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To advance this educational plan, each issue of The Commoner will contain a special article on some pertinent political subject, designed to present, in an instructive way, authentic historical information, to give valuable statistical data, to carefully analyze the opposing arguments, and to discuss their application to present-day conditions.

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MRS. W. BOURKE COCKRAN.

Her Accomplishments and Her Stand as a Woman Suffrage Advocate.

Prominent among the society women of New York who are waging a campaign in behalf of woman suffrage is Mrs. W. Bourke Cockran, wife of the eloquent Democratic congressman and daughter of the former governor general of the Philippines, Henry Clay Ide. As Miss Annie L. Ide she was a favorite among the Filipinos when her father was in residence in the islands. When she married Mr. Cockran, who was a widower, about two years ago he took her on a wedding tour which included many foreign countries, among them Egypt and the Orient. Mrs. Cockran is a member of the board of directors of the Equal Franchise society, of which Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay is president. It was this society which was prominent in



MRS. W. BOURKE COCKRAN.

the proceedings when the suffragettes stormed Albany recently in behalf of the Hill-Toombs equal suffrage resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution by striking out the word "male" from the clause defining the qualifications of voters.

Mrs. Cockran, who is a woman of much ability and many personal charms, recently defined her views on the suffrage as follows:

"I am a believer in equal suffrage for men and women. The fact that both my parents were strongly in favor of the universal franchise may have had some influence in forming my own conclusion in this respect, but it is also true that I have never heard any arguments against it which sounded at all convincing. All my more mature observations have served to confirm my earlier impressions. A woman is a citizen. This every one concedes, and it seems to me it should be conclusive of the question. As a citizen she must bear her full share in defraying the expenses of government, and therefore she should have some voice in the selection of officers who will expend the

proceeds of taxes to which she contributes and of representatives who frame the laws which govern herself, her property, her home and her country. "I do not believe any one doubts that women as voters would be at least as conscientious as men in exercising the suffrage."

JACOB M. DICKINSON.

The Mortgage of Tennessee on War Secretaryships.

The fact that Luke E. Wright has been succeeded by a citizen of his own state, Jacob McGavock Dickinson, in the post of secretary of war has created an impression that Tennessee has a sort of mortgage on that position in the cabinet. Mr. Dickinson may be said to represent two states besides Tennessee, for he was born in Mississippi and in late years has spent much of his time in Illinois, being general counsel for the Illinois Central rail-



JACOB M. DICKINSON.

road and having had his headquarters for some time in Chicago. However, he was graduated in 1871, when twenty years of age, from the University of Tennessee, at Nashville, was admitted to the bar of Tennessee and was married in 1876 to Miss Martha Overton in Nashville, in which city he has maintained a home. He has served on the supreme bench of the state and as an assistant United States attorney general and was also counsel for the United States before the Alaskan boundary commission. He was president of the American Bar association in 1907 and 1908. Like Secretary Wright, he has been classed as a Gold Democrat.

Judge Dickinson's friends say his most striking characteristic is his remarkable administrative power. His thinking is straightforward. He sees through the details of a proposition. His next point of strength is hard work. A few years ago a complimentary dinner was given him in Nashville. The invitation cards bore a design representing a ladder showing his steps to prominence. The inscription was, "He Works While Others Sleep."

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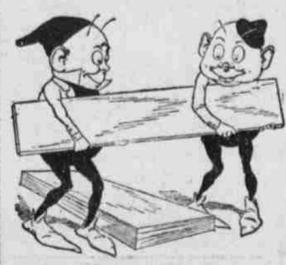
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