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EDNA AND JOHN: A Romance of Idaho Flat.

By Mrs. A. J. DUNWAY, AUTHOR OF "JUDITH BEED," "ELLEN BOWD," "AMIE AND HENRY LEE," "THE HAPPY HOME," "ONK WOMAN'S SPIRIT," "MADGE MORRISON," ETC., ETC., ETC.

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Woman's degraded, helpless position is the weak point of our institutions to-day—a disturbing force everywhere, severing family ties, filling our asylums with the dumb, the blind, our prisons with criminals, our cities with drunkards and prostitutes, our homes with disease and death.—[National Centennial Equal Rights Prolet.

CHAPTER VI.

Mr. Rutherford met his wife with an injured air. He had been lonesome! She hadn't asked his permission to leave home, and so on.

"I know it all, dear," was the good woman's kindly reply. "I've been lonesome and uneasy about you many a time, and I knew how you'd feel, but duty called me away from you, and I really couldn't help it."

"No duty ever calls a woman away from her husband?" said Solon, angrily. "I provide this home for you, and furnish it with every needed comfort, and it's as little as you can do to be contented with your lot, and remain in it, madam?"

"Am I complaining, Solon?" asked the wife, kindly. "You'd better be!" was the sulky answer.

Mrs. Rutherford did not care to prolong the controversy. But she could not help remembering the long and anxious years of motherhood through which she had passed in her younger years of widowhood, when an infinitesimal fraction of her husband's present professed solicitude about her personal safety and comfort would have been to her weary body and tired spirit like refreshing rain drops to the thirsty earth; neither could she avoid recognition of the fact that in departing from her home on her own business, and at her own discretion for once, she had only followed the example set by her protecting liege in the beginning of their matrimonial career—an example to which he had adhered, whenever the occasion suited him, ever since.

It was also impossible for her to help knowing, woman though she was, that the "every comfort" her husband boasted of having so liberally provided, for her to "stay at home and enjoy," had been the product of her own domestic industry.

But argument, where right is all upon one side, and usurped power all upon the other, is utterly useless, and no one is better aware of the fact than the powerless party in any controversy.

Finding that his wife so skillfully avoided further conversation upon the subject that so seriously annoyed him that its further pursuit was useless, Mr. Rutherford ordered his horse and buggy and drove away through the fields, leaving Aunt Judy and Mrs. Rutherford to talk over their business in un molested seclusion.

"Such a time as I've had!" said the latter. "I really didn't know how much I did depend upon Solon about some things till I went to the city alone. Accounted as I am at home to taking the lead in everything that's disagreeable, giving him opportunity whenever he's in the house to read the newspapers and smoke to his heart's content, while I build fires and churn, and scrub floors and press cheese, and do everything else unaided, I was not prepared to find myself such a baby as I proved to be without him, when alone in St. Louis. Yet I couldn't help asking myself if it wasn't all in use, after all. And, Judy, I believe it is. The places of responsibility that require little exhibition of physical strength are all monopolized by the stronger half of humanity. Solon rides over the country in a buggy and speculates in land, using the money I've earned at the cheese press to complete his bargains, and puts the surplus in bank."

"There, Susan!" interrupted Aunt Judy. "I'm glad you're coming to the bank business. Did you get the money?"

"Yes, I got it; but only by a little tact. I said something that led them to believe Solon would withdraw all his funds if they failed to honor his wife's demand. Men have a certain pride in impressing other men with the idea that they hold their wives' orders as honorable, and altogether above question. But I may make much of what I've got this time. I'll never dare to repeat the experiment. Yet, after all, why haven't I as good right to control the accumulated funds of our marriage copartnership as Solon? I felt like a thief when I took the money, although I knew that in God's eyes it was mine, if anybody's. When Solon discovers it he'll scold and act injured, and nearly break my heart by his coldness," and Mrs. Rutherford wept bitterly.

"Women don't deserve to be free, because they're such precious fools!" said Aunt Judy, contemptuously. "I hope you speak from personal experience," replied her friend, laughing in spite of her tears.

"Yes, I do!" was the decided reply.

The New Northwest

VOLUME VI. PORTLAND, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1876. NUMBER 11.

AN APPEAL.

To the Women of the United States:—The National Suffrage Association has just issued a petition to Congress asking an amendment to the United States Constitution, that shall prohibit the several States from disfranchising any of their citizens on account of sex. This petition will be sent throughout the country for the signatures of those men and women who believe in the citizen's right to vote.

In order to keep the different States separate, and to know how large a petition each one rolls up, it is desirable to have some central committee in each State take the matter in charge, and see that it is done with all possible expedition. This committee should print and send out petitions to the reliable persons in every county, urging on them thoroughness and haste, and when the petitions are returned, paste them together, roll up neatly, mark the number of signatures on the outside with the name of the State, and forward to the chairman of our Congressional Committee at Washington, Sarah Andrews Spencer.

In those States where there are no suffrage organizations, individuals should take the responsibility of seeing their States thoroughly canvassed. We desire to present this petition to Congress at the opening of the new year, at which time we shall hold our eighth annual convention in Washington, and help our representatives to dedicate their first acts of legislation in the second year to secure justice to woman.

Having petitioned our law-makers, State and national, for nearly thirty years, many, from weariness and despair, have vowed to sign no more; for our petitions, say they, by the ten thousands, are piled up in the national archives to-day, unmentioned and ignored. But it is not possible to roll up such numbers, carried into Congress on the shoulders of stalwart men, that they cannot be neglected and forgotten by statesmen and politicians, who are conquered, alike, by majorities?

The women of this country have never yet made such a united effort, such a thorough canvass of every State for their own rights as they did for the Southern slaves, when the Thirteenth Amendment was pending. Then a petition of over 300,000 was rolled up by the leaders of the Woman Suffrage movement and presented in the Senate by the Hon. Charles Sumner. Prominent Republicans who welcomed and praised our untiring efforts to secure the black man's freedom, condemned us when we made the same demands for ourselves. And yet is not liberty as sweet to us as to him? Are not the legal disabilities of sex as grievous as those of race and color? Is not a civil rights bill, that shall open the college doors, the trades, and professions, and secure to woman her personal and property rights, as necessary for her protection as for the colored man?

The highest judicial authorities have decided that the spirit and letter of our national Constitution is not yet broad enough to protect 20,000,000 women, United States citizens, in their inalienable rights. For protection, they refer woman to the States. If our Magna Charta of human rights can be thus narrowed by judicial interpretation in favor of class legislation, then must we demand an amendment, that in clear, unmistakable language shall declare the equality of woman before the law, endowed with all the rights, privileges, and immunities that belong to citizens of a republic.

We claim that women are citizens, first, of the United States, and second, of the State wherein they reside; hence, if robbed by State authorities of any right founded in nature or secured by law, they have the same right to national protection against the States as against foreign powers. It is the duty of Congress, therefore, to secure to every State a Republican form of government, and to every citizen the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This cannot be said to exist in States where women, thoroughly qualified, are denied admission into colleges which their property is taxed to build and endow, where they are denied the right to practice law, thus debarred from the most lucrative professions, where they are denied a voice in the government, and thus, while suffering all the ills that grow out of the giant evils of intemperance, prostitution, war, heavy taxes, political corruption, stand helpless to effect any reform. Prayers, tears, psalm-singing, sympathy, and expostulation are light in the balance with that power at the ballot-box that coins conviction into law.

Constituting, as we do, one-half the people of this Republic, and equally responsible with man for the education, religion, and government of the rising generation, let us, with united voice, in the dawn of this second century of our national life, send forth a protest against the present political status of woman, that shall echo and re-echo through the land. In view of the numbers and character of those making the demand, this should be the largest petition ever carried into a legislative assembly, in the old world and the new, in magnitude the crowning act in our struggle for woman's enfranchisement. This is the primal step in every reform, for all the evils of society center in

AN OPIUM-EATER REFORMED.

It is a matter for rejoicing when one has been found so strong as to overcome the influence of a habit which was destroying his moral and physical life slowly, but surely. Of all habits which one may contract, none is so severe and imperious in its exactions upon the strength and time of the victim as the use of opium, and extinction of its toll seems next to the miraculous. Some persons have been known to recover their manhood after years of subjection to the opium tyrant, but their number is so painfully small, when a case of "recovery" is reported we think that the good have reason to feel deep gratification. If the results of Messrs. Moody and Saukey's public meetings include the reform of a few men and women heretofore bound by habits of intemperance, or of drug-eating, and the following case indicates some efficiency in this way, we put in a most cordial vote for the continuance of such redeeming work. The utility of it is beyond question. The Church Union is authority for what is hereafter related.

"Mr. Peter Banta, a ship-joiner, fifty-one years of age, living at No. 100 Ninth street, Brooklyn, E. D., received a compound fracture of the left leg July 3d, 1860. The leg is an inch and quarter shorter than the right, and has improved one ounce of Munn's elixir of opium to stop the intense pain. He gradually increased the dose until he took three ounces a day. After the leg was well he continued it for about three years and a half, when he commenced taking a simple of morphine, twenty-six grains a day, one hundred and eighty grains a week, or six hundred grains a month. Has taken twenty grains at a dose, and frequently thirty grains a day. Eight years ago he attempted to reform, but stopped its use, which made him so delirious that his physicians and friends feared he would die if he continued to do without it. He then renewed the habit, with occasional seasons of partial reform, which were followed by great distress, delirium, and such dangerous indications that he soon relapsed into his old habit. When the special religious services were held at the Hippodrome last March, he attended, and went to the meeting in a room, where he was urged to discontinue the habit and become a Christian; was made the subject of prayer, and great solicitude was manifested in his behalf by Mr. Moody and others. On the 13th of March he took a dose of opium, and was taken to a place in New York City, away from his family, where he could be properly cared for, and seen by those who had become so deeply interested in his welfare. From Monday, the 13th, till Wednesday, the 15th, he was followed by great distress, delirium, and such dangerous indications that he soon relapsed into his old habit. 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