

Fighter for Women's Rights

Ernestine Louise Siismondi Potowski Rose (1810–1892), an outstanding reformer and fighter for women's rights, would certainly have been much at home in this generation of Women's Lib. Although she was born in Russian Poland and died in England, she lived and worked in the United States from 1836 to 1869. The original of the following letter is in the library of Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Mass.

Brighton [Sussex], August 30, [18]87.

Rev. Edward F. Strickland

Dear Sir:

I am very glad that you and your dear wife take an interest in reform movements. For over fifty years I have endeavored to promote the rights of humanity without distinction of sex, sect, party, country, or color.

I should like to write you a long letter on the subject for I know it would interest you, but I am so ill that I can hardly sit up.

Please excuse the bad writing. Being too ill to have a photograph taken, I had a copy made of one I had which I send you, and also a lecture on the rights of women which I gave near thirty-six years ago in Boston and which, with many others of mine, is not in the general reports of the woman's movements. I hope you will like it. Please send me word that you received the photograph safely. In a few days I will return to London where I now live because I am too ill to return to dear America. Letters and papers are sent to me in care of this address.

With kindest regards and best wishes to your dear wife,

Yours sincerely with hope of justice and right

Ernestine L. Rose