The Right to Vote.

SUFFRAGE NOT NECESSARILY A PART OF CITIZENSHIP.

DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT OF THE QUESTION OF THE RIGHT OF A WOMAN TO VOTE.

No. 182—*Minor vs.* Hoppersatt.—Error to the Supreme Court of Missouri. This is the case presenting the question whether, under the Fourteenth Amendment, a woman, who is a citizen of the United States and of a State, is a voter in the State, notwithstanding the provisions of the Constitution and the laws of that State confine the right of suffrage to men alone. It is said that women are citizens. They are persons, and therefore, under the Fourteenth Amendment, declared to be citizens of the State wherein they reside, but it did not require that amendment to make them such. They were before persons and people, and were not in terms excluded from citizenship by the Constitution. The Constitution was ordained by the people of the United States, composed of the people of the several States, and whoever at the time of its adoption was one of the people, became a citizen. All children born of citizen parents within the jurisdiction, are themselves citizens. The naturalization laws are reviewed to show that women have always been considered citizens the same as men; also the laws giving jurisdiction in United States cases.

It is then said that the Fourteenth Amendment did not affect the citizenship of women any more than it did of men, and thus minors' rights do not depend upon it. She has always been a citizen from her birth, entitled to all the privileges, immunities, etc., of citizenship. The Amendment prohibited the State in which she lives from abridging any of those rights. The right of suffrage is not made in terms one of the privileges of the citizen. The United States has no voters, and no one can vote for national without being competent to vote for State officers. The elective officers of the United States are chosen directly or indirectly by the voters of the States. The amendment did not add to the privileges or immunities of the citizen, it simply furnished an additional guarantee for the protection of such as he already had. Nor is the right of suffrage coextensive with the citizenship of the States. When the national Constitution was adopted all the States but Rhode Island had Constitutions of their own, in not one of which were all citizens recognized as entitled to this right; and under all these circumstances it cannot for a moment be doubted that if it had been intended to make citizens of the United States voters, the framers of the Constitution would have so expressed that intention, and not have left so important a change in the condition of citizenship, as it then existed, to implication.

But if further evidence is needed it is to be found in the provisions of the Constitution. If suffrage is necessarily a part of citizenship, then the provision of the Constitution which gives citizens of each State all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States would entitle the citizens of each State to the right to vote in the several States precisely as the citizens of those States are. Other provisions, among them that relating to the apportionment of representatives, were cited to the same point. But still again, after the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, it was found necessary to use, in the Fifteenth Amendment, the following language:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

The Fourteenth Amendment had provided against any abridgment of the privileges or immunities of citizens, and if the right of suffrage is one of them, why amend the Constitution further to prevent its being denied on account of race, color, &c. The duty of the United States to guarantee to the States a republican form of government is discharged in protecting those governments which were recognized as being republican in form by the Constitution when adopted. The governments of the States being then accepted, it must be assumed that they are such as are to be guaranteed.

The admission of new States is then considered, and it is found that there is nothing to favor the idea that suffrage is a right of citizenship, but everything to repel it, also the restoration of the States to the Union after the war, none of them having provided for female suffrage. Besides, a person who has simply declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States may vote under certain circumstances in Missouri and other States, and this could not be if suffrage depended upon the right of citizenship.

The Court are unanimous in the opinion that the Constitution of the United States does not confer the right of suffrage upon any one, and that the Constitutions of the several States which commit that trust to men alone are not necessarily void. Affirmed. The Chief Justice delivered the opinion.—*Missouri Democrat.*

DIED.

In this city, at half-past 1 p.m., April 8th, 1875, SELENA, wife of Mr. George Horrocks, formerly of Watford, Herts, England, aged 40 years.—*Ogden Junction.*

In the 10th Ward, Salt Lake City, April 9, 1875, of consumption and decline, GEORGE BADDLEY, aged 50 years and 1 month.

Deceased was born in Burslem, Staffordshire, England, where he embraced the gospel in 1841 and was one of those indefatigable laboeers in the cause of truth that made so much success in that region of country. He emigrated to America in 1848 and arrived in the valley in 1851. He was called to the Southern mission in 1861 and was one of the first settlers on the Virgen. His health declining under the southern sun he was released and returned to S. L. City. Bro. Baddley was always active and on hand for the prosperity of the cause, and occupied the position of Superintendent of the Sunday School in the 10th Ward, at the time of his fatal sickness two and a half years ago. His health has declined gradually since November, 1872, and just previous to his death, this morning, he was apparently but little more than a live skeleton. [COM.

In the 2nd Ward, Salt Lake City, on the 12th inst., of pneumonia, HENRY, son of Hiram and Mary Derr Yeager, aged 13 months and 12 days.

At Cedar Fort, Utah County, Monday, March 15, CHRISTINE, wife of Jacob McKinney and daughter of Andrew and Ingaberg Mineer, aged 32 years and 6 months.

Deceased was born in Landskrena, Sweden. She has left a husband and five small children and a large circle of relatives and friends.

Scandinavian Star, please copy.

At Spanish Fork City, April 8th, of diabetes, MICHAEL, son of William and Almira Stoker.

Deceased was born September 6th, 1847, at Pisgah, Iowa; emigrated with his parents to Utah in 1852. He has left a wife and one child, also his aged parents, with brothers, sisters, friends and relatives. He died a true Latter-day Saint.—COM.

At Fairview, Sanpete Co., Utah, March 12, 1875, EVA LUCRETIA, infant daughter of James and Elizabeth Stewart, aged 11 months and 2 days.

At Moroni, Sanpete County, March 23rd, JOHN KELLETT.

Deceased was well known for his integrity as a Latter-day Saint, and beloved by all who knew him. He was from Ashton-Under-Line Branch, Manchester, England; born at Gee Cross, Werneth, Cheshire, June 7th, 1837; emigrated to America in 1859, and to Utah in 1861; was a firm advocate and defender of the principles of truth. Left a wife and three children and numerous friends. He died in full faith of a glorious resurrection.—COM.

Millennial Star, please copy.