

THE MARGARET BRENT PILGRIMAGE

Hon. James H. Preston



HON. JAMES H. PRESTON.

"I have heard, with a good deal of interest, of the proposed pilgrimage of the Just Government League of Maryland to the home of Margaret Brent in St. Mary's City, Southern Maryland.

"It will, no doubt, be a delightful experience, and I should like to join your party, if I could possibly spare the time.

"I know of no pleasanter experience than to drive slowly through an open country of budding trees, green fields and balmy spring airs, in company with agreeable companions, with a patriotic and high-minded purpose at the journey's end.

"I hope that you will have an enjoyable time."

Mrs. Donald R. Hooker

"Once again the Just Government League of Maryland sends into untried country a band of workers. One year ago the hikers climbed the mountains of Garrett county and brought into the suffrage fold the hearts and sympathies of 800 souls. Today the Margaret Brent Pilgrims wind their way through the historic grounds of the birthplace of our State.

Our imagination pulses with the history of the lower counties. We thrill with the stories of Margaret Brent and the liberty-loving settlers on the banks of the Potomac. The caravaners go into Southern Maryland with hands outstretched for a share in the chronicles of 'the cradle of religious liberty.'

Southern Maryland has much to give, and she will give it. She gave the world Margaret Brent, who exemplifies high courage, splendid nobility and fervent patriotism. That she will give of her store of cordiality, enthusiasm and sympathy to the suffrage cause is a foregone conclusion. Those of us who cannot personally be the recipient of these graces bid the caravaners a hearty farewell and God-speed."

Mrs. Robert Moss of Annapolis

"The Just Government League of Anne Arundel County is eagerly awaiting the coming of the Margaret Brent Pilgrimage, and desires to do all within its power for the suffrage pilgrims upon their arrival. So command us!

"We trust that all 'gales' may be 'small and favorable' during the pilgrimage, and that throughout the length of it the brave caravaners may be allowed 'to use their own discretion.'

"We trust that you will feel free to make any suggestions of what we may do to prepare for your coming.

"I believe that this caravan pilgrimage will prove one of the most unique and convincing expeditions ever made for suffrage, and I think it will serve to call attention to the history and achievements of our State.

"I never felt greater pride in being a daughter of Maryland, and I trust that since a woman of Maryland was the first to ask for a vote, the women of Maryland will not be the last to get it."

Enoch B. Abell

"I wish to express my enthusiasm for your very laudable cause. If I can be of any assistance, please command me."

Max Eastman

"I wish you the best of good fortune in appealing to the people of Maryland to take their stand for civilization and democracy before it is too late to be among the first of the Eastern States."

MARYLAND'S OPPORTUNITY

By ANNA HOWARD SHAW.

IT is southward that the women of the country will look next year for victories in the suffrage cause. For a long time attention has been centered on the advance of the movement in the West, till with a solid mass of Western States painted white on the suffrage map, the tide has turned eastward, and this year sees the great campaigns on in Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

DR. ANNA HOWARD SHAW,
President of the National American
Woman Suffrage Association.

This is the crucial time for the women of Maryland and other Southern States to lay the foundations of the work which shall result in victory next year. I wish to urge upon the men of Maryland serious consideration of woman suffrage. It is not an issue which can be lightly dismissed, and it is a question upon which sooner or later they must register their opinions. The struggle which American women are making for their enfranchisement will go down in history as one of the greatest of all movements, and to have a part in it and to be well informed on the purpose and scope of it is the duty of every American man or woman.

Already this year the legislatures of eleven non-suffrage States have voted in one or both houses in favor of equal suffrage. It is already certain that in West Virginia, Iowa and South Dakota the issue will be voted upon at the elections next year, and subsequent legislation may add other States to the list.

With 49½ per cent. of the territory of the United States won to equal suffrage, no one can doubt the strength of the issue. No great movement ever stopped half way. The suffragists are fighting for a winning cause, and even the "antis" are now admitting quite frankly that equal suffrage is sure to come.

To the women of Maryland I wish to urge the necessity of steady, unceasing suffrage work during this year. Next year the women of the country will look to you to write Maryland on the list of campaign States.

COUNTY CAMPAIGNING

By MRS. FRANK HIRAM SNELL.

PERHAPS the real significance of the campaign that Mrs. Amy R. Haight and I made in Southern Missouri last October lies in the fact that it was like all other rural campaigns. We found there the same readiness as in Maryland, for instance, to come together from a radius of 10 miles and listen to what we had to give. We found in Missouri, as in Montana, that the leaflets we distributed were folded and put away. We found that our halls were always crowded, while the Congressional and State candidates barely got a baker's dozen. We were welcomed in Doniphan and in Willow Springs and in Mountain Grove as we had been welcomed some months before in Maryland at Swanton and at Oakland.

We found, in short, that the rural vote in Missouri was there for the suffragists to take as it seems to be in New Jersey at the present writing. But it must be taken. As we worked along in Missouri we acquired the certainty that a good corps of speakers and organizers could have carried the vote in the southern and southeastern parts of the State, down along the Mississippi River and Arkansas. There was no hostility. There was no knowledge of suffrage, that was all. I have no doubt that we shall meet with the same encouragement in our pilgrimage to the home of Margaret Brent. City workers who find much that is disheartening will get refreshment for their ardor in a change to county and country campaigns.

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