

out of calm decisions by voting for right measures. Thinking about her country's history and present condition and hopes and relationships to other countries, need not destroy a woman's gentleness. Strength of character does not rob woman of her witching charm. The condition of politics, as admitted by this objection, indicates the need of woman's elevating, purifying influence.

Wendell Phillips crystallized the reply to this argument when he said, "Women will make the polling booth as pure as the parlor," and there is every reason to believe with Mr. Phillips that instead of politics degrading women, women would elevate politics. Why should it degrade a woman to do her part in making the laws of her country harmonize with her purest feelings and her highest thought? It is impossible to believe that such a result could follow such action. Character is not ennobled by thinking good thoughts, but by executing them. History proves conclusively that men have always risen to a higher dignity of manhood after being entrusted with the ballot. The result would inevitably be the same in the case of woman. The sense of responsibility would define and strengthen her character. If politics are really degrading in themselves, men should be prohibited from taking part in them as well as women, but they are not necessarily degrading either to men or women. It is not necessary to theorize about this question, however. The test has been made for twenty-five years in Wyoming, and there has been no degradation of the women there, no unsexing, no loss of the sweetness and tenderness of woman's character. Rev. Dr. Crary, presiding elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Wyoming, writes: "The women of Wyoming are an honor to their sex, and deserve the respect of all who wish good government." Hon. Senator Carey, of Wyoming, said in 1891: "I know women who have exercised the fullest political rights for more than twenty years. Neither in their homes nor in public places have they lost one womanly quality." He says further: "In over twenty years I have never known a woman insulted or affronted in any way when exercising the privilege of citizenship." The *Daily Sentinel*, Laramie City, says: "We