

Dec. 17, 1898.

Mr. J. W. Parmelee,
Ipswich, S. Dak.

My Dear Sir: --

Yours of the 10th inst. is before me. Enclosed is my publishers' announcement. I am sure they will be very glad to secure reliable canvassers, not only in your city but through the entire State. Their general agent, Mr. Lee Burns, is now in this city. He has appointed a city superintendent, and there are quite a number of canvassers at work here. I am sure that if you will write him (addressing him at Indianapolis), he will be pleased to hear that somebody in South Dakota wants to go to work. Meantime, you can order direct from the publishers, if you wish.

Yes, South Dakota defeated the amendment again, but by a number six times smaller than in 1890. The anti-suffrage women are crowing over the defeat, but I think we have a great deal more reason to crow, because we have so largely diminished the number of our enemies. I hope that you, as an editor, will urge upon your legislature the resubmission of the amendment so that you will have the results of the educational work done in the past two years upon which to build for the election of 1900. It does seem to me that with the work of the coming two years there must be a majority of the men of South Dakota so well educated into doing unto women as they would ^{like to} be done by if the tables were turned and the men in subjection to the women that we should win.

I now feel that each State in which an amendment has been submitted should not allow a single session of the legislature to elapse without pressing a resubmission resolution. Our one hope lies in a continuous rub-a-dub agitation, which can be kept up only by having some practical end in view, such as that of having a vote upon the suffrage question at the coming election. So I hope that the legislatures of South Dakota, Washington and California will not fail to resubmit amendments this winter.

(Mr. J. W. Parmelee)

-2-

Then in Iowa, where both the State and national associations have been working for the past two years, so that it is today the best organized State in the Union, I greatly hope that the legislature will this winter submit an amendment to be ratified by the next, which will be held in 1900. An amendment in Iowa has, you know, to be passed by two legislatures before it can be voted upon. A very good thing about Iowa, too, is that the constitution gives the legislature power to have the vote taken at a special election.

So if the entire four States I have named are permitted to vote as I have indicated, we shall perhaps have four new States in our suffrage Union in the year 1900. It would indeed be a big victory if we could thus double the number of golden stars on the field of blue in our suffrage flag.

With best wishes for Ipswich, South Dakota and all of our blessed country,

Very sincerely yours,