



Gratia A. Countryman and Family Papers.

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Suppaga tuere

Delivered at

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to Intercollegiate Prohibition Association

Liberty

Several years ago, we rejoiced ~~not~~ when a
Great Oriental nation threw off the dynasty
of oppression and stood forth a republic.
It had much to learn before it could be a
real republic, but the great impulse of freedom
was stirring, the right of self-government.
A few days ago another startling and sudden
thing happened in Europe! The most autocratic
government in the world was overthrown in a day,
and the people shook themselves out of their
shackles, opened their Siberian prisons, and
stood up in the majesty of their human birthright.
We were thrilled to the heart, because we believe
in liberty or think we do. ^{We talk a great deal about it} and a few Americans have it. ^{Most of us will trust it}
Twice have great events happened in our own
country in the name of freedom. Once we
threw off the yoke of England and proclaimed us a
free ~~and~~ and wrote a Constitution which ~~rests~~ ^{rests} stands
rest upon the Consent of the governed.
And again before you and I can remember, they again
arose ~~for~~ and in the name of liberty broke the
shackles of negro slavery, and ~~for~~ disfranchised the
black man, ^{for the} the consent of the governed.

Now you and many thousands are striving
successfully to break another tyrannical force. That
of the liquor traffic which has controlled our politics,
chosen our law makers, filled our prisons, saddled
us with ^{with} costly institutions, killed millions of strong
splendid men, maimed and crippled ~~and~~ millions
of children which had better never have been born.
The European war does not begin in blood guiltiness
with this tyrant, nor will there be any more
crippled and maimed after this war than

are being caused every year in the shape
of subnormal, idiotic, criminal children and
utterly worthless, sodden inefficient men & women.
We might as well be under the tyranny of
barbaric lords as under the tyranny of liquor lords.
There will never be true democracy in this
country until their shackles are broken to
which I ask this association, I take it, is pledged.

I assume therefore that you believe in democracy
that you believe that the government ~~must~~ should
be controlled ^{by} the consent of the governed. If you
do really believe it, then I have only to remind
you that we are so yet, but I feel a democracy
to which your entire sympathy with making it a complete democracy
for the half of the governed has ^{no} part in the
government. You rejoice with China and with
new born Russia in their reach after freedom,
~~but~~ you must then rejoice in the efforts of your
American women to grasp this precious thing
political liberty.

Democracy rests upon universal suffrage, the
consent of the governed ~~and~~ which women are
a large intelligent and moral part. No matter
~~Miss Rankin, our first Congresswoman, in her~~
~~Campaign asked~~

how much one may argue pro and con
about the enfranchisement of women, it all
comes back to the principle of democracy, and
to whether men really believe in democracy.
Over the whole world the democratic
principle is slowly creeping, it is enlarging its
meaning as it sweeps forward, it ~~will~~ is
inevitably including the whole of humanity, its
men and its women.

Miss Rankin our first Congresswoman said

that in her campaign, she asked the
man if he didn't believe that government
rested upon the consent of the government, yes, he
certainly did. Well how about the consent of the
women. Well the government didn't govern the
women, well how about that, if she broke the
laws, she paid the penalty, if she had property she
paid her taxes. but he flatly declared that the
government governed the men and the men
governed the women. And he never saw the
basis in justice of his position. I do not know your nationality, but names of officers are ^{Scand.}
Many of the men before me are descendants
from the Scandinavian races; let us look at your
country. Iceland was the first country to go dry,
and ^{giving} Icelandic women ~~the~~ full suffrage.
^{giving} In Norway, Denmark and Finland, women have
the ~~same~~ full municipal and parliamentary
vote and are eligible to all offices. In
Sweden women have full municipal
suffrage. Do you think that American
maternal system of public schools and Co-educational
Colleges, is producing women less able than the
Scandinavian woman. When the Scandinavian
man comes to this country, he has much to gain
in the way of opportunity, when the Scandinavian
woman comes to our land of liberty she loses her
liberty. ~~In Great Britain~~ The Irish the Scotch
and the English woman, have municipal suffrage
New Zealand and Australia and the Western
Canadian women have full suffrage, and
had better keep away from the land of the free
if they wish to keep their freedom. Do you
really feel that the American women, descendants

How can you feel so. Towards the girls who climb trees
with you, race with you, play tennis with you & then suddenly
always want a home with you; but her ^{to her} ^{business} ^{to}
home work, her woman's work is all tangled ^{with}
up with the community life. Pure food, milk ^{supply}
supply, water supply, clean streets, protection ^{from}
from disease, petrole problems, child labor,
moral conditions, Cost of living, what are they
but home problems. How many of our city
ordinances, our state legislation, have to do
with ~~health, divorce, disposition of the community~~
~~property and living conditions~~ public health and
living conditions, isn't the liquor question a
home question. Most women feel that it is.

How can women unsex themselves, when they are
only ~~fighting~~ trying to protect and make good homes.
Let me read you an ideal woman.

Do you think the records of the Sweated industries
the white slave traffic, show ~~the~~ any chivalry toward
woman. What would the laboring man do
without the ballot to protect himself, what
are these 10,000,000 laboring women doing without
it. Chivalry isn't protecting them.

the ~~lowest class~~ lowest class in our country. Went to Europe to study conditions and methods. He reported that in every country as well as our own he found women the lowest down. You do not sink far, for the reason, she has no weapon of ~~for~~ defense. Yet for all this the Criminal Records of this country show that only 3% of the criminals ~~of the~~ are women. 95% are men. Should law makers be the law makers ~~of that portion of the community~~ ~~who respect law~~.

College men, you are open minded ~~and~~ about almost everything, you are in the forefront in ~~the~~ a great moral fight. Be open minded toward another great movement which is sweeping the world, democracy and the ~~petition~~ equality ~~of every~~ in its complete sense. Do not block

~~Now may I close with a picture of an ideal woman. You will be surprised that I go back to Solomon for her.~~

This other moral movement, respect the woman who studies beside you, respect the woman who may someday rear and teach your sons respect the sanity of the Campaign for freedom which womankind are making.

Can you put yourself in our place. If so, you will surely so - Complete democracy. Fight for it.