Ex Ante

She Sat in the Presidential Chair, Evening Star (DC), Oct. 18, 1884, at 5:

New York, October 18—Mrs. Belva Lockwood arrived in this city this morning, and is stopping at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Almost immediately after entering the hotel she went out again and visited a photographers. The operator was about to seat her in a small chair when she espied the large chair in which Messrs. Blaine and Cleveland sat while having their photographs taken. “Why don’t you place me in that chair?” she asked.

“That is the presidential chair,” replied the operator.

“Well, sir, I will sit in that chair,” said Mrs. Lockwood. “I think I am able to fill it as well as any who have occupied it.” And she did.

Belva
Lockwood
The Annotated Bobblehead

An act to relieve certain legal disabilities of women, 20 Stat. 292 (Feb. 15, 1879):

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United Supreme Court. States of America in Congress assembled, That any woman who shall have been a member of the bar of the highest court of any State or Territory or of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia for the space of three years, and shall have maintained a good standing before such court, and who shall be a person of good moral character, shall, on motion, and the production of such record, be admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States.

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