

Written for this Paper.  
EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

I noticed in a late number of the Salt Lake *Daily Herald* an article in the editorial columns under the caption "Equal Suffrage Movement," in which are pointed out what the writer considers mistakes made by some of the advocates of female suffrage. The writer does not seem to think the present an opportune time for pressing the claims of women to the elective franchise in Utah. If such is the opinion of the *Herald*, I very respectfully but emphatically dissent. I have believed, and still believe, that the people of Utah, or a majority of them, are in favor of equal suffrage. As for many years the laws of Utah recognized the right of women to vote, I assume that the people were in favor of the law, otherwise it would have been repealed by the Legislature and not been permitted to stand until the Congress, under the reserved right to annul a territorial statute, did so.

We are all looking forward to the time when Utah shall become a state possessing full power to say who may become electors within the state. Such being the condition, I believe the present is the time to discuss the question, in order that the people may be prepared, through a constitutional convention, to settle the question.

I will say here, that I dissent from the implied doctrine that before women are endowed with the franchise a majority of the women must be converts to the doctrine. I know such has been an argument made use of by anti-equal suffragists, but it has no force; if one woman desires to vote, and is entitled to vote, she ought to do so, even though every other woman in the United States is opposed to equal suffrage.

Now as to rights: I entertain the opinion that the Constitution of the United States was foreshadowed by, and really had its origin in, the principles enunciated in that admirable document so familiar to all patriotic citizens, the Declaration of Independence, from which I beg you to allow me to make a quotation applicable as I think to this great question:

We hold these truths to be self-evident—that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain undeniable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

It is not necessary to refer to a dictionary for the purpose of proving that the term "men" is not, and that it cannot be, confined to males, as we all know that the term includes persons, people and mankind of both sexes. Hence, men and women are created equal, according to Jefferson and his illustrious colleague, whose signatures are attached to that immortal political creed; according to this creed women possess the same unalienable rights that men have. Amongst those rights are "liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

If women are the equals of men, they have an inalienable right to liberty. How can they be free if the government under which they live debars them from a natural right which it grants to men?

If this government deprives women of the right to consent or object to laws

by which they are governed, it cannot be truthfully said that those laws are just; and if the powers granted by them discriminate against women because of her sex, it is clear that woman is robbed of an "inalienable" right. In this case we do not speak the truth when we assert that this government is one of the people, by the people and for the people; it would be more true to say that it is a government of women by men.

Such being the views of this writer on the subject of the franchise in question, it seems to me to be quite important for the people of Utah, if they desire to obtain equal suffrage, that they should take steps to do so at the first opportunity to insert in the Constitution a clause to that effect; it can be done at that time much more easily than to wait until some future time to amend the Constitution.

The *Herald* says that they (the women) "should cease to demand as a right that which men hold as a privilege;" "that there is no inherent right to the franchise in either sex," etc. Such may be the case, and it is doubtless true, as the *Herald* asserts, that the right to vote is conferred by law; but when a law is enacted by men, assuming a right which it denies to women, it is legitimate to inquire whether such law is founded upon the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence.

I do not like to take issue with the *Herald*, and hope to be pardoned for doing so in the present instance, nor would I have done so, but under the circumstances I feel that it is best for the people of Utah now to get ready for the future, and I feared that the remark of the *Herald* might have the effect to induce the people to waive what I believe to be an unalienable right of the mothers and daughters of Utah.

H. D. JOHNSON.

#### OFFICIAL CHANGES MARICOPA STAKE

MESA CITY, Ari., May 11, 1894.

The Saints of the Maricopa Stake of Zion all join in thanksgiving and praise to their Maker for the manifestations of His blessing to them during the special Priesthood and conference meetings held at Mesa the 9th and 10th inst., where they had assembled ostensibly for the purpose of reorganizing the Stake, and to listen to the word of God as delivered to them through His servants, Elders Brigham Young and John Henry Smith, of the Council of the Apostles, who arrived in our midst the morning of the 9th inst.

The Saints gathered en masse under the powery and sustained by their unanimous vote the following officers, who had been previously appointed: Collins R. Hakes, president of Maricopa Stake; Henry C. Rogers, first, and James F. Johnson, second counselors; Harvey J. Harper as High Councilor to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John M. Lewis; Chas. C. Dana, Walter B. Lewis and Joseph E. Johnson as alternate members of the High Council. Hyrum S. Phelps second counselor in High Priests' quorum; Amos Hawks second counselor to Bishop Hunsaker of Alma ward; James M. Horne as Bishop of Mesa ward, with David T. LeBaron and Warner H. Allen as counselors. The cause necessitating the change

in the Bishopric of the Mesa ward was the growing deafness of Bishop Wm. Passey, who through this sad affliction felt that he was rendered incompetent in many respects to perform the duties of his office. He was honorably released, with the good will and blessings of the people whom he had so faithfully served.

The services being over, quite a number of the Saints drove to Lehi, where Soren C. Sorensen and Miss Margaret A. Macdonald, were united in the holy bands of wedlock, Elder Young officiating. After which the visiting brethren were taken to the depot, boarding the evening train bound for the Gila valley and Mexico, carrying with them the prayers and blessings of a grateful people.

Brother Andrew Jensen has been with us for the past few days searching our records, and straightening us up generally in record keeping.

GEORGE PASSEY, Clerk,

By FRANK T. POMEROY, Asst. Clerk.

#### AMONG THE MILLERS.

Wheat now demands double the price offered in some some sections of the country six months since, and the market is now stiff at 70 cents. The grain is also getting scarce, and a still further rise of 2 to 5 cents is anticipated by some of the dealers. Others, however, think the limit is about reached as to wheat, though a still further rise in the best grades of flour seems inevitable, as the mills cannot pay present prices for wheat and sell at present rates for flour without a loss.

Last fall some local capitalists bought heavily of wheat and stored it for the present occasion. One man who purchased largely at 45 cents per bushel today disposed of 10,000 bushels at the prevailing price. Some are holding for a still higher figure.

There is some talk of shipping in Kansas wheat if the Utah supply runs short or the holders ask too high prices for the millers to touch. It is said that Kansas wheat can be laid down here at 71 cents per bushel. As it is much inferior, however, to the Utah grain, it will be used only for lower grades of flour, while the better grades will be of Utah wheat. It is hardly probable, though, that the local market will become so close as to need any Kansas grain.

The Pioneer roller mills of Elias Morris & Co. are starting up this week and will make a good run. They have been closed some time, but by about the end of the week will be in full operation producing first class flour and other grain products, as the mills have a large supply of the best quality of grain.

The Thatcher mills of Logan have added a new brand to their mill products—that of whole wheat flour. A carload of this brand has been brought to the Salt Lake branch house, and is a most excellent article.

The millers hold their meeting next Saturday afternoon, and in the present condition of the market it is expected that some interesting business will be attended to, though but little of it will belong outside of the ranks of the millers and dealers.