The Revolution;

THE ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL PARTY OF NEW AMERICA.

PRINCIPLE, NOT POLICY; JUSTICE, NOT FAVOR.

VOL. I—NO. 1.
NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1868.
$2.00 A YEAR.

KANSAS.

The question of the disfranchisement of woman has already passed the court of moral discussion, and is now fairly ushered into the arena of politics, where it must remain a fixed element of debate, until party necessity shall compel its success.

With 9,000 votes in Kansas, one-third the entire vote, every politician must see that the friends of “woman’s suffrage” hold the balance of power in that State to-day. And these 9,000 votes represent a principle deep in the hearts of the people, for this triumph was secured without money, without a press, without a party. With these instrumentalities now fast coming to us on all sides, the victory in Kansas is but the herald of greater victories in every State of the Union. Kansas already leads the world in her legislation for woman on questions of property, education, wages, marriage and divorce. Her best universities are open alike to boys and girls. In fact woman has a voice in the legislation of that State. She votes on all school questions and is eligible to the office of trustee. She has a voice in temperance too; no license is granted without the consent of a majority of the adult citizens, male and female, black and white. The consequence is, stone school houses are voted up in every part of the State, and rum voted down. Many of the ablest men in that State are champions of woman’s cause. Governesses, judges, lawyers and clergymen. Two-thirds of the posts and pulpits advocate the idea, in spite of the opposition of politicians. The first Governor of Kansas, twice-chosen to that office, Charles Robinson, went all the way with the State, speaking every day for two months in favor of woman’s suffrage. In the organization of the State government, he proposed that the word “white” should not be inserted in the Kansas constitution. All this shows that giving political rights to women is no new idea in that State. Who that has listened with tearful eyes to the deep experiences of those Kansas women, through the darkest hours of their history, does not feel that such bravery and self-denial as they have shown alike in war and peace, have richly earned for them the crown of citizenship.

Opposed to this moral sentiment of the liberal minds of the State, many adverse influences were brought to bear through the entire campaign. The action of the New York Constitutional Convention; the silence of eastern journals on the question; the opposition of abolitionists; last a demand for woman’s suffrage should defeat negro suffrage; the hostility everywhere of black men themselves; some even stamping the State against woman’s suffrage; the official action of both the leading parties in their conventions in Leavenworth against the proposition, with every organized Republican influence outside as well as inside the State, all combined might have made our vote comparatively a small one, had not George Francis Train gone into the State two weeks before the election and galvanized the Democrats into their duty, thus securing 9,000 votes for woman’s suffrage. Some claim that we are indebted to the Republicans for this vote; but the fact that the most radical republican district, Douglas County, gave the largest vote against woman’s suffrage, while Leavenworth, the Democratic district, gave the largest vote for it, fully answers that question.

In saying that Mr. Train helped to swell our vote, nothing from the credit due all those who labored faithfully for months in that State. All praise to Olympia Brown, Lucy Stone, Susan B. Anthony, Henry B. Blackwell, and Judge Wood, who welcomed, for an idea, the hardships of travelling in a new State, fording streams, scaling rocky bluffs, sleeping on the ground and eating hard tack, with the fatigue of constant speaking, in school-houses, barns, mills, depots and the open air; and especially all praise to the glorious Harriett soon family—John, his son Henry and daughter, Violas—who, with their own horses and carriage, made the entire circuit of the state, singing Woman’s Suffrage into souls that logic could never penetrate. Having shared with them the hardships, with them I rejoice in our success.

E. C. B.

The Ballot—Bread, Virtue, Power.

The Revolution will contain a series of articles, beginning next week, to prove the power of the ballot in elevating the character and condition of woman. We shall show that the ballot will secure for woman equal place and equal wages in the world of work; that it will open to her the schools, colleges, professions and all the opportunities and advantages of life; that in her hand it will be a moral power to stay the tide of vice and crime and misery on every side.

In the words of Bishop Simpson:

“...We believe that the great voices in the large cities will never be compared until the ballot is put in the hands of woman. If the question of the danger of their souls being drawn away into drinking saloons was brought up, or the notion had been put to them they would close them; if the sisters had the power, and they saw their brothers going away to haunts of revelry, they would close those places. You may get men to unite with people with virtue, with righteousness; but, thank God, the hearts of the women of our land—the mothers, wives and daughters—are too pure to make a compromise either with intemperance or licentiousness.”

Thus, too, shall we purge our constitutions and statutes from all vicious distinctions among the citizens of the States, and secure the same civil and moral code for man and woman. We will show the hundred thousand female teachers, and the millions of laboring women, that their complaints, petitions, suites and protective unions are of no avail until they hold the ballot in their own hands; for it is the first step toward social, religious and political equality.