

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
NATIONAL
WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION,
HELD AT
CLEVELAND, OHIO,
ON
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY,
October 5th, 6th, and 7th, 1853.

[Phonographically reported by T. C. Leland, of New York City.]

PUBLISHED FOR THE COMMITTEE.

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1854.

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NATIONAL WOMAN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION.

PURSUANT to a call issued by the Central Committee, the National Woman's Rights Convention, for 1853, was held in Cleveland, Ohio, October 5th, 6th and 7th.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. LUCRETIA MOTT, President of the former National Convention.

FRANCES D. GAGE, of Missouri, being chosen President, a fervent prayer was offered by Rev. ANTOINETTE L. BROWN.

The following additional officers were then duly appointed:

VICE PRESIDENTS.

MISS ANTOINETTE L. BROWN, New York.

MRS. LUCRETIA MOTT, Pennsylvania.

MRS. CAROLINE M. SEVERANCE, Ohio.

MR. JOSEPH BARKER, Ohio.

MRS. EMILY ROBINSON, Ohio.

MRS. MARY B. BIRDSALL, Indiana.

MRS. SYBIL LAWRENCE, Michigan.

MR. CHARLES P. WOOD, New York.

MRS. AMY POST, New York.

SECRETARIES.

MRS. MARTHA C. WRIGHT, New York.

MISS CAROLINE STANTON, Ohio.

MR. H. B. BLACKWELL, Ohio.

TREASURER.

MR. T. C. SEVERANCE, Ohio.

some would have it, even, that the woman should be subject to the man, and the wife to the husband, you will find that in no other position will woman attain her dignity; for God has never dropped an inadvertent thought, never penned an inadvertent line. There is not a law, or principle of his being, that whoever penned that Book did not understand. There is not a right which that Book does not recognize; and there is not a duty which man owes to woman, or woman to man, that is not there enjoined.

(Here Mr. BARKER put a piece of writing into the speaker's hand.)

MR. MAHAN continued—the question handed me, don't concern the audience.

(Several voices.) The question; read the question.

MR. MAHAN.—(Without reading the question.)—It is my firm conviction, that there is but one thing to be done on this subject—if the women of this State want the elective franchise, they can have it. I don't believe it is in the heart of man to refuse it. Only spread the truth, adhere to Woman's Rights, and adhere to that one principle, and when the people are convinced that her claim is just, it will be allowed.

It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Mrs. Pauline W. Davis be appointed Chairman of the Central Committee for the ensuing year—Antoinette L. Brown, Secretary, and that the other officers and members be re-elected.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON presented, on behalf of the Committee, a declaration of sentiments, a draft of which was referred again with that of Seneca Falls and the letter of Wm. H. Channing, to the Committee for final action.

LUCY STONE, followed with an eloquent and earnest appeal to her sisters, especially those just coming to womanhood, to act in the living present, learn lessons of self-help, and go courageously onward in all the ways in which the good God had fitted them to walk. Living out their highest and best natures as immortal, responsible creatures.

The audience manifested great interest throughout, and closed at a late hour.

The Convention adjourned *sine die*.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NATIONAL

WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION

HELD AT

CLEVELAND, OHIO

ON

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY

OCTOBER 23RD, 24TH, AND 25TH, 1851

PUBLISHED FOR THE COMMITTEE

CLEVELAND

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1851

WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTIONS
BEGINNING 1848...