

WOMAN'S REFORM



HOUSE GOWNS OF SILK AND LACE.

EDUCATION OF GIRLS.

WOMEN ARE FAST BECOMING THE EDUCATED CLASS OF THE COMMUNITY, SAYS PRESIDENT THWING.

"Respecting the question of fact there can be no doubt. The number of girls exceeds the number of boys enrolled in all the public high schools," says President Charles F. Thwing, of Western Reserve University. "The number of girls, too, who are continuing their education in the college grows faster than the number of boys. The total number of students found in the public and private secondary schools in 1898-99 (the last year for which the statistics are available) was 655,227. Of this vast number 292,876 were boys and 362,351 were girls. In every New-England State, with the exception of New-Hampshire, in every Southern State, with the exception of North Carolina and Alabama, and in every Western State, with the exception of Idaho, the number of girls who are gathered in the public and private high schools is greater than the number of boys. In the primary and grammar grades the percentage of boys is about equal to the percentage of girls, but as soon as the high school is reached the number of boys diminishes, the number of girls increases.

"We are also seeing the proportion of the girl graduates of these schools who go on to college increase rather than the proportion of boys. The question of fact is clear. Women are fast becoming the educated class of the community. The change made in the last fifty or twenty-five years is a revolution. It was formerly the daughter and sister of the family who wanted an education and found that it was denied her. It is now too often the son and brother of the family who does not care for an education, and therefore does not receive it. To consider the causes of this condition would carry one too far afield, for the causes, I believe, are thoroughly interwoven with the warp and woof of American society and its changes of the last half century. But to consider some of the results which will be projected from this great educational movement into American life is at once practicable and practical.

EDUCATION AS KNOWLEDGE.
"One result of the education of an increasing number of women is evidently to create a body of women superior to the women of the past and to the men of the present. Education does many things for the community which it is not supposed to do, or it fails to do many things for the community which it is supposed to do. Education as knowledge is of slight consequence. What may be called the encyclopedic idea of education has fallen, and fallen, it is to be hoped, not to rise. To call a man 'a walking encyclopaedia' is to demean him. The library is the place for a cyclopaedia, and not the skull or the ankle bones. But education as reasoning, or a sense of relationship, or the power of weighing evidence, or appreciation, is of the greatest worth. The woman who can judge, compare, assess each fact and truth at a proper value is educated. The woman of such a power is superior, and helps to make the members of her own sex and of the whole community superior. From this condition of superiority, which results from education, also must follow a very definite and serious domestic consequence. It will cause a transfer of the head of the home from the husband and father to the wife and mother. I have never found myself in intellectual or emotional sympathy with those who claim that 'man is the natural head of the home. But I doubt not most folks would say that man is the natural head of the home. But, whether the majority or the minority is sound in its construction, it is clear that giving to women education and falling to give to men education must tend to make the wife a wiser judge for all deliberation and decision and a stronger administrator. Her personality becomes more gracious presence, her relations more intimate, her vision, her services touch a broader horizon, her commands and her suggestions are touched with a sweeter reasonableness, which are more reasonable as well as sweeter. If man, embodying physical force, was regarded as the head of the home, woman, embodying superior intellectual force, may now graciously and justly assume the leadership.

ITS RELATION TO MARRIAGE.
"A third result of the education of a larger number of girls touches in a contradictory sense upon the result which I have just considered: Fewer women wish to be married under the conditions of

marriage which are open to them. I suppose it is true that most women would prefer the vocation of the wife to any other. But the woman who occasionally thinks of this vocation finds herself opposed to entering into it, except as she has offered to herself a partner suitable and acceptable. The woman, educated, gracious, accustomed to a gentle environment, is not willing to take as her partner a man ignorant, coarse, untrained, whose associations are degrading and damaging to the higher instincts and impulses. Therefore her field of choice for a partner becomes narrower by reason of her education. The woman who is educated will marry better because she is educated, but the chance that she will desire to marry at all are somewhat lessened by her education.

"This conclusion suggests a fourth effect, which naturally follows the increasing proportion of educated women. A larger number of women will enter specific vocations. I can hardly say that a larger number will become teachers, for teaching has from time immemorial been a profession chosen, and chosen wisely, by women. The mother element is the supreme element in the teaching of children, and therefore women should, and men should not, enter into the opportunity of teaching young boys and girls. But we are to see women taking up forms of business requiring large judgment, careful discrimination and the presence of fine personality. I do not think we shall find educated women taking up such forms of business

club represents a union of well educated women. The union formed may be made of the utmost worth to the local community and to the nation. "It should be said that the increase in the number of educated women does not appear to promote the cause of woman suffrage. The decline of public interest in the movement for giving the ballot to women is a very significant phenomenon. One cause, at least, of this decline is the lessening of interest in the formal government and its institutions, and an increase of interest in the informal relations of the government. There has been a growth of our sense of nationality, there has been a decline of our appreciation of the formal government. In this decline the law making part of the government has suffered most. Therefore, the interest of the people in the purpose of the nation has fallen. The education of women has slight relation to suffrage as an act of right, it has intimate relation to conditions and forces which touch the home, the church and society.

MEMORIAL CHAPELS.

HANDSOME EDIFICES BUILT BY NEW-YORK WOMEN AT GREAT COST.

An interesting manifestation of benevolence peculiarly American, and one which has steadily grown during the last decade, is the building of memorial chapels by individuals who afterwards present the result of their generous expenditure of money unconditionally to the parishes in which they are situated.

St. John's Church, at White Plains, N. Y., which was erected in 1892 at a cost of \$150,000 by Mrs. Jules Reynal, of this city, who died recently, is one of the most imposing of the Roman Catholic memorial places of worship in this country. The seating capacity is nine hundred. A handsome bronze tablet inserted near the pulpit testifies that the church was built in memory of Nathaniel Higgins and Jules Reynal, father and son of Mrs. Reynal. The architecture is old English Gothic. Vermont granite is used for the walls, and the interior finishings are of solid quartered oak. The pulpit and throne in particular are remarkably beautiful specimens of carved oak. The altar is of French caen stone, and the beautiful stained glass windows, representing figures of the saints, were imported from Liverpool. Designs for the church were selected by the Rev. William Dunphy after several months spent in Europe in company with Nathaniel Higgins.

Another handsome memorial built by a woman is St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic Church, at New-Rochelle, given to the parish by Mrs. Adrian Iselin, of New-York.

The structure illustrates the Romanesque in architecture, and, although comparatively small, attracts attention because of its unusual massiveness and solidity. Not far from \$150,000 was spent in building St. Gabriel's. The costly appointments include an extremely beautiful marble altar, status of marble, mosaic flooring and windows of Munich stained glass, designed, however, in this country. The outer walls are of Massachusetts bluestone lined with pressed brick. The church was consecrated by Archbishop Corrigan in May, 1893.

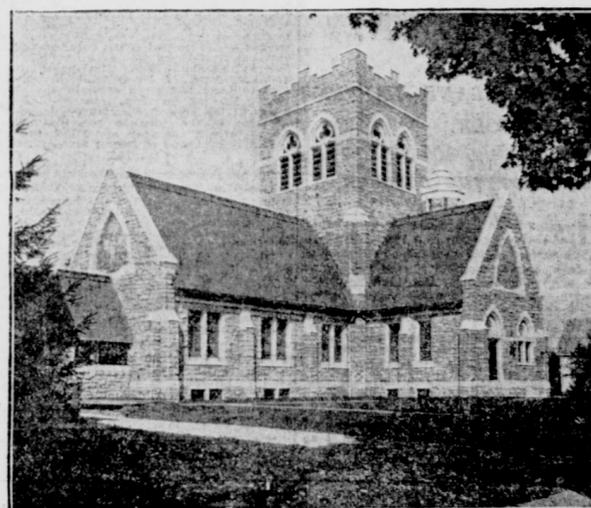
A picturesque chapel, plans for which have just been completed, will be erected during the summer at Newport, R. I., by Mrs. Natalie Hayward Brown in memory of her husband, John Nicholas Brown, who died in this city about one year ago. The edifice, a gift to Emanuel parish, is to be of early English design, and will stand on the site of the present Emanuel Church, situated on Spring-st. When finished there will be seating accommodations for four hundred persons. Massachusetts granite and dark oak are the materials to be used in its construction. The church will include a chantry, seating fifty persons; a choir room, a sacristy and a finished basement fitted up with

MEMORIAL CHAPELS BUILT BY WOMEN.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, AT WHITE PLAINS, BUILT BY THE LATE MRS. JULES REYNAL.

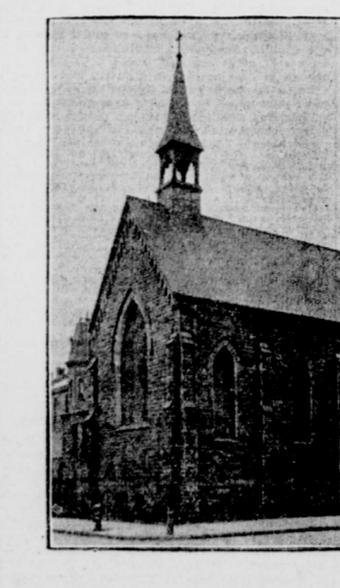
ST. GABRIEL'S CHURCH, AT NEW-ROCHELLE, BUILT BY MRS. ADRIAN ISELIN.

JAY GOULD MEMORIAL CHAPEL, AT ROXBURY, N. Y., BUILT BY MISS HELEN MILLER GOULD.



as represented in steel and iron corporations, or railroad or steamship companies, but we shall find them taking up such forms of endeavor as are embodied in the great drygoods shops, in the sale and purchase of real estate, and in the management of public and private schools, and in the administration of libraries, of course, too, the number who will become physicians will rapidly increase. The number who will adopt the clerical and the legal callings shows a very slight increase from year to year. Women seem to prefer, and wisely, the material to all other formal professions.

THE "WOMAN'S CLUB."
"To one further result I wish to allude. The education of girls is to enlarge the place and function of the public and semi-public organizations of women. The 'woman's club' in its large interpretation represents one of the most significant creations of the last decade. Whatever name it bears, 'Ladies' or 'Daughters,' whatever function it performs—social, sociological, literary, religious, parliamentary, educational, philanthropic—it is rendering a significant service for the community. The club and its manifold relations represent the intellectual and executive force of thousands or of tens of thousands of able women. Only women of distinct power could create and control such a condition. The condition offers a fitting opportunity for women of trained intellect to become useful to the community. In the betterment of the public schools, in every endeavor for securing public health, in the promotion of a noble civic spirit in the town and the city, the club is an agent ready for use, a condition to be made the most of for giving results of the highest importance. The



BELLEVUE CHAPEL, AT BELLEVUE HOSPITAL, BUILT BY MISS LEARY.

boys' clubrooms. The sum of \$100,000, probably more, will be expended on the building, which will be consecrated to the Episcopal form of worship. Mrs. Brown is a daughter of Colonel George W. Dresser, U. S. A., and a sister of Mrs. George Vanderbilt.

The chapel at Roxbury, N. Y., built by Miss Helen Gould in memory of her parents, and the memorial church at Scarborough, N. Y., erected by Mrs. Elliott F. Shepard in memory of her husband, are noteworthy models of Protestant chapels.

The Scarborough chapel, which, to some minds, in point of beauty of architecture, is second to none in this country, is an interpretation of the French Renaissance in the days of Louis XIV. The main design is in the shape of a cross which rises a tower 120 feet high. Granite of a pinkish hue, quarried on the estate of the late Colonel Shepard,

and Indiana limestone are used in its construction. An especially valued feature is a circular panel, in bass-relief, placed over the door. It includes three figures in the composition—the angel of the resurrection and the two Marys at the tomb. The angel bends over the women as he tells the story of the risen Lord. The flooring of the chapel is mosaic, the carved ceiling, grand dome and massive organ are of California redwood, and the numerous windows of stained glass. The cost of the building, which includes a large Sunday school room at the rear, was \$150,000.

The Gould Memorial Chapel is a beautiful example of English Gothic architecture, and cost about \$100,000 to build. The edifice is one of the most effective of the kind in this country, for the reason that it is built entirely of pure white St. Lawrence marble. Tall supporting columns, the arches and the apse are also of marble, and the remainder of the interior is finished in quartered oak. Stained glass windows of exceeding beauty are a most noticeable and ornamental feature. The largest of these, which is back of the pulpit, represents a scene of the resurrection in which the Saviour, the central figure, is surrounded by flying figures of angels. At the end of the nave is a window illustrating Faith, Hope and Charity, specially dedicated to Mrs. Gould.

Like the Shepard memorial, that at Roxbury belongs to the Presbyterian denomination. Ground will be broken this summer for Lady Chapel, the gift of the late Mrs. Eugene Kelly, of this city, to St. Patrick's Diocese. When finished it will stand as a memorial to the donor and her husband, the late Eugene Kelly. A bequest of \$200,000 Mrs. Kelly's will assures the erection of the chapel, which will take the form of an extension to St. Patrick's Cathedral, at Fifth-ave. and Fifth-st. Plans for the building have been in preparation for more than a year. As they now stand, instead of being separated from the cathedral, the memorial will join the great edifice at the east end and the robing room of Archbishop Corrigan, now situated behind the main altar, will be merged into the newer structure, the principal entrance of which will be from Madison-ave. The style of architecture, like that of the cathedral, will be thirteenth century Gothic, and when it is completed the entire amount of the bequest will be spent on the structure alone (the land is included in the cathedral property), some idea of the beauty and richness of its appointments may be gained.

As a builder of chapels, Mr. Thomas F. Ryan, of Baltimore, consequently much her charitable work in the South. She has for many years devoted much time and large sums of money toward the erection of Roman Catholic chapels in the more impoverished districts below the Mason and Dixon line. No fewer than twenty-one small chapels owe their existence mainly to Mrs. Ryan's generosity; three of them, indeed, were built entirely by her. None of these, strictly speaking, were in memorial except that dedicated last October in Washington, D. C., in connection with the Convent of Perpetual Adoration, which, together with an endowment for the support of the inmates, was a gift in behalf of the National Capital, by Mrs. Dixon line. No fewer than twenty-one small chapels owe their existence mainly to Mrs. Ryan's generosity; three of them, indeed, were built entirely by her. None of these, strictly speaking, were in memorial except that dedicated last October in Washington, D. 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