

Ladies' Department.

CANON FLEMING ON WOMAN'S WORK.

• • And I would add that never at any period in the history of the world had woman a higher and a holier mission before her than to-day—and we rejoice to know that so many Christian women—mothers, wives and sisters—of all the churches are banded together in this great work. The temperance movement has two great objects before it—preventive work and saving work—to guard the young of our nation against the great danger of strong drink that lies before them, and to remove the curse of drunkenness from our national manhood. This is a work worthy of the ambition of an angel, but God has entrusted it to the hands of men and women like ourselves. It is not much more than fifty years since our fathers—the pioneers who went before us in this work—began it in God's name, and thus success has attended it. But it is still a tremendous task. Ignorance, prejudice, custom, fashion, selfishness and self-interest are all against us. The greater reason, then, why we should do our very best, through God's blessing; the greater reason why the press, the pulpit, the school and the legislature should all be employed. There is no doubt that we must try to take the stumbling-block out of the path of others. This is the true use of all our means. The Gospel of Christ our Saviour, we perfectly know, must finally triumph over all evil, but the means must be used or the end will not be attained. God will not give us wings because we are idle or stupid enough not to use our legs or our hands. We must, therefore, use every means in these days of faith, and God's blessing will crown with success work which has been entrusted to our hands. We never put the temperance pledge above the cross of Jesus Christ—but we do make it part and parcel of that religion which we proclaim and desire to see established. Total abstinence is a safe path; there are no pitfalls in it. You never heard of anyone going astray in the straight road. And we do know, thank God, that it has led thousands to the cross of our Saviour; and I may ask—What is each one of us really doing for this good cause? It is true that you are actively, Christianly met to-day in a good work. We must, if we would do good—and we learn it more and more every day—use individual effort. There is no medicine in this world for healing like the heart to the heart, and the soul laid on the soul. When the child of the Shunamite was dead, the prophet's staff in the hands of his servant was of no use, but when the prophet came and stretched himself upon the child, and put his face to his face and his breath to his mouth, then life came again, and it was the prophet's touch that healed, in God's name, that child. And when our Divine Lord and Master was upon earth He touched the sufferers, or the sufferers by faith touched Him, and were healed. It is just so with Christian example. It touches, where argument and warning and other means may seem to have failed; and where we bring our hearts into sympathy with those around us—the perishing, for whom we have just been praying in the hymn we have sung together—then, by loving them and telling them of Jesus Christ, we may at least help to save them. I tell you, dear friends, that when you and I come to die, this will transcend all else. Not the houses you have built, nor the monuments you have reared, nor the money you have amassed—but what we do for Christ and for our fellow-men, will, in that supreme hour, be our lasting joy and our abiding reward.—*Temperance Record.*

CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

The Women's Christian Suffrage Society, recently organized in this city, has issued general cards of invitation to its meetings.

The object and the character of this new movement may be judged by the following platform of principles.

"Convinced that the ballot in the hands of women would conduce to the highest welfare of our state and country, further the ends of justice, and hasten the advents of much needed reforms,

We, the undersigned citizens of California, have resolved ourselves into an Association, to be called The Woman's Christian Suffrage Society, whose object shall be to secure for the women of this State the right of suffrage, in order that by its use they may possess more power and influence, wherewith to protect themselves, their children, and their homes; to open for their sex all avenues of employment; to secure for their labor fair and adequate reward; to increase the efficiency of our public schools, and to promote moral, social and political reforms, irrespective of party politics.

We, therefore, pledge ourselves to use all honorable means to

secure at the next session of the Legislature the passage of a Bill granting suffrage to the women of California."

The above was signed by the officers and members of the association, including seven clergymen, and other "honorable" gentlemen.

No true man desires that woman shall not have as good a chance in this world as he has; he even wants her to have a better one. He wants her intelligence and capacity for self-advancement to have full play, and then if she chooses to depend on man, well and good.—*San Francisco Daily.*

ITEMS FROM OUR EXCHANGES.

Woman has sounded the depths; let her climb the heights! She has endured the sorrows; give her the joys! She has suffered all the wrongs; in Heaven's name give her all the rights! "Government by the people!" Verily! and are not women "people?"—*Col. Bain.*

Anna J. Norris, late of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has taken the pastorate of the Unitarian Church at North Platte.

Miss Mary L. Bonley was re-elected President of the Women's National Indian Association at its annual meeting in Philadelphia, Oct. 28.

The ladies of the West Virginia W. C. T. U. gave the West Virginia editors a banquet at their meeting a few days ago. That example should be followed. If there is any class of men that need to be watched over and surrounded with good influences, it is the editors when out for an "excursion."

Mrs. Mary Krom, principal of the Denver School of Music, has just made a tour through California. Mrs. Krom has the distinction of being the only lady assayer in the country.

Miss Alice Freeman, president of Wellesley College, is described as alight and girlish in figure, with a youthful face. She is a doctor of philosophy.

Another Belgian lady has been decorated with the order of Leopold for her service in literature. She is Madam Courtmans, nee Jeanne Berchmans de Maldeghem.

A girl sixteen years of age is at the head of the silk culturists of the United States. She lives at Philadelphia, and her name is Nellie Lincoln Rossiter. Her book upon silk culture is standard authority for those who are engaged in the new and profitable business of raising cocoons, and her products have taken premiums at all the expositions.

The largest individual sheep-owner in Texas is a woman, well known all over the States as the "Widow Callahan." Her sheep, more than 50,000 in number, wander over the ranges of Ulvade and Bandera counties, in the south-western part of the State. Their grade is a cross between the hardy Mexican sheep and the Vermont merino. They are divided into flocks of 2,000 head each, with a "bassero" and two "pastoras" in charge of each flock.

Mrs. Simeon J. Dunbar, of Massachusetts, has carried off from many competitors, most of them men, the hundred-dollar prize offered by a committee of citizens of Colorado Springs and Manitou, Col., for the best article upon those two towns as places of residence and health resorts.

Another State Legislature has yielded to the appeal of the W. C. T. U. for scientific temperance instruction in public schools. The Legislature of New Hampshire passed a compulsory temperance education bill without opposition. This makes three States which are enrolled on the side of future generations—Vermont, Michigan and New Hampshire.

The New York City W. C. T. U. having been defeated in their efforts to introduce temperance lesson books in the public schools, have opened a school for special instruction in Harlem, and are rapidly arranging for others, both in New York and Brooklyn. Mrs. Mary A. Hunt, who is the superintendent of this work, having successfully appealed to three Legislatures on behalf of scientific instruction in the public schools, says that she hopes to increase the number to ten or twelve this coming winter.

The woman's department at the Boston fair has created surprise among those who think women cannot invent. Some of the contrivances are ingenious. A California woman has devised a table bedstead. There are a double piano-stool, a bridle rein, an improved chimney, a birch bark life preserver, a ventilating screen, life-sized doll babies, carpet-stretchers, floor-cleaning dustpans, stove-dampers, a photograph album, a pan-greaser, a lock against burglars and an autumn-leaf-catcher for cisterns, a bed that when not in use looks like a mantle shelf, and no end of other useful and ornamental articles.