

applied to Parliament for a Bill of Divorce. Mrs. Campbell being a woman of spirit, and having the confidence and sympathy of all the reputable people of the town in which she lived, resolved that in defence of her own honor and the reputation of her children she would follow him to Parliament, even though he had obtained a temporary triumph on the question of alimony in the Court of Chancery. But what a prolonged, what a desperate struggle! She has been compelled to demand *justice* from the only tribunal having power to decree it, session after session, since 1876! At last, in 1879, she has obtained from the Senate, in spite of the persistent and unreasoning opposition of half-a-dozen members, (whose views of woman's rights may be inferred from their own marital relations) a *second* verdict of acquittal as respects the accusation of her husband, and a second award, in the form of a Bill passed to its third reading, securing a sufficient semi-annual payment from her husband for her support while she remains separated and unreconciled. This Bill; passed in the session of 1877 by the Senate; stayed in the Commons by the Standing Orders Committee on the ridiculous pretence that the husband, who was present defending his money-bags against the rightful claims of his wife, had not been properly notified of her claim; obstructed by the Private Bill Committee of the Senate in the session of 1878, on the ground that the rules of that body had not all been complied with, though the Senate had *passed* her Bill in the previous session, and her petition to be allowed to renew her application in *forma pauperis*, and for a suspension of any rules that might hinder her progress, was then before the Senate

—is, at last, before the House of Commons for its concurrence. Unless justice in this country is reserved for *men* and denied to *women* in these marital disputes; unless it is to go abroad that our laws, like those of the Roman tyrant which were written in small characters on a high tower, are beyond the reach of any helpless wife who may be turned out of doors by a brutal husband, the judgment of the Senate will be endorsed by the Commons, and rendered effective as a *law*, without any further delay.

In the present House of Commons there are many new members. Those who attended the sittings of the Committee of the Senate in 1876, or who had an opportunity to observe the appearance and demeanor of the witnesses, and especially those who came in contact with Mrs. Campbell's husband, will, with very few exceptions, approve of the verdict of the Senate Committee, twice confirmed, as it has been, by the Senate itself. But, for the benefit of those who have not had these opportunities, Mrs. Campbell's friends have procured the publication of the very full and able speech of her counsel before the Senate Committee. The evidence will be found in the Senate Journal of 1876. Mr. McDougall's review of that evidence, and his exposition of the law, applicable to the case of Divorce *a mensa et thoro* arising in the Province of Ontario, will, perhaps, be read with interest by those who have now the duty of pronouncing a verdict in the Commons. The speech was taken in short hand by the Messrs. Holland, of the Senate reporting staff, and published in the *Whitby Chronicle* of June, 1876.

*Honorable Gentlemen:*

I need not remind you of the peculiar interest and importance of the question submitted for your consideration by the