

The New Northwest.

A Journal for the People. Independent in Politics and Religion. Allice to all Live Issues, and Thoroughly Radical in Opposing and Exposing the Wrongs of the Masses.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE): One Year, by Mail, \$3.00; Six Months, 1.50; Three Months, 1.00; Per Month to City Patrons (delivered), 25.

Advertisements will be Inserted at Reasonable Prices. All Correspondence intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor, and all business letters to the DUNNWAY PUBLISHING COMPANY, No. 5 Washington street, Portland, Oregon.

PORTLAND, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1881.

"RIGHTS OF MARRIED WOMEN."

This brief communication was received too late for attention last week:

Cove, Union county, Oregon, April 2, 1881. TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW NORTHWEST: Please enlighten your many readers by informing them, through your paper, what rights the Act entitled "An Act to establish and protect the rights of married women" confer on women that previous laws did not give. Lawyers will assert that the law granted no additional benefits. Yours truly, H. J. HENDERSON.

We cannot give a definite answer, further than to say that the law must await the construction of the courts. The late Legislature probably intended to do a noble and just act, but we fear it failed.

Perhaps Mrs. E. P. W. Packard can throw some light on the subject, as she claims the ambiguous bill as her special work. It may be interesting for her to know how little satisfactory legislation women can get until they have the power to elect as law-makers persons who are directly concerned in proposed reforms. She opposes Woman Suffrage and consequently equality of the sexes, and her effort to get better property laws without political rights promises to be as barren of results as this journal has time and time again predicted that all such attempts will be. A disfranchised class is at the mercy of those in power. "Equality of rights is the first of rights," and the ballot is the key that will unlock all property and civil rights. Let all women who want equitable property statutes join the Woman Suffrage movement and aid in the consummation of its aims. All talk about "emancipating" women without enfranchising them is mere dawdling.

The above letter was handed to a well-known lawyer of this city—an unflinching friend of the rights of women—with a request that he give it his consideration, and his reply appears on our first page.

HAYES ON TEMPERANCE.

Ex-President Hayes has recently written a long letter to a friend in Minneapolis, who kindly furnishes the press with this extract in reference to the late Executive's temperance principles and practices:

When I became President, I was fully convinced that, whatever might be the case in other countries and with other people, in our climate, and with the excitable, nervous temperance of our people, the habitual use of intoxicating drinks was not safe. I regarded the danger of the habit as especially great in political and official life. It seemed to me that to exclude liquors from the White House would be wise and useful as an example and would be approved by good people generally. The suggestion was particularly agreeable to Mrs. Hayes. She had been a total abstemious woman from childhood. We had never used liquor in our own home, and it was determined to continue our home custom in this respect in our official residence in Washington, as we had done at Columbus. I was not a total abstemious when I became President, but the discussion which arose over the change at the Executive Mansion soon decided me that there was no half-way house in this matter. During the greater part of my term, at least during the first three years, I have been in practice, as in theory, a consistent total abstemious man, and shall continue to be so. All statements inconsistent with the foregoing, including the one you send me, are untrue and without foundation.

The River Side must have been self-conscious that it deserved reproof for not reporting the proceedings of the Woman Suffrage Club of Independence, or it would not have construed the NEW NORTHWEST'S expression of sorrow thereat into an exhibition of anger. We cheerfully print its declaration that it was "not bulldozed into silence," but are greatly surprised at its closing paragraphs. We had considered G. W. Quivey too courteous a gentleman to write such stuff.

The New York Episcopal Conference has adopted the following: "Resolved, That we recognize no ground for divorce except violation of the seventh commandment, and that we will refuse to marry or admit to membership in our churches any who are divorced on unscriptural grounds." Which is odd Christianity. It is in direct opposition to the reformation of blunderers in wedlock—in open antagonism to marital sinners who wish salvation.

The Canyon City News says the members of the Grant County Woman Suffrage Association intend to hold a picnic at Pine Creek on the Fourth of July. Among the attractions will be an oration and the reading of the Declaration of Independence, both by ladies.

It is a pleasure to note the fact that the Daily Astorian has been enlarged to a 28-column paper. May its prosperity continue, is our sincere wish.

The Mountaineer gave neat notices of Mrs. Dunnway's lectures in The Dalles, and advised all who had time to go and hear her.

NEBRASKA AND ARIZONA.

A statement has recently appeared in several newspapers to the effect that the Legislatures of the State of Nebraska and the Territory of Arizona have both conferred the right of suffrage on women, and a correspondent "wishes to know if the report is correct." We believe it is not literally true, though the actions of the Legislatures mentioned were quite liberal, and might easily have served to start such a rumor.

In Nebraska, the situation seems to be strictly similar to that in Oregon and in Wisconsin—the last Legislature having decided to submit to the legal voters of the State, for their ratification or rejection, a Woman Suffrage amendment to the State Constitution. The same Legislature also conferred, unasked, school suffrage on women who own property or have children of school age. The Beatrice Express says that "Senator Howe, of Omaha, enjoys the distinction of being the only person in either House who made a speech against Woman Suffrage," but that, by reason of his standing, "his opposition was considered beneficial to the bill." The same journal also states that "twenty-five of Nebraska's best newspapers have already offered their support to the amendment." We herewith print the reasons given by Senator Turner of Columbus for his affirmative vote on the amendment:

Our wives, mothers and sisters, having an equal interest with us in the welfare of our commonwealth, and being equal to ourselves in intelligence, there appears no good reason why the right to vote should be withheld from them. The genius of our institutions is opposed to taxation without representation—opposed to government without the consent of the governed—and therefore I vote "aye."

In Arizona, the Territorial Legislature adopted a bill granting the school ballot to women and making them eligible for educational offices; but we fail to find anything in relation to an amendment for general suffrage. However gratifying it might be if such action had been taken, yet it is the duty of Woman Suffrage journals to correct all false reports, and the cause will be better off than if its friends tacitly aided in circulating erroneous rumors by giving them the sanction of silence. The Tucson Daily Star says the school bill "shows that Arizona is not behind in the progressive spirit of the age," and adds:

The sphere of woman has, within the last twenty-five years, been enlarged more than during the previous century. She is now represented in all of the learned professions, and is taking the lead in educational affairs. The colleges and universities, which twenty years ago bolted and barred their doors against her, are to-day thrown open. Her right to vote, and to be elected Trustee and School Superintendent, or to any other office, is as inherent as are the principles of the Declaration of Independence, and we hope it will be put into practical effect, especially as to school Trustees.

Anonymous scribblers who make personal attacks through newspapers are always given to untruthfulness. The "gnat" that furnishes "Amity items" for the Independence River Side is a fair specimen of these sneaks, that have not the courage to assume responsibility for their falsehoods. To show our readers how slanderous such cowards can be, we clip these sentences about the NEW NORTHWEST from the said "gnat's" last effort: "Now let me ask in all candor if it is not pitiful to see a paper, championing a great cause, going over head and ears into the lowest quagmires of blackguardism to find language nasty enough to fling at a supposed opponent. No wonder that decent people, with any respect for the morals of their children, refuse to admit the vile, slangy sheet into their families." Somehow we are unable to harmonize the statements contained in this choice extract with the fact that the NEW NORTHWEST'S advertising and subscription business is now larger than ever before, and its patrons are with hardly an exception among the better classes.

After copying this journal's very complimentary notice of Senator McDonald of Indiana, the Port Orford Post made this comment, which perhaps in itself as completely refutes its own charge as anything we could say: "And yet, the NEW NORTHWEST is unsparing in its blackguardism of all Democrats and everything Democratic. Senator McDonald is a stalwart Democrat." However, this might have been said in a sarcastic spirit.

The New York Medical College and Hospital for women held its eighteenth annual commencement in Association Hall on the evening of March 30th. The class consisted of five members, and the valedictory was delivered by Miss Maria G. Estella, who has been educated under the patronage of Emperor Dom Pedro of Brazil. The Brazilian flag was displayed on the stage alongside the Stars and Stripes in honor of the event.

A horrible fact—that between the years 1870 and 1875, forty-two women were killed in New York City by drunken husbands, most of them kicked to death. "Women are supported and protected by men, and do not need the ballot to enable them to enact laws for self-preservation." "They are better protected by their husbands now than they can ever hope to be when they get the suffrage."

Anna Whitney, the sculptor of the statue of Samuel Adams, contributed by Massachusetts to the national pantheon in the Capitol, never touched a tool of her profession till she was thirty-eight years old.

Mr. S. H. Shepherd has assumed editorial control of the Bedrock Democrat of Baker City.

WOMAN'S STATE FAIR.

The Indiana women have shown their practical common sense by a new departure, and their example might be followed with good results in every State of the Union. In 1878, they hurriedly gathered a collection of woman's work into a separate exhibit at the State Fair, under the name of the "Woman's Department," which proved a remarkable success. This was the first attempt to make woman's industries a distinct and leading feature at any State Fair. The "Woman's Department" is now regarded as permanent, and includes all work done by women not entered for competition in other departments. It is under the management of the Woman's State Fair Association, which is a voluntary organization, deriving its authority, jurisdiction and funds from the State Board of Agriculture, and is duly authorized to arrange the premium list, regulate expenditures, select awarding committees, rent space, etc. The purposes of the Association, as stated in its circular, are to "encourage and develop woman's industries;" to "aid in improving the quality and securing due recognition of the value of woman's work," which is now "commercially and statistically underrated;" to "help in introducing new and more profitable industries for women, in opening better opportunities and markets, and in promoting the interests of business and working women generally."

It would be well for the Oregon State Fair if it were aided by a Woman's Association, working with the same laudable objects that the Indiana women have in view. Many women of this State are deeply interested in the annual fair, and contribute largely to its success. They now exercise but moderate influence on the State Agricultural Society's actions, and will not be more fully recognized until they effect an organization of their own. They can then cooperate with the State Society with advantage to both. Women are branching out in numerous directions, and we should like to chronicle a movement for yearly placing before the people of Oregon a representative collection of the results of woman's brain, skill and toil.

From the Baker City Democrat: "In 1853, Andrew J. Bolen and wife, now Mrs. Jerusha Sparks of this city, settled upon a donation claim—640 acres—near Vancouver, W. T. Mr. Bolen was Indian Agent at or near Spokane Falls, and, in the discharge of his duties, was killed by Indians in the Fall of the year 1855. Nearly ever since that time Mrs. Sparks has been contesting in some form or other, in the courts or before the Interior Department, her right to said lands. Two years ago she employed L. O. Sterns of this city to attend to her interests, who, after taking it to the Secretary of the Interior on appeal twice, has finally obtained the decision of that officer in favor of Mrs. S. The land is very valuable, as a part of the town of Vancouver is built upon it, and it is largely and extensively improved. Mrs. Sparks is to be congratulated on her victory; besides, it shows that she is a woman of pluck and deserving of it. It is proper to say that Hon. J. H. Mitchell argued the case before Secretary Schurz, who signed the decision in person. This decision gives her nearly six-sevenths of about 400 acres of land, which ought to make the deserving old lady comfortable the remainder of her days."

Mrs. F. M. Hunter, wife of A. G. Hunter, formerly Superintendent of the Aztec Mining Company, committed suicide in Tucson, Arizona, on the 11th instant, by shooting herself with a revolver. Hunter is now engaged in mining operations in Sonora, and some time ago married a Mexican woman there. His wife, who was residing in England, heard of his marriage to the Mexican woman, and about three months ago came to this place with the intention of going to Sonora. A coroner's jury found that she was driven to self-destruction by the perfidious, cruel and inhuman treatment of her husband.

From the tone of the daily press, it is plain that Oregon's most pressing want at present is a Portland Jockey Club, which shall conduct a race-course like those at Saratoga, Long Branch and Baltimore; nothing else can be devised that would so rapidly develop the great natural resources of the State and tend toward the education and advancement of the general public. However, there is no occasion to limit the number of clubs to one. Let us have at least a baker's dozen of them.

One of the remonstrances sent into the Illinois Senate against the repeal of the temperance law, was the signatures of 1,050 convicts in the penitentiary at Joliet, 920 of whom solemnly declared that the use of spirituous liquors was the original source of their degraded condition and the prime cause of their incarceration.

A Mormon colony has arrived at New York from Liverpool, intending to go direct to Utah; and forty-four Mormon missionaries have left Utah for Wales on a proselyting tour. It is now in order for the President to again say that "polygamy must and shall be stamped out."

The women of Edinburgh, Scotland, are publicly demanding that women householders and owners of property shall be allowed to vote for members of Parliament and Town Councils.

Miss Frederika Perry and Miss Ellen Martyn, who form the only ladies' law firm in Chicago, are both graduates of the law department of the University of Michigan.

NOT A QUESTION OF COMMON LAW.

PORTLAND, April 14, 1881. TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW NORTHWEST: We hear the tread of the hosts, and the forces are nearing the gates of the citadel; and we need them to make complete, to make harmonious, to make impregnable, a constitutional government. We might as well plant ourselves in mid-ocean, with the changeless blue overhead and on every hand, and say that we were surrounded by all the beauties of God's pencil, as to assert that a government of men alone comprehends all the perception and intelligence in the world. When the representatives of liberal thought and culture of England were lost in the fog on the West India question, they summoned to their aid the genius of Elizabeth Heyrich, and for seven years they listened to her clear elucidations of truth applied to practical life, until England lifted by one peaceful word a million of slaves into liberty—a glory that God granted alone to the genius of women.

To-day a question is before our Supreme Court in which woman is interested. In its final analysis it is simply whether there is a power above the Constitution, and a power that shall continue to live because it existed in the past; if hereafter in all time there shall be any check for legislative or executive usurpation. It is not a question of common law, but of written constitutional and statutory enactment. Can persons who exercise authority under no color of title execute the decrees of a power behind the throne, and must these decrees stand as unalterable as the law of the Medes and the Persians? If this is to go forth as the law of land, may God hasten the hour when new forces shall act and react upon political and social life. YCRAD.

GENERAL NEWS.

Secretary Windom's bond policy is approved by ex-Secretary Sherman.

California raisins compare very favorably with London and Malaga layers.

Disastrous floods are reported throughout the southern part of Wisconsin.

Lindsay, the Morey letter perjurer, has been sent to Sing Sing for eight years.

The new officers of the New York Tammany Society are understood to be John Kelly men.

Edison's electric light is successful. He can turn off a light with a thumb-screw just as gas-light is put out.

The Virginia Republicans denounce Mahone, and claim that they want no affiliation with him and his followers.

The north wing of the insane asylum at Anna, Ill., was burned on Tuesday, and one patient perished. Loss, \$150,000.

The cotton crop of 1881 now promises to be much larger than that of 1880, notwithstanding previous reports to the contrary.

Lieutenant Fred. Grant has resigned from the army to enter the employ of the Chicago, Texas and Mexican Central Railroad.

The President intimates that he will call an extra session of Congress if the dead-lock in the Senate is not broken this week.

Another great flood has just occurred in the Missouri River, and much suffering and desolation is wrought at Sioux City and Yankton, Dakota.

Although not now wanted in the North as voters, the negroes do not show any great desire to remain in the South, and the Spring exodus has commenced.

Cincinnati's new Mayor, Hon. Wm. Means, is endeavoring to enforce the laws forbidding places of amusement to be open on Sundays. A number of arrests have been made.

On account of the filthy streets of New York, physicians fear that a plague is impending. Four cases of cholera and 127 cases of small-pox are reported, and typhus is raging.

New York Socialists have held a formal trial and found Alexander III. of Russia guilty of murder for having caused the death of Sophie Pleoffsky and her confederates.

Street-car drivers and conductors in several of the large cities have recently struck for and received an advance in wages. They work long hours, and the labor is wearing.

Frye of Maine has raised a fuss in the Senate, and the Democrats, thinking he represents the administration, will probably aid Conkling to defeat Robertson's confirmation as Collector of Customs at New York.

The anti-monopoly party in Jersey City has been partially successful in municipal elections. The city is railroad-ridden, the corporations paying almost no taxes, and the other taxpayers are rising in righteous wrath.

Jorgensen, a Republican Congressman from Virginia, and George C. Gorham, the California turn-out, are at present comparing characters through the Washington City papers, and the Virginian has the best of it.

A peculiar and heretofore unknown disease has broken out among the horses in Chicago. It commences with a swelling at the fetlock, which changes to a running sore, and the animal's blood is soon poisoned if it is not speedily and skillfully treated.

San Francisco's Health Officer has destroyed sick-houses scattered throughout the Chinese quarter. Though he did not comply with the forms of the law, he claims that the Supervisors will uphold his action, as the case required "heroic treatment."

Kutz, a Chicago Socialist, has written a letter to President Garfield, charging him with being "as much a despot as the Czar of Russia," and informing him that he "ought to be served with a big dose of dynamite and nitro-glycerine." The President was much amused at the fool's impudence.

Mr. Charles Heath, of Massachusetts, endeavored to carry on a plantation in Caldwell Parish, Louisiana, desiring to build up a business there, and had erected a grist-mill, a gin-house, and a blacksmith shop, all of which he fitted up with improved machinery; but his whole establishment was burned by incendiaries.