

THE "NEW WOMAN" DENOUNCED

Bishop Doane of Albany in Closing the St. Agnes's School Gives His Views on Female Suffrage.

ALBANY, June 6.—The Right Rev. William Croswell Doane, Episcopal Bishop of Albany, presided at the closing exercises of St. Agnes's School here to-day. The institution is maintained in connection with the Episcopal Cathedral for the education of young women, and has many pupils from without the State. Bishop Doane is one of the most prominent anti-woman's rights men in the country, and he evidently believes in carrying the opposition to the "coming woman" into the school room.

His address to the graduating class was of much interest in this connection. He said:

One gets sick and tired of the way in which the talk of woman's vocation fills the air, not merely in the wild vagaries of its blatant assumptions, but in the parade and push of its claims for recognition of what are called "its rights." I have had occasion to say what wrong to womanhood these woman's rights would be, and I have no desire to recall a word. The agitators are really in the minority. Numberless names on these modern "millenary petitions" mean only the thoughtless and good-natured yielding to persistent pursuit; just as legislative majority votes stand, in not a few instances, for a mistaken courtesy or an unmanly cowardice.

I believe that God will yet save this State and Nation from the aggravated miseries of an enlarged, unqualified suffrage which, in its universality of male voters, is our most threatening danger to-day. But if we are to be visited with this infliction, as a well-earned punishment for many national sins, then I believe that, when we have tasted its bitterness, we shall be brought back, perhaps through anarchy and revolution, to a democracy which shall demand for its existence government by men whom education and actual Americanism, of final interest in the Nation, qualify to govern. Meanwhile, when constitutions shall have been altered, to disturb the equipoise of the relation between man and woman, when motherhood shall be replaced by mismanaged offices, when money shall buy the votes of women, as it does now themselves; when the fires of political discord shall be lighted on the hearthstone of domestic peace, when the assertion of demanded right shall have destroyed the instinctive chivalry of conceded courtesies, when "woman," as has been well said, "once the superior, has become the equal of man, then the reaped whirlwind of some violent political reaction will be gathered in tears," by those who are sowing the wind in the mad "joy" of the Petroleuse of the French revolutions.

Never in any age, nowhere in any land, and nowhere in America, so much as now in our own Empire State, was there such absolute unreason for the clamor which seeks to distract women from the duties of the "vocation to which they are called" to the mad pursuit of the greatest wrong that can be done to their sex, their country, and mankind. The man who is set in public place to-day to train some of the women of America for their vocation may not, in times like these, withhold his voice of warning against the danger and the delusion of the hour.