

LAW OFFICES OF  
**WOOD & WOOD**  
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POUGHKEEPSIE OFFICE  
 226 UNION STREET

NEW YORK November 11, 1913

Miss Ida Tarbel, President,  
 Pen and Brush Club.

My Dear Miss Tarbel:

At a meeting of the Board of Governors of the Club, during your absence, the application of Mrs. Marie Beals for membership was tabled, as I am informed, because her social qualifications were unknown and "she probably came from the West."

This latter accusation is true. Years ago Mrs. Beals made her start in the literary world in the south, after which she went to the West for a time, but may she not thereby have the advantage of being relieved from some of the provincialisms of the East? And I can find nothing in the constitution which prescribes geographical location as a condition precedent to membership in the club; neither can I find anything which specifies that social position is a <sup>requisite</sup> qualification.

The majority of women who come to the city to earn a livelihood by pen or brush live in flats, one room studios or boarding houses, and they can have no social position. But Mrs. Beals is fortunate in having had a social position before she became a breadwinner, and the doors of exclusive homes in many large cities are always open to her. She was introduced to me about one year ago by Mrs. Monroe Wheeler, wife of Judge Wheeler, of Bath, N.Y., and highly recommended. When Mrs. John Wainmaker lived in Washington, during the Harrison administration, Mrs. Beals was entertained at her home. Among the homes which Mrs. Beals visits in this city are: Mrs. Louis S. Quimby's, of Tuckahoe. Mr. Quimby is Manager of the Broadway Trust Co.; Mrs. W.H.C. Broughton's,

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353 West 85th. Mr. Broughton is a lawyer of respectability.; Mrs. Woodson Oglesby, of Tuckahoe. Mr. Woodson is a Congressman. Mrs. A.G. Learnard, 36 Gramercy Park. Mr. Learnard is an artist- also respectable. Dr. and Mrs. Charles Paterno, of The Castle, 182nd St. and Riverside Drive, and many others, too numerous to mention. Suffice to say, Mrs. Beals is the peer of any member of the club, and in fact, I have no women among my acquaintance who would not rank with its personal.

Mrs. Beals is also known to Mr. Robinson, Society Editor of Town and Country; to Mrs. Lasher, Assistant Society Editor; to Mrs. Josephine Ober, Society Editor of the N.Y. World; to Mr. A.S. Crackett, of the Times; to Mr. Frawley, Society Editor of the Times; to Miss A.R. Bronson, Assistant Society Editor of the Times; to Mrs. Jule DeRyther, of the Evening Mail; to Mr. Baker, Society Editor of The Sun.

If some definite standard of social qualifications and geographical location could be prescribed by the constitution, it would save proposers and vouchers of applicants the humiliation of having their candidates refused admission to the club.

Very truly yours,

