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WOMEN IN POLITICS.

THEIR SUCCESS IN STATECRAFT AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

How Mrs. Clarkson, the Wife of the Assistant Postmaster General, Assists Her Husband—How a Clever Woman Saw a Senator in Spite of an Executive Session.

[Special Correspondence.] WASHINGTON, April 4.—Woman is a good politician, though it is not she, but the lord of creation, who now haunts the corridors of the public buildings looking for offices which he may devour. There is no diminution of the number of male citizens of 21 years and upwards willing to be postmasters. Every morning at 9 we find a large crowd of them in the corridor which leads to the office of the first assistant postmaster general. The door



of this office stands hospitably open. No messenger guards the door and asks for cards. Entrance is free, though the prizes are few. No rules prevail, save the good American rules of first come first served and take your place in the line and hold it. In this line are famous senators, millionaires touching elbows with men in rags, ex-slaves. All are after postoffices, for themselves or others. At the desk inside stands First Assistant Postmaster General Clarkson, receiving papers by the bushel, arguments by the volume. To all men he has the same manner, to all gives the same careful, patient attention. Probably there is no man in the United States who enjoys a more extensive acquaintance with working members of his party than Mr. Clarkson. But there is another person in this room who knows almost as many politicians as Clarkson. There are women who have a gift for music, poetry, painting, society; Mrs. Clarkson has an aptitude for politics that amounts almost to a gift. There is no more popular woman among the politicians of the country than she. They all know and admire her. Probably she knows a greater number of political secrets than any other woman in America, and holds them closer. That a woman can keep a secret is well exemplified in her. She is a fine representative of that admirable class of American women who accompany their husbands everywhere, share their labors and confidences, and shed over the activities of business or political life the light of a woman's sympathy, cheerfulness and refinement. Mrs. Clarkson has been among politi-



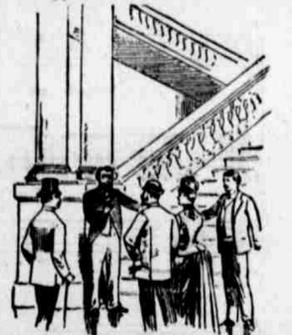
THE POOR MAIL CARRIER. cians all her life. With her husband she has attended three or four national conventions, and has been present at many of the innumerable conferences held in their rooms. When Mr. Clarkson went to New York last summer to labor in the national committee as a campaign manager Mrs. Clarkson accompanied him. No secrets were kept from her, and none were ever lost through her. In Iowa she is known and loved by all the politicians of the state. They go to her for counsel, in politics or love. So as she sits here for an hour in her husband's office public men by the hundred, statesmen, orators, men of success in politics and law, eagerly grasp her hand. In her politics, as in her husband's, there is no selfishness. They are ever assisting others, never seeking for themselves. She is entitled to place with those other American women politicians, Mrs. Logan, Mrs. McDonald of Indianapolis, Lady Randolph Churchill of England. Like them she has mixed with politicians without losing any of her womanly grace and sweetness. She has, too, reared a family of boys who are sure to bring honor to their parents and win success for themselves.

There is no happier family circle than that of the Clarksons, and though they do not seek notoriety, there is profit in the use of the instance which they afford of the untruthfulness of the popular notion that political associations are demoralizing. About the unfavorable influence of politics on character, and the impossibility of woman engaging therein without loss of the charms of her sex, there is a great deal of cant and nonsense. All honor to the many women of whom Mrs. Clarkson is a type—to the women who stay by their husband's side in all his labors, his mentor and counselor. There are scores of women in Washington who are as apt at politics and as deep in statecraft as their husbands. Many write their husbands' letters, help

receive their callers, prepare speeches, attend to newspaper cuttings, and join in laying plans of campaign. During the last month probably one-half the wives of representatives have spent their leisure hours writing letters to office seekers. Persons who have never been in Washington cannot conceive the flood of communications concerning government employment that has poured in upon members of congress during the last month. The labor of replying to all these letters has in some cases made it necessary for senators or representatives to employ two or three clerks, and those who are not rich enough to afford these luxuries have been forced to call for the assistance of members of their families.

An incident of the closing days of the last congress shows what a woman can do. She was on her way to the senate committee room to see a senator who had agreed to look after a private bill. To save this bill from defeat prompt action was necessary. The senator must be seen immediately, because written word from him was wanted at the other end of the Capitol in ten minutes. If this could be procured in time a favorable report on the bill, and probably its passage, would result. But the American house of lords was in executive session, and when the house of lords is in executive session, all common mortals must take to the woods. As soon as secret session is ordered there is a loud ringing of bells, the galleries are cleared and the doors, of double thickness, securely locked. Not only this, but the upper corridors of the senate wing are cleared. No person is permitted to remain up there, though by no possibility could one overhear what was going on in the chamber below. At the foot of the staircases guards are stationed to stop all intruders on these upper corridors, temporarily sacred to the silence of the great senate's secret session.

Of course, our woman with the private bill, eager to see the senator at work upstairs in his committee room, was stopped at the foot of the staircase.



"STAND BACK! EXECUTIVE SESSION." Expostulations were in vain, vain entreaties and threatened tears. "We must obey our orders, ma'am." "But I don't want to go near the senate chamber. I won't steal anything, not even a look through the keyhole." "Can't help it, ma'am—orders must be obeyed." But the woman did not lose her wits. She knew there was another staircase, and she determined to try that. On the way over she decided on a desperate bluff. "Stop, please. Executive session." "I wish to see Senator — in his committee room." "Can't help it. Executive session." "But, sir, sweeping past the guard with a haughty air, 'I am the senator's wife, and you dare not stop me.' And she was right. No senate employe dares offend a senator's wife or any member of a senator's family. He is afraid of losing his head. The woman saw her senator, secured his autograph, returned to the house and saved her bill. A man would have sworn at the guards, found a page, given him a dollar to take a note up to the senator, and lost his ten minutes and his opportunity.

Woman is a success in politics. She is a success everywhere and in everything. Even on Connecticut avenue of a Sunday morning she is monarch of all she surveys. One of the characteristics of Washington life is the curiosity seekers, tuft hunters, who flock to the church which a president attends or crowd a theatre wherein a presidential party is occupying a box. Now the favorite church is the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, which President Harrison attends. It is crowded every Sunday. The costumes are beautiful and the millinery brilliant. After services the avenue is a dress parade ground. More tailoring than religion is apparent among these wives of statesmen and millionaires. Worse than all, the ubiquitous reporter stands conveniently by, note book in hand, and in the tuft hunting local press next



DESCRIBING CHURCH GOERS' COSTUMES. morning we read a list of the distinguished persons who promenade Connecticut avenue after services. With full descriptions of the costumes of the ladies. To the sermon, one line; to each costume, five lines. The best thing on the programme is fashion worshipping. Washington is published descriptions of the costumes worn by the chief mourners at swell funerals. WALTER WELLMAN

Sale Under Chattel Mortgage.

To whom it may concern. You are hereby notified that on Saturday the 8th day of April 1889, between the hours of 10 o'clock a. m. and 4 o'clock p. m. at the building known as the Clay Manufacturing Company's woolen mills situated just north of the city of Lincoln in Lancaster County, Nebraska, I will sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash the following described property: 22 sewing machines; 2 button hole machines; 3 crocheting machines; 3 knitting machines; 1 winding machine; 1 double rib machine; 1 wool working machine; 1 eye let machine. 1 creasing machine; 2 self acting spinning machines; 2 sets of cards; 1 hydraulic extractor; 1 fulling mill; 2 iron water tanks; 2 wool pickers; 1 wool duster; 1 safe; 2 desks; 1 horse; 1 wagon and harness, together with all bobbing spools, grinders, dye and scouring tanks and machines, shaftings, belting, pulleys, steam and water pipes, chairs and furniture of every description, also all dye stuffs, all raw material, all material and goods in process of manufacture, all manufactured goods on hand, all wool, ribbon, buttons, thread, all blacksmith tools, steam pumps, lathes, hoist-machines, ropes etc. and all articles of personal property of every description in the possession of the said Clay Manufacturing Company. All of said property above described being situated kept and used by the said Clay Manufacturing Company in connection with its woolen mill located in or near what is known as Yolande Place subdivision of the north half of the north west quarter of section thirteen (13), town ten (10), range six (6), east of the 6th P. M. in Lancaster County, Nebraska.

Such sale will be made under and according to the terms of a chattel mortgage given by the Clay Manufacturing Company to me, J. A. Hudelson, on the 13th day of March, 1889, bearing date of that day and filed for record in the office of the county clerk of Lancaster County, Nebraska, on the 14th day of March, 1889. That said mortgage conveyed the property above described; the said mortgage was given to secure the sum of \$9,500 with interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from date until paid. That default has been made in the payment of said sum as in said mortgage provided and there is due to me and unpaid thereon this 16th day of March, 1889, the sum of \$9,507.50 and costs of foreclosure and 5 per cent attorneys fees as in said mortgage provided.

J. A. HUDELSON, Mortgagee. By Talbot & Bryan, his Attys. 3-16-89

Chattel Mortgage Sale.

To all whom it may concern. You are hereby notified that on the 28th day of April 1889, at 2 o'clock p. m. at the Hatter block in West Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, by authority of a chattel mortgage executed Oct. 9th 1888, by Grant & McGoff to Benson & Parkington and by them assigned to me and filed for record in the office of the county clerk of Lancaster County, Nebraska, on the 14th day of October, 1888, as No. 29,511 of chattel mortgages, I will sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash the following articles of personal property, to wit: All fixtures in the said building owned by A. Halter on lots 7 and 8 in block 17 West Lincoln, also all merchandise and partitions in said room, in said building, said room being west room."

Default has been made in the terms of said mortgage and the mortgagee feels himself unsafe and insecure. There is now due this 30th day of March 1889, the sum of \$733.00.

A. HALTER, Assignee of Benson & Parkington By Talbot & Bryan, his Attys.

Chattel Mortgage Sale.

To all whom it may concern. You are hereby notified that on the 28th day of April 1889, at 2 o'clock p. m. at the Hatter block in West Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, by authority of a chattel mortgage executed by C. W. Welsh and U. S. Grant to me dated November 5th, 1888 and filed for record in the office of the county clerk of Lancaster County, Nebraska, November, 6th 1888, as No. 29,570 of chattel mortgages I will sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash the following articles of personal property, to wit: 2 pool tables, 1 billiard table 12 pool balls, 4 ivory billiard balls, 3 cue racks, 29 cues, 3 bridges, 2 ball racks, 2 strings of beads, 1 pin pool board, 4 chalk holders, 12 billiard room chairs, 1 round walnut table, 4 lamps with shades and hanging attachments, 1 counter, 11 and back shelf, 1 looking glass, 2 pictures, 9 goblets, 5 glasses, 10 joints of pipe, tobacco cutter, small iron stove, brooms 3 screen doors with hangings, 1 board partition, bedstead, springs and mattress and bed clothes, wash stand, table covers, ice tank and all other articles of personal property used in connection with the billiard hall all of said articles above described being situated in the billiard hall formerly occupied by said mortgagee in Halter's block in West Lincoln, Nebraska.

Default has been made in the terms of said mortgage and the mortgagee feels himself unsafe and insecure there is now due this 30th day of March, 1889 the sum of \$520.00.

J. R. HAWKICK, Mortgagee. By Talbot & Bryan his Attys.

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