The Farmer's Bride

Mew, Charlotte M Nation; Feb 3, 1912; 10, 18; ProQuest pg. 747

To the Editor of THE NATION.

Sir,—Will you allow me to express my entire agreement with H. W. M. on the Prime Minister and the Woman Suffrage question, particularly as regards its parallel with Catholic Emancipation in W. E. Ireland; however, that we Suffragists could feel as confident of sincerity and fairplay on this question as H. W. M. seems to feel! We are at a loss to understand, if Mr. Asquith was ready to bow to the majority in the House of Commons, why he and his Cabinet, in the words of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, "torpedoed" the Conciliation Bill by bringing forward a Manhood Suffrage Bill for which a Socialist member in the House admitted there was practically no demand in the country.

We may be forgiven, I think, if we are inclined to suspect that the Cabinet feels itself in a position between Scylla and Charybdis, and their sudden affection for the Referendum is more a possible loophole of escape from an intolerable position than a sincere desire to ascertain the feeling of the country.

Two methods of procedure are open to them. Either to embody Woman Suffrage as an integral part of the Reform Bill, or to withdraw that Bill altogether and allow the House to express its will on the lines of the Conciliation Bill. It is true that measure had faults, but its chief merit lay in the fact that it united Suffragists of all other parties within the House. Procedure on any other lines seems to me to indicate increased irritation and unrest on the part of the women and very possible disaster for the Liberal Cabinet.—Yours, &c.,

K. DOUGLAS SMITH.

26, Erkine Hill, Hampstead Garden Suburb, N.W.
January 27th, 1912.

WHAT IS THE FINEST VIEW IN THE WORLD?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION.

Sir,—I think your readers may be glad to hear of what is claimed to be the finest view in the world. It is overlooking the beautiful Valley of Orotava, on the Western coast of Tenerife. This is the point known as Humboldt’s Corner, where the great traveller is said to have thrown himself on the ground exclaiming:—“This is the finest view in the world.” I have just returned from a visit to this quarter, and can testify to the beauty of the district, dominated as it is by the far-famed snow-capped Peak of Teneriffe, 12,000 feet high. To this is to be added the invigorating attraction of an ideal climate. I found that while many steamers of different nationalities served Santa Cruz (the well-known port on the Eastern side of Teneriffe), only one passenger line goes round regularly to Orotava. This, I am pleased to say, is a British Company, so that one need not desert the Union Jack in order to visit this favored spot. It is gratifying to find British prestige maintained in this direction.—Yours, &c.,

G. MACARA.

Spencer Park, St. Alans, January 30th, 1912.

P.S.—Have any of your readers experience of other places which compete with the Orotava view as the finest in the world?

[Some of our readers might like to answer this question.—Ed., Nation.]

THE SUGAR CONVENTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION.

Sir,—I have to-day seen a White Paper ("Commercial," Od. 6035), which gives an account of the sittings of the Sugar Convention, which took place on December 9th, 10th, and 11th, 1911, at Brussels. The first document in this Paper is the instructions issued by Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Alderson Law, the British delegate, as to the action which he would take with regard to the application of Russia to be allowed to export an additional quantity of sugar. After dealing with this matter, Sir Edward Grey makes the following statement:—

"His Majesty's Government will at an early date consider carefully whether the arrangement is of sufficient accuracy to enable them without detriment to the interests of British consumers and sugar-using trades to continue to the extent, subject always to the right to give one year's notice of withdrawal."

Charlotte M. Mew.