

WOMEN IN POLITICS.

They Attend the St. Louis Convention and Cast Their Votes

For the Man Whom They Believe Will Best Represent Their Interests on all Questions.

The history of this nation gives no indication of a time when so great a number of women manifested as earnest and intelligent interest in political affairs as they do to day. This hopeful condition is traceable to improved environments, better educational advantages, higher appreciation of their own possibilities, and a clearer perception of their duty and responsibility as one of the factors whose influence should make for righteousness in the home, the state, and the nation.

Some of us have but recently awakened to the fact that we have a right to take an interest in politics; that we are loyal citizens of this country; it is the land of our nativity, we have rejoiced in its prosperity and suffered in its adversity, have aided in establishing and perpetuating its institutions, in paying its taxes, and have sacrificed more than life in yielding our loved ones to replenish its army and navy.

Perhaps no other event so clearly marks the advance women are making as the fact that at the St. Louis convention there will be regularly elected women delegates from three states who will help cast the votes of their delegation; this is an unmistakable indication that the time is not distant when the demand for political enfranchisement can no longer be resisted. The registration of twelve hundred women in Kansas City this spring is another illustration of the influence that will be exerted when the 2,000,000 wage-earning women who go to their toll at the ringing of the bell, and the other tolling millions who are always on duty, realize their interest and unite their influence upon questions of national importance.

In the campaign of 1896 much importance attaches to the views of possible nominees of the two great political parties, and desirable results could be obtained if the disfranchised would unite their influence for the nomination of men who favor their emancipation; if they do not their influence will be weakened by division and the opportunity lost. Yet this most desirable union cannot reasonably be anticipated, for issues of the gravest importance are demanding attention, and as in the past, so in the present time, many women will forget the humiliation of their position and give their best efforts for the nomination and election of the candidate who in their judgment would be the most influential in restoring prosperity to the nation.

The prostration of the industries of the country resulting in the enforced idleness of thousands of wage-earners; the depreciation of property, the increase of taxes, our cities in debt, our cities in debt, and our nation sinking deeper and deeper into debt, has caused many women to seek the origin of this check to individual and national prosperity, and those who conclude a protective tariff the panacea for existing conditions will undoubtedly give their influence to the candidate representing protection for American industry without asking, "What has the honorable gentleman done for the enfranchisement of women," and "What have the unrepresented to gain by his election?"

Other women are fully persuaded there is no hope for the country until silver is restored to the position it occupied previous to 1873; they have more faith in Secretary Carlisle's early convictions than in his later utterance, accepting his declaration that "The conspiracy * * * here and in Europe * * * to destroy three-sevenths to one-half of all the metallic money * * * is the most gigantic crime of this or any other age. * * * The consummation of such a scheme would ultimately entail more misery upon the human race than all the wars, pestilence and famine that ever occurred in the history of the world."

But even with these words dominating the mind it is to be hoped that women will remember that the Hon. J. G. Carlisle has said no good word for woman's freedom; and yet, it may be difficult to convince them that all efforts in favor of free coinage are party measures, for the purpose of drawing attention from other issues, for they remember when silver was demonetized it struck down one-half the number of

dollars that made up the primary money and standard of values of all property. In the eloquent language of another: "This was a crime because it confiscated millions of dollars worth of property; a crime because it made thousands of paupers; a crime because it made tens of thousands of tramps; a crime because it brought hunger and pinching want to widows and orphans; a crime because it is destroying the honest yeomanry of the land; a crime because it has brought this once great republic to the very verge of ruin." Women in sympathy with this sentiment almost forget they are disfranchised, so great is their wish to aid in restoring prosperity to the country by remonetizing silver, one of the principal sources of its wealth.

Another class of women give their influence for the protection of citizen laborers by working for the prohibition of the importation of pauper labor, and by demanding restriction of immigration, extension of time for naturalization, and that no public funds or public property be appropriated for sectarian purposes. While this diversity of opinion among the unrepresented will prevent a united effort for the election of a candidate who favors giving to women all the political liberty enjoyed by himself, yet woman's political convictions will be more strongly emphasized and a more potent factor in the presidential campaign of 1896 than ever before.

MRS. N. P. FOX.

MUST NOT DIVIDE.

Removes Why the School Fund Should Not be Separated.

The New York Press, in a recent issue, had this to say on the public school question, with special reference to the school fund:

Those who are inclined to make or listen to any demand, come from what quarter it may, for a division, on sectarian lines, of the public school fund, will do well to study the workings of that plan in Canada. The Dominion laws require that a certain percentage of the revenue derived from taxation shall be asked, at the time when his property is assessed, to designate whether he wishes the school fund portion of the tax paid by him to be used for maintaining Protestant or Roman Catholic schools. A record is made of the answers so obtained, and a division of the total school fund in every city or county is made accordingly. Where no preference is expressed the apportionment is made on the basis of population, and the latter is done with the income derived from the taxation of corporate property, no matter what the stockholders' religious predilections may be.

The objections to this scheme are obvious. It establishes a mischievous entanglement between church and state, setting the latter to raise money for the former. It sacrifices public welfare to private inclinations and substitutes the whims, prejudice and ignorance of individuals for the judgment of the whole people. It yields in advance the fony tenable basis for free public schools, namely, that popular education is essential to the safety of a self-governing nation, and must, therefore, be under the control of the state. If division of the school fund on sectarian lines is to be made, then evidently all sects sought to be recognized and treated alike. It is impossible that the Roman Catholic sect can be entitled to any privileges which are not granted to the Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Unitarian and all other sects. Still further, Christianity has no claims upon the treasury which are not equally valid when made by the Hebrews, for by spiritism, positivism, secularism, agnosticism or any of the many isms outside of the Christian pale. A plan which begins by acknowledging the right of one denomination to receive aid from the proceeds of taxation can find no logical stopping place short of dividing the fund into as many parts as there are sects in each community, whether the number be two or 200.

Such are the cogent reasons that occur at once on a theoretic vein, and the practical test that has been made in Canada more than confirms the reasoning. There are three facts that every intelligent citizen of the Dominion is obliged to recognize in regard to the common schools of his country. First, education is far from being universal. This is an inevitable result of the system. There are some localities where the Protestants are numerous and Romanists are few. There it is impossible to maintain separate Romanist schools, yet the idea that children of different religious faiths must not go to school together is so firmly established that it cannot be readily overcome. On the other hand, there are many places in the Province of Quebec where Protestants are ex-

tremely few, and there, for similar reasons, a portion of the children are left destitute of free school privileges. And even where the result of the Canadian plan is not a total deprivation for any class, it is everywhere outside of the large cities a lamentable and visible lowering of the standards of efficiency. Thousands of neighborhoods have two traveling schools, where, but for this sectarian division, needless, wasteful and foolish, one strong school might be maintained in each locality.

Secondly, another practical result is that education is not free. The public money doled out in this fashion often falls short of being enough, and tuition fees are charged to make up the deficit. The burden is too great for the poor, and their children grow up in ignorance.

Thirdly, the evil fruits of this scheme are becoming more and more apparent in the disintegrating process that is steadily going on throughout the Dominion. Distinctions of race and alienations of religion, instead of being removed or softened, as in the United States, by the harmonizing influences of free, universal, non-sectarian schools, are in Canada growing worse all the time.

The lesson is one that we of the great republic cannot learn too quickly or remember too carefully. If we want our country to remain united, happy and free, we must stand firm as a rock against every attempt to divide the school fund.

Our Flag.

It has been stated by a Boston newspaper that the American flag is no more than any piece of bunting. The thoughtlessness of this unhappy expression must receive our commiseration rather than our contempt.

The man to whom the flag of the United States is worth no more than its intrinsic value, would swap his native land for the next best piece of ground that he stumbled upon, without a twinge of remorse.

It is of no use to talk the power of the flag to men who have fought under it; they know as no one else does the magnetism that lurks in its folds. It is the man who has never seen the Stars and Stripes when smirched by the smoke of hostile fire that needs to reflect upon the significance of our national emblem.

The flag may not be any better than any other piece of bunting, but is not another more than a mere female? It would horrify the jester to listen to the latter assertion, but both go together.

The man who does not respect his flag would be dishonorable to his family. There is but one hope that draws all parts of the United States. There is but one rallying point for every American citizen. When the flag is hissed in the streets of New York, a far deeper insult is borne to the character of every American than were one's mother slandered.

It is not real disloyalty that is neglecting the flag to-day. Peace has so long enshrouded the Stars and Stripes that we do not appreciate the spirit that will make a thousand men go wild in prison at the mere sight of a miniature flag. We should go to Venezuela, perhaps, and see its veneration in the backwoods, and we shall return convinced, that the sweetest essence of pure patriotism is bound up in twinkling grace of Old Glory.—Butte Examiner.

A Gem.

The Amesbury, Mass., daily Nites says:

Few men can handle the English language in such a beautiful manner as Dr. Leslie, and in all his public speeches there are perfect gems of thought and expression. One of his best efforts was the speech made at the Whittier Memorial exercises held in the Opera House several years ago and in his paper at the organization of the Josiah Bartlett Chapter Daughters of the Revolution were several unusually fine passages among them being the following:

"While we join in the pleasing contemplation of the acts and influence of this son of Amesbury as recorded on the pages of our country's history, let us not forget that on the bleak hillsides of New England where the wild vines wander unpruned over neglected and half-obliterated graves, unmarked by stones, unhalloved by memory, sleep the rank and file of those brave men who left their homes to the invasion of want and hunger; who left houses unfinished, through the crevices of which the wintry winds might breathe all too freely on the loved ones left behind; who left the plow in the furrow, the uncut grain in the fields, and gave their all for suffering and danger, and life even, that they might give to us the unnumbered heritage of free schools, a free religion, and above all a free flag."

WASHINGTON MATTERS

What Congress Has Done With Sectarian Appropriations.

Those Who Voted For and Against the Measure—Committee Work.

CAPITAL PATRIOTIC PRESS BUREAU.—WASHINGTON, D. C., June 10.—It is with unfeigned satisfaction that this Bureau is enabled to announce to the patriots of the country that just at the close of the first session of the fifty-fourth congress, a genuine, substantial and permanent victory for the leading principle in the platform of the American Protective Association was achieved by the Americans in Congress.

The history of the battle so valiantly fought in the house of representatives and so gallantly led by that patriot of patriots, Hon. W. S. Linton, against the appropriation of public money for the benefit of sectarian institutions is familiar to your readers. It will be remembered that on the 24th of February, when the Indian appropriation bill was first under discussion, Mr. Linton offered an amendment to the bill declaring it to be the intention of the act that no money appropriated by the bill should be paid for education in sectarian schools. This was for the purpose of cutting off the large sums of money annually paid to the Roman Catholic church for teaching its religion to the wards of the nation, which outraged public sentiment had determined should be discontinued.

When the matter came before the senate (April 21) Senator Cockrell had Mr. Linton's amendment stricken from the bill and a clause inserted permitting the government for two years longer to pay money to Catholic institutions and at the end of that time, of course, the government would undoubtedly be again be called upon to continue these subsidies indefinitely.

The matter then went before the conference committee, and on the 23d of May the conferees on the part of the house presented a report, to the effect that the conference committee had failed to agree to this particular matter, whereupon Mr. Halner moved that the house insist upon the Linton amendment and instructed the house conferees accordingly. Upon this motion the vote was as follows:

YEAS—154. Aldrich, Ala.; Allen, Utah; Anderson, Andrews, Atwood, Avery, Babcock, Bailey, Baker, N. H.; Bartholdt, Bell, Col.; Bell, Tex.; Bingham, Blue, Broderick, Bromwell, Brown, Buch, Bull, Burrell, Burton, Mo.; Burton, Ohio; Clardy, Clark, Mo.; Coddington, Connolly, Cook, Wis.; Cooke, Ill.; Cooper, Tex.; Cooper, Wis.; Cousins, Crowther, Curtis, Iowa; Curtis, Kans.; Dalzell, Danford, Daniels, Dayton, DeArmond, Dingley, Doolittle, Dovenor, Draper, Elliott, S. C.; Ellis, Evans, Fenton, Gardner, Gibson, Gillett, Mass.; Graff, Griffin, Grosvenor, Grout, Hadley, Halner, Neb.; Harris, Hatch, Hendrick, Henry, Ind.; Hopburn, Hermann, Hilborn, Hill, Hooker, Hopkins, Howard, Hubbard, Huff, Hullick, Hunter, Jenkins, Johnson, Can.; Johnson, N. D.; Kem, Kerr, Kieffer, Kirkpatrick, Knox, Lacey, Latimer, Layton, Leonard, Linney, Linton, Little, Lockhart, Long, Marsh, McCall, Mass.; McCall, Tenn.; McClure, McCulloch, McDearmon, McLachlan, McRae, Mercer, Milliken, Milnes, Mondell, Money, Moody, Morse, Northway, Otey, Otjen, Payne, Pearson, Phillips, Pitney, Prince, Reeves, Richardson, Russell, Conn.; Sauerhering, Shannon, Shuford, Simpkins, Skinner, Smith, Ill.; Southard, Spalding, Spencer, Sperry, Stahle, Stallings, Steele, Stewart, Wis.; Stone, C. W.; Strait, Strong, Strowd, N. C.; Sulloway, Taft, Talbert, Tate, Tawney, Taylor, Terry, Thomas, Tracewell, Treloar, Underwood, Van Horn, Van Voorhis, Varner, Washington, Watson, Ohio; Williams, Wilson, Idaho; Wilson, Ohio; Wilson, S. C.; Wood.

NAYS—22. Aldrich, Ill.; Allen, Miss.; Baker, Kans.; Bartlett, N. Y.; Clarke, Ala.; Cooper, Fla.; Denny, Eddy, Fitzgerald, Harrison, Kleberg, Lester, Lewis, Loud, McClellan, Noonan, Odell, Parker, Poole, Sherman, Stewart, N. J.; Sulzer.

The matter thus went back to conference, where it remained until Tuesday last—just before the final adjournment of the session.

Mr. Linton and the other friends of the measure in the house were now being convinced that at this late hour of the session it would be impossible to bring the senate to an agreement to retain the Linton amendment in its original form; and fearing that the bill

might be lost for the present and the secretary of the interior be obliged to continue the objectionable appropriations under the old law, it was proposed by those of the senate, to substitute the following, which, while it somewhat alters the language of the Linton amendment, serves the very purpose for which the Americans are contending. It reads as follows:

And it is hereby declared to be the settled policy of the government to hereafter make no appropriations whatever for education in any sectarian school.

It will be seen that this forever settles the question, and permanently fixes the principle of non-appropriation of public money for sectarian schools—virtually incorporating into laws of the land the first and leading principle of the platform of the American Protective Association—a decisive and glorious victory for W. S. Linton and the A. P. A. A. J. B.

Threats of an A. P. A. Chieflain.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 13.—Mark Hanna, the Warwick of the McKinley forces, has been called upon to settle a much more serious question than that which was put to him by "Boss" Platt of New York yesterday. Platt threatened to walk out of the convention with sixty of New York's seventy-two delegates if the McKinley people permitted the national committee, which they control, to dump twelve of his delegates, whose seats were contested. Now Mr. Hanna is threatened with the combined opposition of all the A. P. A. organizations in the country and the certain loss of Missouri to the Democracy if he permits the credentials committee of the convention to follow up the action of the national committee in unseating the two Filley delegates from the Twelfth district in this city.

A member of the St. Louis advisory board of the A. P. A. said to-night if Mr. Hanna did not call off his friends who are trying to bring about the reelections of Kerens as a member of the national committee, the A. P. A. would call a state convention at an early date, either in St. Louis or Kansas City, to nominate a complete state ticket, and that if this is done it means the defeat of the Republican party by from 40,000 to 50,000 plurality. There is every reason to believe that a note to this effect was sent to Mr. Hanna today. The information was given out just after a conference between several of the leading members in the order in the state at the Missouri headquarters at the Planters. Kerens, it is contended by the local A. P. A. leaders, was favored by the national committee in his fight with Filley through pressure brought to bear on McKinley by the Marquette Club, the foremost Catholic organization of St. Louis. As Filley is the cherished idol of the A. P. A. in Missouri, the action of the national committee has greatly incensed the members of that order.

Mr. Haughwout, of Carthage, one of the leading McKinley shouters in the state, is a member of the A. P. A. He declared emphatically to-night that he would not vote for Kerens as a member of the national committee. He is the man who opposed Judge Stevens, state president of the order and member of the national advisory board, in his fight on McKinley. It was as much through the efforts of Haughwout as those of any other man that the A. P. A. did not declare itself against the great protection leader.

He went to Washington when the national convention of the A. P. A. was held and fought Stevens to a standstill. It was through his efforts that Stevens was recalled to Missouri and ordered to keep his hands off the national campaign. Now Haughwout is ready to take up the cudgels against McKinley if he persists in trying to force such a pronounced anti-A. P. A. man as Kerens upon the Republican party of this state.

If Haughwout and Stevens, the two most powerful factors in the A. P. A. in Missouri, unite against McKinley, it means that the bitterest warfare ever waged against a candidate for the presidency in this country will be made against McKinley. Stevens is the author of the famous circular denouncing McKinley as an enemy of the order which created so much furore in the McKinley camp not long ago.

What Next.

If we understand the present political relation of the American Protective Association to politics, it is about this: First—That the supreme council of the order which met in Washington, D. C., May 12, 1896, removed the political boycott of Major McKinley so that he now sustains the same relation to the order as do all the other candidates for the presidential nomination in the Republican party.

Second—That the noble order cannot consistently and will not under any circumstances support men as nominees for president and vice-president at the coming election who are not in full sympathy with the patriotic principles of the order, and who have not a satisfactory record behind their fair promises that will assure them if elected, to be true to the order; for it is said that a burnt child dreads the fire, so true it is that the greatest disaster that has ever come to the American Protective Association has accrued as the result of electing men to official positions by virtue of their fair promises, who, when elected have had many political debts to pay to the papal hierarchy, and to other bitter enemies of the order, which is positive proof of their shameful duplicity and unfitness for the office.

Third—That the American Protective Association will doubtless unite very generally upon its proposed nominees for president and vice-president in the different councils and report to headquarters their choice, before the Republican convention meets at St. Louis.

Fourth—That the decision of the order can be modified or changed at the convention as the treatment it may receive from that body may seem to require.

Fifth—That the A. P. A., its kindred orders and its thousands of friends will be united in this mighty struggle against the political encroachments of Rome in this country.

Sixth—That the great American Protective Association stands before the world to-day untarnished in character, purified from its dross by the fires of opposition and treachery through which it has passed, and is now stronger and more determined to fight to a finish the political papal power which has come so near destroying this glorious republic.

Seventh—That surely all intelligent voters, all who have American patriotism more than party prejudice, and all who know the fearful tyranny despotism and bloody history of papacy as well as its aims and purposes to destroy this government and make it a great papal nation, ought to unite heartily all as one man in turning down by the ballot the national, state and municipal papal power in politics, the greatest foe to education morality and good government on which the sun ever shone.

J. G. P.

A Proper Qualification.

Judge Harry White, of Indiana county, Pa., has made a rule in his court not to naturalize anyone in his court who cannot read and write and understand the Constitution of the United States. To show of what material too large a portion of our machine-made citizens are composed Judge White asked an applicant during the presidential campaign of 1892, who Benjamin Harrison was. The man had never heard the name to his recollection. As he had lived in this country fifteen years, and most of the time in that state, the judge resolved to test him on matters nearer home, and accordingly asked him to which particular party Governor Patterson belonged. "The Republican," was the prompt response. Further questioning developed the fact that he was ignorant of the existence of a constitution and could neither read nor write. Yet his purpose in seeking citizenship was to vote.—Good Government.

The Smallest Junior.

Probably the smallest member of the Junior Order United American Mechanics is Captain George Lible, of Franklin Council No. 41, of Plainfield, New Jersey. He is only three feet tall. His age is about 36, and he has traveled all over the world, and even speaks five different languages. We had the pleasure of meeting Brother Lible recently, when he was here with the Lilliputian Company, composed entirely of midgets. When he registers at a hotel he has to go behind the counter and stand upon a chair. While in the city he called on the president, who jokingly asked him if he could do anything for him, to which he replied: "Yes, remove the Marquette statue." His wife, who accompanies him, is of about the same height. When home he attends his council, and when called upon to sing or dance, has to mount the pedestal to be seen or heard.—National Messenger.

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