

But they wish it to be distinctly understood that they were convinced by logic, and nothing else. Their conversion was as instantaneous as that of Paul's, having taken place while the only favorable member of the Board was absent for a short time. Before he could return they had administered the elector's oath, and she will vote on the 5th of November, unless the Inspectors refuse to receive her ballot. If they should do so, they will be liable to a fine of \$500.

A woman is now admitted to be an elector in this State, by the Board of Selectmen of Norwalk. When the colored men first applied to be admitted their applications were received under protest. On the day of election the Inspectors questioned their right to vote, but Senator Ferry came and claimed that their votes could not be rejected. If there was any justice in this claim of the Senator, then any woman, who has complied with the law without protest, can, upon a better ground, demand the privilege of voting for United States officers without being questioned.

A query is here raised! Is the negro legally made an elector of the State if the word "white" is not stricken from our constitution? If the negro is legally made a voter, then in the same manner is Mrs. Huntington legally made a voter. If the word "male" is not stricken from our State constitution, both have the same qualifications under the XVth amendment.

Norwalk Gazette  
Nov. 5, 1877

#### THE WOMAN VOTER.

Probably no local event has ever awakened so wide-spread and interesting a discussion at home and abroad, as the action of our Selectmen in admitting Mrs. Huntington to the rights of an elector.

Two years ago several women were admitted, and did vote for Congressmen in Michigan, and though a legal contesting of their rights was promised, it never reached the courts. Women, however, are legally permitted to vote in all school districts throughout Michigan. In Wyoming and Utah women vote, and in England, suffrage resting upon a property qualification, women who pay taxes vote the same as men. The question is becoming a formidable one, and looms up as the great, all-absorbing issue of the future. Norwalk is destined to a celebrity of which its Selectmen little dreamed by this occurrence. Praised as they are on the one side, and condemned on the other, it is not singular that they should have had a pretty lively and exhilarating time of it the past week. We endeavored to state their position in our last with exact truthfulness. Our report receives the endorsement of all, except our town clerk, whose "card" appears elsewhere. We endeavored not to misstate his true position. He claims he did not surrender his unalterable opposition. But when we saw our friend rise up and clasp hands—not across the bloody chasm, but across the table, with the successful lady, whose brilliant eyes pierced through him with all their melting lustre intensified by her triumph, in that supreme moment and action, it was the conviction of all present that if it was not a surrender it was the most brilliant and successful capture on record.

The case has now assumed a new phase, inasmuch as the Registrars have omitted to enter her name on their voting list. Application is made for a mandamus for the placing of her name on the list, which is to be argued to-day at Bridgeport, and the decision upon which we hope to get before going to press.

There is a most lively and exciting canvass of the purely legal aspects of the case going on among the lawyers and legal wisecracks of the town. On the one side it is

claimed that by law the case was primarily settled in the first action of the Registrars, (Messrs. Burr Hendrick and Augustus C. Goding) who received and entered her name and forwarded the list to the Selectmen for final supervision, without objection to Mrs. Huntington, as per Chapter 61, Sec. 6, of Statutes of 1868. That had these Registrars desired her rejection, their duty was clearly to have refused her application and to have withheld her name and application, from which rejection her course was then to appeal to the Selectmen for a final settlement. There being no such rejection and no appeal made, and the Selectmen finding her name entered just as others were, had an additional justification and warrant in passing her. That by the election law, when the Selectmen have admitted or rejected a name their action is final and beyond appeal. That if a minor or other disqualified person is entered and returned upon the Selectmen's list, and chooses to vote fraudulently, the party cannot be prevented from exercising that right but votes, taking the responsibility of the act. Moreover, a heavy penalty is attached to the registrars in case of such rejection or refusal to receive the ballot of any person so passed upon. That our Registrars are inconsistent and at serious fault for any subsequent action supervising that of themselves and the Selectmen.

On the other side it is claimed that the word "male," in the Constitution of this State providing for suffrage, definitely settles the whole matter, and the 14th and 15th Amendments of the Constitution does not interfere with the provisions of our laws excluding females from the rights of suffrage. That, as well might the name of an infant been entered, and the present omission from the voting list by the Registrars, although it does override their own first act and the final action of the Selectmen, is justifiable, because their action being illegal was null and void. Answer is made to the reliance placed upon the expression "male" in the law defining the qualifications of voters in our state by the provisions of Sec. 5th, of Title 72d, Revised Statutes Compilation 1866 which says:—"Words importing the masculine gender may be applied to females."

#### Latest, by Telegraph.

BRIDGEPORT, Monday Afternoon.

Judge Minor refuses the mandamus. The decision has been appealed from to the Supreme Court. Senator Ferry plead for the Registrars, and Woodward and Perry for Mrs. Huntington.

Norwalk, Ct. Nov. 5/77

For the Gazette.  
"Women Suffrage Conceded by the Norwalk Board."

Messrs. Editors:

Did my ears hear aright as my good husband, (an old Norwalker), read that heading, and the account following? Could it be that in that town I had always thought a little behind the times, a Board of mankind had been overpowered by one woman? Truly, strange things are happening! Hurrah! for Mrs. H. and the Board, particularly, to Mr. W. S. Bouton would I extend the right hand of fellowship, and to Mrs. H. present my earnest thanks for thus asserting her rights, and so the rights of her sisters, for we shall surely follow on, and the time come when the earth will no longer tremble, because a woman has cast her vote, and exercised what I always thought to be her inherent right. L.

Brooklyn, Nov. 1st.

"Least, though not least."

Something rare and novel characterises this year's Presidential election; a woman has been registered, and will cast her vote

on Tuesday next. For the first time in our country's annals a woman will have a voice in choosing the Chief Magistrate who shall rule over her and us.

The march of events is often slow, yet many times sure. The poor negro waited many, many years, before he could enjoy a citizen's right of ballot, and now, after the negro, last of all, a woman has finally,—we are sorry to word it thus—*wrung* from her reluctant fellows her long withheld privilege of casting her vote.

Dear Mr. Editor, do allow me to be a little joyful on this occasion, a small one it may seem to your taste, but not so to my feminine vision: do allow a hearty cheer for that plucky little woman who dared and persevered in the face of all opposition to assert and maintain her rights.

Do allow me to congratulate generally all those who regard this as a favorable omen for the future, this little "crevasse," this tiny opening in the gray old wall of tradition, through which oozes now, only the wee drop of moisture, soon to gather other, and yet other drops, until, lo! a stream has gathered its force, the embankment is gone, a wreck of the past, and never to be built again!

Thank you for permitting that oratorical flourish, it did my heart good to write it, may it hurt no sensitive nerves to read it.

There is no ground for apprehending the skies falling next week, or of the earth opening and swallowing us all up, though some timid minds may have gloomy fears upon the subject; in connection with that one woman's vote, the only cloud I see growing out of it and foreboding ill, and that to evil does only, is what one woman has done, many women will do again, so all office seekers, beware! when woman takes the field, she will do her best to put the right man in power. SRAIL.

A year or two ago, the *Golden Age* made an elaborate argument, carried out in full detail, to prove that under the fourteenth and fifteenth constitutional amendments the right of suffrage is guaranteed to women as well as to men. This view was confirmed by the Chief Justice of Wyoming in an elaborate decision, and also by Judge Underwood of Virginia in a published letter, and by a number of other jurists. So able a lawyer as Gen. Benjamin F. Butler has said that it is incontrovertible and must sooner or later prevail. We are glad to learn that the validity of this view has been recognized by the selectmen of Norwalk, Ct., in the unanimous admission of a lady to the right of an elector. The citizen who has thus had the fine courage to claim, and the good fortune to secure, her rights of citizenship, is Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington, a lady of high intelligence and social standing, who last week, in company with her husband, went before the board of selectmen, argued her rights under the Constitution, answered ably and brilliantly all the objections which some of the selectmen offered, convinced these gentlemen of the justice of her position, and procured the registration of her name. We are delighted to record this triumph. Furthermore, to show that our pleasure in such a case does not arise from partisanship but from principle, we add that Mrs. Huntington will vote for Grant.—*From The Golden Age.*

Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker, who has now a national reputation as an earnest advocate of woman suffrage, and who is so sanguine as to hope for the election of Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton to the office of president in 1876, may be consoled for her disappointment in the refusal of the selectmen of Hartford to admit her to the rights of a free and independent voter, by perceiving the fruit of her teachings have borne in Norwalk, Ct. Mrs. S. M. T. Huntington, of that place, has found a more gallant body of selectmen, and was made a voter last Saturday. If not successfully challenged at the polls, she will be the only woman who ever cast a vote for president of the United States, unless one or more should now be admitted elsewhere. Women have the ballot in Wyoming and Utah, but people in territories do not vote for president.—*Hartford Post.*

## NOTICE.

THE inhabitants of the Town of Norwalk are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting of said town, will be held on Monday the 29th of October, 1872, for the election of town officers, also for the election of a committee of three persons under the act regulating and protecting the planting of oysters, approved June 22d, 1852. All the polls of the town will be elected by ballot, and the polls will be open from 7 o'clock, forenoon, till 5 o'clock, afternoon; at the Town House, for the First Voting District, and at Ely's Hall, for the Second Voting District.

Dated Norwalk, Sept. 23rd, 1872.

ANDREW SELLECK,  
WILLIAM S. BOUTON,  
JOSEPH P. HANFORD, } Selectmen.

## REGISTRARS' NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Registrars of Voters for the Third Voting District of Norwalk, District on Friday, the 11th and Saturday, the 12th days of October, 1872, from 9 o'clock, a. m. until 5 o'clock, p. m., on each of said days, for the purpose of receiving applications of persons to be made electors. No applications can be received after those days.

WILLIAM B. HENDRICK,  
AUGUSTUS C. GOLDING,  
Registrars of Voters for the Third Voting District.  
Norwalk, Sept. 23d, 1872.

A lady in the Down Town Voting District made application to be registered, last Saturday. One of the gallant Registrars courteously received the application, filled out the proper blank, and agreed to submit it to the Selectmen for action. *4 Oct. 24th, 1872*

—Mrs. Huntington, of East Norwalk, appeared before the Board of Registrars yesterday, and eloquently urged her claim to the right of suffrage. The Board couldn't see it, and she will appear again next Saturday. Gentlemen, be magnanimous and let the lady vote. *Sentinel 24th.*

## Norwalk Gazette.

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 1872.

## REPUBLICAN TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENT.

Ulysses S. Grant,

Of Illinois.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.

Henry Wilson,

Of Massachusetts.

## Republican Electoral Ticket.

HENRY P. HAVEN, of New Haven,  
HENRY FARHAM of New Haven,  
JULIUS CONVERSE, of Stamford,  
CHARLES BENDISCT, of Waterbury,  
LUCIUS BRIGGS, of Thompson,  
OLIVER BOTT, of Stamford.

## Woman Suffrage Conceded by the Norwalk Board!

Saturday the 26th day of October will ever be a memorable day in the history of this town, if not indeed a memorable day for the whole American nation and the civilized world. On that day, appeared before our Town Board charged with the duty of admitting electors, Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington, who, with an ardent self-consciousness of her right to vote and a woman's pertinacity in urging her right, succeeded in inducing our Board to administer to her the Freeman's oath, and enter her name among other registered voters. On Tuesday next she will appear at the polls of the 3d voting district, and cast her vote for Presidential electors the same as any male citizen. Mrs. H. plead her case with an ability that not only swept away as so many cobwebs the opposing theories entertained by a portion of the Board, but her arguments would no doubt have bothered many of our smartest

lawyers to have successfully combatted. Her main reliance seemed to be the 15th Amendment to the Constitution, which in her view advanced woman to the enjoyment of the privileges of suffrage equally with negroes, and by virtue of that instrument she denied the right of any law or Constitution to abridge or deny it.

Selectman Wm. S. Bouton, it is stated, when her name was submitted as a claimant to be admitted an elector, unequivocally gave his support to the broad principle that women are equally with men entitled to vote. Selectman Joseph P. Hanford was the next to surrender, and in doing so admitted his inability to controvert her arguments. Selectman Andrew Selleck was more obdurate, and held out some two hours on the general ground that usage neither sanctioned nor the general interpretation of the election laws contemplated women being admitted to the privilege of voting, but a majority of the Board against him, Mrs. H.'s unanswerable arguments, and his own natural gallantry finally overcame his opposition. The Town Clerk, Henry K. Selleck, viewed the matter with still more hesitation, but made no objection to a unanimous admission when he found all three of the Selectmen willing to enter her name as at least an escape from the long agitated question. It was a bold and courageous act, and if it be an error it is due to them all to state that it was done in no spirit of frivolity, but with a sincere and honest hope that somehow or in some way an authoritative test or determination of the vexed problem might result from their action.

Another lady soon after presented herself, hoping to be also made an elector, but as Mrs. Huntington was the only woman who had complied with the preliminary legal requirements, she will enjoy the distinction of being the only lady in Norwalk, and probably in the whole Union, who will vote for the next President. Locally, the precedent thus established has already become intensely interesting. The new Greeley Board just elected are already trembling in contemplation of the scores and hundreds of women who will next year rush upon them and demand suffrage at their hands, although it is well known their great chieftain of the *Tribune* is irreconcilably opposed to any woman voting. Our town too, and the Board above mentioned, have thus become immortalized and famous throughout the earth. The electric wires that span the globe have already flashed the tidings to earth's remotest corners. That slimy coil which quivers beneath the surging billows of the Atlantic, was tremulous Saturday night with the announcement made to the European press. Easily may we conjecture the consternation of England's aristocracy which has so long battled the onward woman movement there. La Belle France, in the morning of her Republican aspirations, and half liberated Spain may well stand aghast as the announcement conveys the prophecy of more surrenders to irrepressible popular progress. The Sultan of Turkey, and the Khedive of Egypt will hereafter keep closer watch upon the olive beauties of their seraglios, and it will be the first and crowning marvel for Stanley to report in his next meeting with Livingstone at Ujiji.

The most intensely perplexing contingency about the case now is that Mr. Greeley may possibly be elected by the electoral vote of Connecticut, and those electors be chosen by the one vote of this woman. In such case Mr. Greeley, who profoundly maintains that no woman has the right to vote, would feel constrained, by his desire to be President, to insist that Mrs. Huntington was so entitled, and to transfer himself, bag and bag-

gage over to the camp of the most ultra wing of the Woman's Rights Army. We can contemplate nothing more appalling or disastrous to the great *Tribune* editor's peace of mind than such a contingency, and it is only because of its entire improbability that we can so composedly contemplate its possibility.

But in all seriousness, this occurrence seems to us one of exceeding gravity. Its ultimate results are not likely to be limited to Connecticut, and possibly not alone to the American nation. Many of our ablest Legislators, lawyers and publicists have already recorded their opinions that within the present decade woman suffrage will be a fact conceded and actual, that either the irrepressible forces of public opinion tend and there is no escape from it. And after that, what?

## Interview with Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington.

Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington of this city has, by her resolution to contest to the end, and by her final success with the Board of Registration, made herself famous without seeking so to do. That an American woman can exercise the right of suffrage, walk up to the ballot box and vote as men vote, is a thing often dreamed of, but never before realized. In this lady however, we beheld the thing accomplished and the wires have, long ere this, flashed the glad news to the antipodes, and will joy the hearts of thousands of her sex who have sought earnestly, but perchance diffidently, through long years, for the same boon. Mrs. Huntington, we are glad to say, is an untiring person, shrinking from notoriety of any sort, and simply claims her rights as an American woman. On Tuesday afternoon, Professor Gardiner the great soap man, who is now stopping in the city, conceived the idea of calling on Mrs. Huntington, and congratulating her. By invitation we went with him, introduced and entered into conversation with her. We found her versed in all points of law relating to suffrage and the meaning of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution. The Professor solicited an autograph letter from the lady in reference to his world renowned soap, wishing, as he said, to place it in his scrap book, by the side of other noted persons. In his book are autograph letters from Lincoln, Grant, Farragut, Fillmore, and Horace Greeley. Govs. Jewell, Buckingham and Hawley, and lastly, Annie Dickinson, Nasby, and Josh Billings—all cracking up the soap man as a benefactor. The interview lasted half hour, when we retired.

## Woman Suffrage a Fact.

CONNECTICUT AHEAD YET.

At a meeting of the Board of Registrars of the 3d District, Mrs. Huntington, wife of J. D. Huntington, appeared and made application to become an elector, which was received, and her name entered upon the Registry.

On the 23d inst., she came before the Board of Selectmen, and claimed the right to "be made," not only because her name was on the Registry, but that she was also entitled under the XVth amendment to the Federal Constitution. But she was rejected by the Board, all of whom, with one exception, argued that they had no legal right to entertain, even, the application of any woman to be made an elector.

Mrs. Huntington then asked the privilege to appear before the Board at its final meeting, on Saturday last, which she did, armed and equipped with the law, and plead her case with such skill and so great eloquence, that the opposition yielded to her logic.



that the action of the Selectmen in this case met with opposition on the part of the Registrars of the town of Norwalk, and they refused to enter the name of Mrs. Huntington on the voting list of said town. After the voting list, as finally revised and perfected by the Registrars, had been deposited with the town clerk, Mrs. Huntington applied to Judge Minor, as one of the judges of the Superior Court, for a writ of peremptory mandamus to compel the Registrars to place her name upon the voting list. The hearing before Judge Minor, took place in Bridgeport to-day. A. B. Woodward and John H. Perry, of Norwalk, argued the case in behalf of Mrs. H., and Hon. O. S. Ferry appeared for the Registrars. Mr. Ferry claimed that according to the Constitution of the State of Connecticut women are precluded from the rights of the elective franchise, and therefore the action of the Selectmen in admitting Mrs. Huntington, was void.

On the part of the relator Mrs. H., it was claimed by counsel, that the Board of Selectmen were the sole judges in the case, and that Mrs. H. was admitted as an elector by the Board, the Registrars exceeded their duty in assuming to overrule the action of the Selectmen, and leave her name off the list. The case was ably argued on both sides.

Judge Minor refused the writ applied for on the ground that by the constitution of this state the Selectmen could not legally admit Mrs. Huntington as an elector, and therefore their action was extra judicial and void. Selectmen have no power to change the constitution of the State.

Mrs. Huntington appeals to the Supreme court. She is a good looking, intelligent woman, apparently about twenty-two years of age, has sharp, but good-natured black eyes, and during the hearing before Judge Minor she occupied a seat near the desk and watched the proceedings with intense interest. She is evidently a woman of much go-ahead-attiveness and will, no doubt, test the matter to the utmost before giving it up.—Standard.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

#### A Word to Sarah.

The Norwalk (Conn.) Board of Selectmen have just done a very peculiar thing. They have admitted Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington to all the rights of an elector, and at coming Presidential election, Sarah, according to the despatch, intends to exercise the rights in question. Norwalk has distinguished itself by this revolutionary step, and in years to come, when all women vote, will be looked back upon by the ladies, at least—as one of the birthplaces of liberty. But it is not Norwalk that engaged our attention; it is the new voter which Norwalk has given to the Union. Of course, as the election day draws near, the desire to know how New York, Ohio or Illinois is going will become intense; but the popular excitement regarding how Mrs. Huntington is likely to go will also rage fiercely. From this time until election day, mathematical editors with a penchant for drawing up tables of probable results, whether of Greeley or Grant complexion, will include Mrs. H. in their array of figures. One will say in the conclusion of an elaborate editorial, "Our readers may rest assured that glorious victory will perch upon the banner borne aloft so valiantly by our distinguished chieftain General Grant. By a reference to the table it will be seen at a glance that not only is the North, East, West, and South for us, but Mrs. Huntington, the lady voter of Norwalk, has decided in our favor and enrolled herself in the army of good government.

The Greeley men will proceed in this style, Courage, friends, the skies are brightening. The Western prairies are on fire with enthusiasm for Greeley. From the wave-washed coast of the Northeast comes a lugle blast of good cheer. The South will assert itself with all its old-time dignity. From the orange groves and the cotton fields of the sunny southern scenery Mr. Greeley will walk northward, crowned by the garland of over one hundred electoral votes. A glance at our table of figures will show you that Mrs. Huntington has declared for Greeley. Right nobly done, quaint old village of Norwalk. Thy lovely daughter has covered herself with glory and demonstrated clearly that female suffrage, under certain circumstances, is a blessing.

And thus the fight will go on over the vote of Sarah. Before dismissing the subject we should like to give our advice. It will be in few words. Be sure and vote for Greeley electors, Mrs. H., and induce as many more people to do so as you can.

Only in this way can you demonstrate to an intelligent public that it was a good thing and not the reverse which the Norwalk Board of Selectmen did when they admitted you to the rights of suffrage.

From the N. Y. Tribune;

Old Norwalk, long the Gibraltar of Republicanism in Connecticut, but which was carried by the Greeley party at the recent town election, and which was the first place in the American Union to accord the right of suffrage to negroes, has still further advanced, and to-day admitted to all the rights of an elector Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington. The lady appeared before the Board of Selectmen—Messrs. Jos. P. Handford, Andrew Selleck, Wm. H. Bouton, and Henry K. Selleck, Town Clerk—officials by law required to examine and admit all persons legally entitled to suffrage, and demanded her rights, by virtue of the Constitution of the United States. Her argument was clear and logical, and could only be answered by the plea that, in the opinion of most persons, the law did not contemplate women's voting. Mrs. H. so ably and dexterously knocked aside this argument, that the Board were forced to a unanimous judgment, that she had proved herself equally entitled with the negroes to vote, under the Fifteenth Amendment, and Selectman Selleck administered to her the customary Freeman's oath and her name was placed by the Town Clerk upon the voting list, as a legally registered voter, and nothing can now prevent her voting at the coming election, as she is resolutely determined to do. Thus Norwalk will be entitled to the distinction of being the first place in any State of the Union where a female has been permitted to vote, and advanced to all the rights and privileges of an American citizen. Two years ago last April our State election occurred just as the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment was promulgated, and our Board admitted negroes to vote, although they were denied the privilege in every other town in the State. Subsequent decisions of our ablest lawyers confirmed the legality of that action, and if Mrs. H. were permitted to argue her own case, few here doubt that the Selectmen's present action would find equal justification in law and equity.

Judge Minor refused the writ applied for on the ground that by the constitution of this State the Selectmen could not legally admit Mrs. Huntington as an elector, and therefore their action was extra judicial and void. Selectmen have no power to change the constitution of the State.

Mrs. Huntington appeals to the Supreme Court. She is a good looking, intelligent woman, apparently about twenty-two years of age, has sharp, but good-natured black eyes, and during the hearing before Judge Minor, she occupied a seat near the desk and watched the proceedings with intense interest. She is evidently a woman of much go-ahead-attiveness, and will, no doubt, test the matter to the utmost before giving it up.

N. H. Courier.

Much has been said of the lady (Mrs. Sarah Huntington) who was admitted to be a voter by the selectmen of Norwalk, Conn. The Registrars, however, refused to place her name upon the voting lists. She then applied to Judge Minor for a mandamus to compel the registrars to enroll her name. At the hearing of the case last Monday, Judge Minor refused the writ on the ground that by the Constitution of the State the selectmen could not legally admit Mrs. Huntington as an elector, and therefore their action was extra-judicial and void. Selectmen however select, have no power to change the Constitution of the State. On the other hand, Miss Susan B. Anthony is reported as having fairly stormed, at last, the citadel she has so long been besieging, and forced her ballot into the box, yesterday, at Rochester, while fifteen others like-minded, followed in her wake.—Tribune.

Susan B. Anthony and eight other females voted at Rochester, N. Y., Tuesday.

#### A CARD.

EDITORS OF GAZETTE.—In your last issue, Oct. 29, you state that the Town Clerk made no objection to a unanimous admission of Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington to the privileges of an elector. This is a great mistake. I did object decidedly, and on the ground that in my judgment the act was unauthorized by law. HENRY K. SELLECK, Town Clerk.

MESSRS EDITORS:—I was surprised to see the "Card" of our ever gallant and deservedly popular Town Clerk. Of course I can't say what he did mean to do, on the occasion of Mrs. Huntington's triumph, but from his well known gallantry and admiration for our enslaved and disfranchised sex, we ladies did all believe that his congratulations were as sincere as any of the rest of the Board and we hope he will not rob us of the privilege of still admiring him for honestly sympathizing with us in our wrongs, as we know, in the secrets of his heart, he truly does. SARAH JANE.

## South Norwalk Sentinel.

Thursday Morning, November 14, 1872.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Sentinel:

Sein' as how there's a great deal bein' sed at hum and abroad about our woman voter and the ackshun uv our town authorities in admittin' her to the rites and privileges of an elector, and as how there's a good deal uv hem'in' and haw'n' about it, and a certin' high funkshunary has bin inclined sumwhat to kerfummux and go back on the responsibility, I crave the privilege uv sayin' a fu words in the columns of your valuable paper, to set things a little tu rights, and show the thing up as it ort to be.

The hull affair haz bin uv coarse, a matter of great pith and moment—a pesky tuff thing to decide upon—a big responsibility—and a tarmal nuisance. But when one uv the original signers uv the declarashun cums out with a keerd and sez he hed nuthin' tu du with it, its stretchin' things tremjously—more than the thing ken bear. Now the cummer-out with the keerd is a good sort uv a feller, and az a funkshunary is a success, but it ain't agoin' to du fur him to go back on his brethin' in this way. It's mighty nat'ral fur a feller when he gits into a tite place, to squirm out if he ken, and leave the mud on somebody else's shoulders. But it ain't agoin' to du here. It's too thin—there was too many around that memorial ecashun when he, with his face all wrinkled up with smiles like syrrup on a bnhwheat pancake, and one arm rammed into his breeches peekit tu his elbows—franktically reached across the table with the other, grabbed the fair lady by the hand and congratulated her, honestly and squarely, upon her good success. It is sumtimes surprizingly beautiful to see the nat'ral suddinness with which a rat goes in and out uv his hole. But it don't work good here. The hole ain't big enuff. The feller with the keerd caved in just like the rest uv 'em did, under the ladies eyes and arguments and there ain't much use no denyin' it: Only the rest uv the fellers caved in and faced the music, and the feller with the keerd, he caved in, and is doin' his derndest to git out uv it. Sum folks in this world allers likes to be on the side that ticks, and so this feller with the keerd, when he see he'd got straddle the wrong mule, he flops tire around and sez: "Feller Citizens, I detected to it decidedly, 'cause in my opinion it was inaugerized by law." Wall! this may be so! But shakin' hands with the lady and congratulatin' her, is one uv the allfireddest singularst ways uv expressin' it we ever herd on. This ain't the way men generally do things, now-days. But then it may be a penevler habit which the feller with the keerd hez uv his own which we all don't understand and appreciate. We hope it is, fur it ain't particularly helthy to live in a community where knock-in' a man down with a brickbat is the fashunable way uv invitin' him hum to dinner. We happened to see the hull proceedin', jest as it was, and, accordin' to our noshun, the feller with the keerd was jest as fast fur the woman as any uv the rest uv 'em, and he might as well cum out and own it, and soothe his troubled consuns. That's jest what our noshun uv the thing is exactly—and we pause fur a reply. Yours till detth, TWADDLE.

—A communication in reply to Senator Ferry's recent assertion that "the selectmen had no more right to make a woman an elector than they had to confer that privilege on a horse," is received too late for insertion this week. It will appear in our next.

The women have at last made a breach in the citadel. A woman has been admitted to the privileges of an elector of Connecticut, and the event is hailed by the advocates of woman suffrage as the beginning of the end. Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington appeared before the selectmen of Norwalk, and claimed the rights of citizenship under the XVth amendment, and in an argument upon the merits of the question convinced the board that her right was as good as that of the colored men, and they voted unanimously to admit her. She was accordingly sworn and intends to vote next Tuesday.—*N. H. Courier*

The act of the Norwalk Board in admitting Mrs. Sarah Huntington an elector is one of considerable consequence as a precedent. No other woman had made application to be made in legal form; but, next spring, we look for a large addition of Free-women to the Norwalk electorate.

*Litchfield Enquirer.*

Mrs. Huntington, of Norwalk, Ct., is the only lady in the United States who will vote for Presidential electors next Tuesday. She is ardently in favor of General Grant, while her husband is the other way; but that makes no difference, as she has issued peremptory orders that under no circumstances will Mr. Huntington be permitted to leave the house on election day unless accompanied by his wife.—*N. Y. Com. Advertiser.*

To Mrs. Huntington of Norwalk, Connecticut, belongs the honor of so convincing the Selectmen of that town of her right to vote that she was actually registered. It seems that the law provides that these local functionaries must be convinced of the right of an applicant to registry. Mrs. Huntington did convince them of her right, and she won the battle under the Fifteenth Amendment.

*N. H. Tribune*

#### A WOMAN VOTES IN CONNECTICUT.

SHE CONVINCES THE SELECTMEN THAT SHE IS ENTITLED TO THE RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE.

To the Editor of *The Tribune*.

Sir: Old Norwalk, long the Gibraltar of Republicanism in Connecticut, but which was carried by the Greeley party at the recent town election, and which was the first place in the American Union to accord the right of suffrage to negroes, has still further advanced, and to-day admitted to all the rights of an elector Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington. The lady appeared before the Board of Selectmen—Messrs. Jos. P. Hanford, Andrew Selleck, Wm. D. Bouton, and Henry K. Selleck, Town Clerk—officially by law required to examine and admit all persons legally entitled to suffrage, and demanded her rights by virtue of the Constitution of the United States. Her argument was clear and logical, and could only be answered by the plea that, in the opinion of most persons, the law did not contemplate women's voting. Mr. H. so ably and dexterously knocked aside this argument, that the Board were forced to a unanimous judgment, that she had proved herself equally entitled with the negroes to vote, under the Fifteenth Amendment, and Selectman Selleck administered to her the customary Freeman's oath, and her name was placed by the Town Clerk upon the voting list, as a legally registered voter, and nothing can now prevent her voting at the coming election, as she is resolutely determined to do. Thus Norwalk will be entitled to the distinction of being the first place in any State of the Union where a female has been permitted to vote, and advanced to all the rights and privileges of an American citizen. Two years ago last April our State election occurred just as the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment was promulgated, and our Board admitted negroes to vote, although they were denied the privilege in every other town in the State. Subsequent decisions of our ablest lawyers confirmed the legality of that action, and if Mrs. H. were permitted to argue her own case, how here doubt that the Selectmen's present action would find equal justification in law and equity. VINDEX.

Norwalk, Oct. 26, 1872.

#### The World-No Woman Voter in Connecticut—A Temporary Disappointment.

From the *Bridgeport Standard*, Nov. 4. The fact that the Board of Selectmen of Norwalk had admitted a woman, in the person of Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington, of that place, to the right and privileges of an elector, has been published far and wide, and this action of the selectmen was regarded by many as the prelude to that "more glorious era" when women everywhere should be permitted to vote. But it seems that the action of the selectmen in this

case met with opposition on the part of the registers of the town of Norwalk, and they refused to enter the name of Mrs. Huntington on the voting list of said town. After the voting list, as finally revised and perfected by the registers, had been deposited with the Town Clerk, Mrs. Huntington applied to Judge Minor, as one of the Judges of the Superior Court, for a writ of peremptory mandamus to compel the registers to place her name upon the voting list. The hearing, before Judge Minor, took place in Bridgeport today. A. B. Woodward and John H. Perry, of Norwalk, argued the case in behalf of Mrs. Huntington, and Hon. O. S. Ferry appeared for the registers. Mr. Ferry claimed that, according to the Constitution of the State of Connecticut, women are precluded from the rights of the elective franchise, and, therefore, the action of the selectmen, in admitting Mrs. Huntington, was void.

On the part of the relator, Mrs. Huntington, it was claimed by counsel that the Board of Selectmen were the sole judges in the case, and that after she was admitted as an elector by the Board, the registers exceeded their duty in assuming to overrule the action of the selectmen, and leave her name off the list. The case was ably argued on both sides.

Judge Minor refused the writ applied for, on the ground that by the Constitution of this State the selectmen could not legally admit Mrs. Huntington as an elector, and, therefore, their action was extra-judicial and void. Selectmen have no power to change the Constitution of the State. Mrs. Huntington appeals to the Supreme Court. She is a good-looking, intelligent woman, apparently about twenty-two years of age, has sharp, but good-natured black eyes, and during the hearing before Judge Minor she occupied a seat near the desk, and watched the proceedings with intense interest. She is evidently a woman of much go-ahead-attitude, and will, no doubt, test the matter to the utmost before giving it up.

#### CONNECTICUT'S FEMALE VOTER.

Mrs. Huntington, of Norwalk, Debarred from the Privilege of Voting for President.—The Action of the Selectmen Admitting Her to the Franchise Declared Unconstitutional. *N. H. Tribune*

BRIDGEPORT, Nov. 4, 1872.

Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington, of Norwalk, Conn., was some weeks since admitted by the Selectmen of that town to the franchise, took the oath and thus became an elector. Upon subsequent application to the registers to have her name put upon the voting lists, that she might vote for President, the registers refused to enter her name upon the lists, and closed them without doing so. On Saturday Mrs. Huntington, through her counsel, A. B. Woodward and John H. Perry, of Norwalk, applied to Judge Minor, of the Superior Court of Fairfield county, for a writ of peremptory mandamus to compel the registers to re-open the lists and put her name on them. The case came up in Bridgeport this morning. O. S. Ferry appearing as counsel for the registers. The case was argued before Judge Minor, Messrs. Woodward and Perry contending that the action of the selectmen was legal, and as to the qualification of Mrs. Huntington as a voter, and that the registers could not refuse legally to put her name upon the lists, and Senator Perry, on the other hand, maintaining that the action of the selectmen was contrary to the constitution of the State and therefore null and void. After hearing the arguments pro and con, Judge Minor delivered an opinion sustaining the registers, on the ground of the unconstitutionality of the action of the selectmen. Mrs. Huntington immediately took an appeal to the Supreme Court. This is considered important. The action and the decision of Judge Minor is based upon as one likely to be sustained by the higher Courts. Mrs. Huntington will be debarred the privilege of voting for General Grant, as was her intention. She is a good-looking young woman, of modest appearance, and listened with great interest to the proceedings of the Court, attracting considerable attention.

#### Woman's Right to Vote.

A LETTER from Connecticut says: "Old Norwalk, to-day admitted to all the rights of an elector Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington. The lady appeared before the board of selectmen and town clerk, the officials by law required to examine and admit all persons legally entitled to suffrage, and demanded her rights by virtue of the constitution of the United States. Her argument was clear and logical, and could only be answered by the plea that in the opinion of most persons the law did not contemplate women's voting. Mrs. Huntington so ably and dexterously knocked aside the argument that the board were forced to a unanimous judgment that she had proved herself equally entitled with negroes to vote under the Fifteenth Amendment, and Selectman Selleck administered to her the customary Freeman's oath, her name was placed by the town clerk upon the voting list, and she is now a legally registered voter. Thus Norwalk will be entitled to the distinction of being the first place in any State of the Union where a female has been permitted to vote and advanced to all the rights and privileges of an American citizen. Two years ago last April, our State election occurred just as the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment was promulgated, and our board admitted negroes to vote, although they were denied the privilege in every other town in the State. Subsequent decisions of our ablest lawyers confirmed the legality of that action."

—Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington, in company with her husband, presented herself at the third district voting place, on Tuesday afternoon, but her ballot was not received. The question as to the authority of the registrars refusing to place her name on the list after the selectmen had accepted and issued their certificate will be argued before the Supreme Court of Errors in February next.

#### The Woman Voter.

Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington, as announced by us last week, had her case argued before Judge Minor at Bridgeport. Senator Ferry appeared for the Registrars, and defended their assumption of a right to go behind the action of the Selectmen, in leaving her name off the voting list, because to allow a woman to vote was contrary to the Constitution of Connecticut, and therefore an act null and void in itself. He took the further ground that to admit this act valid, was to empower Selectmen of any town to alter the Constitution of the State at will, a thing preposterous. Messrs. Woodward & Perry appeared for Mrs. H., and insisted in quite lengthy and ingenious arguments—the chief point being that admitting the Selectmen to have erred, the Registrars had transcended their powers in revising the Selectmen's action, &c. Their arguments did not extend to the 14th and 15th Amendments, as was generally supposed they would, but ably showed how much may be said in favor of female suffrage outside of the Constitutional argument.

Judge Minor denied the mandamus substantially on the grounds suggested by Mr. Ferry that to order Mrs. H.'s name to be put upon the voting list would be, in effect, to permit the Selectmen to override the Constitution and alter it at will.

Mrs. Huntington, not at all discouraged by her rebuffs, presented herself at the polls Down Town on Tuesday, and demanded her right to vote. Of course she was refused, whereupon Mr. H. called attention to the fact, and with his wife withdrew. It is Mrs. H.'s purpose to bring a new action against our officials for refusing her vote, and on this question to carry it to the United States Supreme Court for final adjudication. She has received the proffer of gratuitous legal aid of eminence in the profession, and the encouragement of parties of means and influence. It is also stated that she will be aided in the expenses of the undertaking by the Woman's Suffrage Association, at the head of which is Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker, of Hartford.

It is due to Mrs. Huntington, that we should state the fact that, in all this matter which has caused such wide-spread notoriety, she has deported herself with true womanly grace and modesty, though with the proverbial woman's perseverance and grit. Our Selectmen too, who were at first so soundly berated for their action in the matter, have received the approbation of legal gentlemen and others, who at first condemned them, now that their true position is understood, who was solely to give Mrs. H. the opportunity to contest, in the courts, the rights of citizenship she claimed. She has given good earnest of her ability and determination to carry her claim to the tribunal of last resort, where the whole Constitutional question will be definitively decided.

#### No Right to be Made.

The fact that the Board of Selectmen of Norwalk had admitted a woman, in the person of Mrs. Sarah M. T. Huntington, of that place, to the right and privileges of an elector, has been published far and wide, and this action of the Selectmen was regarded by many as the prelude to that "more glorious era" when women everywhere should be permitted to vote. But it seems



not understand the art of hiding mean-  
under words better than American polit-  
I do not care whether you look to  
constitutions, charters and amend-  
or whether you recite the plia facts  
of our citizenship, there is no escape from  
the conclusion that a woman is entitled to all the  
rights of man, either civil or political. Man's  
rights are supposed to be modeled after  
the government and law, and woman's nat-  
ural right being the same as man's, he cannot  
sup a government and deprive her of her  
right. And for registrars and inspectors to  
make a first change in State legislation is only  
their proof of unjust interpretation of char-  
ter, and the partial and misadministration of  
law," on the part of present office-holders  
and placemen. Let courts, legislatures and  
municipalities displace these prejudiced place-  
men and unprincipled policemen who bar the  
door of entrance to the republican temple and  
shut out "the natural coverings" of mankind.  
One night ago I was awakened from sleep by  
loud cries and complaints of a woman who  
was being dragged to the station-house by a  
night watchman, and being greatly disturbed  
in spirit, I reflected on the true situation.  
This poor woman had no voice in the election  
of the man or men who appointed this police-  
man; and when she should reach the station  
would find no woman there to give her advice  
or comfort. When she is brought before the  
justice it is before a man, although in our nation-  
al emblems Justice is always a woman, and if a  
jury is required, 12 men are summoned to try  
her case, not a jury of her peers. Think of it all  
and follow her through the fearful night and  
following days, oh mothers of the Republic,  
and know that it may be your daughter  
another time. This woman, whose cries and  
pleadings startled the night, and touched  
more than one mother's heart, was once a  
sweet baby and so innocent girl; and I know  
not now and shall not know after trial but she  
is innocent still.

C. A. F. S.

DETROIT October 24, 1872.

## A PETITION.

IN THE

CIRCUIT COURT OF ST. LOUIS CO.

December Term 1872.

St. Louis County } ss

VIRGINIA L. MINOR and FRANCIS MINOR,  
vs. HUBBARD, PLAINTIFFS v. REESE  
HARRISSETT, DEFENDANT.

The plaintiff, Virginia L. Minor, (with whom  
is joined her husband Francis Minor, as required  
by the law of Missouri) states, that under the  
constitution and law of Missouri, all persons  
wishing to vote at any election, must pre-  
viously have been registered, in the manner  
pointed out by law, this being a condition  
precedent to the exercise of the elective  
franchise.

That on the fifteenth day of October 1872,  
(one of the days fixed by law for the registra-  
tion of voters) and long prior thereto, she  
was a native born free white citizen of the  
United States, and of the State of Missouri,  
and on the day last mentioned, she was over  
the age of twenty-one years.

That on said day, the plaintiff was a resident  
of the thirteenth election district of the city  
and county of St. Louis, in the State of Mis-  
souri, and had been so residing in said county  
and election district, for the entire period of  
twelve months and more, immediately pre-  
ceding said fifteenth day of October 1872,  
and for more than twenty years had been and  
is, a tax-paying law-abiding citizen of the  
county and State aforesaid.

That on said last mentioned day, the de-  
fendant, having been duly and legally ap-  
pointed Registrar for said election district,  
and having accepted the said office of Regis-  
trar, and entered upon the discharge of the  
duties thereof, at the office of registration,  
to wit: No 2004 Market street, in said city  
and county of St. Louis, it became and was,  
then and there his duty to register all citizens,  
resident in said district as aforesaid, entitled  
to the elective franchise, who might apply to  
him for that purpose.

The plaintiff further states, that wishing  
to exercise her privilege as a citizen of the  
United States, and vote for Electors for  
President and Vice President of the United  
States, and for a Representative in Congress,  
and for other officers, at the General Election  
held in November 1872;—While said de-  
fendant was so acting as Registrar on said  
fifteenth day of October 1872, she appeared be-

fore him, at his office aforesaid, and then  
and there offered to take and subscribe the  
oath to support the Constitution of the  
United States and of the State of Missouri,  
as required by the registration law of said  
State, approved March 10th, 1871, and re-  
spectfully applied to him to be registered as  
a lawful voter, which said defendant then  
and there refused to do.

The plaintiff further states, that the defend-  
ant, well knowing that she, as a citizen of  
the United States and of the State of Mis-  
souri, resident as aforesaid, was then and  
there entitled to all the privileges and immu-  
nities of citizenship, chief among which is  
the elective franchise, and as such, was en-  
titled to be registered, in order to exercise  
said privilege;—yet, unlawfully intending,  
contriving and designing to deprive the  
plaintiff of said franchise or privilege, then  
and there knowingly, wilfully, maliciously  
and corruptly refused to place her name upon  
the list of registered voters, whereby she was  
deprived of her right to vote.

Defendant stated to plaintiff, that she was  
not entitled to be registered, or to vote, be-  
cause she was not a "male" citizen, but a  
woman!

That by the constitution of Missouri, article  
2, sec. 18; and by the aforesaid registra-  
tion law of said State, approved March 10th,  
1871, it is provided and declared, that only  
"male citizens" of the United States, &c.,  
are entitled or permitted to vote.

But the plaintiff protests against such  
decision, and she declares and maintains that  
said provisions of the constitution and registra-  
tion law of Missouri aforesaid, are in con-  
flict with, and repugnant to the constitution  
of the United States, which is paramount to  
state authority; and that they are especially  
in conflict with the following articles and  
clauses of said constitution of the United  
States, to wit:

- Art. 1. Sec. 9. which declares that no Bill of  
Attainder shall be passed.  
" 1. " 10. No State shall pass any Bill of  
Attainder, or grant any title  
of nobility.  
" 4. " 2. The citizens of each State shall  
be entitled to all privileges  
and immunities of citizens in  
the several States.  
" 4. " 4. The United States shall guaran-  
tee to every State a Republi-  
can form of government.

This constitution and the laws  
of the United States which  
shall be made in pursuance  
thereof, shall be the Supreme  
law of the land, anything in  
the constitutions or laws of  
any State to the contrary not-  
withstanding.

### AMENDMENTS.

- Art. 3. No person shall be . . . de-  
prived of life, liberty or prop-  
erty, without due process of  
law.  
" 9. The enumeration in the Constitu-  
tion of certain rights, shall  
not be construed to deny or  
disparage others retained by  
the people.  
" 14. Sec. 1. All persons born or naturalized  
in the United States, and sub-  
ject to the jurisdiction there-  
of, are citizens of the United  
States and of the State where-  
in they reside. No State shall  
make or enforce any law,  
which shall abridge the privi-  
leges or immunities of citizens  
of the United States. Nor  
shall any State deprive any  
person of life, liberty, or  
property, without due process  
of law; nor deny to any person  
within its jurisdiction, the  
equal protection of the laws.

The plaintiff states, that by reason of the  
wrongful act of the defendant as aforesaid,  
she has been damaged in the sum of ten  
thousand dollars, for which she prays judg-  
ment.

JOHN M. KRAM, Attorneys for Plaintiffs.  
FRANCIS MINOR.

See Original letters  
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### Women Suffrage.

Mrs. Huntington has received many let-  
ters of congratulation from ladies and gen-  
tlemen interested in the cause of Woman  
Suffrage. Among others are the following  
from two of the noted women of the age:—

HARTFORD, Oct. 29, 1872.

DEAR MADAM.—Permit me to congratulate you on  
the accession to your rights as an American citizen.  
I had hoped to vote myself at the coming presiden-  
tial election, and also for Representative from this  
district, but our Selectmen, though in favor of  
women's voting (albeit once), had not the courage to  
admit Miss Bitt and myself, until some legislative  
action has prepared the way. I am glad Norwalk is  
ahead of Hartford, but dreadfully sorry that Hart-  
ford is behind Norwalk.

Will you tell me how it came about, and after  
election day for whom you voted, and how you felt?

I send you my card in commemoration, and should  
be pleased to receive yours, if convenient.

Next winter we will beseege Congress, and win  
the day, and then we will make Elizabeth Cady  
Stanton president in 1876. We must begin the next  
century with Madam Washington at the head and  
some of her sisters in the cabinet, and a good many  
in both houses of Congress. Don't you think so?

Truly yours,

ISABELLA BEECHEE HOOKER.

ROCHESTER, Nov. 11, 1872.

MY DEAR MRS. HUNTINGTON.—I rejoice to see your  
attempt to vote in old Connecticut. Supposed Mrs.  
Hooker would do likewise in Hartford. Hoped hun-  
dreds of women throughout the country would  
make the attempt, but thus far none are reported  
save in Norwalk, Conn., and Rochester, N. Y.

You will have seen that about fifty protested their  
names here. 16 were registered in the 8th ward, 1  
in the 14th and 1 in the 4th—refused in the 1st, 2d,  
6th, 7th and 10th. Our city has 14 wards. Thus you  
see women in 8 out of the 14 wards attempted to  
register, and that without the slightest preconcert  
of action. The votes of those of the 14th and 4th  
wards were rejected, though duly registered. Only  
the 8th ward received and counted the votes. No  
mistake, for we waited and saw them distributed in  
the several boxes. Our papers are discussing, pro  
and con, every day since.

I now hope you will persevere and bring action  
against your inspectors and judges of election. We  
shall at once do so against ours who refused. We  
engaged the ablest counsel of western New York,  
and several of our judges, on looking into the ques-  
tion, declare our position tenable. I tell them all  
that we mean to find out if we have law enough, and  
enforce it; and if we have not already enough, we  
mean soon to get it. To vote is our wish and will.

Please let me know how you progress.  
Do you know Rev. Olympia Brown, of Bridgeport,  
and Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker, of Hartford?

I mail you the Republican papers reporting the  
fact, and enclose the Liberal Republican and Demo-  
cratic, from which you will see we have both sides  
discussed here.

Hastily, yours,

STUART B. ANTHONY.

The Litchfield Enquirer in an extended  
review of our unequal Legislative represen-  
tation, and in advocacy of the calling of a  
constitutional convention, concludes thus:

"But, aside from the system of misrep-  
resentation that prevails in both Houses of the  
Legislature, there are other constitutional  
troubles that press for amendment. The  
Capitol nuisance, which wastes the time of  
our representatives every year, is very likely  
to result, in the end, in a worse state of  
the people's money. We trust that a con-  
stitutional convention would make our ex-  
ecutive something more than the mere  
figure-head he now is. The pardoning  
power, judicial appointments, a real veto,  
the appointment of commissions should be  
given to the governor, and half the petty  
bargaining that lengthens and weakens our  
legislative sessions should be ended forever.  
The only consideration that at all recon-  
ciles us to a postponement of reform is the  
fear that the time has not yet come for the  
adoption of any adequate plan of minority  
representation and that infinitely greater,  
juster reform to which Republicanism must  
soon come—Woman Suffrage."

RETURN TO  
NO. 2002 OLIVE STREET,  
ST. LOUIS,  
IF NOT CALLED FOR.

See  
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than congratulate the ladies on their happiness, and the success of their endeavors to exercise what has heretofore been considered exclusively the male privilege of voting.

Miss ANTHONY informed us that ten or eleven ladies had already voted in the Eighth Ward, and as there were some sixteen ladies' names registered in that Ward, there would probably be that number of votes. Of those who had voted, all but one voted for GRANT, the exception of course going for GREELEY.

We have not at present writing heard from the other wards where the three ladies registered, but we presume that an effort will be made in them to have the votes of the ladies taken.

Twenty years ago to-day Miss ANTHONY began the agitation of the woman suffrage question in this city. She is, therefore, to be pardoned for looking on the coincidence between that distant initiation of the struggle and her success this morning as a happy omen for her cause.

We express neither approval nor disapproval of this action. If it is constitutional, we believe it will stand; if not, it will probably be long before the ladies will succeed in carrying their point by a definite vote on the question.

*Rochester Democrat*

## VICTORY!

*Chronicle* Nov. 6/92  
**Triumph of the Republican Cause!**

**FREEMAN CLARKE ELECTED  
BY AN OVERWHELMING  
MAJORITY!**

**Henry L. Fish, the People's  
Candidate, Successful!**

**The Republican Candidates for Assembly  
in the First and Third Districts and  
Haiti County Ticket Elected!**

**Immense Enthusiasm  
Over the Result.**

**Facts and Incidents of the Day.**

**Table of Majorities.**

At nearly all the polling places the best of order was preserved during the entire day. The only disturbance of any consequence occurred a few minutes before the polls closed in the first district of the fifth ward. It began by a dispute over a challenge, a rash was made, and the railing which guarded the polling place upset. Then followed a fight, in which about a dozen men were engaged. Officers Cleary, McQuarters and Daningburg stationed there, guarded the polling place to the best of their ability, broke up the fight and arrested one of the combatants, James McGinnis, who had doffed his coat and was endeavoring to make good his boast that he could whip any man in the fifth ward, except one. Who that one was he did not say. Cleary and McQuarters arrested McGinnis and held on to him in spite of the crowd who made a determined attempt to rescue the prisoner. He lives in the twelfth ward.

In the eighth ward one or two slight disturbances took place. John Regan was arrested by one of the United States election marshals for interfering with a colored voter. He was taken to jail but afterwards released.

At the eleventh ward polls, although the crowd was large nearly the entire day no disorder of any kind occurred. As the eleventh is sometimes accused of having more than its proportion of the disorderly classes, the good order at the polls yesterday is every way creditable to the ward.

The most novel incident of the day was witnessed at the eighth ward polls. Here sixteen women voted, the first being Miss Susan B. Anthony, whose vote was challenged, but she took the oath, and her ballot was then received. Those who came later voted unquestioned. As far as we learned, these ladies were subjected to no insults or rudeness. Fifteen of them voted for Grant and Wilson, and one for Horace Greeley. Seven of them came to the polls together in the morning, and the rest during the afternoon. In the first and third wards several ladies who had been registered attempted to vote but were not allowed to do so.

The workers at the polls in the second district of the ninth ward set an example which ought to be adopted everywhere. They agreed that neither side should use money at the polls and as far as we can learn the agreement was kept.

**FROM THE DETROIT POST.  
Remove the Barriers.**

**To the Editor of The Detroit Post:**

"I go for all sharing the privileges of the Government who assist in bearing its burdens—by no means excluding females."—*Abraham Lincoln, in a published letter in 1836.*

"The mortal enemy unto knowledge and that which hath done the greatest execution upon truth hath been a presumptuous adhesion unto authority, and more especially the establishing of our belief upon the dictates of antiquity."—*Sir Thomas Browne.*

With the number of guarantees and the amount of evidence which woman can bring to establish her citizenship, no man would hesitate for a moment to carry any case before a jury, or into any United States court; and no upright judge would risk his reputation, either as a man or a jurist, by making a decision adverse to his interests. Look at the simple facts, let alone the intricacies of law:

Everywhere woman is included and remembered where her property is to be, or can be, taxed, and in country districts where she can work on the roads or contribute to local improvements. Everywhere the law takes cognizance of her acts, which may be subversive of good order, and its administrators and police do not forget to enforce its provisions. She is held to obey law and support the State. These two commands are demands are sufficient, in my opinion, to establish her entire right to protect herself by the ballot. She can only protect herself by enjoying the same political rights as other citizens.

And no honest jurist or officer of the Government can, on reflection, fail to reach the same conclusion. The only trouble is they do not accept the evidence and facts, being either dishonest or utterly blinded by prejudice, and settled down so deep in the ruts of custom that they are perfectly mired and unable to rise into the atmosphere of clear reason and nonconformity.

Any cultured man would scorn to be disabused and disgraced by a hard custom so contradictory to the spirit of our age. Every man of spirit, who loves freedom, would spurn thus to be bound by the mists and cobwebs of prejudice and tradition. Yet they continue to tell women, some of them, that they are quite willing to (mis)represent them, and think it highly proper they should do so. Without a revolt, even without a tremor of conscience, only a mild protest of that chivalry which they have so long claimed, they turn woman away from the registry, and refuse to open the door to her political estate.

There are here just two things to note: These officers have sworn to the United States Constitution before that of the State, (see abstract of laws of the United States, State of Michigan, and charter of the city), and they well know that before the word "white" was expanded from State constitutions colored men voted. The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution enabled and protected them.

If anything more was needed for woman than her recognition in the different relations above set down these broad guarantees left nothing undone, so far as language can express meaning. As to the "intentions of framers," that wonderful and cunning escape and circumlocution belongs to man's dispensation, and Talleyrand himself

### The Force of Women Registering in the Eighth Ward.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 4, 1873.

EDS. U. & A.:—The Inspectors of Election in the Eighth Ward are no doubt learned jurists and profound statesmen. Have they read the report of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives of the United States of which Jno. A. Bingham of Ohio is Chairman, on the petition of Victoria C. Woodhull, Susan B. Anthony et. al. claiming the right to vote under the 14th amendment? They reported that said amendment gave them no right to vote, and the House adopted their report by a very large majority. The Congress of the United States did not, however, consult the Inspectors of Election of the Eighth Ward. Do those learned gentlemen also understand that Susan B. Anthony's interpretation of said amendment gives minors the right to vote also? She says the words "every citizen," by making no reference to sex, gives her the right to vote, but said words say nothing about age as a qualification, so these Inspectors should have registered all the children in said ward as they too are citizens of the United States. But, Mr. Editor, this has gone far enough. There are laws of the United States and State of New York to punish election officers who receive illegal votes and these men should be made to feel the law if they receive any such next Tuesday.

Yours, Truly,

LAW.

REMARKS.—Citizenship no more carries the right to vote than it carries the power to fly to the moon. If it did, women would have had just the same right to vote before the adoption of the fourteenth amendment that they have now: for they were citizens before, as were and are children.

Even male citizenship does not carry the right to vote. Thus, in the State of Rhode Island, which is Republican by two to one, male citizens of the United States and of the State, who are not native born, are denied the elective franchise. And as the Woodhull woman—now in Ludlow street jail in New York for the most obscene and disgusting publication that ever shocked any community—and Miss Anthony, and others, petitioned the House of Representatives, these male citizens of Rhode Island petitioned the United States Senate, and were answered in an elaborate report from the Judiciary Committee of that body that their citizenship gave them no right, or color of right, whatever, to vote, or to exercise political functions of any kind. The "privileges and immunities of citizens" mentioned in sec. 2, art. 4, and again in sec. 1, art. 14, of the Constitution of the United States, refer to civil rights, not to political privileges. The civil rights of the citizen are natural, absolute, and equal. The political privileges of the citizen are conventional, discriminatory, and unequal. If these women in the Eighth Ward offer to vote they should be challenged, and if they take the oaths and the Inspectors receive and deposit their ballots they should all be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

### SUSAN B. ANTHONY TRIUMPHANT

**Women Voting for Grant and Greeley.**

Miss SUSAN B. ANTHONY and a lady friend called in our office this morning, and exultingly saluted us fellow citizens and fellow voters. A "fellow," under such circumstances, could not well do otherwise