Votes for Women Broadside

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WHEN EVENTS DEMAND

"STAND BACK, LADIES!"

CONVICTS OUT-RANK WOMEN.

There has been a general belief, which we suffragists have helped to spread, that women are classed politically with idiots and criminals. That is an error. The man who has lost his right to vote through being convicted of a crime, can, when freed from prison, become the object of executive clemency and be restored to full citizen rights.

By a stroke of the pen Gov. White gave to eighty-one ex-convicts the power to vote.

Women are out-classed by criminals in the State of New York.

When our investigators visited the office of the Secretary of State to look up the crimes and sentences of these newly made rulers of women, every official who helped in the search expressed the deepest sympathy with the ex-convicts. They argued that these unfortunates ought to get back their full rights of citizenship, for they "needed the protection of the ballot." The tender-hearted men on Capitol Hill were amazed that we thought so too, for they had supposed our desire for information was prompted by a spirit of vindictiveness.

Not at all. We think a man who has faced his punishment, and has succeeded in getting on his feet again after his fall, and is trying to be a decent member of society, should not have to fight the battle of life with the stigma of disfranchisement upon him.

But we hold with a conviction deep as life itself that women, law-abiding women, should also be freed from the stigma of political outlawry.

With confidence we challenge every voter in the State of New York to give one sound reason why the four men who committed rape on women should be made the political rulers of the victims of their lust.

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