

## Lines to Mr. Bowdle of Ohio

(“The women of this smart capital are beautiful. Their beauty is disturbing to business; their feet are beautiful, their ankles are beautiful, but here I must pause.”—*Mr. Bowdle's anti-suffrage speech in Congress, January 12, 1915.*)

YOU, who despise the so-called fairer sex,  
Be brave. There really isn't any reason  
You should not, if you wish, oppose and vex  
And scold us in, and even out of season;  
But don't regard it as your bounden duty  
To open with a tribute to our beauty.

Say if you like that women have no sense,  
No self-control, no power of concentra-  
tion;  
Say that hysterics is our one defence  
Our virtue but an absence of temptation;  
These I can bear, but, oh, I own it rankles  
To hear you maundering on about our  
ankles.

## TREACHEROUS TEXTS

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Tell those old stories, which have now and  
then  
Been from the Record thoughtfully de-  
leted,  
Repeat that favorite one about the hen,  
Repeat the ones that cannot be repeated;  
But in the midst of such enjoyments,  
smother  
The impulse to extol your "sainted  
mother."