

The New Northwest.

A Journal for the People. Independent in Politics and Religion. Aims to all Live Issues, and Thoroughly Radical in Opining and Exposing the Wrongs of the Masses.

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NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The date printed after the address of your paper denotes the time of the expiration of your subscription.

ALASKA'S APPEAL.

The situation of the people of Alaska is similar to that of the women of the United States. When the territory was acquired, the government "guaranteed to the inhabitants the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States," just as it guarantees the same to women; but in both cases it has signally failed to keep its obligations.

This deplorable state of affairs in Alaska naturally calls for action, and the residents are determined to have the government's attention, if there is any virtue in a strong appeal. It would be a pleasure to note their success if they comprehended the full meaning of liberty; but while they want only one-half of the people to be free, we shall not be anxious to see them get what they seek.

AN ANGRY OPPONENT.

A Colorado paper, the Register-Call, makes these frank and refreshing remarks:

Women may preach and pray, and howl until doomsday that their sex are fit to fill any sphere in life; but they are not; it is a falsehood made plain by the transactions of the world's history; it is a fallacy, which is proven by six thousand years of the sex. Nine out of every ten women in existence are not endowed with good common sense.

The cause of this wild paragraph may be found in the fact that the Register-Call was cornered by a woman and completely befuddled when it attempted to disprove the soundness and justice of the claims of the Woman Suffragists.

Nannie Thomas has not married an Eastern Washington farmer, but is acting in the capacity of nurse to Mrs. Judge Sullivan, of Colfax, who was so seriously injured a few weeks ago by being thrown from a buggy.

The condition of the President, which was utterly hopeless on our last publication day, suddenly changed for the better on Saturday last, and the reports are now very encouraging.

COLORADO'S SELECT PRESS SOCIETY.

Mrs. C. M. Churchill, editor of the Denver Antelope, has been refused admission to the Colorado Press Association. She takes the slight good-naturedly and philosophically, knowing that such bigotry and meanness will redound to the advantage of her paper and the equal rights cause.

Although there is no danger that Mrs. Churchill's business will be otherwise than improved by the Press Association's snub, yet the spirit which animated the contemptible act should not be overlooked. It is a form of the intolerance and tyranny which has ever characterized the bearing of men toward women who venture to seek avenues of livelihood outside the kitchen, the chamber, the wash-room, or the dress-maker's shop.

OPINIONS ON THE QUEEN'S POSITION.

From the Springfield Republican: "For any woman who has got on so well in the world, it is decidedly mean in Queen Victoria to object to the presence of women in the International Medical Congress, who simply ask the right to earn their own living in an honorable way."

From the Woman's Journal: "What harm would it have done the International Medical Congress if the Queen had withdrawn her name as patron? It would have been worth while to find out. Real values do not require names."

From the Rochester Herald: "The Queen and the doctors have shown great weakness and folly in this matter. There is much better reason for the appearance of women in the medical profession than for their appearance as crowned and sceptered rulers."

From the San Jose Mercury: "Silly and weak as the Queen's direction to Sir William Jenner was, the obsequious toadyism of the assembled physicians was even more offensive. The proper thing to do under such circumstances would have been to inform the Queen that one good woman physician would be worth to the profession and to the world a dozen royal patronesses."

Colonel T. W. Higginson, after stating that a majority of the doctors favored the admission of women, but complied with the Queen's expressed wish for their exclusion, says: "Here are the intellectual men of the world, in one department of intellect, assembled and ready to do justice to women—and they are prevented by whom? By a woman; by the woman who of all her sex exercises at this moment the greatest personal power, and who might, therefore, do most for her sex. This does not show that women are not to be trusted with power, for a king might have done no better; but it shows that women, like men, need teaching and educating; that they need to be appealed to, and even reproached, if necessary, to make them do their share in the work of reform."

Numerous other criticisms could be given, but these are sufficient to show that the Queen has not kept pace with the progressive spirit of the age.

The Lincoln Monument Association, of Philadelphia, has treated Miss Anna Dickinson very shabbily, presumably for no other cause than that she is a woman of independent thought and action. "It was I who proposed the monument," she says, "and I gave \$1,000 which came from a lecture to the cause in question. The rest of the fund of \$20,000 was made up in small subscriptions, the greatest being \$20. When it came to erecting the monument, I, who had given one-twentieth of the fund, was not even mentioned. The pamphlet which tells of the association alludes to me in no way."

"JUDGE BURNETT'S MITE."

ROSEBURG, August 22, 1881.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW NORTHWEST: In your issue of the 18th instant, I see you give a choice excerpt from Judge Burnett's address at the State Fair, in which the Judge, in speaking of the donation act of September 27, 1850, granting land to early settlers in Oregon, says:

Here we find the dignity and personality of women recognized in a substantial manner, and her right to property placed upon the same footing and secured as completely to her as those of the man. This provision of the donation act is one of the strongest arguments I have seen in favor of woman's rights, and entitles the authors of that law to the gratitude of every man and woman in Oregon.

Though not a lawyer pleading before the learned Judge, I must demur to his special pleading for woman's rights under this act, and am surprised that he will make such unwarranted statements of the provisions of that act as averred in the italics above. By reference to statutes at large, vol. ix, p. 496, it will be readily perceived that all the rights of women in that act depend upon her wife-ship—not of citizenship, like that of the man. No single woman or widow whose rights had not completely accrued as a wife could enter one foot of land under that act.

In view of this fact, I ask the learned Judge to show wherein that act secured to woman the same rights to realty as the man—except what she got by a husband. That act was good so far as it went, but it stopped far short of recognizing and securing to woman the same rights as to man. That act clearly ignored her independent individuality. Under the then unequal laws of the Territory, the wife was the vehicle of conveying to the husband a double portion of public domain. Such a law was a premium on marriage, resulting often, as I am informed by old settlers, in inducing "mere girls to marry old whisky-soaked, bleary-eyed and nearly bankrupt bachelors or self-divorced widowers who had abandoned wives in the States."

To put that law in its practical light, it will be sufficient to state that if a husband and father, who, with his family, had labored six long months crossing the plains with an ox team, enduring all manner of privations from heat, thirst, hunger and harassment from savages, died before making settlement upon a tract of land, the wife could not enter or secure a home upon the public domain until she should marry again.

Is that putting the woman on the same footing as the man? Is that securing her property as completely as that of the man? "Bah! out on such justice." The donation act demonstrates that women—"strong-minded women"—after securing the right to a portion of land through a husband, could, as many did, "provide for an improvident husband in declining years, where she had the same opportunity of managing and controlling it that he had."

The preemption act of 1841 and the homestead act of 1862 more fully recognize the dignity and personality of woman than the donation act of 1850. Under those acts, woman, if she be the head of a family, can avail herself of their provisions and secure land in her own right as completely as man without marrying. The preemption act is defective in this, that if the single woman marry before final proof and payment, she cannot consummate her title to the land. The homestead act, on the contrary, allows the woman to consummate the entry even though she marry before the certificate issue. This act, therefore, "entitles the authors to the everlasting gratitude of every man and woman" in the United States.

W. F. B.

At a cadets' party at West Point, on the 28th ultimo, an Englishman who represents himself as "Captain Burslem," of the British army, was soundly flogged by a young San Francisco lady, into whose face he insolently and persistently puffed smoke as she and her mother were ascending the steps leading to the ball-room. She appealed to gentlemen near her for protection, but no one offered, and she struck the impudent fellow squarely in the face with her fist, knocking the cigar from his mouth. He then raised a cane, which she wrenched from him and used with good effect, cutting his face badly. He had previously insulted her by informing her point blank that she lied. Public sentiment is with the young lady, whose name is Scoffe or Schofield, though the Britisher's friends are doing all they can to render her position odious.—The Dalles Times makes this comment: "Miss Scoffe has shown herself equal to the emergency of defending her rights, and is competent to exercise the elective franchise."

Miss M. A. Hardaker having lately been added to the staff of the Boston Transcript, the Woman's Journal says: "Miss Hardaker brings scholarship and ability to her new post, and is herself a proof of the falsity of her pet theory of the inferiority of women. We wish her success."

The fallen mother, whose child was denied educational advantages in this State, has gone East with the boy, and will place him in some well-known college where Christian virtues are professed less and practiced more.

UNION SUFFRAGISTS' ANNUAL MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW NORTHWEST:

The Union county friends of Woman Suffrage met in Wilkinson's Hall, La Grande, on the afternoon of August 20th, and were greeted with a "Song of Welcome" by a choir of young people of La Grande; Miss Jessie Baker, presiding at the organ.

A lively discussion was had upon the unparliamentary proceedings of the previous called meetings.

The following officers for the ensuing year were then elected: President, Mrs. M. A. Eaton, of Union; Recording Secretary, Mrs. M. P. Ames, of Union; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Huntington, of La Grande; Treasurer, Mrs. H. M. McComas, of Union. Vice-Presidents—Mrs. Proebstel, of La Grande; Mrs. Hendershott, of Cove; Rev. Mr. Eads, of La Grande; Mr. M. B. Rees, of Cove; Mrs. M. L. Brennen, of Big Creek. Executive Committee—E. S. McComas, of Union; Mrs. M. Baker, of La Grande; J. F. Carter, of Island City.

Miss Jessie Baker favored the company with the select reading, "Strength of Tyranny."

The President then read a communication from Mrs. Mary E. Babbington, of Cove.

The reunion in the evening was addressed by Mr. Crandall, of The Dalles, President of the Woman Suffrage Association of Wasco county, and the Rev. Mr. Eads, of La Grande.

Short speeches were made by E. S. McComas, A. L. Davis, of Walla Walla, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Wallace, and Mrs. Huntington.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Mahathey for the free use of the hall, and the editors of the Record for favors granted, and the choir, which entertained the audience with a number of songs. Adjourned to meet on the 17th of September.

M. P. AMES, Secretary.

Union, Or., August 24, 1881.

The Pacific Christian Advocate says the address on the "Education of Girls," by Mrs. Andrew, Dean of the Woman's College in connection with Willamette University, which was delivered at the anniversary of the educational society of the Oregon M. E. Conference, "evinced her high qualifications for the position to which she has been elected, and gave assurance that those who entrust daughters to her care may expect the best results as to both moral and mental culture."

GENERAL NEWS.

The fall meeting of the American Rifle Association begins at Creedmoor on the 10th instant.

There is serious trouble in Wisconsin between whites and a tribe of Indians called Dreamers.

Republicans and Greenbackers of Mississippi have agreed on a fusion ticket, headed by Benjamin King for Governor.

A couple of Maine fools have crossed the Atlantic in a small dory. They go from Falmouth to Hamburg, and will return in the fall craft.

Troops in the southwest have had fifteen fights with Nina's band of Apaches, and nearly captured them once; but the savages finally escaped across the Mexican line.

On last Monday, Lieutenant B. L. Edes, of Washington, and Lyman G. Spaulding, of Portsmouth, were blown to atoms at Newport by the accidental explosion of a torpedo.

Hately's packing establishment, at Chicago, was burned on the 26th. Large quantities of bacon, lard and provision were consumed. The loss is nearly \$1,000,000, and the insurance is \$750,000.

The last good thing from India is the reply of a Hindoo or half-caste when asked who was Julius Caesar. "The first Roman-Catholic Bishop of India," he replied, "who introduced Christianity into England."

St. Louis insurance men are at war with the fire department, charging it with inefficiency and resolving on energetic efforts for overhauling it. The department complains of a lack of engines and the smallness of appropriations for the service.

Some time ago an effort was made to convert the late Mr. Spotted Tail to the Christian faith. After the scheme of salvation had been fully unfolded to him, he remarked: "White religion no good. God come on earth, white man kill him. Indian wouldn't do that."

It is discovered that some one at the White House has been telegraphing to New York brokers the condition of the President in advance of bulletins, and there is considerable indignation that anybody should have driven a dishonest trade in the symptoms of the nation's patient.

Manipulators of several Eastern railroads have formed a syndicate and purchased a tract of 8000 acres of land in the region of Wolf Lake, below South Chicago, paying \$1,200,000. It commands an immense water frontage, and the plan is to create a manufacturing center to rival Pullman.

Nathan Prettyman was killed by a young man named Curry in St. Louis. The widow testified on the stand to an account of the deed which would render it murder in the first degree; but his daughter, who is reported to be in love with Curry, contradicts under oath all the damaging testimony of her mother. The jury does not know which to believe.

The following notice has been sent to Eastern papers, which publish it more as a curiosity than as a warning: "Americans and friends of Ireland are hereby warned against embarking upon any vessel flying the British flag after Thursday, Sept. 1st. Many may reach their destination, but none are safe. By order of central committee."

This is the season when the dreaded fever and ague are prevalent. Nip them in the bud with Plunder's "S. S. S.," a sure cure.

Owing to the superior finish and excellence of work, Abell stands preëminent as a photographer. Give him a call.

The "New No. 8" is the cheapest sewing machine to buy. Wheeler & Wilson M'g Co., 88 Morrison st.