

accept the sincere expression of our gratitude and sympathy,  
I am, dear sir, yours very sincerely,  
PRISCILLA McLAREN, President.

J. S. MILL, Esq.

AVIGNON, Dec. 12, 1868.

DEAR MADAM: Few things could be more gratifying to me than the letter with which I have been honored by you and your committee, and I beg you to accept and to convey to the committee my warmest acknowledgments.

Of all my recollections connected with the House of Commons, that of my having had the honor of being the first to make the claim of women to the suffrage a parliamentary question is the most gratifying, as I believe it to have been the most important public service that circumstances made it in my power to render. This is now a thing accomplished, and the cause has a sufficient number of supporters among the best men in the House of Commons to carry on as much of the contest as can be conducted there. It remains for the intelligent women of the country to give their moral support to the men who are engaged in urging their claims, and to open the minds of the less intelligent to the fact that political freedom is the only effectual remedy for the evils which most women are conscious that women suffer. Whatever power I may have to promote this cause outside the House of Commons, I shall not fail to exert to the utmost.

Your expression of sympathy with my feelings, and approbation of my conduct on the subject of the Jamaica atrocities, are peculiarly grateful to me, for it has been with especial sorrow that I have seen so many women cold and unmoved at the recitals of sufferings which it might have been supposed would at least have aroused some womanly pity and generous indignation against the perpetrators. It is peculiarly among women, who are not aware that it is their duty to use their intelligence on matters of politics, that the severest condemnation of Mr. Eyre and his instruments should have been found; for if such women had possessed the warmth of heart which all women ought to have, their feelings would have revolted at the tortures inflicted, and they would have considered the reasonings by which these were attempted to be palliated as beyond their province. As it is, the conduct of so many among them has afforded one more evidence that the renunciation of masculine intelligence gives no security for womanly kindness.

I am, dear Madam, very sincerely yours,

J. S. MILL.

Mrs. McLAREN, Newington House, Edinburg.

### EQUAL RIGHTS IN OHIO.

The friends of Equal Rights in Cincinnati have, during the past month, organized themselves into a society. The following is their

#### DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

First—This organization shall be known as the Ohio State Equal Rights Association.

Second—We hold that all persons—male and female—are endowed in their creation with the right of life and its attendant blessings, viz.: Liberty, the profits of whatever their minds conceive or hands produce, and the free exercise of all their faculties and powers, not intruding upon the same inherent rights of others.

Third—But, as these natural rights, by the usurpations of tyrants, and the establishment of unjust, cruel and oppressive governments, have been in all ages and all countries, trampled upon, curtailed, or entirely withheld from the many and confined to a favored few; and this being also the case in regard to the mother country, our forefathers, smoldering under oppression, and conceiving and daring to maintain their rights, inaugurated a successful Revolution, and established our government, virtually upon the inherent and inalienable rights of humanity; but they, doubtless, startled at their own temerity, in making such a sweeping innovation upon all other governments in existence, failed to carry out their own beautifully expressed declarations; and, in direct conflict therewith, established or permitted slavery—"the sum of all villainies," and worst form of despotism; and further, they also politically ignored the existence of woman, not allowing her the right of suffrage, or any voice in their government. We, therefore, as American citizens, believing that all just governments are founded upon the consent of the governed, and that all citizens are entitled to all their natural rights, among which we include the right of Suffrage, claim and demand that the ballot should be given to woman; and, not only so, but that all qualifications in regard to suffrage, shall be im-

partial, applying equally to all citizens, of either sex, or of whatever race.

Fourth—As all experience hath shown that the rich cannot be trusted to make laws for the poor, nor one race to legislate for another, so man is not qualified and cannot be trusted to make laws for woman; and, therefore, in order that all laws shall be impartial and equally beneficial to all, there should be no class legislation, nor one sex be allowed to make laws for the other, but that all should take part in the elections and through officers of their choice have a voice in making the laws by which they are to be governed.

Fifth—As woman—especially as mother, wife and widow—has suffered great injustice and cruelty, from the laws made by man, therefore, it is of the highest importance that the ballot should be placed immediately in her hands, as the only safeguard against unjust and cruel laws.

Sixth—Until the word male shall be stricken from every constitution in the land, and the conditions of suffrage become impartial and universal, in the broadest sense, so as to include both sexes, we must not expect, and cannot have true peace, harmony and prosperity.

Seventh—Believing, also, that the enforcement of the principles enunciated in this "Declaration of Principles" is of vital importance to the welfare of the Republic, and absolutely necessary for the preservation of our liberties; therefore, in order to secure "Equal Rights," we have organized this Association, not as a distinct political party, but hoping that we shall in a short time become sufficiently powerful to control both the democratic and republican parties and force a recognition by each, pledging ourselves that we will sustain no person for any office not clearly pledged to Woman Suffrage; and reserving the right in case of failure to accomplish our object in this manner, to organize an Equal Rights party, and commence separate political action.

The following committee was appointed to report at the next meeting:

Mrs. E. V. Burns, Mrs. M. H. Leavitt, Mr. Geo. Kates, Mr. Peter H. Clark, Mrs. Jennifer, Mrs. S. Barnes, Dr. J. Wadsworth.

### SOROSIS.

From the New York World of Jan. 5.

#### REPORT ON HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

The following report of the Committee of Hospitals in this and other states, was read by Dr. Anna Dinsmore.

The first regular meeting of the Committee on Hospitals and Asylums was held at the residence of Dr. Anna Dinsmore, 163 West Twenty-first street, on Saturday, December 17, at 4 p.m. The names of Mrs. C. B. Wilbur and Mrs. Horace Greeley were added to the list of members. In order to facilitate the work of investigation and rapid gathering of statistics, each member present volunteered to explore certain localities at once, and report to the Chairman as soon as possible. The results thus far are as follows: In New York city, expectant mothers out of wedlock are admitted gratuitously into but few institutions. The obstetrical ward of Bellevue Hospital is open to them, and upon leaving, if they do not desire to take their babes, the little ones are transferred to Ward's Island to be cared for and wet-nursed by mothers as much disgraced as their own, and perchance far more wicked. At a suitable age the children are taught trades, the girls as well as the boys, and if not claimed by their mothers they are, as soon as capable sent out to earn their livelihood. A large proportion, however, die in early infancy. Two or three years ago 90 to 95 per cent of the entire number of infants (averaging, I believe, some 310 in the wards), died in their first year, but this excessive mortality has been materially lessened by the employment of some fifty wet-nurses. In the year 1867 the rate of mortality had decreased to 70 per cent. The Commissioners of Charities and Correction are now erecting a public hospital for those motherless babes on Randall's Island. When completed their old quarters on Ward's Island will be vacated.

The hospital and infirmary for women and children, situated on Second avenue near Eight-street, Drs. Elizabeth and Emily Blackwell in charge, admit married women for accouchment gratuitously if unable to pay, who are known to have been heretofore respectable. No provision is made for the babes.

The Child's Nursery and Hospital, on Fifty first street, admits its unmarried women, if they can comply with the same, viz., \$20 in advance for the confinement fee, and a sum of \$5 per week, prior to and succeeding parturient effort; if disposed, she can cancel this debt by

wet-nursing three months for the benefit of the institution.

The babes are cared for at a charge of \$10 per month. The Woman's Hospital, on Forty-ninth street and Fourth avenue, has no lying-in-department. The Lying-in-Hospital, No. 86 Marion street, admits only such women as can bring good references and a marriage certificate.

In Philadelphia, Blacky Almhouse offers the principle refuge for unmarried mothers not able to pay for private, accommodation. The Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia declines to receive them on any terms.

In Providence, Pittsburg, and Chicago the almshouse are the only shelter provided for indigent, or deserted unfortunates. In Detroit a few ladies have made some effort to found a home for the abandoned babes, but as yet with but limited success.

Massachusetts has taken the initiative in endeavoring to found a desirable home for these poor waifs and with an encouraging degree of success. The enterprise is still young and of limited capacity, but the results thus far have been even more satisfactory than the incorporation had dared to hope.

Through Professor Freeman Sprout Cook, of the N. E. F. Medical College, I learned the following particulars, concerning it: The Institution is known as the Massachusetts Infant Asylum. It was incorporated May 15, 1867, by the Legislature of Massachusetts, "for the purpose of assisting and providing for deserted and destitute infant children." It does not wish to be considered a foundling hospital, and differs from them in the fact that it does not receive all infants who may be presented, but reserves the right of entree to such children as may in their judgment have a stronger or more rightful claim upon their charity. It differs also in the fact of limiting the children under one roof, not designing to aggregate more than thirty together, at one time. They divide the children whom they design to serve into three classes: 1. "Foundlings whose parents are unknown;" 2. "Infants deserted by their known parents, or left orphans;" 3. "Infant children, whose mothers are unable to support them entirely, but who can assist either in caring or providing for them." They design engaging healthy wet-nurses for the babes to such extent as they can, but do not expect to provide each babe with a separate one. They propose as fast as possible to send the children out to nurse, and get them into families either by adoption or paying their board, as is the custom in France and Scotland and to some extent, in England and Ireland. This home is located in Dorchester, quite near Boston, and is supported by subscription and donations. An annual subscription of \$3 entitles a person to membership with a right of voting in its meetings. A subscription of \$50 constitutes a life member, of whom several have been obtained. Another class of subscribers paying less than \$3 per year, are called helpers. The first babe was brought to the home on the 18th April, 1867, since which time fourteen have been admitted between the ages of five weeks and sixteen months. Out of this number six were brought by the mothers and given to the asylum. Of the remaining eight, one is the child of a wet nurse, the others laboring servants. When brought to the establishment most of the children gave large evidence of neglect, some were suffering from want of nourishment, and all suffering more or less from various maladies. Only one infant has been discharged, and of the thirteen remaining at the house, eleven are nursing from the bottle, four taking milk alone, and three taking wheat or barley groats mixed with it. All are thriving. The house contains four nurseries and a day nursery. Each bed is arranged for four children and a nurse. Trinity Church furnished the day nursery, King Chapel furnished one, the Arlington street Church, Bedford street Church, and the Catholics of Boston each one. Dr. Putnam's society in Roxbury, furnished the matrons room; Dr. Thompson's society at Jamaica Plain, the kitchen; the dining room and nurses' room by King's Chapel, and the laundry by contributions in Cambridge; other parts of the house by contributions from different societies and individuals. They have received some \$10,000, and have between \$4,000 and \$5,000 on hand. Some twenty ladies and three or four gentlemen are enrolled as directors. The admitting committee contains the names of three persons—two ladies and one gentleman. There are two attending and three consulting physicians, two of whom are ladies. The President is Dr. Samuel Cabot of Boston, a gentleman ranking high in the profession of medicine and worthy of a large place in the confidence of the public.

We should be very thankful to see this one little step in the right direction, and pray earnestly for its success, yet we can but realize the while, and keenly, its inadequacy to meet the requirements of the cause it espouses.