

A WOMAN MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

Our illustration, which we feel sure will be of great interest to our readers, is of Miss Jeannette Rankin, Member for Montana, U.S.A., the first woman to be sent to Washington as a Member of the House of Representatives, where her appearance naturally excited much interest, and Representative John Evans, the only other member from Montana, presented her with pride to his colleagues. Previous to her appearance in Congress Miss Rankin was entertained at breakfast by supporters of women's suffrage from many States and all shades of politics, when she asked for their encouragement and support in her work of fighting for women in Congress from the inside.

When the vote was taken on the war resolution in the early hours of April 6th, Miss Rankin, according to the *Times* correspondent, rose when her name was called and said, "I want to stand by my country, but I cannot vote for war. I vote 'No.'" The Roll-call showed Ayes, 373; Noes, 50.

We regret that Miss Rankin cast her vote with the Noes, as we think she would have shown a more statesmanlike grasp of the position if she had followed the Presidential lead. War, till the present Prussian military autocracy is crushed is a necessity, if civilization is to be preserved and peace made possible in the future.

But even in this country we only dimly realise what the brutal heel of the Hun, and more especially of the House of Hohenzollern, involves, and, failing imagination, appreciation of the position is still more difficult 3,000 miles away. One thing is certain, that in the new civilization which, under a true democracy, will follow peace terms dictated by the Allies, the voice of women will be raised against war in the future. Never again must the hideous ruin and waste of life which the present war has caused be permitted to devastate the world. Enfranchised womanhood will unite to prevent a reversion to barbarism.

One thing Miss Rankin has proved by her vote—she is ready to cast it on the unpopular side if conscience so dictates, and conscience in our law-makers is a priceless asset. Her career will be watched with great interest.

RETIREMENT OF FATHER RUSSELL.

To many nurses the resignation by the Rev. E. F. Russell of the curacy of St. Alban's, Holborn, is a matter of sincere personal regret. They owe much to his ministry there, and the service of "Perseverance" which is peculiarly his own, is one which seems designed for tired nurses. The quiet hour on Sunday afternoon has been to them a help and refreshment. Not the least of Father Russell's virtues, especially where nurses are concerned, is his punctuality. With the stroke of the clock at a quarter past four he would always appear from the vestry, himself presiding at the organ, as well as conducting and preaching at the service.

After fifty years of strenuous work without pecuniary reward, during which time he has had the happiness of seeing many of the things for which the St. Alban's clergy have striven so courageously accepted by the Church at large, his friends must be glad that Father Russell will have a life of greater freedom. No one will doubt that his helpfulness, kindness, and rare sympathy will still find means of expression.

Since 1876, when, owing to the initiative of the late Miss Susan Antrobus, the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses was founded, Father Russell has acted as its Chaplain-General, and for many years he has been Chaplain of St. John's House, so that he has been much connected with

nurses throughout his ministry.

It is interesting just now to recall that the Church in this country owes to St. Alban's the Three Hours Service on Good Friday, which proved so helpful a devotion that, from St. Paul's Cathedral to the smallest village church, there are few parishes in which it has not been adopted.



MISS JEANNETTE RANKIN,
MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U.S.A.

WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Never could the State have been saved by its present enfranchised members. It has been saved by the calling up of its unenfranchised reserves. Above all, there would have been no chance for the National Cause had it not been for the work of the women.—*The Observer*.

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