this reform is needed; know that it is demanded. If it is defeated in the States mentioned this fall, it will be, not because it is not needed, nor because it is unjust, but because the masses are not properly developed and educated to receive it.

And so far from the friends and advocates of the cause feeling discouraged, they must work with renewed energy and steadfastness to educate the rich and poor alike up to this stand-point.

When the great desideratum shall be attained in one State, others will keep dropping in line, unless, indeed, the General Government shall save them the trouble of working out their own salvation by performing the entire job at one stroke. So we assert that our progress is onward and upward, in direct proportion to the march of intelligence in communities, or among the masses.

A VOICE FROM TILLAMOOK.

We are in receipt of a letter from Mrs. E. A. Corwin, of Tillamook county, in which, after recounting her endeavor to organize a Suffrage Association in the sparsely settled region in which her lot is cast, she thus discourses upon the situation there: "There are a good many who are avowed Suffragists in this county, but the country here is so broken up and divided by water, that it makes it very inconvenient for any number of persons to keep an appointment. Quite a number have told me that they would be glad to attend a convention, but the distance renders it impossible. So it seems to be no use to try to organize here at present. We, however, send you a Senator and Representative who are sound on the Woman Question, and it is quite a satisfaction to us who are unable from our surroundings to do a local work for the cause, to know that we will be well represented in the Legislature."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Our esteemed friend, Hon. B. F. Nichols, of Polk county, sends us the following list of questions, which we append with such answers as occurred to us as we read them:

First—"Is it not true that the perpetuity of our republican institutions depends upon the moral integrity of the masses?"

Yes; but the existence of such institutions also depends upon the political power of the people, who can fully exercise that power only through the ballot, the representative of individual sovereignty.

Second—"Is it not true that to the women, the mothers and wives of our nation, we are to look, more than to any other class, for the moral training of the young?"

Yes; and for that reason we demand for woman untrammelled opportunity to train up the young according to the highest aspirations of which motherhood is capable. Yet it is not necessarily true that this should depend entirely upon women. For there should be an equal code of morals for men and women, and each should be equally fitted to impart moral instruction, both by precept and example, to the rising generation.

Third—"Is it not true that a very large majority of our best men, (including ministers of the gospel,) when they engage in political contests for place and power, and continue therein, become corrupt?"

It is not probable that eminent men are, as a rule, more corrupt than men in the lower walks of life. As there are many persons in humble life whose deeds of charity, goodness and love are unknown, so also the evil deeds of many are concealed; and we argue that, while the eminence of an individual may render his wickedness conspicuous, it does not necessarily increase it. Human eminence does not engender venality and corruption, but it often unmask them. Vices of persons in elevated positions, like the city which is set upon a hill, cannot be hid.

Fourth—"Is it not true that women, as a class, are quite, if not more ambitious to accomplish what they undertake, than men?"

We know no reason why they should not be. Ambition is a quality usually lauded and encouraged in men, and we argue that women ought not to be circumscribed in the exercise of any laudable desire that they possess equally with men. It is scarcely probable that the great All Wised endowed women with any faculty that should be dwarfed by disuse or perverted by misuse.

Fifth—"Is it not true that men are by nature as pure and as moral as women?"

In other words, is not an infant boy as pure and innocent as an infant girl?

Yes; undoubtedly.

Sixth—"If female adults are more pure than male adults, is it not attributable alone to the fact that the latter are constantly coming in contact with evil from childhood to manhood?"

PRACTICAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

As an offset to the timid theories of those who acknowledge the justice while they doubt the expediency of Woman Suffrage, we respectfully submit the following testimony of Governor Campbell, of Wyoming, relative to its practical workings in that Territory.

This staunch and reliable Governor was recently addressed by the editor of the Ypsilanti (Michigan) Commercial, and the following reply was received:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, WYOMING TERRITORY, CHEYENNE, July 1, 1874.

Mr. C. R. PATTERSON—Dear Sir—In regard to your inquiries as to the success of Woman Suffrage in this Territory, its influence upon the women and the men, whether good or bad, and its effect upon the body politic in respect to its exciting virtue, I would respond affirmatively in every way. I send you a copy of my message of last November as an expression of my views. Michigan, rich in every element—material, intellectual and moral—that goes to make up a State, with her famous university, and no less famous common school system, needs this beneficent reform super-added to constitute her a truly Republican Commonwealth, and the model State of the Union. Wyoming has taken the lead of the Territories in adopting this reform. We trust that Michigan will pioneer her sister States.

Yours very truly, J. A. CAMPBELL.

From the message to which reference is made, we make this extract:

The experiment of granting to woman a voice in the government, which was inaugurated for the first time in the history of our country, by the first Legislative Assembly of Wyoming, has now been tried for four years. I have heretofore taken occasion to express my views in regard to the wisdom and justice of this measure and my conviction that its adoption had been attended only by good results. Two years more of observation of the practical workings of the system have only served to deepen my conviction that what we, in this Territory, have done, has been well done, and that our system of Impartial Suffrage is an unqualified success.

Now, friends, we ask you in all candor, is not a few words of plain unqualified statement concerning the practical workings of Impartial Suffrage, in a locality wherein it has been on trial for a period of years, entitled to more consideration than the cunningly-devised theories of those who are only too glad of any pretext to doubt its expediency? We cannot see how any candid, sensible, unprejudiced person can do otherwise than respond affirmatively to this question. If the editors who crowed so lustily when the Legislature of Wyoming, something more than two years since, passed a bill repealing the Woman Suffrage Act, but utterly refused or neglected to mention the veto of Governor Campbell, which prevented the bill from becoming a law, would display equal energy in circulating this reliable testimony, they might perhaps convince the people that prejudice does not sit empire over their opinions upon this great question.

THE RECENT FLOOD AT PITTSBURG.

Numerous calamities, costly to life and property, have recently been visited upon various portions of the country, and foremost among them we may reckon the great flood which, without precedent or warning, swept through the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny a short time since. The positions of the two cities are well-known, they lying on opposite banks of the Ohio river, which is here formed by the junction of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers. Below this point for many miles are large and thriving towns. A great rain-storm broke over the valley on the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth, of such prodigious force and volume as to cause the river to burst its natural bounds, and the result was an overflow of the two cities, as sudden as it was terrific, and the mighty torrent went sweeping down the valley, bearing death and devastation in its awful train. It seems almost impossible to reconcile the terrible effects recorded to the rain-storm reported. No ordinary freshet, the result of a few hours' rain, could work such disastrous results. The prevailing theory is that the disaster was caused by some kind of a waterspout. Otherwise it would seem that the windows of Heaven were opened for another flood that full particulars could not be given for days.

The Telegraph speaks of it as the most awful disaster that has ever occurred in the State, and asserts that in comparison "all others pale into insignificance—the great fire, the arsenal calamity, the flood of '32, all lose the terribleness of their grandeur when compared with the fearful sweep of the Storm King that devastated portions of the two cities, and carried more than a hundred men, women, and children, in an instant almost, from the happy scenes of their Sunday evening homes to the dread uncertainties of eternity."

Hundreds of houses were crumpled to pieces, the streets in some portions of the flooded districts were piled twenty feet high with debris, and a total of two hundred and nineteen persons were drowned.

It is almost impossible at this distance, and all unvisited by the dreadful calamity that has in the less favored portions of our country wrought such desolation and dismay, to realize the full extent of the sufferings of many of our fellow-creatures that this awful visitation has rendered homeless and penniless, and in many instances bereft of dearest friends.

And while "with shuddering horror pale and eyes aghast" we contemplate this wholesale wreck of household gods, it meets that our hearts should swell alike with pity for their condition and thankfulness for our own brighter lot.

ON "SLANG."

A few friends have taken us very kindly and plainly to task for our manner of punishing scurrilous newspaper attacks upon us which occasionally become so offensive, if we do not resist them, as to be absolutely unendurable.

Well, friends, if calling things by their right names, using good, hard, honest Saxon words to properly designate them, is "slang," we are not only guilty, but we decline to repent.

When the Forest Grove Independent uses its columns for the circulation of obscene personalities, it is a smut-mill. When the Lafayette Courier behaves itself decently, it is a public benefactor. Both expressions are sound, decent and applicable, but in no sense "slangy." If one is more inelegant than the other, it is only because one tersely anthematizes wickedness and the other tersely commends goodness.

If the Commercial Reporter is conducting itself respectfully, and upon a basis of truth and fairness towards all parties as an expounder of correct commercial principles, it is a friend to humanity.

If the Temperance Star perverts the truth, it is a falsifier. If it stoops to double entendres, it is a turkey buzzard, and must be treated as such. The homely old adage, "You've got to fight the devil with fire," is more applicable to newspapers than anything else.

If the Standard conducts itself in a becoming manner, it is a respectable newspaper.

If the Echo bays the moon until it can no longer bark, but whine, it is an exhausted puppy.

It becomes our duty in curing those rabid creatures that attack us merely because they think they can do so with impunity, to deal with them according not only to their deserts and the offensive nature of their mental maladies, but to apply such remedies as they can assimilate to their respective mentalities.

GRATIFYING.

As an evidence of the value attached to our paper by the gentlemen of the press who have sufficient ability to appreciate it, we subjoin the following note:

TRINIDAD OFFICE, TRINIDAD, AUGUST 8, 1874. Please send me your last Northwest. My exchange did not come. I am quite interested in your serial, as well as your editorial matter, and cannot afford to do without even one issue. With regards, THOS. W. PRINCE.

The paper has been sent, good brother. Care will be taken that you are not again disappointed. Long may you prosper.

Gratifying—To note the attention which the editor of the News is devoting to the NEW NORTHWEST. We involuntarily form a good opinion of a man's judgment when he studies the People's Paper.

RECENT EVENTS.

GENERALITIES.

Delaware's peach crop is estimated at 602,000 baskets.

Local option was totally defeated throughout Kentucky.

St. Louis calls its great bridge the buckle of the nation's iron belt.

Agnes Strickland, the historical authoress, died on the 20th ult., aged sixty-eight.

Vermont this year turns out 12,000,000 pounds of maple sugar, worth ten cents a pound.

San Francisco sent twenty-one insane persons to the asylum during the month of July.

At Wooster College, Ohio, the feminine students, it is said, equal the masculine ones in mathematics as well as in languages.

Miss Richards, of Stapleton, near Bristol, England, has performed the feat of walking one thousand miles in one thousand consecutive hours.

The new steamboat law imposes a fine of five hundred dollars upon a steamboat owner who neglects to have the regulations hung up in his boat when running.

Willis Moon, of Eaton county, Mich., during the present season, made 2,000 pounds of maple sugar from 500 trees. He carried the sap and performed the labors of making all alone.

There are 20,000 Granges in the Union, with an average of fifty voters in each, or a total of one million. This represents a power capable of immeasurable good, if properly wielded.

New Orleans has adopted the London and Paris plan, and the street car companies are obliged to refuse transportation to a greater number of passengers than can be accommodated with seats.

A man in Washington county, Tenn., has a cow which has given by accurate weight 2,600 lbs of milk in thirty days. She is an Ayrshire breed, and the smallest amount given in one day was 57 pounds.

Among the graduates of the Normal School at Salem, Mass., last week, was one young lady, graduating at the head of the class, who ran a sewing machine and earned money to pay her expenses during the two years.

There is no stone yet to mark the spot in Mount Auburn cemetery where Charles Sumner is buried, and a lady who visited the cemetery, a few days ago, found it, after hunting a long time, with a stake at its head bearing a visiting card, on which were the words, "Sumner's Grave."

A New York paper says: The largest minister's salary in this city is paid to Henry Ward Beecher, of Brooklyn, who receives \$15,000. Dr. Morgan Dix, of the Church of the Holy Trinity, receives \$12,000, and Dr. Porter, of Grace Church, the same. The highest salary in the Methodist body is \$5,000. The income of a Roman Catholic priest is under \$1,000.

What a commentary upon early marriages is supplied by the telegraphic announcement from Fonda, N. Y., the other day: "Mrs. Anna Jefferson, fifteen years of age, committed suicide on July 23, by taking arsenic. The cause of the act was domestic trouble." Poor child! a wife at fifteen, and a self-murderer through domestic trouble. We pity Anna's parents, if it was with their consent that she became a wife.

Notwithstanding the great flood in the Mississippi Valley in the spring, the New Orleans Times estimates that the sugar and rice crops will be abundant, the latter yielding thirty thousand barrels more than in 1873. In sugar, the losses by floods will be about ten thousand and hogsheds, and the total yield from ninety to one hundred thousand hogsheds. The acreage devoted to rice culture shows an increase of six thousand acres over last year, and the rice crop is expected to be 110,000 barrels.

PUBLIC OPINION ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE.—The tide is turning as regards Woman Suffrage here and by, when the atmosphere is warmed up enough, we shall see the clergy venturing out on our rostrum. Like greenhouse plants, however, they require a good deal of shelter, and are not calculated to meet or encounter storms. One hardy plant, however, came out on Monday evening, and I did not see that it did him any harm; indeed, he bore himself bravely through the experience. The society set out on its new career under very favorable auspices, with excellent officers and a nice little sum in the treasury.

Woman Suffrage is now almost an accomplished fact, because it is a necessity which is every day pressing upon thoughtful minds; men as well as women. In view of this fact, which is so near us in the future, let me call upon women to be prepared for the troublous times that are at hand, when a close-ship of state, with torn sails and cracking masts, shall seem about to plunge madly into the billows which yawn to swallow her. Then will be your time, O mothers of Israel! Men already begin dimly to foresee this, and will be long loathe to the present inspirations of woman, divinely inspired now, as she always has been in times of great peril and emergency. They will look to her, to light the beacon lights of divine inspirational light along the shore to save them from swift destruction.—Common Sense.

"INTELLECT OF WOMEN.—The Dean of Chester recently made a speech in which he quoted the opinion of the examiner of Latin at the collegiate schools to the effect that, comparing the girls with the boys who had been studying during the same time, he would give a verdict decidedly in favor of the girls. The tendency of modern inquiry is to show conclusively that the long-accepted theory that sex affects the mind, and that men are inherently more intellectual than women, is erroneous. When we give women the same opportunities in modern society that we give men, in the way of industry and education, will settle itself."—N. Y. Herald.

A Western preacher discoursed from the text "How old art thou?" and the next day about one-third of the women of the congregation called to tell him it was none of his business.