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The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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MILITANT FEMININITY.

The onslaught of the "Suffragettes" and their adherents on the Houses of Parliament, details of which are contained in our news columns today, is an indication that these militant ladies are determined to make what they consider the best use of the Autumn Session, for which Parliament assembled on Monday last. As might have been expected, the police were not slow to take advantage of the warning so thoughtfully given them by the bill-posting episode on the preceding day, and consequently the spectacular raid at Westminster fizzled out in the usual farcical manner. It is true that another band of martyrs have been haled off to Holloway, where they will have plenty of time to muse over the futility of opposing their feeble strength to the might of London's police force. We are particularly glad to observe that a number of male supporters of the female suffrage movement were rounded up and arrested; indeed, it would have pleased us better to have read that these gentlemen were the only captives, since they were greatly to blame for helping to bring the dignity of womanhood into disrepute. The most chivalrous member of the stronger sex must experience a feeling of disgust at the spectacle of a mob of dishevelled women at hand-grips with the police, violently resisting arrest, but dragged away to durance vile nevertheless. They may be martyrs, but they are doing all in their power to lower the estimation in which women have been held for centuries past. Many prominent women have publicly disclaimed all connection with the female suffrage movement, maintaining that the agitation is carried on by non-representative members of the sex, despite the assertions to the contrary of Mrs. Pankhurst and her devoted band. It is realised by the great mass of women that the granting of the vote would entail obligations which, in the opinion of many, would be quite disproportionate to the privilege itself. Woman, by virtue of her non-participation in active political life, has been relieved to a very great extent of the grave responsibilities laid upon all those who take a part in framing home and foreign policy. She has, moreover, by her very aloofness from the sordid grind of public life, enjoyed a large measure of respect and protection accorded to her by the stronger sex, let Mrs. Pankhurst deny it as she will. If woman is to gain all the so-called "rights" of citizenship which were formerly supposed to be the prerogative of man, she must consent to leave her pedestal, that semi-mysterious atmosphere in which she has lived and moved for untold ages and exerted a powerful influence on the destiny of the opposite sex, and descend to the stage as a "mere woman," stripped of her aeon-old trappings and all they implied.

We are quite aware that the leaders of the present agitation ask for nothing better, but do they know what they ask? It is very easy to argue that for more than half a century woman has been deposed from her former situation of "splendid isolation" by force of circumstances, by the stress of modern life, and that she has had to take her place in the ranks of the bread-winners on common ground with men. But who can honestly contend that woman has ceased to enjoy the homage of good men as a consequence? The levelling influence of latter-day conditions has not, it is true, spared womanhood in its remorseless operation, though it has certainly not succeeded in

Gone to eternal rest
Mrs. FRIEDERIKE VOLLMANN
 beloved mother of
Mrs. A. KNAFFL.
 October 13th, 1908.

lowering the womanly ideal to the extent which the suffrage agitation bids fair to do. The countless women who work side by side with men-folk to earn an honest living are the recipients of little attentions and concessions which they alone know how to prize, and they would be the first to protest against any action calculated to deprive them of these attentions and concessions. It is claimed by the advocates of female suffrage that the denial of citizenship rights has been a powerful factor in stultifying woman's intellect and keeping her in the narrow groove of domesticity out of which she is continually striving to climb. Old Dr. Johnson, whose devotion to his elderly spouse is one of the brightest spots in literary history, did not go far beyond the mark when he declared that Nature had given women so much power that the law has very wisely given them little. We suspect that Mrs. Pankhurst and others of that ilk have never discovered the unquestionable power which is theirs by right of sex, and that they hope to make up for the deficiency by a volume of windy rhetoric. Intellect is no doubt an admirable female trait, but we are constrained to believe with the professor at the breakfast-table that the brain-women never interest us like the heart-women; white roses please less than red. The point for the "suffragette" agitators to remember is this: by gratuitously assuming the representation of womanhood they are incurring enormous responsibility, and if by resorting to tactics only worthy of the hooligan they bring their representation into disrepute, they merit the opprobrium of every right-minded woman and man. Let them read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest Richter's *obiter dicta*: The purer the golden vessel, the more readily is it bent; the higher worth of women is sooner lost than that of men.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, October 13.
 During the Debate on a Bill for the protection of children, an incident occurred in the House of Commons in connection with the demonstration in favour of female suffrage that took place in the evening outside the building. A lady who was being conducted through the lobby of the House by a Liberal member, suddenly rushed into the House and called loudly upon the members to cease discussing laws for children, and first of all to give votes to women. Her companion at once took hold of her and led her out of the House amid the derisive laughter of the members. The debate continued, without any further reference to the lady's intrusion.

THE SUFFRAGETTES.

London, October 13.
 The attempt of the Suffragettes to reach the Houses of Parliament failed completely; they could not break through the cordon of police. Six Suffragettes and four of their male supporters were arrested, and several of the demonstrationists were hurt.

A MEETING OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

London, October 13.
 In the afternoon there were some remarkable proceedings in Trafalgar Square, where a crowd of unemployed workmen and their supporters assembled with the object of marching to the House of Commons and there making a demonstration. The Square was repeatedly cleared by a large force of police, and all the approaches to the Houses of Parliament were barred. Altogether, 19 arrests were made.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

London, October 13.
 Viscount Wolverhampton has been appointed Lord President of the Council in the room of Lord Tweedmouth, and Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice has assumed the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

ANGLO-RUSSIAN CONSULTATIONS.

London, October 13.
Reuter learns that the conversations which M. Isvolski has had with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs have been mainly on the questions how adequate compensation is to be rendered to Turkey and how means are to be found to regularize and legalize the proceedings of Austria-Hungary. Those proceedings, it would seem, must be considered as a *fait accompli*. The only practical way of ensuring compensation to Turkey appears to be that of giving it a financial character. It is not impossible that the compensation proposed will be in the form of a guaranteed loan to Turkey. There is reason to believe that Italy and Germany will support the views of England, France, and Russia as to the necessity of a Conference. Sir Edward Grey's opinions as to the scope of the Conference have gradually changed. At first he wished to limit it to questions affecting Bosnia and Bulgaria; but, since the situation was altered by the declaration in Crete and the occurrences in Serbia, there is reason to believe that Sir Edward Grey considers that the moderation of Greece and the prudence of the Servian Government entitle them to have their claims taken into consideration. Consequently, although Sir Edward adheres to the principle that the Conference shall emphatically assert the binding nature of treaties, its deliberations need not be subject to the limitations that he at first resolved to propose.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A GERMAN PROFESSOR.

London, October 13.
 Professor v. Gans, of Strasburg, who was on a visit to the Scilly Isles, was carried away by the waves yesterday and drowned. A friend of his, a lady, who was accompanying him, did not observe the accident. A search was instituted, but the only thing seen was the Professor's hat floating on the sea. The body has not yet been found.
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