

AN APPEAL
for
ALICE STONE BLACKWELL

One of the great suffrage pioneers is in desperate need of help. At seventy seven years of age Alice Stone Blackwell, the daughter of Lucy Stone and Henry Blackwell, is without a penny. Living with her in Boston, and entirely dependent on her, is the eighty seven year old daughter of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the first graduated woman physician in the country, and the founder of the New York Infirmary for Women and Children.

Miss Blackwell entrusted her money and \$20,000 belonging to her adopted cousin to a friend, supposedly a good business man. He lost all the money the two women had. He has confessed but there is no possible recovery.

A committee of Boston women is raising a fund of \$10,000 for Miss Blackwell. They pledge themselves to raise \$5,000 and they ask New York women to give \$2500.

\$100.00 Check sent May 27, 1935.

To the Friends and Admirers of
ALICE STONE BLACKWELL



VERY RECENTLY Miss Blackwell suddenly discovered that the competence which alone protected her and the blind and aged cousin who shares her home had disappeared while in the hands of a lifelong and trusted business agent. With great reluctance she disclosed the facts of her altered situation to a few intimate friends. They recognized the need of immediate protective action, and are taking this means to apprise her wide circle of friends and well wishers of the opportunity to be of genuine service to her at a time when friendship and affectionate regard have a profound and practical meaning.

It is necessary to raise a fund sufficient to provide an annuity, or its equivalent, which will maintain her in her modest and characteristically self-denying mode of living.

Alice Stone Blackwell, like her mother, Lucy Stone, is not only a distinguished American but a rare and invincible personality. She will live in the national legend as one of the outstanding figures in the epic of Woman Suffrage and of the whole far-reaching struggle to win for women broader opportunities, greater justice before the law, and a richer human status. Further, as an irrepressible champion of struggling humanity wherever wrongs need righting she has had an influence as extensive as it is beneficent.

Here is an occasion for us to bring security and peace to the later years of a life of which the fruitfulness and significance already stand indelible upon the record. Ours is the privilege, seldom granted, of repaying during an individual's lifetime some small measure of the debt we owe for a long life devoted to human service.

MAUD WOOD PARK
ADA L. COMSTOCK
ANDREW J. PETERS
LARUE BROWN

for the General Committee.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL

*A*LICE STONE BLACKWELL, more than any other living person, symbolizes the whole range of the struggle of women through two generations to win untrammelled human status. One of her aunts was the first woman in the world to obtain a medical degree and another aunt was the first to be ordained a minister. Her mother, Lucy Stone, was the first Massachusetts woman to go to college; became a lecturer against Negro slavery and for woman's rights when mere public speaking by women was considered an indecency; and throughout her life was one of the half-dozen great national figures in the woman's movement. Her father gave a lifetime of service to the woman's cause.

The life of the daughter was inextricably interwoven from babyhood in the widely varied activities of her parents, which Miss Blackwell has recorded in her book "Lucy Stone, Pioneer of Woman's Rights". Miss Blackwell was assistant or editor-in-chief of the *Woman's Journal* for thirty-four years; Secretary of the National American Woman Suffrage Association for about twenty years; and President of the New England and the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Associations. As Miss Blackwell's chief weapon was the pen, often anonymous, she was not personally in the public eye as much as the platform campaigners. But her work of editing the *Woman's Journal* and writing for that paper, as well as innumerable leaflets, articles, newspaper letters and campaign pamphlets supplied the movement with much of its basic foundation of information, keen analysis and argument. Among journalists she was regarded as an editor of outstanding ability. In the council chamber she applied her rich wisdom, vast information, fertile mind and dauntless spirit to mapping out the strategy which through the years carried the suffrage cause step by step to final victory.

The instant the ballot was won, she took up the task of educating and organizing the new voters for public-spirited citizenship. She became Honorary Chairman and an active board member of the Massachusetts League of Women Voters.

In line with her family's pioneering interest in the field of women's education she has served Boston University, her alma mater, as a trustee since 1907.

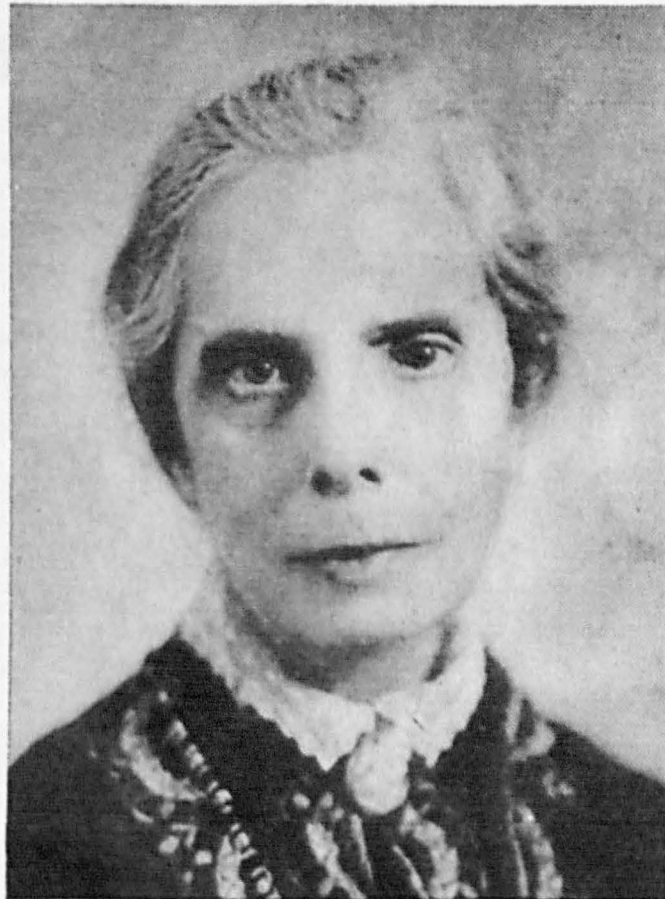
Throughout these long years her sensitive humanity has made her responsive to countless other struggles against oppression. Roused by the Armenian massacres of the '90s, she became a lifelong champion of that people. Among her tireless and varied efforts to win them public understanding and support she rendered into English verse "Armenian Poems". Her devotion to Armenia was recognized by the bestowal of the Order of Melusine.

The atrocious oppressions of the Czar's government led her to active work with the American Friends of Russian Freedom. Her warm cooperation and friendship with Mme. Catherine Breshkovsky extended over many years and included the editing of her autobiography and letters.

The struggles of labor have equally enlisted her quick sympathies on countless occasions. Repeatedly she raises her voice against exploitation and the suppression of free speech, of the right to organize and of other civil liberties.

Devoted to world peace, she has sought during many years to turn her talents to its service by promoting cultural appreciation. She rendered into English verse "Songs of Grief and Gladness" (Yiddish), "Songs of Russia", the Hungarian poems of Petöfi and "Some Spanish-American Poets", — the latter a monumental volume of over two hundred poems, opening to North Americans a new continent of literature. This work she still continues.

Not without justification was Miss Blackwell chosen last year to receive the annual medal given by the Ford Hall Forum to that citizen of Greater Boston who has made the most notable contribution to the public weal. Now at seventy-seven years of age, frail of body but untouched in mind by the years, she continues her work with the zeal and enthusiasm of her eternally youthful spirit. Her tireless pen stands ever ready to aid the quest of freedom wherever and in whatever form it calls to her for help.



Alice Stone Blackwell.

Few women know how much Alice Stone Blackwell contributed to the winning of suffrage. On graduating from Boston University, more than fifty six years ago, she set herself the task of bringing together the two national suffrage associations. The union of those two bodies was perhaps the most vital and important suffrage achievement of the last century, and few can realize how difficult the task was of bringing them together.

For many years Miss Blackwell was the chief source of information about suffrage and its working throughout the world. She furnished material and propaganda to suffrage workers everywhere. A forceful and vigorous writer she sent constant letters to the press, answered anti-suffrage arguments, and met the opposition in spoken and written debate. Wherever hearings were held on suffrage bills in state legislatures or Congress she managed the rebuttals, and her logic and wit were greatly feared by the antis.

For years she helped Lucy Stone edit the *Woman's Journal*, the weekly newspaper published by the Blackwells and supported by them, and at the death of her parents took over its entire charge. The *Woman's Journal* was a mighty force in securing for women the high social, legal, educational, industrial and political position they now enjoy.

Mrs. Catt feels Miss Blackwell's position so keenly, that, in spite of the fact that she has been providing for Harriet Taylor Upton, another destitute pioneer, and for several relatives, she is taking out a joint annuity for herself and Miss Blackwell and will share the income with her.

Always frail in health, never until suffrage was won did Alice Stone Blackwell spare herself. Every woman in the country owes her a heavy debt.

What will you do to help see Miss Blackwell through her few remaining years?

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