

SIXTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, *July 10, 11:00 A. M.*

ROLL CALL. Present: Messrs. Allen, Anderson, Andrews, Ballentine, Batten, Bevan, Blake, Brigham, Campbell, Chaney, Clark, Crook, Crutcher, Gliddon, Hammell, Hampton, Harkness, Harris, Hasbrouck, Hays, Hogan, Howe, Jewell, King, Kinport, Lemp, Lewis, Maxey, Mayhew, Melder, Myer, Moss, Pefley, Pierce, Pinkham, Poe, Pritchard, Pyeatt, Savidge, Sinnott, Steunenber, Stull, Taylor, Underwood, Vineyard, Wilson, Mr. President.

Excused: Cavanah, Heyburn, McMahan, Sweet, Whitton, Woods.

SECRETARY reads minutes of yesterday's proceedings.

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Standrod is here; also Mr. Blake from Oneida County has not been sworn, and Mr. Harkness from Bingham.

(These gentlemen are sworn in by the President.)

The CHAIR. Presentation of petitions and memorials. Reports of standing committees. Reports of special committees. In connection with this call for reports of special committees, I will inquire whether the committee appointed yesterday to escort the ladies of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union are ready to report. A special order was made for 10:00 o'clock this morning for the purpose of giving the ladies representing that Association a hearing before this convention.

Mr. PEFLEY. So far as I am concerned, I don't know whether I am ready to escort the ladies or not, and I don't know whether the other parties are here or not. If it is in order, we will proceed now.

The CHAIR. It is in order.

(The ladies are escorted in.)

ADDRESS OF MRS. SKELTON.

The CHAIR. Gentlemen of the convention, in pursuance of the order of the convention that a hearing be

granted to the representatives of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, I take great pleasure in introducing Mrs. Henrietta Skelton, the representative of the W. C. T. U.

Mrs. SKELTON. Mr. President, gentlemen and delegates of the constitutional convention of Idaho:—I have the honor today to represent Idaho and one small branch of the great body of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Our organization is only about a year old in this state—in this territory of Idaho. (You see, I want to make it a state right off.) But we have already planted our white banner on the mountains and in the valley and we intend to plant them everywhere, wherever there is a half dozen earnest women to be found to labor for God and home and native land. We come to you today, gentlemen, and we trust to your justice, to the chivalry of the men of the 19th century, and to your generous hearts as fathers representing this great territory and laying the foundation for its future eminence. You need not be afraid, dear gentlemen, to take us, the weaker vessels, to help you in the great movement that is to come. We are willing to stand beside you shoulder to shoulder; we are willing to bear the burden and heat of the day in the great battle which is to come. We are willing to do anything and everything to help you to make Idaho be the "Gem of the Mountains." But to do this, dear gentlemen, we come to you with a new voice today of the motherhood, of the sisterhood, of the womanhood, asking you to place in that constitution something which shall be a weapon to the dear women of the land to protect our homes, for without it, they will will not be able to do so. We also ask you to help to build a wall around this state,—put out strong drink, and to make your constitution so that when you place it before Congress next winter, it will be the admiration of the land.

A year ago I was an observer in the convention in Dakota and listened to that argument for several days in the convention. Again they are gathering in Dakota and you know the plank which they are putting in for female suffrage and prohibition will be a strong one. Washington, which joins you so closely, is asking for the same. Wyoming has tested woman's suffrage for twenty-five years, and if only Wyoming had as many women voting as men voters, Wyoming today would be free from everything that demoralizes manhood; but unfortunately Wyoming has only one woman voter for forty men voters, and Wyoming is not able to do what it should do. But when you go to Wyoming and at the University in Laramie, the men will tell you that it was our women got it through; it was our women who pushed that through Congress; it was our women who asked largely and received scriptural portion. So, dear gentlemen, I present to you in the

name of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Idaho, the following resolutions, trusting that they may be engrafted in the constitution which you are framing now:

PETITION FOR WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE AND PROHIBITION.

To the Delegates of the Territory of Idaho in Constitutional Convention, Greeting:

Idaho's Woman's Christian Temperance Union request and earnestly pray you, first, that in the constitution to be proposed to the citizens of Idaho for their approval or rejection, no discrimination on account of sex shall be made; but citizens of both sexes, possessing the necessary qualifications, shall be equally eligible as electors. Second, that the following shall be made an article of said constitution, namely:

ARTICLE

SECTION 1. The manufacture, sale, or keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors for use as a beverage is hereby prohibited, and any violation of this provision shall be a misdemeanor punishable as shall be provided by law.

SEC. 2. The manufacture, sale, or keeping for sale of intoxicating liquor for other purposes than as a beverage may be allowed in such manner only as may be prescribed by law.

SEC. 3. The general assembly shall at the first session under this constitution, enact laws with adequate penalties for its enforcement.

Very respectfully submitted,

MRS. H. SKELTON,

President.

Now, gentlemen, we only ask what every one who loves his home and its fireside and the rising generation must today ask for. We only ask, dear gentlemen, that you give us a weapon whereby we may protect ourselves. There are thousands of women in the land contributing taxes today who have not one vote to say how those taxes shall be expended or who shall be the man to expend that tax. Now, we want you as generous, noble-hearted, fair-minded men of Idaho, we want you to provide that at least some women who are paying taxes shall have a voice. I ask you, dear gentlemen, and I appeal to you and to all Idaho. There was a mother once who held you at her knee. There was a mother once who placed into your life all that which is noble and good. If that mother is alive, she must be proud of her boy who helps to lay the foundation for a grand work today in Idaho. If she is dead, her angel spirit will certainly hover around you today and will be there when you frame that constitution. There is a dear wife at home. She is one of our sisters. She may not wear the white ribbon as we do, but I am sure that every woman in Idaho

is with us heart and soul. There are many women who do not wear the white ribbon but they are heart and soul with us in the work. So, gentlemen, I want you to ponder well,—I don't want you to reject the resolutions. I leave to go over the mountains and am going into the basin the end of this week. I pass through the mountains and I go down into the valley and there comes the Macedonian cry to me from many places: "Why don't you come and organize us? We want to be in this great army who are laboring for the people of God's kingdom upon his footstool." So, gentlemen, we plead with you as brothers, for you are all our brothers in Christ Jesus our Lord. We believe you are honorable men, noble men who have it in your power today to honor yourselves by doing what we ask you to do, and if you do so, by and by, when some of us have folded our hands in silent death, when this day shall lie deep in the memory of those who are here today, those who are at our anniversary will point us out and say, "Oh, it was on this day that a woman's voice was heard in the deliberations of the convention and the dear men listened to the cry of the women, and gave them just what they asked." Here we are celebrating our annual convention here in Boise City. I trust that in that convention we will be able to embody in our next minutes such sentiments of thanks for the adoption of the resolutions, because you helped us; you did what we wanted you to do; you helped to build up God's kingdom and lay the foundation for a grand and glorious work for Idaho.

Thank you kindly, gentlemen, for your attention and for your generosity and for your chivalry in admitting us into this honorable body. We thank you from all the kindness of woman's heart, and so may your days be blessed and may every hour as you are sitting here in this convention be hallowed by the sentiment we are honoring ourselves by placing upon the statute book, and by placing in this constitution something which in after life we surely shall be proud of, then when this state comes, Idaho will be free from the liquor traffic. When on election day the dear women shall go to the polls as well as our husbands and say who shall or who shall not rule Idaho, when that day comes, we shall be gathered into a kind of jubilee and we will make the hills and mountains ring with joyful song, because it will then be that we realize the fact that our labor in the Lord has not been in vain.

Thanking you kindly again, gentlemen, for your courtesy. (Applause.)

I have the great pleasure in behalf of the W. C. T. U. of Idaho to present to the convention this bouquet with the sentiment attached to it. (Handing bouquet to the president.) (Applause.)

The CHAIR. The chair in behalf of the convention accepts of this offering by the ladies of the W. C. T. U.

for the cause which they represent. (Applause.)

Any other lady who desires to address the convention in this behalf?

A LADY. I want to ask and invite the convention to an ice cream social prepared by our Young Womens' Christian Temperance Union, in the reading rooms. Our W. C. T. U. have six reading rooms.

The CHAIR. The chair takes occasion to inform the ladies who have presented this petition and memorial that the same will receive proper attention, and justice will no doubt be done to the ice cream.

The petition is by the chair referred to the committee on Election and Right of Suffrage.

Gentlemen of the convention, what is your further pleasure?

Mr. PEFLEY. Mr. President, if in order, I would make a report in regard to the order of the day. I would say on behalf of the committee that they have performed the duty that was required of us to perform in conducting the ladies to the convention.

The CHAIR. If there is no objection, the committee will be discharged from further duty.

The chair will announce that we have finished the order of business for today, unless there is some special matter which some member of the convention desires to bring up.

Mr. MAYHEW. Mr. President, there is nothing further, I believe, before this convention at present. The committees now are at work preparing their reports and therefore I move you that this convention now adjourn until Friday morning at 10:00 o'clock. (Seconded.)

The CHAIR. The motion prevails.

SEVENTH DAY.

BOISE, IDAHO, FRIDAY, *July 12, 1889.*

The CHAIR. Gentlemen of the convention, you will please come to order.

Prayer by Chaplain Smith.