

prices, dwell in the big cities, where expenses are greater."

So far complete success has attended the society. Marriage has increased in many industrial centres, domestic comfort has been promoted by higher wages, and as a proof of improved morality Bice Tittioni tells us that illegitimate births have diminished. In conclusion she remarks:

"And what of the future? While much has been done, much also remains to be accomplished. Let our members, our friends, the whole country, bear this in mind. Our prospects are indeed bright and smiling, but we must be careful not to relax our efforts. We must see that the committees and operatives remain faithful to the organizations under the conviction that co-operation is the sole secret of success."—Translation made for The Literary Digest.

SOME PROPHECIES OF A WOMAN SUFFRAGIST

The battle for woman suffrage has now been waging in America for more than half a century. That the cause has a large and constantly increasing number of staunch supporters among college women there can be no doubt; yet other women,—many of them prominent ones,—have declared themselves unalterably opposed to it in principle and in practice, writes Miss Annie R. Ramsey in the current number of Lippincott's.

The inception of the movement antedates the birth of the Republic; for two days before the signing of the Declaration of Independence the State of New Jersey changed the wording of the enfranchisement clause of its Provincial Chart from "Male free-holders worth fifty pounds" to "All inhabitants worth fifty pounds," thus giving the ballot to women as well as to men. As democratic principles and ideas spread, the property qualification became very unpopular; and in 1807 a law was enacted under which only white males whose names were on the State or county list were permitted to vote, women and negroes being disfranchised. It was not till 1847 that any concerted action was taken toward the enfranchisement of women. Wyoming was the first State to give them the ballot (1869); and since then Colorado, Utah, and Idaho have followed her example.

In the last fifteen years the suffragist army has been largely recruited from "the most intelligent and reflective part of the community"; and when such a stage is reached in any movement founded on a plea whose abstract justice is admitted, "it is certain that the end will soon be attained; and it is no particular foresight which prophesies that woman suffrage will eventually be tried."

Four arguments of the anti-suffragists are disposed of as follows:

(1) It is said that women will not vote when they get the ballot, because the majority of women do not want to vote.

No, of course not! Who does want to vote just for the sake of voting? But give a woman something to vote about, and she is not slow in doing it. In three successive Wyoming elections 90 per cent. of the women voted, as against 80 per cent. only of the men.

(2) It has been prophesied that, once the poll-habit is formed, the house and children will be neglected.

It does not appear that a man neglects his shop or office to vote; why then should a woman take a different stand in regard to her business?—for assuredly home-keeping and child-training are the business of all women happy enough to possess a home and children.

(3) The effect of the ballot given to woman will be the degradation of her character.

Is it possible that thinking about politics is so degrading? How have men escaped contamination? Are reading and discussion upon themes and schemes of good

government so pernicious that no woman can approach them and retire unsoiled? What we say among ourselves and in our homes might surely be said on a slip of paper with as little harm to our morals.

Do the prophets mean that going to the polls on election day is degrading? It has been claimed that the coming of women to the polls has improved the condition thereof.

The prophecy may be founded on the fact that voters are not exempt from military and jury duty. Priests,—who do not even give sons to the State,—are practically so exempt; and doctors rarely sit on a jury. And women to-day follow the drum as nurses quite as faithfully and fearlessly as their brothers, the chaplain and the doctor.

(4) That the vast majority of women are uninformed and not informable, on political subjects; that they will be the followers of the most successful intriguer and "ward heeler."

So they may for a time; and I would respectfully submit that in these things they would imitate the men they knew best. Very little else could be looked for at first, if every woman fit or unfit rushed to the polls; but the mass of women is being slowly educated.

The thought and energies of many earnest women have for thirty-five years been devoted to this subject of education and uplifting, and the result must be forthcoming in future generations.

The Lippincott suffragist condenses the old prophecies with their refutation into the following form of recapitulation:

(1) Woman suffrage will be tried; perhaps not soon, but in no very distant time.

(2) It will not destroy the home and woman's work therein.

(3) It will not degrade woman or produce any very great change in her character.

(4) It will not fail because of woman's indifference.

(5) It will not overwhelm our present Government by a great tide of crude and ill-considered opinion. It is far more likely, for a while at least, to bring strength to reform and lifeblood to vital issues.

INDIA AS THE MOTHER OF THE WORLD

The Hon. Alex. Bel Mar, writing in the hundredth number of the Indian Review, claims that nearly everything on which the Western world prides itself was originally introduced from India. The vine came from the base of the Himalayas; the olive and the fig, mustard and indigo, muslin and silk all came from India:—

All the simples and drugs of Egypt, Greece, and Rome were imported from India, and many of them continue to be imported from that ancient country to this day. The invention of felted paper is Chinese, and of ink is Indian. The earliest known Code of Laws was that of Menu, Menes, or Amen; and it is a singular but emphatic reminder of our origins, that while we head our medical prescriptions with the Roman "R", the symbol for "Receipe Pavis," we seal our prayers to the Most High with the venerated name of "Amen."

The incense-bearing plants, frankincense, myrrh and the balsams, employed in the religious ceremonies of Egypt, Chaldea, Syria, Greece, and Rome, all of them, even the flowers used in temple decorations, the rose of Miletus, the rose of Pangaeus, the roses of Jericho, of Damascus, of Alabanda, the lily of Persia, the lotus, saffron, hyacinth, and a host of other sweet-scented plants, came originally from India and were transplanted into all the countries of the West.

The horse also came from Asia. The horse is mentioned in the Vedas; the Egyptian horse came indirectly from Tartary; while tin came directly from India. Iron was made in India long before it was known in the