

## WHERE IS WOMAN?

We are tired of this universal harping about "Universal Suffrage" when only half the universal family are meant. It is an unpardonable affront to all womankind, and none the less so because coming from such a source as Thaddeus Stevens, as below:

Mr. Stevens (Rep., Penn.), rising at the Clerk's desk, said: This, Mr. Speaker, is a grave question of argument. It is not a question for demagogues. The world is going on in its progress of human government, and is every day advancing in the great science which is to make man happy or make him miserable. We are either to relapse into a state of barbarism where that infamous doctrine that one man can own another is to be re-established, or we are to establish that doctrine where every man governs himself and has rights that are inalienable, and among these inalienable rights is the right of Universal Suffrage, which no man shall dare, after this generation shall have passed away, to dispute. We are not now merely expounding a government—we are correcting the injustice, the errors, the fallacies which were heaped on other times by necessity. From the dark ages up, mankind has been ground down by despots, who could not control the people, and were unable to form governments such as ought to control them. \* \* \*

Whoever undertakes to make a distinction between the colored man and ourselves because of the color of his skin, or the formation of his body, has forgotten his God, and his God will forget him. In other words, you must go back now to universal and impartial suffrage as the only foundation on which the government can stand. You must build all your science of government on that, and when you attempt to depart from it you forget that you are a man; that you become a tyrant, and you deserve the execration of the human race. There is no other way but by universal suffrage in which you and I and every man can protect ourselves against the injustice, the inhumanity and the wrongs which would otherwise be inflicted upon us. \* \* \* I differ slightly with my respected colleague from Philadelphia (Mr. Kelly) on that ground. We have reached a period when we may speak of universal suffrage, not as a boon, not as a gift, but as an inalienable right which no man dares take away and which no man can surrender. His God has forbidden, the science of government has forbidden it; and henceforth let us understand that universal suffrage, operating in favor of every man who is to be governed by the votes cast, is one of those doctrines planted deeper than the granite on which our fathers laid the foundation of their immortal work—the work of universal liberty; which will last just as long as that immortal doctrine shall last, and no longer.

The only answer woman should make to all this is, Fudge!—ED. REV.

## MUSCULAR WOMEN.

THE West is getting to be almost one prairie fire on the whole question of Woman, and her Rights, Wrongs and Necessities. We clip the following from the Macon (Missouri) *Argus*:

Physical strength is a glorious thing. We are mocking at God for one of his noblest gifts when we despise it. The woman who can hold a twenty pound weight on the palm of her hand, with her arm straight out from her body; can row a boat, swim swiftly or gracefully; or better still, can do the kitchen work of a whole household, is more to be envied than Helen of Troy. It is better to be able to walk ten miles without fatigue, than to speak ten languages. A soul is of no account in this world without a body. The acquiring of all the physical strength in her power is certainly as much a woman's duty as a man's, and it is simply idiotic for her to talk of coping with men, in even the lightest employments, until she attends to this duty. Until she can walk a mile or so in stormy weather as in hair, let her not ask for herself the lighter kinds of manual labor. It is all nonsense.

Physical perfection is, indeed, a glorious gift; but strength and beauty must exist together, or there can be no perfection. A beautiful arm is lovely, but when a beautiful arm is also a strong arm, it is splendid. A beautiful woman is fair, but when her soul's casnet is full of electric life and power in every fibre, she is magnificent. There can be no true physical beauty without strength. No beauty of soul, either, for that matter,

unless one can be crippled in the spine and turn saint. Without one's joints in their normal condition, however, it is certainly impossible to have a noble soul without also a good body. The good body outside must take care of the noble soul inside, and if there were no soul at all in the question, the body has still itself to provide for. The struggle for animal life is a battle of material forces alone, and sickly women will never be a match against healthy men. These cadaverous, hysterical creatures who seek to leave the old-fashioned sphere, may as well go back and stay there. The working world has no call for them with their puny bodies. No matter how strong their wills are, they will prove but stumbling-blocks to believers. Take an average city girl, with her weak, white hands, her colds, her headaches, her nervousness, her everlasting tendency to "burst into tears" at any moment, and what does she amount to, even with a wealthy "Pa"? What, then, will become of the helpless potato sprout when turned out to compete with an active, muscular boy? Poor little potato sprout! Who would be free must be strong. If the mothers of feeble girls would only allow them to become healthy instead of making them genteel!

## LIGHT IN DARK PLACES.

AWAY down in Texas the cause of woman has at least one advocate (the *Texas Vindicator*), second in fidelity to no one in New York or New England. The following is a touch of its virtue:

We have repeatedly stated that, in our judgment, there was no more important question now occupying a large share of the public attention than this of Woman's Rights; and we have notated one jot or tittle in that belief. Because it has been baffled in Kansas or elsewhere, by the machinations of prejudice and political corruption, is no reason why its friends should despair. It is no evidence to our mind of any intrinsic defect in the reform; but rather is it an infallible testimony of its great merit and usefulness. Again, and again, have the best interests of humanity been defeated when urged forward by the leading spirits of the age; for every age has its superior minds—every age has its reforms, and every age has its prejudices to overcome. The men who laugh and jeer at the projects of the philanthropist today, often find that they themselves are the laughing-stocks of to-morrow for their inertness and old fogy notions. The human mind is progressive; and you can no more stop the wheel of its advance, by the scowls, reproaches, and stumbling-blocks of this generation, than the dungeon, the rack, the gibbet, and the fire stopped them in generations past. Let no man or woman cease efforts in a good work because of opposition. Opposition is the fire that purifies—the spur that stimulates to redoubled activity; it should be courted rather than avoided. It is the only emblem of virtue in the object sought to be obtained. When opposition ceases, there is no more need for the reformer.

## ANOTHER RICHMOND IN THE FIELD.

UNDER the above heading the New York *Sun* introduces George Francis Train as a possible if not probable candidate at the coming presidential election. It thinks his chances of election even are as good as three-fourths of those who aspire to that honor. It intimates that his present tour abroad has such object in view. But the *Sun* may shine for itself, as below:

At first view it might seem that the Emerald Isle was a rather remote base whence to carry on operations for capturing the White House at Washington. But, when we reflect that Mr. Train's objective point is to secure the Irish vote in America, and thereby either force the democratic party to nominate him, or, failing in this, to run as an independent candidate on a Fenian platform, we perceive that his campaign in Ireland is dictated by the profoundest political strategy. On his own showing he was nominated for the Presidency by a hundred mass meetings before he left this country. He is hailed as a candidate by enthusiastic assemblies across the sea. He is greeted as a Deliverer by crowds whose stentorian cheers might arouse O'Connell from his slumbers. He is flooded with libations, smothered with presents, and borne from town to town on the shoulders of admiring throngs.

Mr. Train is a favorite of our citizens of Hibernian extraction. Always popular with them, he is now re-

garded, and not unjustly, as a martyr to British tyranny, and idolized as the only native American who has dared to grapple with the British lion in his den. His proposition to receive Ireland and annex it to the United States in payment of the Alabama claims, has caused a thrill in both hemispheres and arrested the attention of Lord Stanley and Secretary Seward. His nomination for the presidency by the Irish Americans would open a campaign which he would prosecute with characteristic vigor. His principal organ, the *World*, and his personal organ, "THE REVOLUTION," would give him a cordial support. The Credit Foncier of America, of which he is President, and the Credit Mobilier of America, in which he is Director, would sustain him with their fabulous resources; while all along the route of the Union Pacific Railroad, his name would be welcomed with wild enthusiasm, from Omaha to the Rocky Mountains. The total abstinence societies and the disciples of hydropathy would shower him with plaudits, for he is a believer in cold water. He is a man of fine presence, always well dressed, and can bear the scrutiny of an opera glass; and, therefore, all the women who test the merits of a candidate by his personal appearance would give him their hearty sympathy.

But, powerful as are all these influences, they would be but his mere skirmish line. The main body would consist of the Irish voters; and they are a countless multitude. Backed by them, and with his name floating from the editorial columns of all their journals, he would hold the balance of power in some of the largest States in the Union. A less shrewd man than Mr. Train need not be told that the democratic party cannot afford to lose the Irish vote. Hence, they must either adopt him as their candidate to save it, or nominate Judge Chase, and thereby make up for this loss by obtaining a share of the radical vote of the North and the colored vote of the South. With the Irish voters, swelled by his various auxiliaries, Mr. Train would seriously drain the democratic ranks; while Judge Chase, by dividing the colored vote, would sorely deplete the republican force; and hence, the election might go to the House of Representatives, where the republicans would be likely to triumph. This knot might be cut by persuading Mr. Train to accept the Vice-Presidency on the ticket with Judge Chase. Such a combination would consolidate and popularize the democratic party, avert all dangers of a war of races in the South, and save the country from the dangers of a corrupt election by the House of Representatives.

## WOMEN IN PENITENTIARIES.

In an article published in the *Gartenbaue*, of Leipzig, Col. C. L. Bernay, of Missouri, speaking of "the characteristics of American women," refers to them in connection with the State prison, observing that "the Penitentiary at Jefferson City, has no accommodation for women," and attributing this absence of accommodation, in a great degree, to a universal disinclination on the part of men to prosecute and condemn women. It is certainly a sentiment of commendable chivalry, that actuates this generous motive; but even were we disposed to accept it as such, our own experience would lead us to say that Col. Bernay has been too readily inclined to measure the majority of mankind by his own chivalrous feeling toward the "weaker sex." The fact is, that the absence of proper accommodations, will not shield woman from prosecution and condemnation whenever she dares to violate the laws of society, or offend public decency. To the same extent that woman follows the example of man in transgression, to that very same extent does she suffer with him the just penalty imposed for crime. And while her expiation has seldom been less than his, proportionally, it has full often been greater, and that too when she was least able to bear it. Let us not, therefore, with this faint excuse fail to provide for woman the same accommodations that men enjoy—even in her prison life, for it is not sex that will ever shield her from prosecution and condemnation—that will come only with education and moral culture.

I am glad, however, to be able to say that Jefferson City can now boast of abundant provision for women in the State Penitentiary. Adjoining the main building, and of the same material, stands the Female Department, where, in rooms airy and light; furnished with all the necessaries of life—the inmates might easily imagine themselves in a school for reformation, rather than in close confinement for crime. Among the seven hundred prisoners now within the Penitentiary walls, it was gratifying to count only nineteen women, and they of the lowest class, mostly negroes—poor, ignorant beings, who have been the victims of injustice all their lives, and are now only working out the painful results of an