

**PAPERS READ BEFORE THE  
ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF WOMEN, PP. 9-95**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649022175

Papers Read Before the Association for the Advancement of Women, pp. 9-95 by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**VARIOUS**

**PAPERS READ BEFORE THE  
ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT  
OF WOMEN, PP. 9-95**



# Officers.\*

## PRESIDENT.

JULIA WARD HOWE, Rhode Island.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

EDNAH D. CHENEY, Mass.	REBECCA N. HAZARD, Mo.
EMILY HOWLAND, N. Y.	LOIS G. HUFFORD, Ind.
MARTHA H. MOWRY, M. D., R. I.	REV. AUGUSTA J. CHAPIN, Ill.
ABBY FULTON, M. D., Mo.	ELIZA R. SUNDERLAND, Mich.
CAROLINE R. WENDELL, N. H.	ADELE S. HUTCHISON, M. D., Minn.
LOUISE M. SMILEY, Vt.	NANCY H. ADAMS, Wis.
CHARLOTTE E. BROWN, N. J.	ELLEN M. RICH, M. A., Ia.
MARY E. COBB, Pa.	CLARA BEWICK COLBY, Neb.
ELIZABETH T. GRAHAM, Md.	JENNIE A. FROISBETH, Utah.
JEAN M. LANDER, D. C.	ELLEN M. MITCHELL, Colo.
ISABELLA W. PARKS, Ga.	SOPHIA F. GRUBE, Kan.
ELIZABETH W. VARNUM, Fla.	MARY B. MOODY, M. D., Ct.
ANNA C. BOWSER, Ky.	ALMIRA B. HAMILTON, Can.

ELLEN C. SARGENT, Cal.

## SECRETARY.

ISABEL HOWLAND, Sherwood, N. Y.

## TREASURER.

HENRIETTA L. T. WOLCOTT, Dedham, Mass.

## AUDITORS.

SOPHIA CURTIS HOFFMAN, N. Y. | CHARLOTTE L. PEIRCE, Pa.

## DIRECTORS.

ROMELIA L. CLAPP, N. Y.	ALICE MACGILVARY, M. D., Can.
FRANCES FISHER WOOD, N. Y.	ELLA V. MARK, M. D., Md.
ELLA C. LAPHAM, N. Y.	MARY F. ROGERS, Ky.
HARRIET A. TOWNSEND, N. Y.	ALIDA HOWE, Mo.
MARY F. EASTMAN, Mass.	EMMA MONT MCRAE, Ind.
CAROLINE A. KENNARD, Mass.	ELIZABETH BOYNTON HARBERT, Ill.
KATE GANNETT WELLS, Mass.	CLARA P. BOURLAND, Ill.
SUSAN WOODMAN, N. H.	C. A. F. STEBBINS, Mich.
LITA BARNEY SAYLES, Conn.	ELLA H. DURLBY, Ia.
REV. A. B. BLACKWELL, N. J.	NELLIE ERID CADY, Ia.
CHARLOTTE L. PEIRCE, Pa.	AMANDA M. AIKENS, Wis.
MARY E. WING, Neb.	CAROLINE M. SEVERANCE, Cal.

IONE T. HANNA, Col.

## CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES.

TOPICS AND PAPERS, Ellen M. Mitchell, Col.	INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION, Caroline A. Kennard, Mass.
SCIENCE, Henrietta L. T. Wolcott, Mass.	ART, Mary E. Wing, Neb.
REFORMS AND STATISTICS, Rev. A. B. Blackwell, N. J.	JOURNALISM, Alice Stone Blackwell, Mass.
EDUCATION, Mary F. Eastman, Mass.	PUBLICATION, Lita Barney Sayles, Ct.

## CUSTODIAN.

LITA BARNEY SAYLES, Killingley, Conn.

## COMMITTEE ON NOMINATING COMMITTEES.

CATHERINE A. F. STEBBINS, 'Ch., Mich.

CAROLINE R. WENDELL, N. H. | EMMA A. MILLIKEN, Mich.

\*For addresses see Members' List.

# Table of Contents.

	PAGE.
OPENING ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT, MRS. JULIA WARD HOWE, R. I.	9
LIFE AND WORK OF MARIA MITCHELL, PROF. MARY W. WHITNEY, N. Y.	12
THE COLORED WOMEN OF THE SOUTH, MISS. ELIZABETH HYDE BOTUME, S. C.	29
THE SCIENTIFIC TRAINING OF MOTHERS, MRS. FRANCES FISHER WOOD, N. Y.	39
ASSOCIATION, AND ITS BEARING ON WORKING WOMEN, MRS. HELEN CAMPBELL, N. Y.	49
SPECIAL LEGISLATION, OR MORAL ENERGY, MRS. KATE GANNETT WELLS, Mass.	56
THE NECESSITY FOR MORE PEDAGOGY IN OUR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, MRS. FRANK STUART PARKER, Ill.	61
THE DRAMAS OF HENRIK ISEN, MRS. ELLEN M. MITCHELL, Col.	72
THE STUDY OF AMERICAN HISTORY, MRS. KATE TANNATT WOODS, Mass.	81
THE PRACTICAL USES OF PHILOSOPHY, MRS. JULIA WARD HOWE, R. I.	89

## OPENING ADDRESS.

---

BY THE PRESIDENT, MRS. JULIA WARD HOWE.

---

THAT sweet saint of English History; Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning, in one of her poems, exclaims :

“ I am no trumpet, but a reed ! ”

I have often thought with sympathy of this word of hers. Great soul that she was with the deepest sense of the world's wrongs and the most valient mind to rectify them, she would have been glad to have twelve legions of angels to the rescue of her beloved humanity. No trumpet had she with which to summon them, only the little instrument born with her and laid by Nature in her cradle, the poet's reed. But who can say what power its music exerted even in the fighting world? Like the secret once whispered to the rushes, which the rushes presently told to the Wind, and the Wind to all the world, so this sweet singer's brave strophes, whispered by her in burning meditation, survive the clarion blast of world victories and enrich us today with the heart of her courage and the fire of her zeal.

I have borrowed this word to introduce here the appearance of a little band of women-workers who have stood side by side for more than three lusters of years, in an endeavor to bring their sex into its true place in the advance of the race. Ours is only one among many groups so banded together, but as it has gone far and wide over the country, it has aroused many another into being and activity. We are women seeking to promote the advancement of women, not in the objects of personal ambition, not in any inharmonious rivalry with men, but in the understanding and fulfilment of womanly duty and in the recognition of all that this involves.

The Indian woman, in the march of the tribe carries the tent furniture and the household appliances. Our chieftains do not load us after this primitive fashion, but symbolically, we do carry much of the

heavy baggage of human society. Besides the care of hearth and home, ours is the tedious and difficult task of initiating the infant man in his earliest human offices. The nursery is the primary school of the race, and in the great advance of the world's wisdom, it is becoming evident that no gift is too costly, no talent too rare to devote to the precious years of infancy, and to the lessons and training which fit that lovely blossom period of life.

We women, to whom these cares especially belong, must advance as the world advances, must learn its newest lessons and its widest wisdom, else we shall hang as a dead weight upon the victorious march of our husbands and brothers. Worse than this we shall keep back our precious pupils; they will share our ignorance, our prejudice, our superstition. The way of humanity is onward; sad and bitter were it if the women, mothers and teachers of men, should lag behind.

The advance which our sex has made within the last twenty years is well attested by facts and in general well known in the community. A strong impelling force has carried them forward. If we could analyze this, we should find, I think, that women have only latterly begun to apply to their own case the conditions of freedom which a free government establishes. It is but lately that they have learned that the logical sequence of freedom for men is freedom for their wives, mothers and daughters. Mrs. Adams, wife of the President of that name, said as much as this, years ago, in a well-known letter to her husband, but women in general paid little heed to her remark. It takes a long time for a new idea to permeate the social atmosphere even of the most enlightened nations. This one has at last made its way and is becoming established.

Another element of the onward impulsion just spoken of is found in the growing conviction of the best and wisest men that the intelligent and trained help of women is needed in every department of the body politic. How important their social and sympathetic aid has always been need not be said. But as the race rises to a higher moral and intellectual efficiency, new energies are called for and new tasks appointed. In the Christian Palace of Industry, as in the doctrine that founds it, there is neither male or female, so far as concerns conscience and opportunity. All must labor with the brains as well as with the hands. Men and women alike must press forward to fulfill the high calling of God.

But this advance in which we all rejoice needs leadership, not so much of personal influence, as of just principles and careful study.



We who meet together in this Congress from year to year do not claim to be better or wiser than others. All that we can lay claim to is a deep concern for the well-being and well-doing of the community, of our own sex as a part of it. The parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins has not been lost upon us, and our most earnest wish is that when occasions come, the women of Christendom shall not be found sleeping, their lamps unprovided with the light of wisdom, their minds unclothed with the habit called for by the hour.

We meet indeed but once in a year, and a three day's comparison of thought, study and experience may not seem a very sufficient preparation for the good to be done, the evil to be undone, in the world about us. But human life is in a degree ruled by centers, and our Association supplies one of them, a central point of interest and affection whose influence goes with us wherever we go and has its part in much that we do and attempt. The device upon our shield is Truth, Justice and Honor, and while we follow these high watchwords in the battle of life we strive to remember, one and all, that the greatest thing on earth is Charity.

We come to you, dear Canadian friends, called by a generous invitation. We are glad to be made aware that, while governments must define and keep their boundaries, the sympathy of those who follow good objects may cross the frontier, and still find itself at home. Although our time of sojourn among you is short, we shall hope to derive valuable instruction from our intercourse with you, and shall hope, most of all, that this visit of ours may be helpful in promoting a better mutual acquaintance and fellowship between the women of the Dominion and their sisters of the States.

Let this thought then be the ruling one in these meetings in which you will assist us by your presence and kind attention, the thought of union among women throughout the world for the promotion and vindication of all that woman should stand for in the interest of human society.

With these words, I declare the Eighteenth Congress of Women to be open.

## LIFE AND WORK OF MARIA MITCHELL., *L. L. D.*

BY PROF. MARY W. WHITNEY.

I HAVE been asked by the Society for the Advancement of Women to write of the life and work of Maria Mitchell, herself for two years president of this society, and always its sympathetic supporter. As a woman of public spirit and enterprise she was known better, perhaps, to some of you than to me. Her interest in the organization and development of this society is known to you, and her hearty co-operation in all purposes and plans bearing the mark of progress of the spirit of free thought. As a member of this society I cannot so well speak of her as another might, but as a woman of great power and influence, as a teacher, as a lover of science and an inspirer of the scientific spirit, I have had abundant opportunity to know her.

Maria Mitchell was born in Nantucket, on August 1, 1818. Nantucket, a small island off the southeast coast of Massachusetts, was at this time a flourishing whaling town, and it was also a Quaker town. Both these facts told on the character of its people, making them simple of heart and sturdy of character, and it told pre-eminently upon the women. In a sea-faring community the wives were necessarily thrown more upon their own resources, since their natural supporters were away from home, often for years, upon their whaling voyages. The cares and responsibilities usually borne by the men thus fell upon the shoulders of the women; and with responsibility come force and independence of character. And that it was a Quaker community would tell also upon the tendencies of the women, since in a Quaker society the women were granted much freedom of action. They were supposed to hold opinions of their own and to express them in public, even to vote in church matters. They were compelled to dress and live simply, and therefore did not pour out their energies in the adornment of house and person. They were a sensible and a

strong community, from whence went out many an able man and woman who became powers in the land. Both of Miss Mitchell's parents were of old Quaker families, her mother, Lydia Colman, claiming descent from one of the original settlers of Nantucket. The story is, that the first white men who set foot upon Nantucket were three Quakers, fleeing from persecution in New England, and that one of these was a young man named Colman. Miss Mitchell's mother was also related, through her grandmother, to Benjamin Franklin. She was a woman of fine intelligence and of literary tastes, fond of the best books, and was a large reader, though the mother of many children and thoroughly devoted to them. Her father, William Mitchell, was the son of a cooper, and began his business life in his father's employ. His more intellectual tastes, however, soon brought him into the teacher's profession. Later in life he became cashier in the principal bank of Nantucket. His natural inclination was toward scientific reading and pursuits. He early began to study astronomy and to gather about him the appliances for astronomical observations. Science was little cultivated in those days, and held a subordinate place in education, but the U. S. Coast Survey was already well established, and was conducted by the foremost mathematical and astronomical talent which the country afforded. It made use of local proficiency wherever it presented itself, and when Mr. Mitchell's ability became known to its officers, he was appointed to make the observations and investigations necessary for the survey of the island of Nantucket. His work did not take the place of his teaching, it occupied his evenings and his leisure hours.

Miss Mitchell was the third child of a family of nine. As a little child she did not display especial powers, and in fact was much below her elder sister in those qualities of quickness and aptness which make the child of three or four years the marvel of its parents and friends. But this second daughter soon began to show a talent for study and reading. She took eagerly to arithmetic and to all studies of a scientific nature. She was always of a serious bent and zealous and earnest with her books. Very early she began to take a sympathetic interest in her father's astronomical work, and when eleven years old began to assist him. She was a ready computer, and even before she was sufficiently advanced to understand the processes by which the formulæ of the famous Bowditch navigator were obtained, she applied them with ease and promptness to her father's investigations. She was so eager in this work that she learned to love these