

One of the strongest testimonials to her superiority and the king's confidence in her wisdom, was his command that she should issue a decree saying whatever she liked for the Jews, which in consultation with Mordecai she did and averted the impending ruin of her people. —Chicago Advance.

#### A SKETCH OF FACTS WITH ONLY A CHANGE IN NAMES.

DEAR REVOLUTION: I want to tell you a story, because I have neither mother nor sister to talk to, and my heart aches for a confidant.

I had an appointment at Judge Benson's office yesterday at three o'clock. He was to pay me the twenty dollars he had subscribed toward buying winter clothing for our orphan's home and school where I am teaching.

Being fifteen minutes early I thought could make no difference, but the door was closed instead of standing wide open in its usual fashion. Still as it is not a private office, and people always seem to be walking in and out, I did not hesitate to turn the handle without knocking. To my surprise it resisted my effort; the door was locked. No card indicated "Gone to the post-office." It was not an hour for lunch, what then?

As I moved away, and stood thinking, the key rattled softly, the door opened a little way, and, with a quick, sly movement, a woman came out, shaking her handsome dress, made very short about the ankles, and very open about the neck, and drawing down the short, masque veil that did not hide her painted Dutch face.

Ordinarily I should have given her the one glance I bestow upon our numerous sisters of the class termed fancy—a glance made up of curiosity and commiseration; now she fascinated me, and I followed her, only to a near corner, where she was joined by a coarser face and fuller figure.

"I was mighty 'fraid I should get bilked of the whole," the painted Dutch face was saying as I came near enough to hear. "But he paid me sixty dollars to-day."

"Ah! ha!" laughed the coarser face, "the Judge is a green one, though he thinks he knows so much."

"The Judge!—paid her sixty dollars," I said to myself; and the blood rushed up from heart to brain and back, leaving me sick and faint.

With resolute steps I returned up the wide steps, the door was open now, the Judge rose a little confusedly as I entered, and said, with hesitation, "I had quite forgotten you were coming to-day, and have not the money by me. Call to-morrow, or any other day; you know I am good for it." "Certainly," I said, and as I had no more to say, went away.

On my way up town I called first at Mrs. Alkiddie's. She is a widow, but with such a bright and happy temperament, that her black robes always look to me like a sombre frame for some sweet, sunshiny picture.

There were tears in her eyes then, however, for she had just been making arrangements to sell her husband's gold watch, the last thing his dying hands had held, and it was like tearing her heart out to part with it, but it must be done, she said, and I was glad to hurry away from the sad sight.

Called next on Mrs. St. Cloud. She is poor enough, spite of her high-sounding name, but always merry and bright, so while we were laughing at our own nonsense, she said, "I am waiting for the girls to come from school that I

may have Emma's boots to wear to market," showing her worn slippers as she spoke. Oh, how I wanted three dollars of my very own then; but it was of no use wishing, so, strangling a sigh that was almost a sob, I went on.

Called once more upon Mrs. Hartwell. You know what a brave, ambitious little thing she is. Her book is done, and the publishers have it, but they want another hundred dollars, and must have it. What do you think she was doing? Only taking out her wedding presents from their box to pawn them. Her month was drawn to a little firmer line than usual. She said she was glad I had come, and wanted me to go with her. I went! It is useless to tell how we were treated. The pretty silver ware is gone, and I wish I could share her earnest faith that she will soon redeem it.

But all this time a little demon was singing in my ears, that while these women were struggling and suffering so for decent, honest livelihoods, Judge Benson, a man whom I had respected and believed in, for his dignified deference, his gentle grace toward all womankind, was paying sixty dollars (and how much more?) to a prostitute who brought her poor polluted person and wretched starving soul into that fresh, bright office that always seemed to me so like the man's own self:

Frank and fair, and bold and honest.

Oh, I thought of the Judge's sweet-faced wife, not yet six months hidden away from his agonized gaze by shroud-folds and coffin-lid. I thought of his fair-haired baby boy, growing up to be honorable and respected, like the father, and I thought how many Revolutions we need.

#### THE NEW DEMOCRACY, OR "THE POLITICAL COMMONWEALTH."

Editor of the Revolution:

EARLY last winter, a new party, denominated The Political Commonwealth, was organized in this city. Its objects are nearly the same as those of most labor reformers, namely, constant employment, high wages, short hours of labor, low prices, and low rents, or rather, the abolition of the existing rental system. Of course, its measures are determined by certain acknowledged and well understood principles, having their origin in natural equity, justice, goodness. Believing that the words "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," are very general terms, the new party give to them a specific meaning, by including therein the right to the use of sufficient uncultivated and unoccupied lands, from which to obtain a subsistence and erect homes; the right to labor and its products, the control and direction of the means of Exchange and Transportation, of Education and Insurance; and believing that governments are, or should be, instituted among men and women, for the purpose of securing to all men and women the enjoyment of these, the above mentioned natural rights, the new party seek the attainment of its ends, by substituting the state for the individual in every department of industry, trade, commerce, education, and public works; the care of the sick, blind, deaf, dumb, idiots and lunatics; the support of the widow and orphan, and helpless "old folks at home;" in fact in every thing wherein individualism habitually fails or neglects to perform the duties supposed to devolve upon it. The state, nowever, as at present constituted, being merely servant or ruler,

or servant and ruled of privileged individuals, the new party find that preliminary to, or coextending with, the accomplishment of their objects, the state must be reformed or revolutionized, if you please, by so amending the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of the several states, as to provide that all acts of the several Legislative bodies shall be submitted to the people for ratification (and by the term people they mean to include woman). As the several governments are administered to-day, under their several constitutions, representative self government has no existence, for the people's representatives are their rulers instead of their servants, accountable to no mother's son or daughter. They may be, indeed, displaced from office, but only to be succeeded by other "children of hell, ten fold worse" than their predecessors. So it happens, that to-day gold, tariff, importers, railroad and land speculators "rings" own the Legislatures of the several states, and the Congress of the United States. Labors' rights, human rights, are utterly forgotten, or if thought of at all, remembered only to be sacrificed.

Now, who can doubt that if this great reform could be effected, all things would be possible to labor, and to woman? The state would be a vast Co-operative Society, all citizens its members, and the poor man's and poor woman's vote more than an equivalent for the rich man's and the rich woman's dollar. We, of the "new democracy," entertain no doubt, and believing that "all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," we insist that the governed have a right to know *what* they are required to give their consent to.

Well: immediately after the formation of the new party, all morning newspaperdom in this city, with the exception of the *Star*, was duly informed of the fact. Its Declaration of Principles, and several memorials to the Congress of the United States, which are herewith sent to you, were sent to each of the morning journals save the one mentioned. With the exception of the *World*, not one published them. Notwithstanding, the party has grown. It has now auxiliaries in this state and in other states. A large portion of the German population of this city and Williamsburg have heartily adopted the Referendum (so called), and will perhaps make themselves felt at the polls thereon this very fall. The signs of the times look hopeful. Only a month or two after the organization of The Commonwealth, namely, on the 18th day of April last, four of the Cantons of Switzerland adopted, by immense majorities, Cantonal constitutions, in which it is provided that twice a year, in the Spring and Autumn, and oftener if necessary, the people shall be convoked to approve or annul any new laws agreed upon by the Grand Conseil. Thirty days before each General Assembly each citizen is to be furnished with a copy of all the laws, the people are to vote aye or nay, and an absolute majority decides. Pretty well for Switzerland! Yet in this democratic country, not one journal, printed in English, has dared to publish the fact! And the National Labor Union at its late Convention in the city of *Brotherly Love*, postponed the consideration of the subject till next year, and treated the delegate from The Commonwealth who proposed it almost as shabbily as it did Miss Susan B. Anthony. Perhaps the Industrial Congress now assembled in Basle, Switzerland, to which the National Labor Union sent a delegate, will