

of Mont Blanc as she proudly lifted her snowy head in the mellow light of that October afternoon, and I told them how I had been led to believe that nowhere should I find a thorough grasp of the Council idea, but everywhere small aims and petty jealousies, and desires for self-advancement. I told them how very different my experience had been, how everywhere I had found an eagerness to make their work truly national work even at the expense of subordinating what had been already accomplished to that aim, and how that spirit was especially remarkable in Geneva. And one of the party said to me: "Yes, think of us only in connection with Mont Blanc, which is rearing its noble crest up into the very heavens, and believe that we are together all striving upwards to reach even such a noble summit as that." And so I carried away with me the impression of a band of earnest Swiss ladies—"an equal fellowship of noble hearts, made weak by time and fate, but strong in will, to do, to dare, to suffer, not to yield."

ITALY.

Of Italy I have little to report. There are many things which make the formation of a National Council there a hopeful matter. There is a great deal of philanthropic energy now-a-days outside the walls of convents and of nunneries, and their beloved Queen Margharita occupies herself in the furtherance of woman's work and is said to be interested in the formation of a National Council, but so far, unfortunately, the management of this undertaking does not seem to have got into the right hands, and no progress has been made.

FRANCE.

Last in order of narration comes the story of the National Council of France, and in a few words I must tell you what I have learnt about it.

Here they have evolved a line for themselves, and the Council or *Fédération des Groupes Feministes* is composed of a series of groups:—

La Solidarité des Femmes, *La Ligue du Droit des Femmes*, *L'Union des Femmes Peintres et Sculpteurs*, *L'Avant Courrière*, *La Grande Loge Symbolique* of men and women Free-masons, about which they seem very enthusiastic, and so on.

So far as I could make out, the ladies concerned in the Council were more interested in the groups themselves than in the central body; neither have they as yet approached the more philanthropic and religious societies with a view to affiliation. They are, however, alive to the importance of having a really vigorous and representative Council before the International Congress takes place in '98. I had the honor of spending a delightful afternoon with Mme. Bogelot, the brave old lady who crossed the Atlantic to be present at the Chicago Congress, and who has been decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honour for her