

Roman magistrates, and is the symbol of the Speaker's authority. The mace is always placed on its pedestal when the House is in session, and is laid on the floor when the House is in Committee of the Whole. The Sergeant-at-Arms bears the symbol before him when executing the Speaker's commands to enforce order, or to conduct a member to the bar of the House.

In the panels of the wall on either side of the Speaker's chair are full-length portraits of Washington and Lafayette.

Over the main entrance is the famous clock whose hands are turned back on the last day of the session, that the hour of adjournment may not be marked by it before the business of the House is finished.

The galleries, which surround the whole chamber, are reached from the east and west corridors by splendid stairways of Tennessee marble. We make pilgrimage up those stairs so that we may sit at ease in that portion of the gallery specially allotted to women, where without let or hindrance they may be present at debates—courteously treated as human beings should be in the twentieth century—and not barred off in a stuffy cage, like beasts at a Zoo, as are women of Great Britain in their own House of Commons.

The Senate Chamber is a spacious hall; the room is also surrounded by galleries, whence one may watch the proceedings. The walls are richly decorated in gold arabesques on delicate tints, with buff panels, and the glass in the ceiling is fitted with symbolisms of War, Peace, Union, Progress, the Arts, Sciences, and Industries. The rooms connected with the Chamber are richly adorned—one is set apart for the President on his visits to the Capitol, and to which he comes in the closing hours of the session to sign the last Bills before adjournment. It is decorated by Brumidi with portraits of President Washington and his first Cabinet: Jefferson, Hamilton, Knox, Randolph, and Osgood; with allegories of Liberty, Religion, Legislation, and Executive Authority.

Every stone of the Capitol, and the whole glory thereof, is dedicated to Patriotism, and as one passes out on to the great esplanade of the east front one faces Greenough's colossal marble statue of Washington. The figure is seated on a Roman chair, the left hand clasping a sword, the other raised in invocation to Heaven. Accessories are Columbus with Globe and an Indian, Phœbus-Apollo Driving his Chariot of the Sun, America rising among the Nations, and Hercules Strangling the Serpent—America's victory over tyranny. The inscriptions are chosen from Henry Lee's oration on the death of Washington, pronounced before both Houses of Congress, December 16th, 1799: "First in War, First in Peace, First in the Hearts of His Countrymen." The sculptor's signature runs,

*"Simulacrum istud ad magnum Libertatis nex sine ipsi duraturum. Horatius Greenough faciebat."*  
"Horatio Greenough made this statue for a great exemplar of Freedom; not without Freedom can it endure."

And it will endure.

E. G. F.

## The Royal Infirmary, Manchester.

It is much to be regretted that in electing the new Board of Management of the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, which consists of twenty-one persons, the Trustees have permitted an excellent opportunity to pass without making the most necessary and just reform of electing women on to the Board, although they had three first-rate candidates on the list.

The exclusion of women from participating in the management of charitable institutions is a very grave injustice to all concerned, and stamps the Trustees of the Manchester Royal Infirmary as non-progressive.

At the final meeting of the Infirmary Committee of the retiring Board of Management, a resolution was proposed by Sir F. Forbes Adam, seconded by Mr. E. S. Heywood, and unanimously carried, expressing appreciation of the long service rendered to the charity by Mr. W. L. Saunder, the general superintendent and secretary. It was pointed out that Mr. Saunder entered on his duties at a time when considerable extra labour was involved in re-organising the management and when much patience, tact, and thoughtfulness were required to ensure the successful completion of the necessary changes and reforms then on hand, and that for close on five-and-twenty years he had earned and continuously kept the full confidence of those in charge of the Infirmary. The Committee also recorded their high estimate of the services of Miss Calvert, the lady superintendent of nurses.

## The Passing Bell.

We record with sorrow the death of Nurse Mears at the Lisnaskea Workhouse Infirmary, who died from the result of burns. The deceased lady was sitting in her room reading, about midnight, when, by some means as yet unexplained, a candle fell on her, setting fire to her clothing. She at once rushed into the surgery, and thence into the kitchen, where the flames were extinguished by one of the other nurses; not, however, until she had been dreadfully burned about the body. Dr. Knox, on being summoned, dressed the burns, but in spite of all efforts Nurse Mears gradually became worse, and after suffering great agony for twenty-four hours succumbed to her injuries.

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