

precipitating the grandeur of their mission, and aware that no other body like this will be convened during the present generation, patriotically and patiently pursue the even tenor of their way.

GOV. FENTON'S MESSAGE

GOV. FENTON LETS THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG. WOMEN IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

It is an error, however, to suppose that females and minors contribute nothing to our political resources as elements of productive wealth. It is to be remembered that all invested capital is productive to the community as well as to the party making the investment, and that a very large proportion of the wealth of the State is owned by females.

Our good Governor, in his message last year, had no word for the women of the State, half his constituency. So in our speech before the Legislature we reminded him that certain large property holders in New York had the right to a voice in amending the Constitution of the State.

It seems our words, like a grain of mustard seed fell on good ground, for in the message before us we find he recognizes not only the fact that there are women in this State, but that they are large property holders and add much to the "practical resources" and "elements of productive wealth."

Yes, the Governor is right, women own one half the property and have trained up those who own the other half. They have done their full share in furnishing the bone and sinew of the army and navy and civil government—Admirals, Generals, Governors, Senators and even the Delegates to the present Constitutional Convention—and they are taxed too, to pay them six dollars a day to insult their own mothers, by thrusting them outside the pale of political consideration, with minors, negroes, idiots lunatics, and criminals.

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

Editors of the Revolution:

I was forty years a slave in Crawford county, Georgia. I came away from my master, Washington Parsons, when Sherman's army passed through to the seaboard, found passage North in a steamer. I married a free woman in Connecticut. I refused to buy cider of a church member in Litchfield county for \$3.00 per barrel, or any other price. Besides clothing myself, caring for family, and paying monthly rent for a part of a widow's house, laid by in the savings' bank and otherwise two hundred and fifty dollars in fifteen months, enough to constitute me a voter in the Empire State.

THE REVOLUTION is a significant and ominous name for your paper, but it is destined to find readers not only in your own states of iniquity at home, but in other more healthy but not less idolatrous portions of the country.

JEREMIAH PECK, a Country Miller.

The fair busy tongue of slander has seized on the name and fame of the late Gov. Andrew, of Massachusetts, and applied to him the epithet of *drunkard*. One of his intimate friends, and political and official associates, Francis W. Bird, Esq., in some most interesting reminiscences of the late Governor in the Boston *Commonwealth*, meets the charge thus:

Let me say one word in reply to a slander which only ignorance or malice could have originated, and which prejudice, unfortunately, led too many to believe. Gov. Andrew never professed total abstinence, but to the end of his life was, in the best sense of the term, a temperate

man. In all his official visits, he took care that no intoxicating drinks were ever placed upon the table; and in all the visits made by the Governor and Council for the three years that I served in the Council, I never saw a drop of intoxicating liquors offered to or used by the Governor, or any member of his Council, at any one of the public institutions of the State. In his personal habits he was remarkably temperate, especially for one whose nervous system was under such constant strain. As a uniform rule he would decline a glass of wine at the table unless etiquette required him simply to taste it, and, in preference, would drink his black tea. And during years of most unreserved intimacy, when he well knew that the knowledge of an over-indulgence would never pass beyond the circle in which it might happen, I never saw him partake of intoxicating drinks to an extent that even the most uncharitable could condemn as excessive. It is painful, even to write these things; but I feel it a duty, as I remember the cruel insinuations which have been made by bigoted partisans during the past year, to place this statement on permanent record.

A EULOGY ON WOMAN, BY "MARK TWAIN."

At the dinner given by the Correspondents Club at Washington, on Saturday night, "Mark Twain" was called on to respond to the usual toast to "Woman," which he did in the following characteristic style:

MR. PRESIDENT: I do not know why I should have been singled out to receive the greatest distinction of the evening—for so the office of replying to the toast to woman has been regarded in every age. (Applause.) I do not know why I have received this distinction, unless it be that I am a trifle less homely than the other members of the club. But be this as it may, Mr. President, I am proud of the position, and you could not have chosen any one who would have accepted it more gladly or labored with a heartier good-will to do the subject justice, than I. Because, sir, I love the sex. (Laughter.) I love all the women, sir, irrespective of age or color. (Laughter.)

Human intelligence cannot estimate what we owe to woman, sir. She sews on our buttons (laughter), she mends our clothes (laughter), she ropes us in at the church fairs; she confides in us; she tells us whatever she can find out about the little private affairs of the neighbors; she gives us good advice—and plenty of it; she gives us a piece of her mind sometimes—and some times all of it; she soothes our aching brows; she bears our children—ours as a general thing. In all the relations of life, sir, it is but just, and a graceful tribute to woman, to say of her that she is a brick. (Great laughter.)

Wheresoever you place women, sir—in whatever position or estate—she is an ornament to that place she occupies, and a treasure to the world. (Here Mr. Twain paused, looked inquiringly at his hearers, and remarked that the applause should come in at this point. It came in. Mr. Twain resumed his eulogy.) Look at the noble names of history! Look at Cleopatra! look at Desdemona! look at Florence Nightingale! look at Joan of Arc! look at Lucretia Borgia! (Disapprobation expressed. "Well," said Mr. Twain, scratching his head doubtfully, "suppose we let Lucretia slide.") Look at Joyce Beth! look at Mother Eve! (Cries of "Oh!" "Oh!") You need not look at her unless you want to, but (said Mr. Twain, reflectively, after a pause) Eve was ornamental, sir, particularly before the fashions changed! I repeat, sir, look at the illustrious names of history. Look at the Widow Machree! look at Lucy Stone! look at Elizabeth Cady Stanton! look at George Francis Train! (Great laughter.) And, sir, I say it with bowed head and deepest veneration, look at the mother of Washington! She raised a boy that could not lie—could not lie. (Applause.) But he never had any chance. (Oh, Oh!) It might have been different with him if he had belonged to a newspaper correspondents' club. (Laughter, groans, hisses, cries of "Put him out.") Mark looked around placidly upon his excited audience and resumed:

I repeat, sir, that in whatsoever position you place a woman she is an ornament to society and a treasure to the world. As a sweetheart she has few equals and no superiors (laughter); as a cousin she is convenient; as a wealthy grandmother, with an incurable distemper, she is precious; as a wet nurse she has no equal among men! (Laughter.)

What, sir, would the peoples of the earth be without woman? * * * * They would be scarce, sir—almighty scarce! Then let us cherish her—let us protect her—let us give her our support, our encourage-

ment, our sympathy—ourselves, if we get a chance. (Laughter.)

But, jesting aside, Mr. President, woman is lovable, gracious, kind of heart, beautiful—worthy of all respect, of all esteem, of all deference. Notary here will refuse to drink her health right cordially in this bumper of wine, for each and every one of us has personally known, and loved, and honored the very best one of them all—his own mother! (Applause.)

A MOTHER TO A DAUGHTER.

MY DAUGHTER: Sixteen years of merry, careless girlhood have passed, and now, "standing with reticent feet" at the parting of childhood and womanhood, you need some suggestions from one more experienced than yourself, ere you enter the mysterious future. Over it rests a halo that allures while it awes; and well may you pause, for in the beyond what vast possibilities!

There, too, are quicksand's shoals and pitfalls, which have swallowed thousands of beautiful souls. Along the way you encounter unnumbered obstacles; an impish brood of sarcasms hiss; friends avert their faces; men taunt you as "strong-minded" and "masculine;" and pleasure, ease, and luxury allure you to fatal retreats. Only with labor and self-denial will you, in this present age, stem the current of popular life, and become true to your own inherent womanly instincts.

But you are strong, well-developed, and natural, thanks to a healthy, unrestrained life, fresh air, simple food, and Dr. Lewis's gymnastics, and with a fine intellectual endowment united to such a splendid physique, the world has need of your services. There is a work for you, and all girls like you, to do, so grand, so glorious that I cannot but cry out from the depths of my being, that you may be roused to the idea of woman's power over the civilization of the future! And in speaking to you, I address all young girls whom my pen can reach.

So lay aside the last new novel, cease to dream of "a love of a hat," or the last new style of *chignons*, and I will try not to weary you; for I was once a school-girl also, and dreamed and read and planned as you may now be doing.

Do you know, my daughter, what a glorious thing it is to be a woman? During the holidays you said, "If I were only a boy, I could hope for pleasant, active life; but our habits are such that girls are constantly fretting at the restraints they endure." True, there is abundant cause for this restlessness, but the day is rapidly approaching when all athletic sports and work may be yours.

Already you row, swim, skate and ride, and in country places, at least, the old prejudice against the dainty and neat gymnastic costume, as an out-door dress, is dying away. Still boys have an advantage over you in following out all natural instincts. It is counted improper for a girl to run, swing her arms, and use all those free movements of the body that give suppleness and vigor to her, no less than to her brother.

In this freedom you are as wild, elastic and straight as the Indian maiden, "Bright Alferata." To your pale city cousins, with wrists cramped from the time they were ten years of age, and who have never dared to exercise fully, for fear of tumbling costly finery, or being "rude and unladylike," we extend all needful sympathy. No wonder they wish they were boys! With pale cheeks and lustreless eyes, the result of unnatural habits, they are early forced into society where the chief conversa-

tion is not that which stimulates the reasoning or elevates the moral and spiritual faculties.

Ah! my child, the day is already dawning when there shall be no cramping of the energies of your being, simply because you are a woman. But you shall feel more and more deeply, as time rolls on, that yours is a precious heritage.

Prophetic souls know that through the intuitions of the womanly nature, shall come the grandest developments of humanity. Not that I undervalue true manhood; beside it true womanhood is "perfect music unto noble words." But men have long since had every field open to their energies, and it is no disrespect to them to say that they have proved all they are capable of doing alone.

But when woman rises from the position of drudge or toy to become his moral and spiritual inspirer, he shall find that his better nature has been hitherto dwarfed and distorted.

Thousands will welcome THE REVOLUTION, as the first organ devoted to the needs and wrongs of women, and through them; to all radical reform. More odious than negro slavery, more vicious than any special form of vice, has been their condition; and it is only unrecognized as such, because the world does not know of what we are capable. There is a fine, tenacious strength that has eluded all restraints, that shall yet shake the globe to its centre. From your generation I hope much—how much I will tell you hereafter.

Affectionately, H. M. H. P.

New Brunswick, N. J., January 15, 1868.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN.

Editor of The Revolution:

MADAME: AS this gentleman sets out again for the troublous shores of perfide Albion, permit me to testify how energetically he retaliated on the British for their insidious wiles and indecent haste to grant belligerent rights to the late rebels. How often have I heard him, night after night, "beard the lion in his den" in the discussion halls and their public places of England, and amid infuriated crowds utter truths that tended to shake the crafty oligarchy of Britain in their gorgeous clubs, palaces and castles. Here he prophesied the ultimate success of the Union forces and the revolutionary spirit which should overtake Great Britain, and which it is hoped a righteous Providence will crown with success, retaliating on the tyrants for their manifold cruelties, and exact from these "oppressors of the weak and crouchers to the strong," ample retribution for the misery which they sought to entail and perpetuate in this fair land. If Mr. Train in this new campaign do as much good service as in past times, he will be such a *dete noir* to the English plutocrats that all their Machivellian astuteness will battle against him in vain.

Yours very sincerely, B. Wood.

GOVERNMENT ECONOMY.—It was reported in our United States Congress as a rare specimen of government economy, that an old steam transport was offered by her owner for sale at \$4,000; but instead of purchasing, the government agents continued to charter, until her owners had received over \$19,000 for her services, and owned her still. As an offset to this, the English papers are making complaints about one of their admirals, who ordered two naval steamers to go from Lisbon to Gibraltar to get a stock of

coal, and then return to Lisbon. One of them expended 550 tons of coal, and the other 485 tons, in going to Gibraltar, where they each took on board 300 tons. When they got back to Lisbon one of them had 250 tons less coal on board than when they started, while the voyage cost them \$3,880 in gold, which the British Exchequer has to pay.

MISSOURI WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

Editors of the Revolution:

IN order to show the steady progress that the grand idea of Equal Rights is slowly but surely making among the people of these United States, I think that it would be well, in the beginning at least, to make a record in THE REVOLUTION, of the fact of each successive State organization; and for that purpose I send you the list of officers for the association in Missouri, not yet a year old; as also their petition to the Legislature for a change in the organic law and a brief address to the Voters of the State, in support of the movement.

To the Voters of Missouri:

The Women of this State having organized for the purpose of agitating their claim to the ballot, it becomes every intelligent and reflecting mind to consider the question fairly and dispassionately. If it has merit, it will eventually succeed; if not, it will fail.

I am of the number of those who believe that claim to be just and right, for the following, among other reasons:

Taxation and Representation should go hand in hand. This is the very corner-stone of our government. Its founders declared, and the declaration cannot be too often repeated: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

The man who believes in that declaration cannot justly deny to women the right of suffrage. They are citizens, they are tax-payers; they bear the burdens of government—why should they be denied the rights of citizens? We boast about liberty and equality before the law, when the truth is, our government is controlled by one-half only of its population. The others have no more voice in the making of their laws, or the selection of their rulers, than the criminals who are in our penitentiaries; nay, in one respect their condition is not as good as that of the felon, for he may be pardoned and restored to a right which woman can never obtain. And this, not because she has committed any crime, or violated any law, but simply because she is, what God made her, a woman! Possessed of the same intelligence—formed in the same mold—having the same attributes, parts and passions—held by her Maker to the same measure of responsibility here and hereafter, her actual position in society at this day, is that of an inferior. No matter what her qualifications may be; every avenue to success is virtually closed to her. Even when she succeeds in obtaining employment, she gets only half the pay that a man does for the same work. But, it is said, woman's sphere is at home. Would giving her the right to vote interfere with her home duties any more than it does with a man's business? Again it is said, that for her to vote would be unfeminine. Is it at all more indelicate for a woman to go to the polls, than it is to go to the court-house and pay her taxes? The truth is, woman occupies just the position that man has placed her in, and it ill becomes him to urge such objections. Give her a chance—give her the opportunity of proving whether these objections are well-founded or not. Her influence for good is great, notwithstanding all the disadvantages under which she at present labors; and my firm belief is, that that influence would be greatly enhanced and extended by the exercise of this new right. It would be felt at the ballot-box and in the halls of legislation. Better men, as a general rule, would be elected to office, and society in all its ramifications, would feel and rejoice at the change.

A VOTER.

To the General Assembly of the State of Missouri:

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned women of Missouri, believing that all citizens who are taxed for the support

of the government and subject to its laws, should have a voice in the making of those laws, and the selection of their rulers; that, as the possession of the ballot ennobles and elevates the character of man, so, in like manner, it would ennoble and elevate that of woman, by giving her a direct and personal interest in the affairs of government; and further, believing that the spirit of the age, as well as every consideration of justice and equity, require that the ballot should be extended to our sex, do unite in praying that an amendment to the Constitution may be proposed, striking out the word "male," and extending to women the right of suffrage.

And, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI.

MRS. FRANCIS MINOR, President.

MRS. BEVERLY ALLEN, Vice-President.

MRS. WM. T. HAZARD, Corresponding Secretary.

MRS. GEO. D. HALL, Recording Secretary.

MRS. N. STEVENS, St. Louis, Missouri, Treasurer.

Copies of petition, and information furnished upon addressing either of above named officers.

Formation of Auxiliary Associations in every county requested. Petitions when completely signed to be returned to the head office.

These papers will serve to show that the idea has taken root in other States beyond the Mississippi, besides Kansas; and may also be somewhat of a guide to others, who may desire to accomplish the same purpose elsewhere.

A work of such magnitude requires, of course, time for its development; but the leaven is working. The fountains of the great deep of public thought have been broken up. The errors and prejudices of six thousand years are yielding to the sunlight of truth. In spite of pulpits and politicians, the Great Idea is making its way to the hearts of the people; and woman may rejoice in believing that the dawn of her deliverance, so long hoped for and prayed for, is at last approaching.

F. M.

St. Louis, January, 1868.

REASON WHY.

I.—IMMORTALITY.

THE AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, as represented in the *National Anti-Slavery Standard*, are dead; for they have no issue. Their name is a lie, and their creed a farce; for the only "AMERICAN" slavery, the only "National" slavery to-day—the slavery of Woman—they refuse to impeach. Their bark rots in a dead-calm; for they let the Republican ship, in whose wake they wallow, take the wind from their sails. Their life-boat is wrecked on the shoals; for they left the roadway of principle, shipped a cargo of expediency, and got their bottom barnacled with party fossils. Their estate is bankrupt; for they threw overboard their capital of conscience, consistency and courage. Their house is cold and dark; for they have turned their faces from the sun of righteousness, and have gone to burrow in the mole-hills of political trimmery.

They are dead. But there is a power that can raise them to life,—even to "life eternal." That power is Truth—their Christ from whom they have apostatized. Let them return to him; let them declare that, "Wherever an individual is wronged by the consent of the community, there is Slavery; and the individual wronged is a Slave;" let them, on this platform, resume their discarded faith of yore, that "One, with God, is a majority;" and they will again live—a life of usefulness, broad as Human Nature, and enduring as Human Society.

G. M.

A CHAPLAIN in Arkansas says that a man buying furs was conversing with a hunter's wife at whose house he called, and asked her if there