

Carroll, California
Sept. 1. 1907

My dear Miss Clay:

We little that so many
days would elapse before
we should have seized
opportunity to write you a
note enclosing this check and
— in a way, taking leave
again of your dear little
tree - safe home.

From July 12 - 30, there wd
be \$9⁰⁰ rent plus the \$1⁰⁰ for

gas & water. The kitchen utensils
cost \$3⁰⁰ thus leaving a balance
of \$4⁰⁰.

We left in a half-closed
tin on the kitchen table, some
crackers, &c. &c. - & in the closet
sugar &c. - so that, at a pinch
you'd have a little
meat, did you arrive
unexpectedly. We cannot
hope you will find the little
flat as clean as we left
it, for Livingston is very dirty.
Should you find a little

gold pin, three circles inter-
twined at the centre, I think
it is one I value & would
be grateful to you for returning

Dr. Lane joins me in
sincerest regards, and
we hope it will be a
pleasure to you to know
that you have, in us, gained
two new and appreciative
friends.

Very sincerely

Virginia W. Smiley

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

PRESIDENT—MISS BELLE KEARNEY, FLORA
VICE-PRESIDENT AT LARGE—MRS. HARRIET B. KELLS, FAYETTE
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT—MRS. NELLIE NUGENT SOMMERVILLE, GREENVILLE
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT—R. W. MILLSAPS, JACKSON
SECRETARY—MRS. LOUISE M. LIPSCOMB, MAGEE
TREASURER—MRS. LILY WILKINSON THOMPSON, JACKSON

Mississippi Woman Suffrage Association

Sept. 8th, 1907

Dear Friend:

I am sending out one hundred of these to papers, and elsewhere. Criticise it. I want to learn as I go along.

I think it would be well for the Miss. W. S. A. to offer two prizes for the best essays on Woman Suffrage, one to boys & girls of the high schools and one to college students.

What do you think of
the plan?

Have Brother Mitchell
for Secy by all means.

A dear friend of mine
& her husband, Mr &

Mrs Hiram Lye of Pickens

have sent me word that

they will join our asso-
ciation. Mrs Lye will

make us a good treasure

or recording Sec. with a

little training. She is a

fine woman, a sister

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

[Sept 8, 1907]

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Mississippi Woman Suffrage Association

in law of our Governor
elect, Mr. Noel.

I am sorry to post pone
our legislative work, but
it seems unavoidable.
We can not ask you to
sacrifice so much.

But for many reasons
the time is propitious.

The intense interest mani-
fested by women themselves
in the recent election has
been a strong object lesson,
And besides, many are

looking for some explanation
more from us.

I am pleased, though in
sincerely, that the con. will
be postponed. April
will be a good time for it.

I have given up, church
social, club duties, my
music & reading - for the
present in order that my
 spare moments may be
given to this. Thank you
dear for your encourage-
ment - Your letters, to borrow
a sentiment from Mrs.
Sommerville, are like a
sea breeze.
Many cordless letters to you

London November
1900

John
H. [unclear]

Please regard this letter as Confidential

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass., Sept 11 1907

Dear Miss Clay

You have doubtless read the quotations I have been permitted to make in the Woman's Journal from the much more extended letters received by Miss Kearney from her friend and co-worker Mrs. Lily Wilkinson Thompson, of Jackson, Mississippi.

The question now is - Shall we make a serious and sustained effort to carry, by Southern workers, a Residential Woman Suffrage Bill in Mississippi, next winter, in advance of the Fall's Residential Election? A good deal of work has already been put in by Miss Kearney, Mrs. Thompson, and their coadjutors, in preparing the ground. But to make that work effective, Miss Kearney must go to Jackson, locate there, for the winter, travel in the State, and work up in advance assurances of legislative support. This she can only do by giving up temperance engagements offered her elsewhere, & she has not the

means to support herself and do the
needful travel and correspondence without
aid. She is offered \$1000. for three months
work in the West, in January, February, & March.
If we can guarantee her that sum, she will
decline the offer, and devote three months to carrying
Presidential women suffrage through the Mississippi
Legislature. Her plan is to visit every member of
the ^{Leg.} personally before the session begins in
January, 1908. That work must be done in Decem-
ber. During November Miss Kearney will be in
Canada. She will pay her own expenses, travelling,
&c, including, from suffrage work in
Mississippi, so that the \$1000. is all that the
campaign will cost us, and she will remain
at work there until the bill is carried, or
the Legislature adjourns.

The remarkable measure of success that
the Presidential Suffrage has attained in
Kansas, Iowa, and Rhode Island,
carrying one house in the latter ^{state}, and failing
in the ~~lower~~ house by a ~~single~~ single
vote, makes it in my judgment not
impossible to obtain it in Mississippi, if
Miss Kearney devotes herself to the work
during December, January, & February.

I have written to Miss Kate M. Gordon a
similar letter to this, with a request that she
will consider it confidential. I wish that
you two might be able to go yourself to
Jackson and help the campaign. I will
myself be responsible for \$100. of the expense.
Let us make the effort! In early reply with
obsec Yours Truly, Henry B. Blackwell

Jackson, Miss.

Sept 16th 1907

Dear Friend:—

I think it will
be an advertisement of
our weakness if we do
not make an effort in
the next Legislature.

But do you have an
idea where we can lay
our hands upon a legis-
lator who will champion
our cause?

The literature sent by Mrs.
Lipsecomb was received.

The article, which I sent
out last week, on ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~
The Mississippi Roman

Deserve citizenship?^{??}
was published in The
Evening News (Jackson)
and several other
Miss. papers. It was
sent (I suppose by the
Press Bureau here) to
the New Orleans Times
Pictorial & appeared
in the Sunday edition,
and commented on as
an article of "general
interest" & one in which
many "telling points
are shown."

A long extract from
it was also copied
in Sunday's Memphis
Commercial Appeal.

c Sept 16, 1907

Is it not encouraging
thus to reach readers in
three states, although I
had only counted on
one?

I am anxious to secure
for publication, opinions
from well known

persons, in the differ-
ent churches, & in
diff various walks of
life. Mr. Lowry's declar-
ation will have weight
with the Baptists; Mr.
La Prade's with the
Methodists - Whom
shall I find in
the Presbyterian Church

the Episcopal Church,
the Catholics, & whom
among the Jews?

And why for the law-
yers - Prof. Millsaps
for the business men,
Walter Clarke for
the Cotton Associa-
tion? Keep me
thinking.

Hurriedly & with
love -

Chas. H. F.

Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 17th, 1907.

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

On my return last night from a week in Lexington I found your most interesting letter of the 11th inst. awaiting me. I greatly regret that I did not have it before I went to Lexington, as Miss Kate Gordon spent two days there with me en route to New Orleans from Warren, where, as you know, she has been spending a month. We talked a great deal of the suffrage work in the Southern states; and what you write of Miss Kearney's proposed work in Mississippi falls in well with some things which Miss Gordon regards as of much importance at this time.

Personally, I have long been anxious to fix Miss Kearney's entire efforts to the suffrage work. But you know how hampered the National always has been for lack of means. I note your generous offer, in case Miss Kearney does this work, to help with the expense. Since Miss Gordon and I have been consulting about the Southern work, and as she lives in a state which has far more than Kentucky to confront the political difficulties which a large negro population presents, I think it expedient not to make any personal answer to your proposition till I have conferred with her. I shall do so at once; and I will say in advance that if she thinks this proposition is in accord with work which she is thinking of inaugurating, I shall assist all in my power to help with Miss Kearney's plans.

In the meantime, I thank you for your letter telling me of Miss Kearney's plan; and I assure you that I always take a very deep interest in all work in the Southern states. I will let you hear from me again as soon as I hear from Miss Gordon.

Please remember me to Miss Alice, and believe me

Very sincerely yours,

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass., Sept 20 1907

Dear Miss Colay

Your cordial & appreciative letter makes me feel doubly desirous to secure the steady, permanent services of Belle Kearney on the Southern field. I hope Miss Golden's doubt as to the value of the effort for Presidential Women

Suffrage will not make her be Rewarn.

A lovely vigorous fight for Presidential W. Suffrage in 1908 in Mississippi will be perished throughout the South will ventilate the question there as can be done in no other way and at no other time for 4 years to come.

This will make it for us an advance step worth all its costs, even if we are defeated. But I think our cause is not hopeless. Remember how the presence and speech of half a dozen earnest Southern women carried the conservative Maryland Senate for Miss Maddux admission to the bar! The more Western States like Mississippi are likely to be much less conservative than Md. Don't let us have only but Southern canvassers & speakers;

and the more of these the better. Take
the Mississippi Legislature by storm
with a brilliant earnest Southern
woman lobby!

I enclose a letter rec^d ~~some~~
about a week ago from Belle
Kearney which will show you
how deeply in earnest she is for
our cause. Since the departure of
Virginia D Young, I know no one
so well fitted to work up this matter
in the far South as Belle Kearney.

She has the energy, faith & experience
& acquaintance & is kind & of love
with the Temperance workers
just now wide awake & liable
to be enlisted for & with us.

Hoping you will get Miss
Kearney secured for Mississippi

I am, as ever,
Yours for Liberty
Henry D Blackwell

Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 21st? 1908.

My dear Mrs. Beauchamp/

I took pleasure in sending some suffrage literature to your friend, Mrs. or Miss Shrieves. I am always glad to respond to a request for literature.

I wish very much I could go to the W.C.T.U. convention; but I have been from home a good deal; and have accepted an invitation to go to the Ohio Suffrage convention in Columbus the 29th of the month. I would love to be with the good temperance friends, but do not see how I can be this time. I wish you great success with the convention.

Affectionately yours,

Sept. 21st, 1908.

Emma W. Shrieves, Wilmington, Ohio.

Dear Madam,

It is with pleasure that I comply with Mrs. Beauchamp's request, and send in this and under another cover some literature which I hope will be helpful in preparing your paper for the D.A.R. While the literature will furnish many fine arguments and illustrations of the working of equal suffrage, I believe the one argument which should appeal most strongly to every true American is simply that the claims of the Woman Suffragists are based on the fundamental principles of our government, as laid down in the Declaration of Independence and the National Constitution.

Wishing you success with our paper, and hoping you will let me know if I can help you further, I am

Very truly yours,

P.S. Do not return the leaflets; I am glad to distribute them.

Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 22nd, 1907.

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

This morning I received a card from Miss Jean Gordon saying that Miss Kate is suffering so much from a severe spell of tonsillitis that she will not for some time be able to give attention to your letter about Miss Kearney's proposition. I realize from Miss Kearney's letters, which I have received from you in two enclosures, that her obligations to the Nebraska parties will not permit of long delay in hearing your answer. Since Miss Gordon cannot act immediately, I feel that it is in order for me to express my own opinion more fully than when I wrote at first.

, I think, then, that \$1000 is very high for three months' work; and I also think that Miss Kearney's presence in Jackson is not necessary during the legislative season. I have had a good deal of legislative work and while it is desirable to have some one at the capital all the time, some of the very best legislative work of the Ky. E. R. A. has been done with only an occasional visit to the capital. What I would value exceedingly would be Miss Kearney's visiting the legislators before their going to Jackson. If she found a sufficient number favorable to the measure, then perhaps some one else could go to do what is necessary who could do so without the pecuniary sacrifices which Miss Kearney would have to make. It would be still more desirable if she could find among the legislators one who would heartily espouse the measure as his own.

Then we could leave it entirely to his care. Now I know that any measure considered entirely on its ethical merits could not be left thus safely. But since my visits to Oregon and especially to Oklahoma, I have had it strongly borne in upon my conviction that after all this question of woman suffrage is going to be settled by politicians largely upon party grounds of party expediency. If either party can see its gain in grant-

[Sept 22, 1907]

ing it, I feel sure that legislatures will respond without opposition to the party whip and give it in spite of what some of them now choose to call their strong convictions against it. Having this view, it is to my mind very desirable that we suffragists should be able to offer the politicians some political advantage for their aid. In the South, any thing which would give the white voters a preponderance in numbers would be the very most desirable aid which could be offered. Your admirable leaflet on the relative numbers of whites and negroes has had a wide influence; especially I have noticed it in the reproduction which the Southern conference at Memphis printed. However, that is not so good to the southern mind as an extension to whites alone. Now there has been so much manipulating of the suffrage for the purpose of disfranchising the black man that it is a great discouragement to any effort to enfranchise black women, when we know the inevitable sequence would be the same determined effort to nullify the grant. What do you think of an effort to ask for presidential suffrage for white women alone? I know that hitherto I have supposed that the 15th Amendment forbade any discrimination in terms which could not be evaded. But recent manipulations of the suffrage makes it seem possible that a distinction can be made. I quote a passage from the Outlook, of Sept. 14th, in the article on the Suffrage in Georgia, by A.J. McKelway, page 64. "It is contended... that the illiterate white man is a better citizen than the illiterate negro, and that, with respect to the Fifteenth Amendment, whatever may have been the intentions of the framers, while forbidding any abridgment of the suffrage on account of race or color, does not forbid any extension of the suffrage to any class;" Now I am no judge of the ability of the writer to give an opinion on such a legal and constitutional question; but I do know that there is an opinion among some very well-informed people that there is a possibility of extending the suffrage to white women without a similar extension to black ones. Of course, this is not settling the question finally; for I suppose it will go till every si

the intentions of the

the question finally; for I suppose extensions will go on till every fit person is included in the electorate. But it will be progress along historical lines, which have been a series of extensions after intervals of years between the extensions. I believe there is great need of the womanly element in politics, - witness the fact that in sixteen states wives cannot control their wages, mothers have no guardianship of their children, and similar lack of the most fundamental civil rights. Any extension of suffrage to women, then, I consider the greatest boon of justice to the whole community, men and women, white and black. Having this view, you will readily see that I would be intensely glad if the suffrage question could be presented in such form as would command the support of the dominant party in any state. White woman suffrage would have such an opportunity, I believe, in Mississippi. And to ask the Mississippi Legislature to grant Presidential suffrage to white women alone would furnish an opportunity for bringing the constitutionality of such extension before the courts. If its constitutionality was upheld, then we may all hope to live to see the day when all Southern women would be enfranchised; and I do not think the North would linger behind.

I wish you would give this point of view your attention. I have written very fully, for I think if you and Miss Kearney approve of it, she could devote December to visiting the legislators, ^{and} could see if she found solid support for the measure; if she did not, it would be useless to spend any time on it in Jackson. If she did, then new workers could be found, if necessary, to go to Jackson, if Miss Kearney's engagements prevented her doing so. This division of time would not prevent her accepting the Nebraska engagement; and as it would cost less, it is practicable to raise what would be necessary. I would gladly contribute to the project myself; and I shall await your answer with great interest. If Miss Kearney does not care to work for white suffrage alone, I am frank to say that I do not believe the effort now would at all repay the expense necessary.

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Sept 22, 1907

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4a.

[Sept 22, 1907]

for I believe the Southern states are going to rest awhile on their oars, content with disfranchising the negro men, as they have done; and that they will not be easily roused from their apathy unless they see a chance of adding to the number of white voters, without any commensurate addition to that of the black ones.

I re-enclose Miss Kearney's letters, thanking you for having let me see them. If you see her, please give her my kindest regards. I learned to value her very much from what I saw of her at Memphis.

Please remember me to Miss Alice; and awaiting your answer with eagerness, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Telephone 1791 Haymarket

The enclosed letters are sent to me

Office of in confidence. Please read

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Then return them to me. Could we get and promote

Coatt in this Musgrave work?

Boston, Mass., Sept 25 1907

Dear Colby

Your letter returning those of Kearney is rec^d & contents noted. Naturally, as you know, I do not believe in "white man's government". But I am quite aware that the great body of the Southern white people do. They stand just where the National Democracy stood from 1790 to 1810. It will be a great step forward, if the National Democracy under Southern leadership, widens the Jeffersonian platform by addition of the words "irrespective of sex". Therefore I should rejoice in seeing a movement in Mississippi for Presidential Suffrage in 1908 for white women possessing the qualifications of age, residence, (if necessary registration), on the same terms as male citizens. I am assured that the late Senator Morgan, who was an eminent lawyer, as well as politician, has expressed the opinion that inasmuch as no women have ever been enfranchised in Alabama (his own State) therefore it would not be a limitation but an extension of the franchise to extend it to any class of women, & therefore no conflict with 15th Amendment.

But Mrs Thompson is quite right in saying "not to make an effort in the next Legislature will be an advertisement for your weakness"

Hoping to see you Friday
 But see seal of Miss Kearney,
 Yours Truly,
 Henry B. Blackwell

even of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~pecuniary~~ ^{pecuniary} interest ~~compel~~ ^{compel} ~~their~~ ^{their} absence from the detail work.
In fact, the greater part of that must be done inside the legislative chamber by

Nevertheless, while it may be wise & even necessary to limit the extension of the "white" in the bill, presented by the Mississippi women to their legislature, and in the effort to carry it, with Governor's approval &c. yet I think it would probably command as many votes in the legislature & meet with as much public approval ~~at home~~ ^{and a great deal more in the North & West, if the bill pursued the extensions on the same terms as mine, with the various restrictions which the law already makes applicable to colored men".} If all but a very few eminently respectable & responsible colored men are now actually excluded, which is the case, then all but a very few eminently respectable and responsible colored women would also be excluded in any case; & that is true of all the Gulf States & of Georgia & the Carolinas. And in these & not in Kentucky, that our first success must be won.

On Friday I am going to see Miss Keamey & propose to her the admirable suggestion you make, & with which I fully concur, that is that her most important and essential services ^{must} ~~can~~ be rendered in the six or eight weeks preceding the assembling of the legislature, & especially preceding the primaries. If a half dozen Senators come as many representatives can ^{personally by personal visitation,} be pledged, in advance of their nomination, to unite in urging this measure, the matter can then be carried on by Mrs Thompson & her coadjutors,

of the necessity of Southern women's legislative efforts, with an outside lobby of Southern women's legislative efforts.

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

I suggest a provision in the bill that a poll-tax ^{paid by either husband or wife shall meanily bear,} ~~thus recognizing the~~ ^{unity of the family}

Boston, Mass., Sept 28 1907

Dear Miss Clay

I would like to see the bill amended so as to include the poll tax by means of a provision.

I went out to "Gray Rock farm," & spent yesterday afternoon with Miss Kearney. She is now convalescent, but not quite strong, after an attack of typhoid fever, which she caught in Philadelphia just as she was on her way to several summer Chautauques. Consequently she has been spending her hard-earned money, and has lost her summer earnings (that would have been), and feels hard up. But, after representing the views expressed in your letter, and the great importance of the work in discussion, she has offered, if we will raise her \$200, she will be in jail on Dec 1st, from her Canada engagements, & will devote the following six weeks to Jan 15, to working the matter up, & if we see strong hope of success will continue for such additional help as we can raise for her. I need not add that this seems to me very generous on her part. It will involve her giving up her Nebraska engagements. The only reservation she makes is to be allowed the use of her Sunday to address religious or temperance meetings in the vicinity. Now as to nature

of her work. I have told her that, so far as I am concerned, she shall have a free hand to plan out her campaign - The month of December is to be spent in seeing and interviewing & corresponding with members - elect of both houses and influential public men - trying to secure a working nucleus in each house, of members who will agree to introduce, as soon as possible after the session opens, a ~~fr~~ amendment to the election law extending ~~President~~ the right to vote first Presidential elections to female citizens.

In regard to your suggestion to limit by the word "colored" Miss Kearney is willing to do so if, in the judgment of her legislative supporters, this is necessary in order to pass the bill. But she doubts whether they will so regard it. She says that the colored vote is so completely under control by present ^{legal} limitations that that of the women ^{vote} will in any event practically be limited to white women, if the same provisions as now apply to men are made applicable to women also. Moreover, to introduce the word may result in the new law being set aside by the U.S. Supreme Court as a violation of 15th Amendment, whereas by making the limitations the same as are already in force for many 20 such question can be raised against it. Again our purpose does not stop with Miss Kearney. If we succeed there, we have every reason to hope and expect that adjoining States will follow.

[Sept 28, 1907]

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

P.S. I will
be responsible for
\$100. on half of the sum needed.

Boston, Mass., 190

be lead, and that before the Presidential
election of 1872, under Southern auspices,
woman suffrage may be made a national
Democratic issue - I have represented to Miss
Hearsey that woman suffrage is already not
unpopular in the newer West, that, under the
old system, before the war, the South & West
controlled the National government - that
whenever once more South & West pull together
the South will again control - & that this
cannot be effected if the word "white" is
made a "scar-crowd". Nevertheless, if
the word is found necessary, Miss Hearsey
will not object. The main point is success.

We want this to be distinctly a
Southern States entirely Democratic movement.
No Northern women to be brought in, Miss
Hearsey says that if she can have your
and Miss Gardner's personal presence &
aid in Jackson, she believes success is
really hopeful, on the plea of "white
supremacy", state rights, and good govern-
ment. Miss Hearsey says there is no
longer any organized liquor interest in
Mississippi that the voices of Missippi
are going to establish state prohibition in
this legislature, & that the Temperance coop-
eration may be secured. She proposes to
make her residence with a family of

Previous agitation. Please let me hear from you as soon as possible of yours for Liberty, Henry B. Washburn

wealth & social position, even if to do so cost her more, and to try to secure cooperation both from the Vandorman and the Williams factions, without trying to enter of them. She hopes to get Vandorman on his annual message to the legislature, to recommend this extension of suffrage to (white) women, as demanded by your Memphis Convention.

On the whole, I most urgently recommend to you & Miss Gordon to give your aid & cooperation to this effort. Although a life-long Republican, I have lost faith in its ^{party} future. It is controlled by the railroad & industrial trusts. So long as Roosevelt controls, it will advocate his reforms, but he is not its natural representative.

Sooner or later it will go out of power. It is all important, that the party which takes its place should be a woman suffrage party.

Our only way to get it is in a progressive Democratic party under Southern auspices.

How necessary then is a movement such as we are planning in Mississippi!

Now as to Presidential suffrage. This is the only way to elect politicians, who work for immediate results. No change of State Constitution, no change in the composition

of the legislature, it is, as we have already found, in Kansas, Iowa, & Rhode Island, a practical step as shown by our carrying

for it one branch ^{each} of these legislatures, wherein no other suffrage measure would have had any show whatever. Please try to enlist

Miss Gordon's help. Miss J. J. has no large city, no foreign immigration, no organized liquor traffic. The question has not been worn thread-bare by

Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 28th, 1907.

My dear Mrs. Franceway,

I presume you are thinking it is about time for us to determine definitely the dates for our Equal Rights Association convention. I have not written sooner, as it is useless to try to secure our evening speaker too long in advance. I have corresponded with Rev. Anna H. Shaw, and have been fortunate enough to have the chance to get her for the evenings of the 14th and the 15th of November. Of course, I could not say positively that those dates would suit, until I had heard from you. The days come on Thursday and Friday, and just at the time of the month, between election day and Thanksgiving Day, which we think is the best for a successful convention. I trust these dates will suit our Madisonville friends, as I am not sure that we can get Miss Shaw for any others at all near the time we wish, and I know that Madisonville would rather have her than any other speaker we can offer.

I send by this mail a copy of our last minutes, in case you have not yet received a copy. You will see by that we did not have a great many delegates in Ashland, and I hardly hope we can have many more in Madisonville, as it is a great distance for some of our clubs. As soon as I hear if the dates I have mentioned suit or not, I will begin to find out how many will come, and write other particulars. Please write if you have any persons whom you would like to take part in the program, as it is not too early to ask them to make preparation.

I am in Richmond now, and shall be for some time; so please direct your reply to me here.

Hoping the dates will please you and that I shall soon hear, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 28th, 1907.

Dear Mrs. Rifort,

Your letter was forwarded from Lexington, as I am now in Richmond, and will be here for some time.. As I cannot ask Mr. Cassidy about Mr. Winfrey I have taken some pains to make inquiries about him here, and I am told on what I think is good authority that he is very highly esteemed in his home place, Middlesboro,- that he is considered a man of blameless character and sincerely interested in the progress of education. It is said that at one time he had the reputation of drinking some, but that his habits have been exemplary for some years. I am also told that he believes in woman suffrage, and that he is distinctly in favor of school suffrage.

I would like very much to be at the W.C.T.U. convention, but I think it is impracticable for me to do so. I also think and wish that the Convention should take some advanced action on the School suffrage question. I think that action would be best in the form of endorsing the action of the Federation of Women's Clubs of Ky., in their work of School Improvement and in their resolution for School Suffrage for women with an educational qualification.. The Ky. Educational Association at its convention in Winchester passed a school suffrage resolution and endorsed the Clubs' movement for school improvement and appointed a committee to act in unison with that of the Federation. Mrs. R.N. Roark, our Corresponding Sec., is chairman of the Educational Committee of the Federation, and Mrs. Desha Brockinridge and other good suffragists are also on it. Under their management I believe school suffrage has a better prospect of passing the Legislature this winter than ever before. After consultation with others as I have had opportunity, I think the management of that question is now in such able hands that I am going to advise our E.R.A. Convention to leave the whole question of school suffrage in their hands as an educational measure, while the E.R.A. takes more advanced ground, and

gives attention to the Co-guardianship bill and to an Equal Suffrage Amendment to the Constitution.

Mrs. Roark is very anxious that the W.C.T.U. should endorse the School Improvement League's work, and was glad to know that I am writing to you; as she has a son sick with typhoid fever who demands a great deal of her time, so that she cannot do the corresponding she would like. We would like to have a place on your program for the School Improvement League's work; and to have you present the subject. I enclose a little leaflet, which is all the literature the Club has yet had printed. There is a simple County constitution, to which the district leagues are desired to be auxiliary. I will try to send you a copy of that used here and in Fayette Co., and, if possible, some newspaper items. I will not delay this letter now, as I wish it to get to you in time to have the subject appear on your programs. I will send later a form of resolution which I think would be appropriate to pass.

I am very glad to know that Miss White will probably go to Madisonville to the E.R.A. convention. I have just been able to secure Miss Anna H. Shaw for the evenings of the 14th and 15th of November, and I hope those dates will suit our Madisonville friends.

Please remember me very kindly to my Ashland friends, and believe me

Very sincerely yours,

Richmond, Ky.

Sept. 28th, 1907.

My dear Mrs. Beauchamp,

I went to see Mrs. Roark this afternoon, and we are both very anxious to have the School Improvement League work presented and supported at the W.C.T.U. Convention at Ashland.. I had occasion to write to Mrs. Eifort on another matter, and I said I hoped it would have a place on the program and that she would present it; though of course I would be equally willing to have it presented by any one you might choose. You know the Fed. of Women's Clubs has endorsed School Suffrage for women with an educational qualification, the Ky. Educational Association has done the same, and appointed a committee to work with the Ed. Com. of the Fed. of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Roark is chairman of that committee, and Mrs. Breckinridge and others who are interested in school suffrage are on it, and will work for it in the legislature this winter. After consulting with other friends, I have concluded to advise our E.P.A. convention to leave school suffrage to that committee this winter, feeling assured that they can do more for its success as an educational measure than the E.P.A. can do, as a matter of political right. Now you will see why we are particularly desirous that the W.C.T.U. shall give particular attention to the School Improvement League, and promise it the support of the W.C.T.U. The Democrats have made such an issue of Temperance this campaign that they will be more in the mind of pleasing the W.C.T.U. than heretofore, I hope.

I see that I have not mentioned that the Ed. Com. of the Fed. of Women's Clubs has the School Improvement work in hand. No doubt, you knew this, however. I wrote to Mrs. Eifort that I would send her later a resolution like what I would like the W.C.T.U. to pass. It will include a resolve to help the School Improvement League, as we hope to continue to organize in every county and precinct; and will probably have some fi-

nancial scheme for which we will ask their co-operation. The preliminaries are not yet settled enough to make it worthwhile to write more fully of this now. It may come to nothing.

Mrs. Roark would have written to you herself, except that she has had a son, Raymond, very sick with typhoid fever, and that has occupied her very much. I undertook to write this letter to relieve her to that degree.

I trust we will have a very successful convention in Ashland. The E. R. A. convention I expect to be the 14th and 15th of November, as we can secure Rev. Anna H. Shaw for those dates. We go to Madisonville this year.

Knowing how much you are interested in School Suffrage and education in general, I feel confident you will do what you can in what now seems a favorable turn in the prospects of ~~school~~ suffrage in this state.

Very sincerely your friend,

Laura Clay

MISS BELLE KEARNEY
OF MISSISSIPPI
LECTURER · WRITER · TRAVELER
"THE OLD SOUTH AND THE NEW"
"RUSSIA AS I SAW IT"
BUSINESS ADDRESS
109 BOWEN ST., PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Oct. 1, 1907

Belle Kearney
109 Bowen St.
Providence, R.I.
Oct 2, 1907

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

It will be best for
you not to send any literature
to the coming legislators in Miss.
As we have decided that our
effort must be purely southern,
you had best let me take the
initiative about Presidential Suff-
rage. I have written a booklet
on the subject, which Mrs. Thomp-
son will soon present to the
press in the state, and it will
afterward be sent out in
private letters. So, do not send
those papers that you have. It
is best to let everything remain
perfectly quiet, except Mrs. Thomp-
son's press work, until I return to Miss.

I do not want the idea to get
abroad that the thought of
Presidential Suffrage originated
in Boston. I think you will
understand. If you are willing
to contribute literature which will
be education, send it to Mrs.
Thompson and ask her to
send it out. Today I received
a list of the legislators. I will
write to each one, congratulate
him and enclose one of your
papers on Presidential Suffrage
if you will send ~~me~~ 200
at once to Miss Lucy F. Emerson,
1929 Girard Ave., Philadelphia,
Pa., who will act as my secretary in
this. That will be an opening wedge.
I enclose you two letters from my state
Vice-Presidents. Read and destroy. They
are "as sheep without a shepherd." I have since
written that I will go to Miss. by the first.
Send your letters always to Providence. Yours sincerely,
Belle Kearney.

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass.,

Oct 2 1904

Dear Miss Clay

I enclose Belle Kearney's last letter, received today. I think you will appreciate, as I do, the self-sacrifice she shows in giving up her proposed winter engagements for our suffrage work in Mississippi, and will give her your invaluable aid & co-operation in her work.

I enclose the ammunition which I am prepared to supply, if desired. I think they cover the ground pretty well. I propose to keep entirely out of sight in this whole affair. It should be an exclusively Southern movement, originated & carried on by Southern women, without any Northern participation. The only woman I ~~want~~^{should like} to have with you, (if invited, not otherwise) would be Mrs

Carrie Chapman Catt, of Iowa, as
President of the International Suffrage
Committee.

I am afraid I shall weary you
with so many letters. But I want
you to be fully informed in regard
to the matter.

My regards.
Alice sends kind

Yours Truly,

Henry D. Blackwell

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Miss Laura Clay,

Lexington, Ky.

Dear Miss Clay:

I am sure that you will be interested in the enclosed circular which sets forth tentatively our plan for a Library of Southern Literature. I am very glad to assure you that this plan seems to meet with cordial approval in every direction.

In addition to our Consulting Editors and Advisory Council we have already more than one hundred contributors definitely pledged to this work. We are very anxious, of course, to make no serious blunders in the authors whom we select for inclusion in this Library, and it would aid us in reaching right conclusions for you to send us, within the next few days a list of about twenty of the writers of your state, whom you think we should certainly include. You might add to this list, if you care to, the names of others who would be worthy of our consideration.

Thanking you in advance for anything you may do to aid us in a plan in which you, and all Southern men, will doubtless, be interested, I am,

(Enc.)

AD.P.

Very truly yours,

Charles W. Kent

A prompt reply will be greatly appreciated.

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass., Oct 5 1907

Dear Miss Colay

I enclose a very discouraging letter from Miss Gordon, received today. She seems to make two conditions.

1st As to inserting the word white in any movement we make. This, I am perfectly willing to leave to the judgment of the Mississippi workers & Miss Kearney as their representative. The negro vote is ^{now} fully controlled there, that I hope they will not think it necessary to risk the setting aside of the law as unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court, & rousing sectional antagonism in the North & West.

2nd As to laying aside our proposed effort for Presidential woman suffrage in 1908, and urging instead the submission of an amendment to the State Constitution to the voters.

I will say frankly that I should deprecate such submission as sure to result in a defeat at the polls.

You can educate & enlighten & influence 200 Legislators assembled in Jackson. But you cannot educate the men of the State this year or next sufficiently to get the amendment ratified. And the defeat will set back the cause 20 years.

I would sooner subscribe to defeat than to obtain such submission, as certain ruin, would be the result.

[Oct 5, 1907]

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

I doubt whether there are today 1000 voters in Mississippi, Boston, Mass., 190
~~who~~ who consciously want woman suffrage. To submit the question will be to set it back for many years by prematurely forcing a verdict.

Now while I, personally, am willing to contribute to the effort for white Presidential suffrage if that is thought best, because "half a loaf is better than no bread", I should deeply regret to see the question submitted to the voters of Mississippi in any shape. My only hope is to carry the Legislature for what the Legislature can actually grant; then, like Oliver Twist, ~~say~~ Take it and ask for more.

Here in Mass. we are still crushed by the so-called "referendum" of 11 years ago. In Rhode Island they have been absolutely crushed for 20 years, as a result of similar defeat; & it is only the Presidential suffrage that has given the movement renewed vitality & carried one branch of the R.I. Legislature ^{each year} for the last two successive years.

I will say frankly that, much as I value Miss Gordon's presence and aid, I should deprecate her going to Jackson to throw cold water on the Presidential demand.

As to Miss Gordon's suggestion of asking "National American" help for a white suffrage movement, that would be a divisive suggestion, and would be a very dangerous step. Whatever is to be done in that line must be under distinctly and
 (over)

under 3

Exclusively & Southern auspices, by Southern workers,
Will it not be best, as Miss Gordon feels, for
only your Miss Kearney to cooperate, and carry
out the plan already fully settled between
Miss Kearney and myself? She will go with
my \$100. and such further aid as we can
obtain, and do what she ^(+ you) finds best, when she
gets there & feels the pulse of her Mississippi
Legislators?

The Rhode Island Annual Meeting will be
held in Providence, Oct. 15, & I am invited
to address it. I think the Presidential
bill will be urged again in ^{the} R. I. Legislature
this winter.

That is a fine tribute to your
relative Henry Clay, contained in Mrs
Oberham's latest story called "Aunt Jane
goes a-visitin'", in the September Cosmopolitan!

Alice sends her love to you, & I am,
as ever,
Yours Truly,

Henry B Blackwell

On reason why I am averse to putting in the
word ^{if it can be avoided,} ~~white~~ is that my scheme and hope are,
by carrying disunion, to enlist the entire
South, & as a result, ^{to} have woman suffrage made
a distinct issue in the next National Democratic
platform, with the cooperation of the Rocky Mountain
& Pacific States where it is already popular. This could
not be done on an avowedly "white" basis.

LAW OFFICE OF
A. R. BURNAM
RICHMOND, KY.

1
7th October 1907

Dear Miss Laura Clay

My daughter tells me you request me to make out a list of authors (authors from Statesmen & Orators) who have been connected with our State history.

I submit the following with many misgivings as to values and accuracy

- 1st There have been three historians in Ky. John J. Marshall, Mann Butler and L. F. Smith. The books of the 1st two have been long out of print and are very hard to get.
- 2nd The 14 volumes published by the Filson Clubs are now valuable and will continue to be more so in the future, filled as they are with many interesting facts connected with the State.
- 3rd The contributions of Dr. W. J. Breckinridge made to the Danville Review, against Secession, and those written against the Constitution of 1849 were of masterly strength. His two volumes "On the Knowledge of God objectively and Subjectively Considered" is a grand volume of Presbyterianism and his fugitive addresses much heard as the trait of our Kentucky writers.

2

4. In the departments of Biography the life of Henry Clay has been written by George D. Prentiss, and Jos. Rogers, now to that of East Schurz, who was near a Kentucky man. The life of Men Hardin by Little I have not read but it has been commended in favorably. In this connexion may be added, the History of the Presbyterian Church in Ky by Davidson

5. Of our poets we have much to be proud of. The lines by Poontian in his "Mother's Wars" and his "Clary Years" are well known and very beautiful. O'Hara by a single poem was immortality - Mrs Welby wrote and published a volume of verses, a few of which will live. The best of them is "The Rainbow", but this unfortunately recedes the grand Poem of Mrs. Campbell on the same Subject. For W. O. Butler's view on the Proslavery here is well known. Mrs. Norton also published a volume of Poems, but I am not familiar with them.

In the Department of Law it may be said that more than 120 volumes of the Reports - of the King's Bench Appeals have been issued, and the decisions of that Court run like very high all over the Union. Text books on the Code by Newman and the Law of Real Estate by Denton are valuable contributions. To these may be added the Statutes of Morehead & Brown, of Loughborough & Jas. J. Morehead, of Carroll, and Hallett's Code,

As to Fiction - "Harper Head" a legend retold by W. D. Gallagher is worthy of recall. In our day the authoress of "Mrs Wiggs on the Cabbage Patch", and the authoress of "The Lady of the Decoration" have won renown by their admirable sketches.

Miss Elizabeth Kincaid of Lexington published an excellent book, for schools, on the history of the

Ninety Three years ago Joseph Buchanan bewashed in this town a work on the Philosophy of Homer's nature, in speaking of the history I intend to mention the Computations & Collins in his large volumes, and

4

in this country in the year 1847
that many years ago, a book
was written giving an account
of the early Catholic Missions
in this State, and the first
10 pages of that book are devo-
-ted to the State history and
administration.

In the department
of Medicine & Surgery I do not
recall authorship of any of our
Citizens, except a publication by
Dr W. W. Dudley, on the use
of the Bandage, and an exhaust-
-ive work of Dr Saml D. Gross
who late in life removed from
Louisville to Philadelphia.
To the names of those who have
written hands to. much in Country
to add those of James James
Allen & John Fox who are
among the most popular and
distinguished of our time.

Very Sincerely
& friendly

C. F. Burrows

17 Oct. 1907

Library of Southern Literature,
CHARLES W. KENT,
LITERARY EDITOR,
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA,
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA.

CHARLOTTESVILLE VA
OCT 5
330PM
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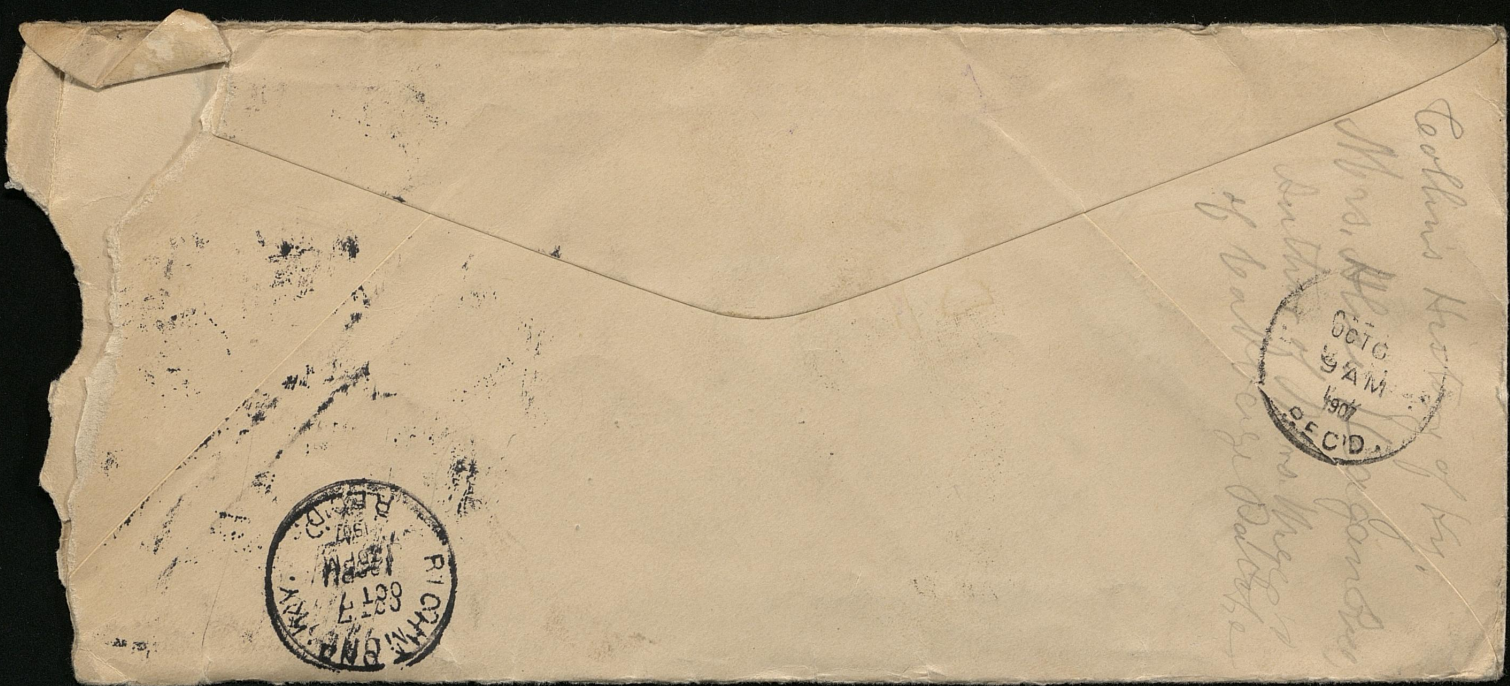
LEXINGTON
OCT 7
1030AM
KY.



Miss Laura Clay,

~~Lexington,~~

Richmond Ky.



REC'D.
AUG 13 1887
RICHMOND VA.

REC'D.
AUG 13 1887
RICHMOND VA.

Colfax's Hotel of Va.
Mrs. M. H. ...
... of ...
...

Richmond, Ky.

Oct. 7th, 1907.

My dear Mrs. Roebuck,

I have never acknowledged the receipt of the minutes, which came on time, and which I think look fine. I have noticed only one slight omission, - that of the name of our Member of the N. A. W. S. A. Ex. Committee. But I suppose we all remember that it was Mrs. Giltner.

I hope you will not be disappointed by the change of place for the convention. Certainly the Richmond Asso. is loyal.

What does Mrs. Shepard think about keeping the office of treasurer this year? She has not written to me at all; but if she thinks of not being a candidate again we ought to know it in time to find another candidate. I greatly desire that you should remain Rec. Sec., as I think we could find a treasurer easier than to replace you.

Have you ever seen any one who would be likely to be our field secretary? I wish indeed that it was possible for you to help by taking that place. You would do it finely. Mrs. Roark thinks we will have to offer more salary; and I suppose we could do so for a short time. But she has not met with a candidate, either. So we are still at sea how to proceed, but I am unmoved in the opinion that it is what we ought to do.

As soon as I hear from the Ex. Committee I will write out letters to be sent to the locals. I do hope we have not fallen off in membership.

If I see my way clear I will go to Louisville to try to have them represented at the Convention. You need have no fears that you will ask me to do anything for the E. R. A. which I shall not be willing to do; but this year my business has demanded a good deal of my time, because I had left my farm work for so long, as my house-building kept me in Lexington all last summer. But as that is now off my hands, I hope to catch up some. Let me hear soon. Cordially yours,

Richmond, Ky.

Oct.7th, 1907.

My dear Mrs. Shepard,

I have heard nothing from you, except what Mrs. Roebuck told me in her letter after her conference with you.

I am anxious now to know what free-will offerings you have collected, what you have paid out not reported in the last minutes, and and other information about the treasury you may think useful to me in arranging my suggestions for the convention.

I was interested in the work Mrs. Roebuck tells me you did in getting pure milk and a new health officer. I think that would be an interesting part of a report from Covington.

I trust you will certainly be able to come to the convention, and that your family will be well enough for you to do so with comfort.

I have been very much engaged on my farm most of the time I have been in Madison; and the warm weather completely enervated me. But now that it is cooler, I hope to feel more energetic, and to be able to work up the convention some. The failure of getting our field secretary has completely upset all my plans for this year. I hope we shall have better success next year. Our prospects for School-suffrage seem better than ever before, on account of the co-operation of the School-Improvement League. We will have that fully discussed at the convention.

Hoping to hear that you are in good health and that you will be at the convention,

I am

Very cordially yours,

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass., Oct 10 1907

Dear Miss Colby

I am today in receipt of a letter from Miss Kearney, enclosing letters from Mrs. Wells and Mrs.

Thompson, both expressing their preference for asking for full suffrage by Joint Resolves for Constⁿ Amendment, for white women.

While my own opinion remains unchanged, I recognize the right of Mississippi women to run their own affairs as they see fit. So I have written Miss Kearney, advising her to accept Miss Gordon's offer of aid on her terms and promising her my own personal contribution of \$100. Of course I cannot solicit my Northern friends & coworkers to contribute for white suffrage, nor should I approve of asking the Natⁿ American for contributions on that basis. It must be a strictly Southern movement.

by Southern women, and as such
I believe it will succeed this year.
Let me express my earnest hope
that you will give your personal
aid as far as you have done
in Oregon and Oklahoma.
Alice sends love.

Yours friend
Henry J. Blackwell

P.S.

I wonder if the Leg. states could
not assume the right to give the women
equal suffrage, on the ground that
to do so would be in accord with the
14th Amendment, ^{white} women being citizens
of the States of the United States? I dread
the referendum to the voters. "The
burned dog dreads the fire!"

[Oct. 11, 1907]

My Dear Miss Clay:—

Your letter was here when I returned from a two weeks' stay in the country.

So the great heart of Richmond will again take in the 'suffering women' of Kentucky! I know every delegate will be glad to go there. However, am sorry Mrs. Franchay finds, through illness and many cares, that it is impossible to have the Convention beyond our old well beaten path - but as the invitation still stands next year may be a more fruitful time.

I enclose statement you desire - my balance was five dollars less than I gave it to Mrs. Roebuck for printing - although my books show that amount. The first report I sent by mail during the second flood and was not received by Mrs. Roebuck - The second report was very hastily copied from my books and I gave Newport credit for 10⁰⁰ when they gave 5⁰⁰ (that amount is on my book correctly) it was an error in copying. Myette being just above, and not discovered because the balance was correct with my book at that date (Mrs. Gillner had paid her pledge (5⁰⁰) this year, Feb'y. Mrs. Roebuck saw it, after the minutes were printed.

Am so glad Miss Shaw will be with us at

the convention. Glad too, that school suffrage looks so encouraging - heard that you made one of the finest talks at Federation that you had ever made in your life - the lady who told me said you were so forceful - so earnest - so grand - and the woman is not a suffragist, but may be some day.

I think the time for the Convention ^{Nov.} 14-15 will be an excellent time.

I leave Tuesday morning with my sister for Washington D.C. will return about Nov. 6.

Will send out the notice tomorrow or Monday. Feel sure of the usual successful Convention at Richmond.

Very cordially yours

J. Shepard

Friday October 11th 1907

Balance Jan 1 1907 — 116.18
 Feb — Pledge Mrs. Gilmer — 5.
 Oct. 2 — " Miss L. White — 10.

 131.18 —

Mrs. O'Brachan ^{Oct 11, 1907}
 July 6 — 15.
 Aug. 28 — 10.
 Aug 28 Pienty
 minutes — 20.

 45.
 Bal — 86.18

 136.18

As you will see in minutes — 1907
 63.50 of pledges ^{for 1906-1907} were paid in 1906
 15. " " " " " 1907

 48.50 — leaving

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass., Oct 14 1907

Dear Miss Clay

I have telegraphed Miss Keamey "Secure cooperation of Miss Gordon and Miss Clay. Count on me for One hundred dollars."

I refer in regard to Presidential Suffrage to the expressed wish of the two Misses women Mrs Thompson & Mrs Kells. to ask for full suffrage by Constitutional amendment. I do not approve of expressed race disfranchisement by use of word "male". I advise asking for suffrage on the same terms that men exercise it in Mississippi. I think it not impossible that you may get the ballot for the white woman of deep from its legislature, and that the example may be followed by every State South of Delaware & Pennsylvania, during the next four years

Yours Truly
Henry B Blackwell

Richmond, Ky.

Oct. 14th, 1907.

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

I have not been able to answer your recent letters as promptly as I desired; for, as I wrote at first, I had promised more or less assistance to Miss Gordon's plan of asking suffrage for white women alone, and I thought I had no right under the circumstances to take any action which she might think a hindrance to her more extensive plan. In her letter to you she explained her plan; so that now you see to what I alluded at first. Your letter of Oct. 10th, however, tells me that you have advised Miss Kearney to act on the preference of the Mississippi women. I had been waiting to hear from Miss Gordon before answering your letters, and her illness has prevented her from writing to me as promptly as she might otherwise have done.

Tell Miss Alice I was much interested in the views expressed by her. I wish I might have kept the letter to answer it more in particular, but I sent it at once to Miss Gordon, as she requested. I think there is one difference of view which accounts for the willingness of each to adhere to somewhat different modes of advocacy of suffrage. I believe the condition of women requires the ballot in the hands of some women, at least, far more than the condition of negroes requires the extension of suffrage to negro women; or even that the negro men may vote. I suppose she will think this is an extreme view; but I believe it is impossible to show that men any where in our country suffer such unjust laws as those which do not permit a married woman to own her clothes or to collect her wages, or to have any legal rights in her children, or a multitude of injustices which are to be found on our statute books. Such laws will not be completely removed till some women have the ballot. If it white women alone, the negro women will participate in the improved laws.

While we suffragists talk most of the right of each individual to govern him or her self, yet the fact that a vote gives each voter a certain power over others is one never lost sight of by those who are indifferent to abstract principles,- the larger part of the people. These will always be cautious, therefore, how they extend suffrage to classes who they think will not use their governing power well. The southern people have a horror of negro suffrage from a painful experience, and from constant observation of what seems to them the incompetence of negroes for the government of a race different, if not superior, to themselves. It is scarcely probable that the southern states will easily consent to enlarging the negro vote, while they have no experience of the certainty of the white women's voting in numbers large enough to counteract the negro vote and have a surplus over. If we can get the vote for white women it will not be taking anything from negro women, and it will improve the laws for both races. It will not delay the extension of suffrage to them; more likely it will hasten the day when the white people will no longer dread their voting. And greatest reason of all, if white women may have the right extended to them constitutionally, suffragists will have something to offer politicians which will make them willing to take up our cause. At present, I fully agree with you that assistance ought not to be asked from the National W.S.A. This ought to be a strictly southern movement, and the National ought to remain the advocate of the abstract principle of the right of every fit person to have a voice in government. It is enough if the southern states are willing to admit the fitness of white women, without having to overcome the prevalent opinion that the enlargement of the negro vote would be disastrous to good government.

We are to have our Ky. Equal Rights Association annual convention in Richmond on the 14th and 15th of November. Rev. Anna H. Shaw will give the addresses on both evenings. This is making a good deal of work for me; but sometime I promise myself the pleasure of answering some of Miss Blackwell's observations more particularly. I hope she will from time

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to time "unburden her heart", as there is no one with whom I enjoy an argument more, even where we do not agree.

Please remember me to her, and believe me

Very cordially yours,

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass., Oct 17 1907

Dear Miss Clay

Your position, as defined in your letter of 14th Inst., is exactly mine, with one exception. This is, you do not, I think, quite appreciate the need that negro or colored women (especially the latter) have, of some method of better protection against the immorality of men. It is so delicate a subject to discuss, that I should not venture to do so publicly, for fear of making a bad matter worse. But who ever heard of a ^{white} man tried, convicted, or punished in the South for the rape of a colored or black woman? I know it may be said that few colored or black women have as yet as high a sense of the virtue of moral purity as the average white woman, & this is probably true. But how can the self respect of the negro & colored women be encouraged, until they have practical legal protection? And how can white men be induced to respect colored women until the latter have legal protection? And would white woman suffrage help or hinder such practical legal protection? These are problems for Southern women to consider to solve?

(over)

I was struck by the remark of a Southern Lady to me in New Orleans, to this effect:

"There is not a man or woman of mixed race in the South who is the child of a white mother."

You may be surprised at my ^{Sudden} change of front in regard to the method of work in Mississippi. It is due ~~solely~~ ^{principally} to my respect for State rights; somewhat to my deference to your own and Miss Gordon's opinions.

When, on the one hand, Miss Gordon made the abandonment of my preference for Presidential suffrage bill on the eve of a Presidential election by a mere majority vote of legislators, and also the insertion of the word "white" in a proposed Constitutional amendment, ^{as the two} conditions of her valuable cooperation, I held out for my plan.

But when, in addition, Miss Kearney sent me letters from Mrs. Tello, & Mrs. Thompson, her two most reliable co-workers in Mississippi, taking similar ground, I had no alternative but to yield, because Mississippi women must decide for themselves, how to act & what to ask for. As I look back, I am sure that the National Society has erred in every State Campaign, in not putting prominently forward the State workers & deferring to State prejudices & peculiarities. It was the importation of George & Frances Main into Republican Kansas that cost us that State in 1867. So God speed the Mississippi women for Southern Suffrage! See page 3

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But I earnestly hope, dear Mr. Clay,
that you can arrange to spend
December & January in Jackson. And
that you will ~~see~~ ^{ascertain} the opinion of the
men whom you secure as coworkers inside
the legislative body on the two points, and
abide by their preferences.

1. ^{or} Is it best to put in the expressed word
"white"? or to trust to existing control of the
colored vote & simply ask for it on the same
terms as are prescribed by the laws of Mississippi
in the case of men? (That is still my preference.)

2. Is it best to ask for Presidential Suffrage by
act of Legislature, or the submission of a
woman suffrage Const. Am^t to the voters?
(I still greatly prefer the former, because I
don't want to go to the voters for ratification
or rejection.) I wish that the friends in
the Legislature should themselves decide both
these points.

I am glad you agree with Alice &
me in the necessity of keeping out the
race question entirely in our national
work. We made a mistake in originally
combining the two questions in the old
Equal Rights Association prior to 1869.

As the matter now stands, Miss Kearney,
backed only by my individual \$100. &
the assurance of your own & Miss Gordon's
cooperation, will be in Jackson on Dec 1st &
(over)

The Woman's Journal

No. 3 Park Street, Room 16

Boston, Mass., 190

has written to Mrs. Tolls & Mrs. Thompson to keep matters back until she gets there. If you three ladies—yourself, Miss Gordon & Mrs. Kearney, can act together on the spot, I believe you will win Mississippi, & through her the entire South, to equal suffrage for women. But keep out all Northern speakers. Let it be a Southern movement on Southern lines, by Southern women and men.

Yours for Liberty,
Henry B. Blackwell

P.S. In my visit to Jamaica last winter, I was assured, by residents there, that no case of rape of a white woman by a black or colored man has ever occurred on that island, so far as is known, and that a lady may safely travel, without escort, by day or night, even in the most secluded parts of the island. Yet the population is 95 per cent black & colored, & the law makes no distinction of race whatever in any respect. H.B.B.

Richmond, Kentucky.

Oct. 22nd, 1907.

Charles W. Kent,

University of Virginia,

Dear Sir,

In response to your letter of Oct. 5th, I take pleasure in transcribing the letter of Hon. C. F. Burnam, a gentleman in whose taste and judgment I have confidence, and of whom I asked a list of Kentucky writers.

He writes: "My daughter tells me you requested me to make out a list of Authors (apart from statesmen and orators) who have been connected with our state history. I submit the following, with many misgivings as to fulness and accuracy.

1st. There have been three historians on Kentucky, - John I. Marshall, Mann Butler and E. F. Smith. The books of the first two have been long out of print, and are very hard to get.

2nd. The 14 volumes published by the Filson Club are now valuable, and will continue to be more so in the future, filled as they are with many interesting facts connected with the State.

3rd. The contributions of Dr. R. J. Breckinridge made to the Danville Review, against Secession (the word is illegible and those written against the Constitution of 1849 were of masterly strength. His two volumes "On the Knowledge of God Objectively and Subjectively Considered" is a grand defense of Presbyterianism and his fugitive addresses mark him as the first of our Kentucky orators.

4th. In the Department of Biography the life of Henry Clay has been written by George D. Prentiss and Jos. Rogers, not to speak of Carl Schurz, who was not a Kentuckian. The life of Ben Hardin, by Little, I have now

read and it has been commented on favorably. In this connexion may be added the History of the Presbyterian Church in Kentucky, by Davidson.

5th. Of our poets we have much to be proud. The lines by Prentiss on his "Mother's Grave" and his "Closing Years" are well known and very beautiful. O'Hara, by a single poem, won immortality. (Theodore O'Hara, journalist and author of "The Bivouac of the Dead") Mrs. Welby(?) wrote and published a volume of verses, a few of which will live. The best of them is that on the Rainbow, but this unfortunately recalls the grand poem of Thomas Campbell on the same subject. Gen. W. O. Butler's verses on The Boatman's Horn are well known. Mrs. Rosa V. Johnson also published a volume of poems, but I am not familiar with them.

In the department of law it may be said that more than 120 volumes of the Reports of the Kentucky Court of Appeals have been issued, and the decisions of that Court rank very high all over the Union. Text books on the Code, by Newman, and the Law of Real Estate, by Dembitz, are valuable contributions. To these may be added the Statutes of Morehead & Brown, of Loughborough, of Jas. T. Morehead, of Carroll, and Burdett's(?) Codes.

As to Fiction, -Harper's Head, a Legend of Kentucky, by W. D. Gallagher, is worthy of recall. In our day the authoress of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" and the authoress of "The Lady of the Decorarion" have won renown by their admirable sketches.

Miss Elizabeth Kinkead, of Lexington, published an excellent book, for schools, on the History of Kentucky.

Ninety three years ago Joseph Buchanan published in this town (Richmond) a work on The Philosophy of Human Nature.

In speaking of Kentucky history I failed to mention the compilation of Collins in two large volumes, and in this connexion let me say that many years ago a book was written giving an account of the early Catholic Missions in this state, and the first 40 pages of that book are devoted

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to the State history and admirably done.

In the department of Medicine and Surgery I do not recall authorship of any of our citizens except a publication by Dr. B. W. Dudley, "On the Use of the Bandage", and an exhaustive work of Dr. Sam. D. Gross, who late in life removed from Louisville to Philadelphia.

To the names of those who have written novels, etc., must of course be added those of James Lane Allen and John Fox, who are among the most popular and distinguished of our times.

Very sincerely your friend,

C. F. Burnam,

17 Oct. 1907.

To this letter I will add a few names only. Mrs. Eliza Calvert Oberchain has recently published "Aunt Jane of Kentucky", which promises to retain a high place in our literature.

Mrs. Alice Heagan Rice is the author of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" mentioned by Mr. Burnam.

Madison C. Cawein .

Prof. N. Y. Shaler has written works on Geology.

Henry Watterson has written one book, at least, in addition to his eminent journalistic work.

If you desire to obtain an exhaustive list of Kentucky authors I recommend that you write to Col. R. T. Durritt, Louisville, Ky. He is the president of the Filson Club, and has the disposition and the ability to answer any queries on the subject.

Very respectfully yours,