
OPINIONS OF MARY

Not with my consent. She must marry in her own party, or you must turn with her—or at least promise that the children shall be brought up Conservatives.’ ”

When our laughter ceased I reminded her—
“About taxes, Mary. They’ll take you up on that. Women pay taxes on property and income, but I think they don’t pay a poll-tax.”

“Oh, don’t they?” with interest. “And what is a poll-tax?”

I glanced towards my bookshelf, willing to further impress my careless friend with the merits of seeking knowledge at its fountain-head.
“Let us get the dic—”

“No!” cried Mary, rebelliously, “I *won’t* look in your old dictionary! I know near enough. Poll is the place they go to vote or something. You tell me.”

I felt for a moment like being severe with Mary and letting the definition go at that—besides I was not quite sure myself, and I wanted a glance.

“The poll-tax,” said I clearly and coldly, “is a personal tax levied on each man, under certain circumstances, and paid by him every year.”

“Oh, a head tax. Well, why should a woman not pay that, too?”

“She has no head worth taxing, I suppose.”

“There,” said Mary, slowly, after apparent consideration of this viewpoint, “there, it seems to me, one gets an excellent conception of the