

WOMAN'S FRANCHISE.

"And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time.

"And she dwelt under the tree of Deborah.

"And the Children of Israel came up to her for judgment."

Let us note three things:

First of all, Deborah was a prophetess as well as a judge.

Secondly, she was a wife. The wife was chosen to be judge, not the husband!

And thirdly, she was God-chosen.

The wife, the woman, was God-chosen to judge all Israel!

We talk about our wonderful advancement, and our glorious civilization. In some respects we have advanced, but in other respects we have NOT advanced.

And when we look into what we call civilization, we see a great deal that is unjust, cruel and rotten at its very core!

Real civilization cannot begin until there is perfect justice at its base. It must be built on a firm foundation of justice if it is to stand; justice to EVERY human creature.

We must have, we need, our Deborahs, our prophetesses!

Have we not retrograded rather than advanced, in some respects?

Have we really progressed along the line of mercy and justice since the days of Deborah?

Where is our wonderful civilization built on the eternal foundation of mercy and justice?

Deborah was acknowledged a wise woman, and allowed to judge all Israel; and I would some of our Deborahs were allowed that just privilege; then there would not exist this gross injustice—women paying their taxes and yet disqualified from voting, simply because they are women, while there are men unable to write their names, and yet qualified to vote simply because they are men.

Now listen to what Chambers' Encyclopedia says with regard to women voting:

"Anomalous and inconsistent that we should refuse them a vote to protect their property from inordinate taxation. Other persons allowed by the law to hold property but excluded from the suffrage, are minors,