

NON-PARTISAN NATIONAL



1890.

"The truth shall make you free."

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*Cleveland, Feb. 14, 1890.*

DEAR CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF THE NATION :

Knowing that some women are now doing temperance work under limitations that prevent their entering heartily into the service required, that many have dropped out of the ranks for the same cause, and are giving their time and strength to other branches of philanthropic and Christian work, rather than to this which had a stronger claim upon them, other things being equal ; and knowing also that the great majority even of Christian women have never engaged in active temperance service, we are constrained to appeal to you in behalf of the work to which God seems to have specially called the women of this age.

If you are not already identified with some temperance organization with which you are in active sympathy, we would urge upon your immediate attention the claims of the society we represent, as affording the widest scope for individual liberty of opinion, and immeasurable opportunity for doing good.

Every intelligent Christian woman of to-day must recognize the demands of this work upon her thought, her earnest prayers, and her persevering effort. The time has fully come when she that gathereth not with the temperance host scattereth abroad. A neutral position cannot be maintained. The world will count every woman as for or against the temperance reform. We therefore beg of you to take steps at once to form a bond of union among women of like temperance faith.

The partisanship of the old organization has been fully demonstrated in the record of the past few years; the non-partisanship of the new national union is set forth in its constitution and platform of principles. In one or the other every woman who values the safety of her own dear ones, or the common weal which makes us all akin, must find her true place. We have no dis-

position to alienate any woman from the methods of her choice, but we do want the women whose judgment and sympathy are in full accord with ours, to put their labor in line with their convictions, believing that by so doing they will accomplish most for God and humanity.

Whole-hearted service is what this cause demands, and this cannot be given unless judgment and conscience are hand in hand with effort.

If ours is the platform you can fully endorse, then let us hear that you are ready for service, to do whatever duty may demand and your circumstances permit; and "what thou doest, do quickly," remembering "the King's business demands haste."

Yours for earnest work,

ELLEN J. PHINNEY,  
*President.*

F. JENNIE DUTY,  
*General Secretary.*



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