

Hon. Julius Caesar Burrows,

Kalamazoo, Mich.

Dear Sir:-

At a meeting of the "Ladies Literary Club", Grand Rapids, Mich., organized in 1873 and numbering five hundred members, the bill known as the "Territorial Statehood Bill" now before the Senate Committee on Territories was presented for their consideration. The portion of the bill threatening injustice to the pioneer women of the southwest is found in paragraph 5 of sections 3 and 21 and reads as follows:

"Fifth. That said states shall never enact any law restricting the right of suffrage on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude, except on account of illiteracy, minority, conviction of felony, mental condition, or sex."

It was moved and carried that we, the Ladies Literary Club, resent an insult so open and flagrant that, by an Act of Congress, the women of the west shall be so unjustly classed with illiterates, mental incompetents, felons and minors; we protest against the indignity to American citizens of classing women in such a category, and we appeal to you and your honorable committee to recommend to the Senate the omission of the word sex from the Statehood Bill as being abhorrent to American womanhood to be so classed.

Most respectfully submitted

Mr. Chenwood Hall, President.

Edith E. Clark, Recording Secy

Nov. 19th '04

PETITION

Of Ladies Literary Club, of Grand Rapids, Michigan,

For amendment of suffrage clause of Statehood Bill.

Hon. Julian C. Cannon, Michigan

Dear Sir:-

Bellevue, Mich.

At a meeting of the Ladies Literary Club, Grand Rapids,

Michigan, on the 12th of March, 1904, and during the same meeting, the bill

now on the "Floor" of the Senate, known as the "Statehood Bill," was before the Senate Committee

on Territories and discussed for their consideration. The portion

of the bill pertaining to the franchise of the women of

the Territory of Oklahoma is as follows:

"That the right of suffrage shall be given to the women of

the Territory of Oklahoma, who are citizens of the United States,

and who are of legal age, and who are of the white race, and

who are of the English, American, Dutch, French, German, Irish, Italian, Spanish, Swedish, and Norwegian descent, and who are of the same race as the majority of the population of the Territory."

It was pointed out that the Ladies Literary Club, Grand Rapids,

Michigan, is an organization of women, and that it is the duty of

the women of the Territory to be represented in the Legislature,

and that the women of the Territory should be given the right of

suffrage, and that the women of the Territory should be given the

right of suffrage, and that the women of the Territory should be

given the right of suffrage.

It was also pointed out that the women of the Territory should be

given the right of suffrage, and that the women of the Territory

should be given the right of suffrage, and that the women of the

Territory should be given the right of suffrage, and that the women

of the Territory should be given the right of suffrage.

Very respectfully submitted,
Mrs. J. C. Cannon

Secretary of the Club

1904