

suffragists to urge the passage of a bill, brought in by Mr. Waters, member for North Middlesex, to extend the Parliamentary franchise also to widows and spinsters. On this occasion, Dr. Stowe read an able address, setting forth the claims of women to the ballot on the same conditions as it is granted to men, but stating that she and her supporters would gladly accept any portion of the desired reform. Mrs. McDonell, representing the W.C.T.U., followed with a rather sarcastic speech. In reply, Mr. Mowat declared his sympathy with the cause and his unwillingness, as "a practical politician" to prophesy that they would get what they wanted "this year or next year," concluding with a pious hope that he might "remain long enough in power to be the humble instrument of carrying 'their wishes into effect'". He voted against the bill. That was twenty-eight years ago, but with the women's cause triumphant throughout the West, it cannot be that the present-day practical politicians of the older provinces will venture much longer to trifle with the rising tide.

With respect to educational privileges, victory was not so long delayed. Dr. Stowe's only daughter indeed had a similar experience to her mother and, seeking admission to the University, was informed (as were other young women) that "the doors of the University are not open to women". "And," added the President to Miss Stowe, "I trust they never will be." The girl accepted the challenge, replying, "I will make it the business of my life to see that they shall be opened." She kept her word, and the Toronto Women's Literary Club, of which she was a member, struggled unceasingly to break down the barriers, an end which was achieved in 1885.

In the meantime, Miss Stowe had taken a course at the Toronto School of Medicine, despite the fact that

some of the professors and students deliberately made it as unpleasant for her as possible, and on May 16th, 1883, had received her degree of M.D. from the Victoria University at Cobourg. She had fought her way to victory, with a resolution hardly to be expected from a young girl, and many were the compliments and praises showered on "the first woman who had ever taken a medical degree in the Dominion".

But she had not suffered in vain. The trials she had undergone so appealed to one of her professors, Dr. Barrett, that he decided to try to establish a medical school for women. A meeting was called under the auspices of the Women's Suffrage Club, and the project was taken up so warmly that in the autumn of that same year (1883) the Women's Medical School was opened in Toronto, with Dr. Barrett as its first dean, and Dr. Augusta Stowe-Gullen (for she had just been married to Dr. J. B. Gullen) on the staff as demonstrator of anatomy. The college had twenty-three years of usefulness, but was closed in 1906, after women were admitted to study medicine in the University of Toronto.

Dr. Emily Stowe did not live to see this last step forward. In 1893 she met with an accident which interfered with her general practice, but not by any means with her interest in social and economic questions. In these later years, she spent much time at her summer home, on an island in Lake Joseph, Muskoka.

The end to her busy, effective life came suddenly on April 30th, 1903. Those who knew her best lay stress on her motherly and womanly qualities, whilst those still in the struggle to gain for women full political recognition, with all its greater opportunities, are thankful for the courage, ability and resourcefulness with which Dr. Stowe served her own generation, and those to come after.