



BOARD OF WOMEN COMMISSIONERS

OF

HILLSDALE COLLEGE, HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN.

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Secretary, CAROLINE LELAND, Hillsdale.
Treasurer, FRANCES M. STEWART, Hillsdale.

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Mrs. Sarah Thayer, Mendon, Ill.
Mrs. E. S. Burlingame, Pawtuxet, R. I.

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Mrs. Lydia A. Worthing, Hillsdale, Mich.
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Mrs. Marie Cooper Pierce, Lincoln, Neb.
Mrs. Julia Reed Shattuck, Chicago, Ill.
Mrs. Delia Whipple Wheelock, California.

LaFayette, Ind. Oct. 4 1894

Mrs. W. B. Hunt;
Lexington, Ky. -

dear sister;

Allow me to express my
great appreciation of your services in
the defeat of the libertine, W. C. P. Brockwidge,
for re-nomination for Congress.

You have earned the plaudit, "Well
done, good and faithful servant" of
virtue and home protection.

If the women of Kentucky could do
so much with prayers how much more
could they do if they possessed the
added power of direct suffrage.

Sincerely Yours

- Helen M. Gougar. -

Texas Equal Rights Association.

PRESIDENT, REBECCA HENRY HAYES, Galveston.

CHAIRMAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE, ELIZABETH A. FRY.

1st VICE-PRESIDENT, SALLIE L. TRUMBULL,
Dallas.

2d VICE-PRESIDENT, MRS. W. D. KNOWLES,
Dallas.

3d VICE-PRESIDENT, MRS. W. D. HERNDON,
Tyler.

4th VICE-PRESIDENT, GRACE DANFORTH,
Granger.

5th VICE-PRESIDENT, DR. ELLEN KELLER,
Fort Worth.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, ALICE McANULTY,
Circleville.

RECORDING SECRETARY, MARGARET L. WATSON,
Beaumont.

TREASURER, BELLE M. BURCHILL,
Fort Worth.

SUPERINTENDENT PRESS WORK, ANNIE E. SMYTH,
Dallas.

SUP'T EDUCATIONAL WORK, SARAH C. ACHISON,
Denison.

Office of the

San Antonio
Rec. Secretary.

Beaumont, Texas, Oct-14, 1894

Dear Mrs. Grace Danforth,

The Executive

Board of Texas Equal Right Ass'n will meet
in Dallas at the Windsor hotel - Monday Oct-
29th 1894 - at 10 A. M.

Order of Business -

- 1st Roll call of Ex-Board -
- 2nd Reading Minutes of last meeting -
- 3rd Report of Sec. Secretary about Miss Anthony.
- 4th Report of Treasurer -
- 5th Shall we go before the Legislature this year?
- 6th Report of Central Suffrage Committee.
- 7th Report of Central Suffrage Committee.
- 8th Shall we have a state paper?
- 9th The next place of meeting -

Each member is requested, to bring
up anything that they desire and to offer
suggestions concerning the work - in writing,
so as to facilitate matters and prevent any
chance of mistakes - All motions to be made
in writing and signed by the party or
parties - except such as "to adjourn" &c

I quote by request from the Presidents last letter by her request as follows: -

"I am going directly from Dallas to the National Ex. Com. - to meet in Cleveland Ohio. Nov. 16th so this will bring up the discussion of Miss Anthonys organizing in the South, which I shall oppose no matter if all the Ex. Com. - vote the other way -

but I will do my best towards Ex. Com. and report what they decide upon - then as member of Southern Com. - I will bear my pay."

Kindly consider all these things and meet to do the best that can be done -

Fraternally,

Margaret L. Watson
Rec. Secretary.

1
99 Calhoun Street
Cincinnati - Oct. 22nd /94

Dear Miss Klay

It has been my great-desire for months to attend your State Convention. It is a sore disappointment that duty bids me stay at home.

The who stand for this principle are ready to sacrifice in every way for our homes. making all other interests of secondary importance. The best work we do for

[Oct 22, 1894]

our homes is the best work we can do for woman's cause. The cause we love so well. Knowing this I will be cheerful and stay by the "stuff" while you meet and deliberate for us -

The Twentieth Century Club, accepted your invitation to send fraternal delegates. The same was presented by dear Mrs. Farmer at an early day. We have sent you a good representation of our best women. I know they will learn much of good for them, in the

[Oct 22, 1894]

work we too are trying to help to do, and also bring back to us much that will be of profit.

To the delegates in Convention assembled I send greetings, also to all present at your meetings who are interested in this the greatest Cause. Women's Emancipation.

Hail thrice Hail and greetings sisters of Kentucky who have come together in that grand old 9th district - the district of brains and talent. ~~that~~ the district that has

given so much of wisdom and integrity in the Councils of this Republic.

Hail women upon whom all eyes of this nation have been turned, watching with beating hearts the uprising of your true woman nature in holy rebellion against immorality in man, and waiting the while with bated breath to hear

the response of your brothers in answer to your demand for a chaste life. to sit in Congress as their representatives you have been victorious and thro' you all men

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Oct 22, 1894

and women will be benefitted and lifted to a loftier human hood.

The voice of the people is the voice of God. The voice of the women of the ninth district was the voice of God emphasized, and it will go on echoing down through all time that no longer can man live a dual life and receive the support of the people.

The spirit of determination manifested by you in this battle against immorality, but indicates what your possibilities are in carry-

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ing to success any righteous cause you may espouse.

History will record in its pages a statement similar to that of the reprising of the women of Ohio and it shall be called - The Kentucky women's Crusade against immorality - and people will join with them.

O brave women of Kentucky! let not your ardor cool - or your zeal lessen until every woman of this republic is clothed with full powers of citizenship.

7-

COJ22,1894j

When this is done
and not till then may
we hope to have sobriety
and purity of life the
predominating qualities
in the legislative ^{and executive} bodies
of our nation

Then will the women
of Columbia write in
letters of gold - across
the stars and stripes
Liberty Justice Equality.

Sincerely your friend
and collaborer

Sarah L. Swader
Vice Pres. - 1st Cong. Dist.
Ohio Woman Suffrage Ass.

Chicago Ill Nov 8, 94

My dear Miss Clay,

You see by my letter heading I am in Chicago, this far on my way to the National Ex meeting.

No doubt you have had a letter from the folks, by this time, but I beg you to withhold judgment until you see me, as I have heard you were going to be in Cleveland.

I will tell the whole story to you and all the rest; then you can give your judgment; I told those women that I would abide by the judgment of the Ex Com; but they would not do it; they wanted me to pledge myself to only say what they instructed me to say, and have no opinion myself even in a general discussion, this I would not do, There were a good many

ay's to grind, I did not help to grind them, I only have one object in view, in this work, but of that I think I can convince all of the Ex Com. when we meet.

This is a long, expensive, and disagreeable trip, I am paying all my own expenses, and have done so ever since I organized. Have put my home in the hands of hired help at a much greater expense than if I were there; have brought my daughter here and will leave her with her Aunt; all for the sake of the Cause, while those or some of the very women that have asked me to resign had the opportunity to call a convention years before and almost up to the time I called one, they had not the moral courage to do it; why I had scarcely announced my intention of doing so when I received a letter from the very woman who is responsible for all the slurring, accusing me of sailing under false colors, and I was

[Nov 8, 1894]

Compelled to withhold my first-call
untill I could hear from Miss Blackwell
as you know. Well that nagging and
dictation, and accusing has gone on
untill it almost set me wild, at times,
When I tell you what some of us
have endured, from that source,
and still kept a placid front,
you will not wonder that I am
glad the thing has come to a crisis
and will be settled. No matter
what their actions the work will go
right along. They have brought no
specific charges, only that in the
Southern Committee I would talk
independent of their instruction and
say what I thought was best for
the cause, this they condemned me
for, and Dr Danforth, said,
that my very honesty disqualified
me for the position of president,
Be that as it may I have got to
answer for to my God, while
Dr Danforth does not recognize
there is a God to account to, being
an unbeliever in a hereafter, or a
God, I may believe this will all

Come out for the good of the Cause
"So long as the National newspaper
me as their official agent in the
State and supports me, I have no doubt
but the very woman who talked well
be only to ready to come back," Do not
mention this sentence to any one,
but after I have told my side you
can then see if you do not believe
as I do, I will say no more, but
again ask you to withhold your judgment,
and wait until you hear my side,
and if it is consistent; so answer
Mrs. P^r Anoly's letter, I will write
to Mrs. Avery and through her to
Miss Anthony,

Yours for truth,
Rebecca Henry Hayes.

ENW. 10, 1894

Whereas Mrs. Rebecca
Henry, Hayes Pres. of the Tex.
E. R. A. has openly de-
clared her intention
to defeat the will of this
body, even should they
vote solidly against
her, and thereby disqual-
ified herself as our
representative, therefore
we respectfully request
her resignation as Pres.
of the Tex. E. R. A.
Grace Danforth.

Texas Equal Rights Association.

President, ~~MRS. REBECCA HENRY HAYES, Galveston~~

Elizabeth A. Fry.

Chairman Central Committee, MRS. ELIZABETH A. FRY.
San Antonio.

Corresponding Sect'y, MRS ALICE McANULTY,
Circleville.

Recording Sect'y, MRS. MARGARET L. WATSON,
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Fort Worth.

Office of the

Gauger Texas, Nov. 10th 1894.

Miss Laura Clay,
Lexington - Ky.

Dear Friend,

We held our Ex. Com. meeting in Dallas Nov. 3th. I suppose some of the Dallas ladies have sent you the proceedings of the meeting as published in the Dallas News of Nov 4th. We met as originally appointed on Oct-29th a quorum of five - being present. Enclosed find official instructions for the business to come before the B'd. Supts of departments are not members of Ex. Com. - only officers of state societies the five vice pres. and four other officers. Miss Anthony's proposition to come to Tex. was read and I made a motion to accept. Mrs. Trumbull offered a substitute, inviting Miss Anthony + other speakers Miss A. suggested, to come to Tex. ^{and} Speak in such place as designated, under the auspices of the Tex. E. R. A.

This really meant that Miss Anthony was to be "bossed" by those we knew were unfriendly to her coming among us - viz. Mrs. Hayes, Watson and Trumbull. The substitute was lost. The vote standing Mrs. Watson and Trumbull for while Mrs. Burchill, Alice McAnnulty and myself voted against. He tried to get Mrs. Hayes to retract the position she had assumed against Miss A's organizing in Texas. This she utterly refused to do and as the only alternative a resolution was introduced asking her to resign, a copy of which I enclose. Mrs. Hayes did not pull the resolution before the body, but leaning back in her chair said: "I will never resign! Ladies do your worst." We were nonplussed. We attempted a little more business, but finding the meeting had degenerated into a wrangle Mrs. Fry, who was present, and myself left. ~~My absence left them~~ ~~without~~ Nothing more was accomplished.

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Office of the

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From Monday till Saturday was spent trying to get Mrs. Hayes to give us a written assurance she would not oppose Miss Anthony's coming. She would only agree to act as our reporter, but so far as in her individual power lay she would defeat our measure. Once during the week when we tried to have a meeting a quorum reported but the opposition to Miss Anthony's coming were out in full force viz. Mrs. Hayes, Watson and Trumbull while only Mrs. McAnulty and myself represented the majority. They could have carried every thing their own way so Mrs. McAnulty & I refused to go into session. When every effort failed to induce Mrs. Hayes to change her attitude toward Miss Anthony we informed her the only course left us was to displace her & knowing what our action would be Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Watson absented

themselves from our last meeting. We had no time to notify Mrs. Touchbull & we knew she was at the fair besides. I mention this minutia because Mrs. Hayes will more than likely claim we took unfair advantage of her and only met when we knew there was a majority against her. Mrs. Hayes would urge "states rights" when she wanted to keep Miss Anthony out of Texas and threaten us with the authority of the "Southern Committee" when she wished to over rule us. She is a northern woman herself, thinks she sees money in suffrage organization, and is unwilling for Miss Anthony to poach upon her preserves. Her concluded life was too short to spend fighting our Pros. when there is so much work to do outside, and elected an energetic little woman who will do all in her power to the last quibble in her purse to see Miss Anthony's appearance among us

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a triumphal progress all through the state. Let us know what is to be done and every one I know of in the movement, except Mrs. Hayes, Watson & Trumbull, will do any thing in our power to do honor to a woman the "latchette" of whose shoes we are ^{not} ~~un~~ worthy to unloose". Mrs. Hayes talks about how much she thinks of "Aunt Susan" but we desire to kiss the hem of her garment once while we still have her with us. This friction has served to advertise Miss Anthony's coming and stimulate the determination of all to work for her coming. I am sorry we could not have sent our President - Mrs. E. A. Fry - or at least a delegate to represent us at the Cleveland meeting, but we are too poor at present and I propose to devote the time arranging Miss Anthony's route. The Dallas News - largest paper in the state - gives our suffrage work a column in its Sunday issue.

Our state election is over resulting in a
Democratic victory. Things will have
resumed their equilibrium by the
time Miss Anthony is ready to come
and her presence just at this time
will give an immense impetus forward
to our struggling cause. By another
two years of agitation and education
the Peoples Party will be willing to give
us a plank in their platform and
when they ride into power, as they are
almost certain to do here, we will go
with them. Sorry the amendment failed
in Kan. Send us Miss Anthony and
let us strike here while the iron is
hot. I suppose Miss Anthony is used
to these petty wrangles in her long ex-
perience, but it makes me sick.

Thine for the cause,
Grace Danforth,

W. Columbus,

Georgia,

11/26 - 1894

Miss Laura Clay,
Chairman Southern Com.,

1. For \$50⁰⁰ to Mississippi. Yes.
2. Superseded by above affirmative.
3. I shall have to write at length on No. 3. On page 110 of the minutes appears the following:—"The President: Move your votes over to Atlanta if you wish, since there are those who will not sanction that movement." Of course I understand that our president meant for States favoring Atlanta to move their votes over to Atlanta and not move that the vote for Atlanta be made unanimous as there were those who would not vote in favor of the latter

motion; but the mind of the average reader is so beclouded by anything relating to parliamentary law, that I feel sure this quotation from Miss Anthony would cause her to be misapprehended and create antagonism against her under the impression that her utterance was in opposition to the convention's meeting in Atlanta. I feel sure of this because I think no one has ever read the passage in my hearing without misconstruing it and expressing much surprise "that Miss Anthony should have been so much opposed to coming to Atlanta", and I always had to pick it to pieces to show them that it meant nothing of the kind.

For this reason and on account of certain imperfections in the report I think it would be undesirable to distribute it in Georgia, and perhaps for the same reasons it would be undesirable to distribute it elsewhere in the south; but if other members of the committee think

will amount to the second hundred and have to appoint another delegate to Atlanta. If every State will do its part in sending full delegations and a liberal escort of visitors, I think no one will have cause to regret the vote which took the convention to Georgia.

I do not require any money just now for Georgia, but should I require it later for a project now under consideration, will notify ^{you}. However, if organizing the three unorganized southern States should require all of the southern fund, do not allow any consideration for Georgia's possible requirements to stand in the way of doing for these States all that may be needed.

I suppose you saw in the Woman's Journal the insertions of matter which we will issue in two leaflets. We have waited interminably for the electrotyp plates, and if they are not received this week I shall have

the leaflets set up here without waiting longer, as they should have been doing their work two months ago preparatory to creating interest which will draw Georgians to Atlanta at the time of the convention. I have not been able to get any word from Miss Blackwell with three letters, but I will certainly hear from her now that the Cleveland convention is over. The most prominent man in Georgia, the "lord-high-everything-else" of Columbus, is on this leaflet. When I told my brother-in-law that I had seen him and he had promised me his favorable opinion ^{on equal suffrage} for the leaflet, he said, "I would rather have his name than any five hundred ~~names~~ in Georgia." Many things in private and in public have occurred this year indicating the change in sentiment in Ga. and which I was sorry not to be able to communicate to the suffragists of the other States. The remonstrants and the antis, in the main, have really behaved themselves beautifully this year.

Always cordially yours,

W. Augusta Howard.

Friday's Atlanta Journal has an editorial which is

I will send it to Mrs. Henry & get copies in my press. very liberal for Ga.

Columbus, Ga. 11/26-94

My dear Miss Clay,

I was glad indeed to receive your letter, as I was on the eve of writing you to know whether any steps had been taken towards organizing North Carolina, West Va., and Mississippi. I see by last week's ^{woman's} Journal that the suffrage plow has got its point into North Carolina Soil, and which, I suppose, is due to the vigor of a certain Kentucky woman who, literally and figuratively speaking, can keep plows going in her own State and others at the same time. I am very much gratified that you are going to Mississippi, and I hope you will be called for in West Va. before the ^{National} convention. If so, I move that your expenses be paid ~~out~~ of the Southern fund, as you generously pay them yourself for the Mississippi tour. We should by all means have the

three remaining southern States formally represented at the Atlanta convention, as the absence of one southern State from a southern convention will be logically quoted by the logical sex as evidencing that "southern women do not want to vote." In view of the prospective organization by Miss Kearney, I shall send her the announcements at once to have copied in her State press. I wrote Mrs. Henry to send you the paper containing them, and which I suppose you have received. I was sorry not to have a copy to mail you at the same time, but I could get but 38 though I ordered 65. This shows you how convention news took with Georgians. I have sent them to persons in touch with the press in 18 of the auxiliary States and am getting them off to the others as fast as I can.

I was delighted to note from Mrs. Farmer's letter to the Woman's Journal before receiving your own, the increase in Kentucky's membership. I hope you

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Nov. 26, 1894

think fit to distribute it in their States, you have my affirmative vote for the committee to pay the freight on them, and Georgia's share of the Minutes to be apportioned among the other States, or to be sent to the State which, in our chairman's opinion, could use them to most advantage.

Very truly yours,
H. Augusta Howard. Ga.

I think the amount asked by Miss Kearney a moderate sum for the purpose required, and should it be found insufficient, you have my proxy to augment it with any amount approved by the committee.

3rd circular letter, Nov. 23, 24 & 25, 1874.

Dear Madam,

Your ~~Chairman~~^{Chairman} to report to you that the Florida Association generously devoted to the Southern Work the whole of the ~~receipts~~^{proceeds} of the Tampa Bazaar, \$125⁰⁰. This was sent to ~~me~~^{the} to be used "according to ~~my~~^{your} judgment, for work in the South; ~~with~~^{without} reflection, ~~she~~^{it} placed it in the Southern fund, in Mrs. Wpton's hands, to be drawn upon by vote of your Committee.

Miss Belle Kearney, of Flora, Miss., had consented to undertake the labor of calling a convention in her state to organize a ~~Western~~^{Western} Woman Suffrage Association. She did this upon the promise of your chairman, that she would ask the Southern Committee for an appropriation of fifty dollars for expenses. As there is no organization whatever among the friends of the cause in our state, ^{upon whom she could call for financial aid,} it is hoped you will be willing to vote this sum. Miss Kearney writes "It has been decided to use the money that you pledged in securing a speaker, and all who attend will pay their own expenses. We will meet at the State house in Jackson; at a date not yet settled, but it is hoped, early in December. Your chairman has been invited to speak at the convention, ~~and has accepted,~~ ^{but will} pay own expenses. ~~She~~^{we} have suggested that ^{the services of} our National organizer, Mrs. Chapman, ~~be~~^{also} secured,

~~Mrs. Chapman~~ The National Association ^{has offered} ~~is~~^{is} willing to

donate a ^{small} number of the last National minutes to each
of the Southern State auxiliaries, if the Southern Board
^{minutes} will vote ^{to pay} the freight ~~charge~~ on them - to be sent to
the state presidents. Your vote is therefore asked
on the following questions:

1. Shall fifty dollars be appropriated to the expenses of a state convention in Mississippi?
2. If not, ~~what~~ ^{how much as fifty dollars} sum shall be appropriated?
3. Shall we accept the offer of the National ~~and~~ pay freight on the National minutes to each president?

A prompt reply is requested.

Respectfully yours,
Sanna

1894.
3rd auxiliary letter
Nov. 28, 24-26.
1891