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## DON'T LEAVE YOUR FARM.

Don't leave your farm, your prairie soil,
Long tilled with heavy, wearing toil,
In quest of softer path to tread,
Or easier way to earn your bread;
Let steadfast courage nerve your arm,
Plod bravely on—don't leave your farm.

What though before your mental sight
Some city splendor's pleasing light,
Bright gleam of gold, or brilliant fame,
Play with alluring, smarting flame!
Resist the vain, illusive charm
With cheerful hope—don't leave your farm.

Though a secret worm, or blasting storm,
Or mortgage debt's appalling form,
Or warning beam from rainless sky,
Should cause you in despair to lie:
Close work and trust; no loud alarm
Must fright your soul—don't leave your farm.

Sigh not for learning's joys you deem
Are but to you an idle dream,
For sons of science have been found
Staunch plowman on the prairie ground.
Grave wisdom yields her sweetest charm
To humble minds;—don't leave your farm.

Whose heart is mailed in moral worth
May fight the fiercest foes on earth.
Rough, patient labor in the field
Soft spots of pleasant ease may yield;
And gold reward the strong right arm
That digs and delves',—don't leave your farm.
—Mrs. Gussie M. Waterman, in Orange Judd Farmer.

## THE DISMAL SWAMP.

### Its Solitary Regions a Paradise for Hunters.

**Slaves Formerly Found Safe Refuge in Its Dark and Lonely Precincts Which Their Hunters Were Unable to Penetrate.**

If it were not for the almost impenetrable thickets of the trackless woods, the Dismal swamp of Virginia would offer the greatest attractions imaginable for the sportsman. The swamp proper consists of about one hundred and twenty thousand acres of low swamp land, through which the bears and deer wander unmolested, birds of beautiful plumage fly from limb to limb of the huge cypress trees, and deadly rattlesnakes bask in the sunlight without fear of man. The trackless swamp abounds in cypress and juniper trees, both of which are becoming year by year more scarce and consequently exceedingly valuable.

In the very center of the Dismal swamp Lake Drummond is situated, and a more lovely, solitary sheet of water one would have to explore the wilds of Africa to find. The depression in which the placid water sparkles is supposed to have been made by a flash of lightning thousands of years ago. The whole swamp, in fact, represents in a modern age the coal forming epochs of unknown years back in the history of the globe, and in an exceeding dry season, when the boggy soil was parched and transformed into an inflammable clay, a flash of lightning became the origin of a big fire. Towering trees were burned to the ground, and the flames eventually ate their way far into the inflammable soil until an enormous hollow circle was formed in the ground. Innumerable streams trickle through the low swamp, and when the rains overflowed their banks they ran into this basin, forming Lake Drummond. Such, at least, is the theory.

The trackless swamp has not yet been entirely explored, and the surveyor's chain has never been stretched across more than one-half of its three hundred square miles. It is only occasionally that parties of hunters enter its jungles to shoot the game which abounds in numbers in the glades. The parts of the swamp that have been cleared and drained are only on the edges of the woods or along the sides of the canal, which passes through the swamp. This canal is twenty-three miles long and six feet deep.

Half a century ago this Dismal swamp canal was one of the most important highways of Virginia, but the heavy competition of the Albemarle & Chesapeake canal has forced it gradually into the background. It is one of the oldest canals in the United States and in the early colonial days there was no eastern Virginian of any prominence who was not connected with it. The building of the canal was a great event and afterward it figured prominently in the war of the revolution. George Washington was connected with it in the capacity of surveyor and director and his knowledge of it and the swamp through which it ran enabled him to obtain supplies that were greatly needed when he was contending with Cornwallis at Yorktown.

When the country around the swamp was first settled by the Virginia planters the swamp was one impenetrable mass of enormous trees and dense underbrush, but the black slaves soon began to penetrate the dark and gloomy wilds in search of juniper and cypress shingles. Nearly all the southern homesteads were roofed with shingles of these trees, and a good part of the Virginia homes had their shingles out of the Dismal swamp. The greatest difficulty with which these slaves had to contend was the soggy condition of the soil, which was not strong enough to hold the weight of a man, and the wheels of the carts sank deep into the mire. The farther they penetrated the swamp the greater this difficulty appeared to grow, until at last they resorted to the expedient of digging a watercourse or ditch large enough to float the logs down. This ditch was only a few feet deep. At first it stretched from Deep creek, a tributary of the Elizabeth river, to a short distance within the forest. Year by year the timber was cut away along the banks of the ditch, and as the demand for juniper and cypress increased the ditch was extended farther into the almost impenetrable swamp. The logs were floated down the canal to Deep creek and from thence down the Elizabeth river to Norfolk.

The digging of the canal was thus slow and unpremeditated. It was extended only as the need of more timber made it necessary, and as such things as steam shovels were unheard of the progress was slow. The towering cypress trees were felled by the negroes and many of the trees were split up into shingles on the ground. The slaves had a certain amount of work to do each day, but over and above this they were paid for their labor. They lived constantly in the swamp, and though fever and disease abounded they appeared unmindful of it. The dismal place was never visited by persons other than the laborers and overseers, and the surprise of the workmen was great one day when they heard the voices of other men far in the middle of the swamp. The wilds had not yet been penetrated beyond the head of the canal and nobody could guess how the men had entered the swamp ahead of them.

Investigations followed, and a peculiar coincidence of the work was discovered. The landowners in North Carolina, on the southern boundary of the swamp, had also been using the cypress and juniper trees, and they had likewise adopted the method of digging a ditch to float the logs to market. Shingles and lumber had been transported for years down through the North Carolina district, and the two sections of the canal had now nearly met. Only a short piece of the uncleared swamp intervened. The result was that a perfect canal running through the center of the Dismal swamp was completed, and in a short time small boats were seen carrying goods back and forth. The canal was continued as a water course for lumber and shingles, but it was also found to be of more value for other purposes.

In the course of time the state of Virginia took an interest in the canal, and a ditch was cut through the swamp to Lake Drummond, not for the purpose of boats, but simply to supply the canal with sufficient water at all seasons of the year to transport boats. The Dismal Swamp Canal Company was formed, and the stock of the company reached a very high figure. The swamp was one great woods of cypress and juniper and this timber in creased so in value that the canal became a fortune to the men interested in it. Thousands of loads of shingles and timber were floated down every year and shipped to all parts of the civilized world. This trade is not so extensive to-day, for the largest and best trees have been cut away, while the younger growth is not yet large enough to be of great service. All along the line of the canal, however, the forests have been sadly denuded of their timber. The wet, boggy swamp makes the early objection to timber gathering still strong, and it is a difficult task to haul the timber from the interior of the swamp to the canal. For this purpose, however, wide, flat wheels are used, and quite a business is still being carried on. Many thousands of feet of cypress and juniper timber are annually floated down to Norfolk.

Just previous to the civil war the Dismal swamp was the great refuge for the runaway slaves, and its gloomy wilds have sheltered more than one persecuted black. The bloodhounds were the only animals that could find the victims in the swamp, and often they returned to their masters weeks later, torn and bleeding from their journey in the swamp. The white men never ventured to follow the bloodhounds through the swamp, and it became a common saying that when a slave escaped to the Dismal swamp he was lost for good.

At one time quite a colony of runaway slaves lived in a swamp near Lake Drummond, where they led a half-savage existence. The wild beasts and birds furnished them with all the meat they needed, and by diking in a portion of the higher ground they succeeded in making dry homes. They raised considerable grain here and lived an apparently contented life. Long after the war this little colony was visited accidentally by some hunters. The negroes fled into the swamp, leaving the white hunters in possession of their homes. It was only after considerable explanation that they could make the negroes believe that a war had been fought for their freedom and that the hunters were not white masters searching for their slaves. The blacks had not been in communication with the outside world for years and they were totally ignorant of the great agitation which had shaken the country. Their rude homes have long since been deserted and small companies of hunters occasionally camp out on the little piece of dry ground which the negroes had erected and diked in.

The easiest and, in fact, about the only way of reaching Lake Drummond is by the canal and the stream which connects the lake and the waterway. Long, narrow, flat-bottom boats are pushed up the canal to the lake by the hunters. A small cabin is built on the deck of each boat where the hunters can sleep and eat. After reaching the inland lake everything is wild and solitary. Birds, deer and bear abound, and the sportsmen are in for a good day's sport. The shores of the lake, however, are soft and boggy, and it is almost impossible to land anywhere. The flat-bottom boat, however, can be pushed far into the glades of the swamp, and from such vantage places the game can easily be covered. The deer and bear come down to the waters of the lake to drink, and they offer good shots for expert riflemen. The wild turkeys are quite plentiful in the swamp, and whole flocks are often flushed and killed. The birds of plumage are so sure of security in the dense swamp that they fly around in great numbers showing an amount of tameness that is remarkable. Alligators bask in the warm sunlight, and between plume and alligator hunting the native hunters can make a pretty good living.—Baltimore Cor. N. Y. Times.

—Mr. George Wilson, of Lexington, Mo., is the possessor of a copy of the Bible in the Icelandic language, translated from the German by Gudbrand Thorlaksson, of Holum, Iceland, and there printed and bound in 1584. It is 4½ inches thick, 9 wide and 14 long, bound in strong leather, with brass corners and clasps. The paper is linen, and the illustrations old-fashioned but artistic. This copy has the translator's autograph on the title page and was procured from the Skandinavisk Antikvariat, in Copenhagen, Denmark.

## SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

—A new college for girls is soon to be opened, as a branch of the Lycee Racine, at the Fauborg Poissoniere, Paris, and a curriculum of seven years is provided.

—The Texas Advocate gives a summary of the membership of the various Methodist conferences of that state, as reported at the recent sessions, and the aggregate is 148,237, while the increase for the past year has been 13,476.

—Notwithstanding his great age and the visible signs of approaching feebleness the pope passes a busy and hard-working day. He rises at six, and until two o'clock, when he dines, he is continuously occupied, except for a brief promenade in the gardens of the vatican at noon. After dinner he rests until four o'clock, when he begins a series of duties that keep him busy until nine at night, at which time he eats supper. This last meal of the day is a most substantial one, for it is composed of roast meats, eggs and champagne.

—A school for training servants, so long talked of in various parts of the country, seems about to become a fact in Washington, D. C., where the servant-girl problem has become exceedingly difficult of solution. A house has been secured, and colored girls between fifteen and thirty will receive gratuitous instruction and board, for a term of six months or a year, as may be necessary, and will learn the duties of housemaids, cooks, seamstresses and laundresses. A good situation is promised each graduate, and the first class is already spoken of.

—Half of the annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church have elected delegates to the next general conference, which meets in Omaha in May, 1892. The conferences which meet this spring are yet to be heard from. Of the 176 ministerial delegates so far elected 84, according to the Western Christian Advocate, are presiding elders; 51 pastors, 24 professors, editors, agents, etc., and 7 are secretaries and attaches of various institutions. Of the 103 lay delegates elected 29 are merchants, 13 bankers, 12 manufacturers, 11 professors and 7 lawyers.

—Some church figures of interest have lately been published from the books of the Philadelphia board of revision of taxes that are worth a glance. They show that there are 399 churches of all denominations within the limits of Philadelphia whose aggregate assessed value is $20,292,300. They are divided thus:

| Denomination. | No. of Churches. | Value. |
|---|---|---|
| Methodist | 124 | $2,714,100 |
| Presbyterian | 121 | 4,249,500 |
| Episcopal | 104 | 3,543,200 |
| Baptist | 94 | 2,179,500 |
| Roman Catholic | 86 | 3,866,200 |
| Lutheran | 58 | 2,976,100 |
| Friends | 19 | 611,000 |
| Hebrew | 14 | 419,000 |
| Unitarian | 3 | 92,000 |
| Moravian | 3 | 75,000 |

There are sixty-nine churches not taxable on the books in addition to those enumerated above, but no mention is made of their denomination on the assessors' lists.

## WHEN THEY WEAKEN.

**Observations of an Officer on the Conduct of Criminals.**

The best time to get a correct idea of the character of persons convicted of a criminal offense," said Deputy Sheriff O'Donnell, whose duties include the taking of sentenced persons to Sing Sing, "is when they have started on their way to serve out the punishment imposed upon them. Once seated in the train which carries them to prison, the mask which they have worn in the court-room seems to drop off and their real feelings find vent. It appears to be a great relief for them to tell the true facts in the case, and it is a queer experience to listen to them.

"Men who made a bold front during trial and were considered hardened criminals for their seeming indifference have broken down and cried like children as they told me of the circumstances which induced them to do wrong. Facts that might have greatly reduced the penalty imposed upon them, had been held back through fear of inculpating others, or of bringing shame upon innocent persons. On the other hand, fellows who had cried and whined during the trial, and endeavored in every way to excite the sympathies of the jury and the judge, seemed to greatly enjoy telling how their efforts had resulted in conviction of a lesser degree of crime than their guilt really warranted.

"What affected me more that all were two or three cases in which I was satisfied that the convicted persons were innocent of the crime of which they were found guilty. Circumstantial evidence of the strongest kind had weaved such a net around them that they were unable to satisfy the jury of their innocence. The look of despair and utter hopelessness upon the faces of these men when they found themselves actually on their way to imprisonment for a number of years always gives me an uncomfortable feeling whenever I think of them. A peculiarity of the professional criminals is that they seem to to think the people here are always talking about them and their boldness as law-breakers, and are incredulous when assured that they and their deeds are as completely forgotten as though they never existed."—N. Y. Telegram.

**A Question of Dinner Time.**

A cardinal who commanded the troops of Pope Boniface IX. in the march of Acona, finding himself on one occasion in a position in which he must conquer or die, promised his soldiers that, if they secured the victory, those who fell should dine that very day with the angels. They marched to the combat with alacrity; but finding that the cardinal was careful not to expose himself, "How is it," said one of them, "that you show no anxiety for the celestial banquet to which you have invited us so warmly?" "Because it is not yet my dinner time, and I am not hungry."—All the Year Round.

## JAPAN'S FIRE BRIGADE.

**The Firemen of the Mikado's Realm at Their Gymnastic Exercises.**

No country is so much exposed to fires as Japan. In one week recently five thousand houses were burned down in Tokio alone, and in the next week fifteen thousand houses were destroyed in that city, while Sir Rutherford Alcock states that Tokio loses as many houses as constitute the entire city every ten years. The houses, with the exception of the tiles on the roof, are constructed entirely of wood, and the windows are formed of fine and often beautiful lace work covered with paper.

Some buildings in Japan are thatched, while the roofs of others are formed of little slate-like flakes of wood, but these so readily take fire if sparks fall upon them that the Japanese prefer taking the risk of injury from falling tiles during the earthquake to being in even greater danger from fires than they necessarily must always even now be. It is strange that in these days, when so many young natives have come to Europe to study the sciences, their acquired knowledge of chemistry has not caused them to adopt some means of rendering the wood of which their houses are constructed, and even the paper of the windows, incombustible. They have, however, in the large towns, most efficient fire brigades, and have even the newest and best fire engines of European or American make, but these are of much less use than might be imagined, for the supply of water is limited, and the engine without water is a mere mockery. Over every house door is placed a sign indicating that there is one well on the premises, or sometimes we see two or more of these signs, indicating that two or more wells will be found in that building, and thus the firemen know the sources of their water supply, and from these wells alone can water be had.

The scarcity of water renders it necessary that all buildings surrounding any that may have taken fire be pulled down, so that the burning mass be isolated, for there is no hope of preventing the spreading of the conflagration by the water from the engines, and it is this necessity which causes the firemen's drill in Japan to appear so strange and grotesque to the European. Each fireman is furnished with a sort of hook, intended for use in pulling down the houses, but the question arises as to where the man is to stand while engaged in his work of destruction. A ladder is held upright by a number of men, who hold it firmly by these hooks; and it is up a ladder thus held that the firemen go to pull down the houses which are to be destroyed in case of a fire. The chief exercises of the men consist in ascending the ladder and leaning out from it in a horizontal manner, using the hook while holding on by the feet, and in all sorts of acrobatic feats which seem calculated to aid them in their work. Sometimes a man ascends the ladder and stands in an inverted position on the top round. At other times he grasps one side of the ladder with his hands and throws his body out horizontally, so that he may have free use of his feet—and it must be remembered that the Japs can do much more with their feet than we can with ours—but the chief exercise consists in holding by the feet and using the hooks with the hands.

The firemen are arranged in corps each of which is headed by the bearer of a large lantern in the form of some curious distinctive device, from which cut papers, a religious emblem, depend, and we have seen a corps slowly and solemnly marching to a fire, headed with this insignia, just as though it were taking part in a funeral procession, instead of hurrying as becomes those concerned in subduing that fearful element, fire.—London Graphic.

## SIGNALING MARS.

**Some Remarks About Communicating With Our Neighbor.**

At its most favorable oppositions, Mars is still forty-two million miles from us, or a hundred and sixty times farther than the moon; while the diameter of its disk is on only twenty-five seconds. According to Schiaparelli, the smallest objects visible on its surface under the most favorable circumstances—such as a bright spot on a dark ground, or a dark spot on a bright ground—must have a diameter equal to a fiftieth part of that of the planet, or about eighty-five miles. This minimum can, it is true, be reduced by using large objectives permitting stronger magnifying; but even then it is certain that luminous signals, for example, visible from the earth on Mars, must have enormous dimensions.

The inhabitants of Mars, if more advanced in astronomical knowledge than we, as one of our imaginative astronomers supposes they are, would have, in case they should desire to start an exchange of telegraphic communications with their earthly neighbors, to give their signals diameters of miles in every direction. But would they think of it? The reciprocal question to this is the one that puzzles me. The earth, during all the oppositions of Mars, is in conjunction to it. It is lost in the rays of the sun, and invisible from Mars, unless it is in transit over the sun's disk. Then it is a little black, round spot, on which we have every reason to suppose the Martian astronomers will be able to distinguish nothing. The earth will be better situated at the quadratures, but also at a much greater distance.—A. Guillemin, in Popular Science Monthly.

**A Honeymoon in Egypt.**

Mr. Boston (under the shadow of the Sphinx and the Pyramids)—Dearest, why that sad, far-away look in your eyes? Does it come from the contemplation of this spectacle of hoary antiquity?

His Bride (confidentially)—No, Winthrop, dear; I was just thinking how good a nice hot plate of pork and beans would taste!—Puck.

—Too Sharp for Love.—Frank—"Love laughs at locksmiths." May—"But makes grievous moan when one's mamma is also chaperone."—N. Y. Herald.

## PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

—A man who claimed to have seen Washington inaugurated president, and to have been a friend of Simon Kenton, was Alfred Cole, who died at Springfield, Ky., not long ago. He was alleged to have been one hundred and fifteen years old.

—Miss Kate Furbish, Maine's botanist, has traveled thousands of miles over that state in connection with her "Flora of Maine." She generally travels alone, carries no weapons, and says she has not, in her twenty years' experience, encountered "anything to be afraid of."

—Churton Collins is rather late in accusing Tennyson of plagiarism, but he has set certain circles in England agog over the energetic manner in which he has gone about it, naming in the laureate's poems many passages which he declares are taken bodily from Virgil, Lucretius and Theocritus, together with phrases from the early English poets.

—Pierre Ruan, an aged banker of Paris, had a prophetic dream a few years ago which told him that he would live until the year 1902. He was so firm in the belief that the dream was correct that he had a monument erected with his name, age and the date, 1902, cut upon it. The old man has just died, and the marble-cutter had another Pierre Ruan inscription and date put on.

—Miss Ethel Ingalls, favorite daughter of the ex-senator, is devoted to dogs, horses and china. Her pretty room is hung with pictures of the former, and scattered about on tables and brackets are countless bits of rare bric-a-brac, china and silver from every land under the sun. She has a large correspondence, and many cranks inundate her with advice, applications and petitions.

—Don Emilio Castelar, ex-president of the Spanish republic, is now engaged in Paris on important books. The first is a monograph on Columbus, to be issued on the occasion of the impending celebration of the discovery of America; the second will be a work on the principal orators of Spain, to be published in New York; the third a description of the most beautiful cathedrals in the world.

—Owen Meredith's (Lord Lytton) coffin was borne to the grave without a blossom to decorate its pall, according to the direction of Lady Lytton, who said that her husband had requested that not so much "as the tiniest violet or the smallest rosebud" should be used about his bier. "What in Heaven's name have poor flowers done to be condemned to serve such a horrid purpose as being consigned to vaults and graves? I like a sad-looking funeral," was a frequent saying of the poet; and his funeral cermony was, indeed, a gloomy one.

—The executors of Mr. Bancroft's library have decided to offer it in one lot. The collection is a very large one, the manuscripts are numerous and valuable, and many of the books are enriched by the addition of Mr. Bancroft's own marginal comments. A special study of its extent and character has been made by Mr. John F. Sabin, who estimates it to be twice as large as that of the late S. L. M. Barlow, and three times as large as the Menzies collection. All book lovers hope that the executors may be successful in their attempt to prevent its being scattered.

## HUMOROUS.

—The smallest boy frequently gets the biggest spanking.

—The champion light-weight—a short ton of coal—Texas Siftings.

—He—"This pudding is something fearful; it tastes absolutely horrible." She—"It is not possible, for the cook-book says it tastes delicious."—Texas Siftings.

—"Will you be ready to die for me?" she asked, with romantic intensity. "I will," he answered, "the first time a gray hair puts in an appearance."—Washington Star.

—Judge (after the jury has acted against his judgment in acquitting a man)—"Give this man his liberty—but watch your coats and umbrellas."—Fliegende Blatter.

—"What is Nabson's defense? Insanity?" "No," replied Nabson's lawyer; "only monomania. He couldn't put up enough for a full-sized insanity defense."—Indianapolis Journal.

—"Well, Jimmie," said Uncle George, as he watched the boy at work on his sled, "are you polishing up the runners?" "No," said Jimmie, "I'm shinin' up the sliders. Sleds don't run."—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

—Climatic Nomenclature for the New Year (suggested by recent developments of the British seasons).—Spring—The clog days. Summer—The dog days. Autumn—The bog days. Winter—The fog days.—Punch.

—A Solid Man.—She—"Who is that little man over yonder?" He—"That is Stock-broker Smith. One of our solid men." She—"Solid Men! Why, he doesn't look as if he weighed a hundred pounds."—Yankee Blade.

—"Time is money, my dear," he said, hustling around in a great hurry. "Come off," she replied tartly; "I've got plenty of time to go down street and buy a bonnet, but I don't get the bonnet just the same."—Detroit Free Press.

—Teacher—"How many bones have you in your body, Jimmie?" Jimmie—"Two hundred and nine." Teacher—"But the other pupils have not so many." Jimmie—"Well, they ain't had fish for dinner, like me."—Pharmaceutical Era.

—A workingman called on a country clergyman closely related to a ducal house. The applicant wanted a letter of recommendation to a neighboring nobleman, from whom he hoped to obtain employment. "Why not go personally and see my lord?" the friend asked. "Well, you see," was the nervous answer, "I do not like speaking to Lord X.; he may be proud and not care to listen to the likes of me. It's quite a different thing with yourself, for there's nothing of the gentleman in you."

## IN WOMAN'S BEHALF.

### WHY WOMEN GETS LESS PAY.

**They Are Not Worth So Much Because They Are Weaker, a Woman Says.**

The reason why most women workers are not paid so much as most men workers is because they are not worth so much, says a woman who believes what she says, who believed so ten years ago, whose belief has only deepened with every working year that has passed over her head. Women are not paid so much as men because they do not really earn so much as men. That is a generalized statement. A few women are paid more than some men, because they are doing something that a man can't do so well as a woman can. They are paid for the advantage of sex. Some women get just as much for their work as a man would get, because the work has no advantage or disadvantage of sex either way. Most women are paid less than most men because men have the advantage of their sex in strength, strength of body and of muscles, units of horse power.

Men and women are paid for work, and that work is a matter of body as well as of brains. When people begin to talk about this matter they insist upon treating it as if ability were purely a matter of brains, as if the concession that a woman's work isn't worth so much as a man's in the money market is because she hasn't so much brains as a man. Nonsense! The very fact that women hold their own against men as they do in this competitive period, with less physical strength, proves that they have more brains than men, if it proves anything at all.

Some women, to be sure, are as strong as men. But the mass of women are not. And the law of political economy, which has set the wage mark for men and women, deals with the rule and not with the exception. Take the branches of work in which men and women engage, and in the great majority of them a man can do all a woman can do, and more. That is true even in cases on which at first glance it seems to have no bearing. Take, for example, the question of teaching. The success of women as teachers is eminent, and yet a man in that profession is always paid more than a woman for what seems like the same work. But a reserve power is in the man that is not in the woman—a something which he may never be called upon to do, but which he could do if it were necessary. She can teach as well as he; sometimes she teaches better, because she is more likely to have that tact of the soul and that happy inspiration which will rouse the young mind into glad learning. But she can't enforce her own authority beyond a certain limit, and a man can. He can thrash an unruly boy into obedience, and she can't. And although that method of controlling is not to be extolled, yet it must be confessed that there is an irresistible persuasiveness about it. His advantage is in his muscles, not his brains.

The same principle applies in other fields of work. A man clerk may not be able to sell more yards of lace or of cloth in a day than a woman clerk, but he can handle bales of cloth and bigger bundles than she can. He can do the heavy work of a porter if necessity requires. He may never do it, but he could do it, and that very potentiality makes him worth more.

In nearly all the kinds of work in which both men and women are engaged, the same potentiality in physical strength plays a part—in the greater endurance of long hours or greater rush. In these branches into which it does not enter women are paid as much as men. A woman physician gets as much as man. A woman writer gets as much for her novel, if it be as good; a woman artist gets as much for a picture if it be worth it.

But in most of the work of the world physical strength does play a great part, therefore the wage mark of men will always be higher than that of women. And it should be so. Women's work was not meant to be measured by comparison with men's and by dollar standards alone. Women were not put into the world to compete with men, but to complement them; not to show that they are capable of doing what a man can do, but to show that they can do what a man can't do.

The rewards of her work are the rewards of the Kingdom of Heaven quite as much as they are of the kingdom of this world. There must be other rewards certainly, as long as the world stands as it does, and men and women work side by side for money. But the fact can not be altered that this is not the way in which men and women were meant to work. The fact, also, can not be altered that men must do the hard physical work in the world. The last fact is that since work is quite as much a matter of body as of brains, the mass of men will always be paid more than the mass of women.—N. Y. Sun.

## WORKING GIRLS' SOCIETIES.

**Miss Grace Dodge Describes the Good Work Being Done by Them.**

This is the seventh year in the history of the New York association of working girls' societies, and Miss Grace H. Dodge, who has worked so zealously for the establishment of those clubs and for this society, states the aims and endeavors of the scheme in the New York Tribune.

One strange charge, she says, has been brought against our principle, that this rule of self-support will inevitably repel from the clubs those who most need the privileges and for whom they were mainly instituted. Miss Dodge says in reply to this that the clubs were not instituted as a means of helping the destitute or incapable, but "they grew out of the need of further opportunities for self-help, felt by some and divined by others, and were not created at all. It is apparently impossible for some of our friends and well-wishers to realize the distinction between charity and co-operation, between societies to aid needy working girls and clubs of working girls to help themselves. Our clubs do not pretend to cover all the ground, do not assert that there is no room for anything else; but they have one definite object, that of increasing the opportunities, mental, moral and physical, of the individual working girl, who is able to earn her own living, but unable, without combining with other girls, to obtain all that she desires beyond the necessaries of life."

Miss Dodge gives a very interesting report of some of the work done in the past six years, and of the various ways in which the work has developed. One outgrowth is the children's dressmaking company, organized a little over a year ago with a capital of $2,000, and seventeen members and two stockholders. The demand for the articles made began almost at once, and within six months the number employed had to be nearly doubled, and the capital increased. The profits of the company are to be shared by the stockholders and employes, receiving each one-third, the last third forming a sinking fund for the enlargement of the business.

The Penny provident fund is considered one of the most valuable institutions of the clubs. The deposits made in one year by twelve members alone amounted to $1,941. A mutual benefit fund has also been established, the object being to provide for the members in case of illness or death. Any working girl who is a member in good standing of one of the clubs of the association of working girls' societies is entitled to become a member. An initiation fee of fifty cents is charged and the dues are twenty-five cents each month. In case of illness a member is paid $5 a week for not more than six consecutive weeks in one year, and any member who has paid her dues for five years from the date of becoming a member, and has received no benefits, is paid the aggregate amount of such dues.

"The Domestic Circle" is an outcome of the girls' club life. Many of the members have been married during the last six years, and these and others of their married friends have formed "circles." They are designed to broaden the ideas of the members, to educate in home and household matters and to develop co-operative measures. At the meetings members and visitors bring their babies and young children, toys being provided for their amusement. Topics selected by the girls themselves for discussion during the present year are: "Selecting and furnishing a home," "What is required to make a useful life?" "Competition between men and women in business," "Do we educate younger brothers, and how?" "Are women moral reformers?" "Abraham Lincoln and his life," and "The friendships of two women contrasted." These are selected at random from a printed list.

An occasional evening at Miss Dodge's own club on Thirty-eighth street is given to impromptu papers. The girls all sit down and in a given time—say three minutes—write out their thoughts on a subject selected beforehand. The scribbling is done on the paper on which ribbon is rolled, it being reserved by the girls for this purpose. "What has club-life done for me?" was one of the topics recently discussed, and which brought out, among others, the following answers: "It has filled a long-felt want, in having a place to spend a pleasant and profitable evening, at a small cost. Has also aided in creating true and lasting friendships. Has taught us to look for all that is brightest and best in one another;" "It has given me a good education and a great deal of pleasure and good company;" "Club life is a most pleasant feature in a working girl's life—an education on many useful and practical subjects," and "It has elevated the working class in the minds of the world in general." One small piece of paper contained the word "Everything," which was evidently what one girl considered was putting the matter in a nutshell.

"I am asked," says Miss Dodge, "by what right I am a member of the working girl's club, and why Mrs. Richard Irvin and others are admitted. The club girls settled that question themselves one evening at a discussion. It was decided that Mrs. Richard Irvin and others were working women, but they might be said to be working with money, not for money. It is not a question of dollars and cents, or of the kind of work. One member may be just as busy keeping house for her mother as another girl is in a shop, and it was thoroughly agreed that both have an equal right of membership. As a matter of fact I have no more voice in the Thirty-eighth street club than the youngest cash girl."

**A Woman's Place.**

A woman's place in the world is measured by the space she can fill in these days, and not estimated by the most meagre corner in which she can be crowded away from the light, her inspiration stifled and her individuality crushed. Her capacity has grown by exercise, and men under the stimulating power of her presence in every walk of life have been spurred to added effort.—Chicago Graphic.

## DOINGS OF FAIR WOMEN.

THE woman teachers in the Buffalo public schools have formed a mutual life and health insurance association.

MRS. CAROLYN P. CHASE, recently elected to the school board in Cambridge, received two hundred more votes than the most popular alderman in her ward.

MORE than one hundred and twenty women had, before October 1, 1891, taken medical diplomas entitling them to enter their names on the British registry as duly qualified medical practitioners.

MRS. LA FAVRE, the New York leader of the vegetarians, subsists almost entirely upon water and fruit which has ripened in the sun. These, with the cereals and nuts, make up Mrs. La Favre's daily menu.

MME. ALBANI came from Albany in the long ago, and when she goes back to that old Dutch city she forgets for the time that she is the great songstress and becomes plain Emma La Jeunesse once more. Albany women delight in telling of the early days and noble struggles of this poor young French girl who is now one of the greatest singers in the world.