The New Northwest.

THURSDAY.....AUGUST 1, 1878.

WOODS IN SUMMER.

When through woodland dim and lonely
Crowning some old mountain's brow,
Where the eager light can only
Peep through leaves or flowers below;

Where the arching trees above us
Shield the fountain's gushing tide,
As the arms of those who love us
Buoyant hearts from sorrow hide;

Walking there in silent musing,
Mem'ry wandered through the years,
Pointing out the paths, and choosing
Only those that lead to tears;

Though from out the foliage o'er us
Fell the voice of many a bird,
And great nature's gladd'ning chorus
Echoing through the glades we heard;

Yet the branches seemed like sorrow
Resting shadowy on the heart,
When no coolness it may borrow
From joy's stream that flows apart;

And the fountain's gushing laughter
Seemed the voice of cheering friend,
Minding us how soon hereafter
All the shades of grief shall end;

And the bird's clear warbling carol
Like a dear darling's cry
Telling us how brighter all
Joys, when sorrow passeth by.

Soon the forest shadows leaving
Burst the sunlight, far away,
Threads of brooks through meadows weaving,
Glist'ning, shone with silv'ry ray.

Fields of grain the hills adorning,
All their slopes with verdure waved,
And the soft'ning mist of morning
Far-off sleepy mountains laved.

Then away were thoughts of sadness
With the woodland faneies flown,
All the brighter gleamed the gladness
For the brooding shadows gone;

And those thousand valleys smiling
In the sun's far-sloping light
Seemed like joys the heart beguiling
After sorrow's gloomy night.

Walking still in silent musing,
Mem'ry wandered through the years,
Pointing out the paths, and choosing
Now no longer those of tears.

Arguments

OF THE DELEGATES OF THE NATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION, BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, JANUARY 11 AND 12, 1878.

SARA ANDREWS SPENCER.

Sara Andrews Spencer, chairman of the resident Congressional committee of the National Woman Suffrage Association, said:

Gentlemen of the Committee:—Many thousands of women of thirty-five States, who cannot possibly appear before you, have represented themselves here by delegates and by letters, all of them uniting in the one general request that the Congress of the United States shall aid them in the greatest reform of the age. They say they have done everything that earnest women could do to secure justice, and they find that one man with the ballot in his hands is stronger than all their prayers, and they ask us to pray you for justice, and to give you no rest.

You cannot believe that in the four hours' time granted by this committee to these representatives of women of the United States, you have heard a full, fair, exhaustive discussion of a question as broad and high and deep as humanity itself. The women citizens of this republic, the wives, mothers and daughters of men, do not ask the Congress of the United States, nor the legislatures of the various States, nor the male voters of the United States, to confer upon women citizens the right of suffrage. It is beyond the power of man to confer upon us the sacred, heaven-endowed right of self-government. We ask you to enact a constitutional amendment that shall protect us in the use of our natural, God-given inheritance.

From every section of this fair land comes to you the voice of women asking for their own, saying, "Restore to us the power that you have usurped, not only because it is just, but because, owned and controlled as we are, we cannot even give to the world better men. We cannot stem the tide of vice forever rolling outward and onward, and sweeping to moral death our loved ones."

Endowed with mighty forces from the fountain of all life and power, man has made himself master of the material world. He has tunneled mountains, bridged chasms, sundered continents, joined oceans, blasted rocks, exalted valleys, drained marshes, spanned rivers, chained the lightning, and made the elements of earth, air and sea the obedient servants of his will. If now and then a smouldering element has crept forth like a thief in the night, while he slept, and laid a city in ruins, he has marshaled his willing army of workers, and ere the world had realized its loss, he has reared palaces upon the ruins, and magnificence has taken the place of desolation.

Dare we ask this monarch of all the earth to pause in his brilliant march, to contemplate the havoc he has made with human souls? Whence come they, and whither are they going, the terrible procession of 36,552 tried and convicted criminals, 116,000 paupers, 37,432 raving lunatics, 16,205 deaf and dumb, 20,320 blind, 24,527 idiotic, 13,100 youthful criminals, 100,000 vagrant, homeless girls, 12,719 orphans, 114,000 children with tendencies to crime, and the vast numbers of the epileptic, the deformed, the diseased, who demand the care of 62,583 physicians and surgeons to help them eke out or terminate a miserable life? And how has it come to pass—you who are fathers answer us—that of 1,100,475 little children born alive on our soil, 100,455 have, within a year, moaned their little lives away in cruel pain, and have been laid to sleep with sobs and groans and tears, leaving in hearts and homes an aching void the world can never fill? And so much more sad is life than even death. Tell us whence comes and whither goes this larger army of children whom nobody wants, children whose daily life is a tragedy of kicks, curses, cuffs and cruel blows—of want and misery no words can tell—children hiding in ash-barrels and out in the fields, under the fences, in the nooks and crannies and dark places of our great cities, hiding from the monsters whose bleared visages are the only idea of fatherhood their wretched lives have ever known. Have you not seen them?

Ragged children, hungry-eyed,
Huddled up out of the coldness
On your door-steps, side by side,
Till your footman damns their boldness.
Patient children, think what pain
Makes a young child patient—ponder.
Wronged too commonly to strain
After right, or wish or wonder.
Wicked children, with peaked chins
And old foreheads, there are many
With no pleasures except sins,
Gambling with a stolen penny.

Is not this accumulation of human woe, at which "all the world wonders," because, in the highest, holiest work delegated from God to man, the perpetuation of the race, the cruel agent, generation after generation, has recklessly blundered? Or may he safely shift the responsibility, and evade judgment by showing that

In Adam's fall
We sinned all.

But Christ, the anointed, has come to save the lost, and our sins, inherited and actual, may all be washed away in the blood of the lamb. When we ask for better children that may grow to purer and wiser manhood and womanhood, do you tell us that this is not a matter of legislation, and remand us to the churches for regeneration and salvation? Do you ask us to violate our common sense by depending for the redemption of the world upon a few ministers once a week vaguely bidding enslaved wretches, whose evils were planted in their souls and bodies by cruel fathers and unwilling mothers before they were born, to repent and be baptized, that their sins, which were like scarlet, may be whiter than snow? You know that millions of reckless people go on peopling the earth after their own kind, and that not one-tenth of one per cent. of the 1,110,000 children annually born in this republic have as much care taken that they shall be rightly born as is bestowed upon birds in a cage or beasts in the field?

The masses of those who most need to be "born again," the dangerous classes, even if the gospel could save them, hear no gospel-call, and know not what is meant by being "renewed within." If now and then one struggles against the tide and finds a solitary seat in the back pew of a friendly church, it is only for one hour on Sunday, while the dram-shops and all the other haunts of vice are open six days in the week, and keep a hospitable back door ajar on the seventh.

Proud man, our self-appointed guardian, realizing the danger, and himself despairing of the gospel plan, or not having enough genuine faith in it to bring it to bear upon these cases, has invoked his ready human resources to settle these social problems, and we are invited to behold the result. His remedies are massive, and there is no time for details. Do criminals abound? Then we will have more prisons and station-houses and jails, more police courts and judges and officers; and and since vast sums of money are required to sustain this ponderous machinery of law, and make it a terror to evil-doers and a safe-guard to our homes, we will license 35,185 restaurants, and permit them, for a round fee, which they can well afford to pay, to sell whisky, rum, brandy, gin, and every species of intoxicating drink. To gather in money from the more degraded classes, we will license 14,362 regular dram-shops of a lower order, and also "sample rooms," pleasure gardens, and low, obscene, comic theaters, where every variety of wild and frantic amusement will tempt them to perpetual violence, leading to frequent arrests, and thus, besides the license taxes, net us a large sum in fines and penalties for breaches of the law. Do beggars and vagrants, old and young, swarm in our great cities and upon our highways? We will build more almshouses and work-houses, crowd them in, and tax the industrious people of the land, the farmer at his plow and the washerwoman at her tub, to support the pauperism and vagrancy of the land. Is the social vice eating away like a cancer at the lives of our sons, torturing the baby brain, robbing the innocent bride of her health and bloom, and dragging to everlasting shame the daughters of the poor and ignorant? Let us license this vice also, and require these victims of our degrading propensities to be kept in good health, that we and our sons may sin in largest liberty, while the brand of shame is publicly burned upon the brow of the woman only. There will be larger financial gain to our treasury in this than in all of the licenses for the 50,000 dram-shops of this republic. A single Western city gathered in $80,000 as a revenue in a single month from the sale of 2,864 young and ignorant girls to the rich citizens and transient visitors of her municipality. Do you wonder that women citizens of the United States, beholding the legislation of this master of all the earth for their husbands and their sons, for their daughters and their neighbors' daughters, dare not give you sweet repose and peace.

[Continued next week.]

Millions of dollars are spent in this country annually in the purchase of tawdry trash, perishable things that have no intrinsic value, and that go to swell the contents of the refuse barrels at each spring and fall cleaning. Always there is some new craze. Either it is lace-making or crocheting, house decorations, or some article of personal ornamentation that is entertaining the idle women of the land. They know no more about the real value of the time wasted, or the real value of the trumpery manufactured, than they do about the interest on money investments in Europe, or the causes of the famine in India. Are they to blame? What has been done to give them just ideas of finances? How many have ever been entrusted beyond the household requirements of the day or season? The childish indifference of the average woman to the business affairs of men is, beyond doubt, mortifying to many sensible men who recognize how their own interests suffer in consequence. But no real good results from this state of affairs, for men generally do not encourage the study of financial matters in women, and dislike above all things a woman who has decided taste for such things.

MADE A DIFFERENCE.—A bright little fellow, about four years of age, made an assertion, the correctness of which his father questioned, who asked:

"If Mary should tell anything that was not exactly so, what would you say?"

"I'd say she told a lie."

"If brother should say anything that was not exactly so, would you think it right?"

"No; I'd think he told a lie."

"Well, supposing you should say something that was not exactly so; what then?"

"I'd say I's mistaken."

John Sherry has presented five acres of land, valued at $12,000, to the city of Troy for a public park.

The spring of all spiritual activity is faith.

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1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.

2. If any subscribers order the discontinuance of their newspapers, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.

3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the offices to which they are directed, the law holds them responsible until they have settled the bills, and ordered them discontinued.

4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the newspapers are sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.

5. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers from the office, or removing and leaving them unsalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

6. The postmaster who neglects to give the legal notice of the neglect of a person to take from the office the newspapers addressed to him, is liable to the publisher for the subscription price.

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