The Colonist

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1895.

Place aux Dames

MDITORIAL NOTE.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR WOMEN.

the women of the nineteenth century to con-National Council of Women should be the customed to predominance by the cause of surprise to many upon whom it has experience of centuries. With women mare come unexpectedly—the cause of anneyance and opposition on the part of others who have allowed the circling years to roll on without noting the signs of the times, and the cause of rejoicing to those who have been and are endeavoring, clearly and honestly to understand what the Emancipation of Women quaht to be in its highest sense. those who recognize that the "New Woman," properly so called, cannot be aught else but the purer, stronger and more acutely intelligent outcome of the and education, more worthily to fulfil the plied. design for which she was originally created -to be a helpmeet to man and Queen of Home, her power to be shown in the skill with which she can arrange, rule and order that home, at the same time never forgetting that, though she "has a personal work and duty relating to her own home," she has also "a public work and duty which is the expan-

We are constantly hearing wild and useless words spoken about the mission and rights of woman, as if these could ever be separate from the mission and rights of man, or as if one sex could be "superior" to the other, when their natures are distinct and cannot be compared in similar

They recognized their power and with one administration of a well-to-do household remedy. accord they determined to use it in the best must have demanded the exercise of very During the first half of this century little community. Fine houses, handsome carriway and to the best advantage, so as to obsimilar abilities to those which distinguish bands of emigrants driven at various times ages, beautiful horses, and expensive dresses tain the happiest results for their own chil. the New Woman, and which she, happily or from their homes in the old country by the eat up the profits of the farm, and Debt, dren and for future generations. They felt unhappily, is often called upon to display in difficulty of galaing a livelihood, sought the that enemy of Peace of Mind, haunts the all the advantages of improved systems, dren and for future generations. They relief the advantages of improved systems that they must try to keep in touch wider fields. The nineteenth century has eastern shores of Canada. The land, covered farmer's sleeping and waking hours. The is not the simple task-it may appear. with and purify the world in which their children would hereafter live and work, and they unanimously decided and work, and they unanimously decided the labor of the household has been soldlers, many were fahermen, family increase. Boys and girls become disconnected to the province of would be to unite as one and endeavor to or. and the building of railways have brought few had taken even the first lesson in the ganize a National Council of Women in supplies to the doors of all, better in quality woodman's craft which must be hencefeeth every country in the world. For the attain- and at a less cost than they could be made their chief occupation. But their wives and ment of this object a Provisional Vice-Presi- at home. The most exemplary housewife little ones were with them; return was imdent and Secretary were appointed for each nowadays does not sit down to count threads possible, and choosing the most promising and leave the farm to learn a trade or enter country, who were to try and bring the matter before the women of their respective shirt fronts. Probably she takes up instead to work to make a home for themselves.

As these National Councils are organized Port Arthur, Fort William, Winnipeg. Ed--societies.

ent socfeties overlap one another and beof support and help to one another.

To prevent this and to bring all the asacciations into touch with one another, and place themselves side by side with their in prayer, to blend their voices once again in so into sympathy, that the good in one will working elsters, ascertain the hardships and the song of thanksgiving and to listen to the help what is good in the other, is one of the difficulties with which they are confronted, benes of affectionate exhortation. greatest benefits which must follow the and seek to remove them? formation of these social councils in our Co assert rights and to endeavor to en- old people's hands have ceased from toll,

A PLEA FOR THE NEW WOMAN.

It has been said that the latter half of the nineteenth century will be known as the last fifty years women have played a more active part in every department of life, and have thus necessarily come more prominently into public notice. Before everything, they The interesting matter which appeared in have devoted themsolves to their own intelthe Woman's edition of the Colonist will lectual improvement; and perhaps an apolbe found on the 12th, 13th and 14th pages ogy is necessary for the somewhat unblushand is in every way worthy the attention of ing effrontery with which they have from time to time chronicled and emphasized their various triumphs. If so, it may be found in the necessity that twenty years ago was laid upon women to prove the intellectual True it is, that "Custom is the enemy of capacity on which they based their claims Progress," and no more formidable foe have to enjoy rights and privileges which, until then, had belonged exclusively to men. But tend against. In this Woman's age, this now, at the close of the century, women age which is the outgrowth of centuries of have won an ample recognition; and they what was practically slavery, it is not to be will probably soon be content to wear wondered that this apparently sudden move. their laurels without undue elation ment, the formation and organization of the as men do, who have grown ac-

equality is still an intoxicating novelty. So entirely has the status of women been changed in the estimation of the public that the expression "New Woman" has been coined to describe the latest development. It is possible that this term may prejudice them in some conservative quarters, and, partly because the opinion of even a minority of men can never be a matter of indif-

ference to women, and partly as an act of justice to the generations of capable women that have passed away, it may be well to asold. One who is enabled, by her training certain whether the term is reasonably an-There is a myth that, once upon a time,

-always in the fabulous long ago-women were content to confine themselves within their own houses, spinning, knitting, brewing, baking, ministering to the wants of the would they place it? Is not the New

the daily newspaper and becomes interested

consists of the following Local Councils of About the middle of the century there began father, mother, sons and designers pited Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, London, Ham- a period of great commercial prosperity, ac- their evening occupations. The whire ilton, Quebec, St. John, Halifax, Yarmouth, companied, however, by so enormous an in- of the wheel, the elick of the crease of population that there followed, be-knitting needle and the softer monton, Vancouver and Victoria. The Lo- fore long, in every industry and profession, sound of the "cards" showed that the monton, Vancouver and Victoria. The Lo- fore long, in every industry and profession, sound of the "cards" showed that the vomen were manufacturing the rough, story naturally grow of itself under his tion is not only less independent, but also hands. of between twenty and thirty local affiliated and of living was established; and when beet the family from the severity of the The basis of foundation upon which this of depression began to recur with sufficient making or mending shoes, repairing their The basis of foundation upon which this of depression began to recur wind grand sisterhood rests, and which must permeate every member of it, is contained in the following "Preamble," which, the poorer classes women have generally in other words, explains the reasons for the in other words, explains the reasons for the ing a livelihood for themselves; and the successity of earn-ing a livelihood for themselves; and in other words, explains the reasons for the ing a livelihood for themselves; and in other words, explains the reasons for the ing a livelihood for themselves; and in other words, explains the reasons for the ing a livelihood for themselves; and in other words, explains the reasons for the forest was at once their thought, but a moment ago, can testify, b "We, women of —, sincerely believing in domestic service, in factories, in the that the best good of our homes and nation will be advanced by our own greater unity of the coal pit they have taken their places an organized movement of women will best an organized movement of where the indeed the state, do hereby band curselves together the fart aim to spare the women of their the state, do hereby band curselves together to further the application of the Golden best to further the application of the Golden best to devote themselves to the home-making work, which is universally recognized as be-The objects of these National and State ing their special prerogative. It is only duroccurred seem to be embraced in three ing the last quarter of a century that the words—easy to remember—one the natural rapidly changing conditions of life have Country afforded the reading of the house-Unity, knowledge, sympathy or help, middle and upper classes into the struggle relative from a distant settlement or a To promote sympathy we must acquire a for existence; a struggle from which the belated traveller gave the good people knowledge of one another's work, and our generous sentiments of men have been pow- an opportunity of exercising their sympathy will be in proportion to our erless to save them; and a struggle, it must overflowing hospitality. The settlement knowledge, but we cannot obtain any be confessed, for which such women twenty- liself was but a larger family in which knowledge without union or contact. five years ago, were very inadequately fit- trouble and joy were shared alike by all, Again, the result of much of the organized ted. Charming accomplishments were and where the constant interchange of work in our communities is to make some of found to be unmarketable and helplessness kindly offices sweetened even misfortune. the most earnest and devoted workers re- ended in many a silent tragedy. Is it to be The widow's wood pile was always replen main within their own particular groove, wondered at that among thoughtful women ished. The sick man's crop was never unignorant, to a great extent, of the good that a determination to more efficiently equip sown or his harvest ungathered. The schoolothers are doing, and frequently the differ- themselves and their daughters to master was not yet abroad, and the rare meet possible emergencies has been gaining visits of the minister were indeed like those come a cause of jealousy rather than a cause strength? Or that those who are fortun. of an angel, strengthening the faith and ately placed beyond the probability of vicis- hope of the little congregation that met in situde should yet, in helpful sympathy, the largest of the houses to bend their kness

formation of these social councils in our to assert rights and to entervor to

women sufficient meral courage to brave gotten graves, but to them we owe much of A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT DICKENS. after long years of misunderstandings unpopularity by seeking to open for themselves those careers which men regarded as
their own; by demanding equal educational
their own; by demanding equal educational
day morning along the road that has taken

The people's idols for the most post per the adventures of Nicholas Nickleby.

What a stir it made among Yorkshire the navy pay department, and our novelthe navy pay department, and our novelwoman's age, and, undoubtedly, during the and civil privileges; and by refusing any day morning along the road that has taken the navy pay department, and our novel-

> M. E. ANGUS. A RETROSPECT.

way in which that decision is made.

in character and disposition, each perfects on the conditions of life then. In ferings which these poor people and those closely cropped, he was without a collar, and is perfected by the other.

The perfect of the conditions of life then. In ferings which these poor people and those closely cropped, he was without a collar, and steamboats have made intercourse easy. The women who met at the Women's brewed and the bread baked and medicines admit that many evils in this world are in- Improved implements-lighten the farmer's Congress at Chicago in May, 1893, were redistilled, but the linen of the household was curable let us, by a rapid glance over the labor and better methods of farming make presentatives of almost all creeds and frequently spun and woven at home, while past, try to find out how this state of affairs his land more productive. nationalities, but they were one in purpose. no man wore a machine stitched shirt. The has been brought about and consider a But a spirit of emulation and a

bries others were farmers or shepherds, but very

Soon a small clearing was made and a leg in the government of her country, even, cabin was built. The many openings left they are to affiliate with an International perhaps, to the extent of forming an opinion by the unskilful workmen were filled with Council of Women, of which Her Excellency about it. But newspapers can be read in mid and moss. If the family was large a the Countess of Aberdeen was elected Presi. the seclusion of home, and opinions do not rude partition perhaps divided the apartdent, and which is to meet every five years. necessarily result in actions. There were ment and a loft served the double purpose Then the National Council of Women in other causes at work, besides that of greater of storeroom and bedchamber. One side of Then the National Council or women in lefsure, to force women into individual and the house was almost occupied by the great positions in the churches, the parliaments, composed of a number of affiliated Local independent activity and into the public firsplace, and, as the weather grew cold Councils, duly organized in every city, for arena; and these causes suggest themselves roaring fires filled the rooms with warmth but others, whose early qualifications were instance: The National Council of Canada to those who think about the matter. and light. Seated in its cheerful precincts

luxuries were becoming necessaries, periods climate. The men busied themselves in forced large numbers of the women of the hold. At long intervals the visit of a

A quarter of a century passed away. The

longer, even in the sphere of politics, to be the place of the woodland path little groups ist was early brought into close contact translated into French, dramatized in longer, even in the sphere of politics, to be the place of the woodland part little groups astisfied with a place in the same category of rosy cheeked, bare footed boys and girls with the great mass of the working that form, and placed on the French, argument that form, and placed on the French stage under the title "Paradis des Enthe chivalrons instincts of men, to which places on the forms where till late in the subsequent poverty nor fame was strong enough to shake evening they will bend their minds to the ranging many on the side of the New Woman; and as they recognize more fully that the lects of most of them delightful tasks, for Dickens had drawn upon his father's interests of men and women are insepar- idleness and trifling were not to be thought of actual character when he in "David Copable, and in no way antagonistic, they may in the presence of the old-time scheelmaster. perfield "introduced to the world the inimitable Micawber. We are assured also women workers, and to help them by their experience of longer training and organization to labor more efficiently. Of course it however still stands near and mother and blance to Dickens' mother, and the novelseems that Dickens, generally so careful ist himself assures us that the story of of his unities, is in one chapter of the cannot be ignored that this great increase in the girls, having looked after the milk, fed David Copperfield is to a great extent an the number of workers tends to lessen the rates of remuneration, but it is safe to say that no man will so far forget his manhood as to make his proportionate individual loss an excuse for telling the women who have to earn the bread they eat to stand aside, that how is the proportionate individual loss and be railly box's home to find helpmates among to find helpmates among on the stand aside, that how is home to find helpmates among on the stand aside, that how is home to find helpmates among on the stand aside, that how is home to find helpmates among on the stand aside, that how is home to find helpmates among on the stand aside, that how is home to find helpmates among on the stand aside, that how is home to find helpmates among on the stand aside, that how is home to find helpmates among on the standard of the house circle of Charles Dickens, let us a sutobiography.

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If we wish then to get a fair idea of the home circle of Charles Dicken he may eat more abundantly. And he will bor's boys come to find helpmates among guine "waiting for something to turn not lose all that he seems to lose; for the them, and the sons, taking up new farms, up." The other head of the family is responsibility of providing for a great burden of helplessness will be removed from cottage is built, over which some sonsie Corporated in the grant of the family is that garrulous, good-hearted, easy-going English matron, Mrs. Nickleby, and David his shoulders. The conditions under which lassie from a neighboring settlement is Copperfield is the son. Charles Dickens received but the rudiwe live are not ours to choose; but it is asked to preside. No one thinks of going laid upon us to decide how we shall adapt to live by himself. Misfortunes come of his achoolmaster, a Baptist parson, the ourselves to them. And character, manly course. Crops fail, sickness, sorrow and Rev. Giles. The boy's real education, and womanly character, which it is the aim death visit the home, but so far that which developed his mind, enlarged of life to develop, will grow according to the debt is almost unknown, and scanty his sympathies and helped him to form indeed must be the harvest that will not leave sufficient food for the winter's support of a family with good ap. Nights, Gil Blas, Robinson Crusoe and petites and simple tastes. The spirit of Don Quixote, reading them until he read mutual love and helpfulness can do much to himself into the very heart of the charac-Young as our country is, there are very comfort the serrowful and lighten the burfew cities which do not contain an ever in- den of care, and the self-reliant man finds a few cities which do not contain an ever increasing number of idle, or half-employed way out of his temporary difficulties that age of sixteen Dickens was launched into the money-getting, workmechanics, doctors without patients, lawyers without clients, clergymen without congrewithout clients, clergymen without congreous than before. Nor must we think that gations, tradesmen whose failures seem only the farm bounds his view. Newspapers, the tionable practices that he gained here he family, submissive to the voice of authority to have become an incident in their lives, intercourse of the schoolmaster and the reproduced in a telling way in his fiction. and never glancing at outside affairs. There and men who, under various pretences, make their living by the credulity or weakness of cussion; above all the long hours spent in Brass, Dobson & Fogg, and Oily Gainthe lonely forest or the quiet field, have mon, they must have been an unplear These people are not, in the ordinary sense given him material and time for thoughts, revelation to a boy of sixteen. Little Woman as old as Eve, who, in the garden of Eden was the first to seek the knowledge of the word, immoral. They are, as a rule, willing to work if they could get work to do.

These people are not, in the ordinary sense of which he has often little means of exdid the companions of young Charles pression. These streng, quiet men have But they have brought inferior wares to a finished the work of the pioneer. "They It is true, however, that English-speaking glutted market and no one will buy. They rest from their labore and their works do women, a hundred years ago, were more en- lose heard and either sink into poverty or follow them." Their sons, fairly educated, tirely occupied with domestic affairs than gain by craft or deceit what they cannot take their places. Settlements are no things. Each supplies what the other lacks they are at the present day. But how differ- win by honest labor. Who can tell the suf- longer divided by great forests. Here and

> contented. The father, harrassed by the difficulties into which his own improvidence has led him, becomes perhaps needlessly stern. The children get a distaste for labor

Other farmers, who have by a wise use of thought acquired a competency, send their stir. sons and daughters to college, not that they may return to adorn their homes but that they may enter upon some of what are called " professions." Many of these young men, their own or their parents' ambition and a certain facility in acquiring information find, when thrown on their own

amount of fertile unoccupied land it centains, bond of sympathy could possibly be established batween Sam Waller and a young sons must devote their time, their intelligence and their energies to obtaining from her soil the subsistence it is sa ready to yield; and while doing so fill the land with a people which loves her only as those who have taken a share in making a country

can love ber.

Let the idie or half employed young men who have crowded into our cities return to the farm. Mother Earth is ready to welcome back her prodigal children and has still come back her prodigal children and has still an independent to the second enough and to space for their needs. The unaccessformed tasks will prove hard at first, but if they have a tithe of the adaption of the still prove hard at first, but if they have a tithe of the adaption of the still an independent to the kingdom of Bantam, which, although the life thingdom of Bantam, which, although the life thingdom, governed and defended by women. The nominal sovereign is a man, but he is dependent, so that the independent to the still an independent to the life thingdom, governed and the sold end of the critics were the still an independent to the life thingdom, governed and the sold end of the little kingdom, governed the little kingdom, governed the little kingdom, governed the little kingdom of Bantam, which, although the little kin can love her.

MARIA LAWSON.

"All the reasonings of men are not worth one seatiment of a woman,"

Brass, Dobson & Fogg, and Oily Gainthem takin' notes.'

I think it is Nathaniel P. Willis who tells us of meeting Dickens at this stage of his life. He says that the young clerk was dressed very much as he has since described Dick Swiveller. His hair was buttoned office coats that was the admiration, you remember, of Sally Brass.

The grinding monotony of the lawyer's office chafed Dickens. He looked around him for more congenial work, and saw a tempting field in the world of letters. He tried no airy flights at first, but bravely grappled with shorthand, and pluckily stuck to it until he had con-

or round off the periods of the orators he quoted. About this time Dickens con-tributed articles to the True Sun and one ventured to speak: Morning Chronicle, the writing for the last paper, his first real work, the mally."
"Sketches by Bo2." These work by Boz.?' These were the product of his odd ands of time, written, s he tells us, to meet the "exigencies of a newspaper or magazine," and depict London life in every conditions Pubimproved opportunities and by prudent fore. lished anonymously they created a great

Who the Dickens Boz could be, Puzzled many a learned elf; But time unveiled the mystery, When Boz appeared as Dickens'self.

Encouraged by the success of the sketch, he undertook to write the letterpress of the "Adventures of the Pick-The illustrations were intended to be the main attraction of this work, the words being merely put in to explain the pictures and give conexplain the pictures and give consistency to the whole. Diskens had no definite didactic object in view when he com-menced Pickwick, and I think, he wrote resources, that they are mable to battle a better book on that account he was with the world, and that so far from having untrammeled, and felt free to let the

> menk. What, I wonder, did he think of Winkle? Did he smile over the trial of Pickwick versus Bardell, or did it seem to him, a grave matter ?:
> The publication of Oliver Twist proved

the truism that true fun and true pathes leave their roots nearly intertwines. Pickwick made London laugh, but Oliver

the Artful Dodger

After the publication of Oliver Twist,
Dickens married a Miss Hogarth. This
union, like that of so many literary
people, proved an unhappy one, and

fans." I think to an Englishman that play must have appeared irresistibly funny. Imagine a French Mrs Nickleby administering the French equivalent for brimstone and treacle to a row of little Frenchmen, and their polite bows and acknowledgements of the same! Nicholas Nickleby, like Oliver Twist, was written with an object. It aimed at the reforma-tion of the Yorkshire schools. It almost book caught tripping. On the same day he makes the school-boys break the ice in the well because the pump is frozen, and afterwards sends them as a practical lesson in "bottiny" to weed the garden.
Will Old Probs allow these two states of the atmosphere in one day to be consist. ent with possibility?

But space is limited and will not allow us to look upon that most wondrous picture of pure childhood and patient unselfishness, Little Nell, as she leads her grandfather forth to wander through inglish meadows, we may not shudder at Quilp nor feel with Swiveller the force of "staggerers." We most not stop to tell little Paul what the wild waves are saying between their green banks and the rushes, but reverently do we echo the prayer of Dickens: "Look upon us angels of young people with regards not quite estranged when the swift river bears us to the ocean !

We would like to linger for a moment with Little Dorrit, the Child of the Marshalsea, to really find out what it was that "the greedy little Sradgrind's grasped at," to stand by and see fair play at Pip's fight with "the strange young gentleman," but we cannot. I have overstepped my "column" now, and must put down my pen with this from Swiveller: "May the wing of friendship never moult a feather, and may you ne'er want a friend or a bottle to give

AGNES DEANS CAMBRON

MISS HAYWARD'S WAY.

When the bell rang for recess Boy and Willie presented themselves at Miss Hayward's desk. With drooping heads and flushed countenances from which the smiles had not wholly departed, they managed to say in a shame-faced manner :

"Miss Squeers sent us to you."
"Sent you to me?" said Miss Hayward in a grave, surprised tone. Lowering her voices she added, "For what?"

The smiles had all gone now. "For laughing in class."

'Had Miss Squeers asked you not to

laugh?" Yes'm." "And you refused to grant her request?"

"Yes'm." The heads were lower now.
"Yes'm." The heads were lower now.
"What would you think boys, of a gentleman who refused to grant a lady's re-

conscience was working within. Still the boys knew that she was waiting. At last

"You did not think of that I presume when you refused to grant Miss Squeers' request?

Another silence,

The little faces were serious now. The amusing incident was forgotten. At last Roy looked up with a troubled look on his "What can we do about it, Miss Hayward ?

"What ought you to do about it? What would any gentleman who had offended a ady do? After some thought Willie answered

After some thought Willie answered.

"He'd say 'scuse me."

Roy added "He'd 'polergize."

"Yes he would and he ought to; that is if he did not intend to offend again. If he did it would be adding insult to injury."

"May we 'polergize to Miss Squeers?"

"Certainly you may, if you do not intend to offend her again. That is just what a gentleman would do; and I know boys, that deep down in your hearts you mean to be gentlemen."

entlemen."

The quick glad look of relief from their

tion is not only less independent, but also less lucrative, and, what perhaps they feel more, lower in the social scale.

A traveller's assecdote in regard to this book is not without interest. A tourist visited a monastery in a far-off corner of Europe, and met there a young monk whose life from infancy had been spent whose life from infancy had been spent.

The quick glad look of relief from their shame passed over both faces.

But, boys, "said Miss Hayward impressively, "remember this: Either you must govern yourselves, or I must do it for you. If you can take care of yourselves I weald so much rather you would; but if you can take ourselves on much rather you would; but if you can take ourselves.

dialogue was reported by the mothers "George, I wish you went to Miss Hay-ward's school." "Cause then you'd have to mind !"
"What'd she do to me if I didn't!" "Iso! She wouldn't do anything, but she'd make you feel as if you must."

Pickwick made London laugh, but Oliver Twist made the world weep. Exposing as it did the evils existing in the very heart of things, it was naturally by many heart of things, it was naturally by many told and told the kingdom of Bantam, which, although the kingdom of Bantam, which although

cakes a ness of bably a work And family u knee, or their less under t at three kindergs the comm children's But to the h greates ness is feet full children children /

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fidelity ? In the century Master's significa We are laid upon our relation And so Question to-day, w woman s usurp his seeks but be his hel and life. fully to mother, as make her ly. And