

MAY -- 1901.

Minneapolis Convention -- Opinion of Mrs. Catt, etc.

It was the purpose of all the elder ones to step aside and let Mrs. Catt have an entire new cabinet of officers. I do not know what will be the result of the election at Minneapolis, but I should not be surprised if we had an entire new deal. But be that as it may I am sure that Mrs. Catt is the best woman for the presidency of any who would accept it. Had Miss Shaw been willing to accept it she could have had have received an overwhelming vote last winter but she positively refused and next to her stood, and stands, Mrs. Catt. She has done remarkably well in this first year of her administration, and if she is elected, which I hope she will be, I shall expect her to do a great deal better in the coming years. I know of no other woman with leisure, with no children, with a husband who backs her morally and financially, with the brains and disposition to do for the sake of the cause, and seemingly with no personal ambition, but Mrs. Catt, and therefore, I believe in holding up her hands and sustaining her to the best of our ability. It is for this reason that I go to Minneapolis..... I am going there though I do not know what will happen to me. I have not been my old self since last September, never knowing what will come the next day, but I am pretty well now and feel that it is the first convention over which I shall not preside, and I want to give the weight of my influence to the new president, and to do all I can to make the first meeting a success.

(From letters, May 20.)