

Wages of Women Workers.

According to Marion Harland, "60 centuries of precedent since the time of their 'foremother Eve' have rendered women incapable of competing on equal terms with men in manufacturing, mercantile, professional, and even educational business. They do not work as men do. 'A man grasps his business with both hands. If his hands are not strong enough, he clamps it with his feet, and rather than let it go, seizes it with his jaws.' A woman usually regards labor as a means to an end, as 'a violence done to nature and precedent.' She will not take the same care as a man; she stands too much upon her dignity. She is given to temper or whimpering when found fault with."

Upon this a contemporary remarks: "This is surely important, if true; and we believe that it is at least worthy of very serious consideration, especially by young women who aspire to earning their own living and to taking their places among the world's bread-winners. There are, to be sure, many exceptions to this rule, many bright, independent, self-reliant young women, who, while thoroughly womanly, are also thoroughly able to take care of themselves. In fact, the list of exceptions is already quite as long as the rule itself, perhaps, like the memorable passage in Andrew and Stoddard's Latin grammar.

"Still there is enough truth in Marion Harland's indictment to make it worthy of the most serious consideration by every young woman. It is not altogether man's inhumanity to woman which makes her wages less and her chances poorer than those of a man of the same intellectual caliber. There is much in her own view of life that accounts for this, and, before she can hope to have her rights of earning as good a living as her brother fully recognized, she, too, must seize her business 'with both hands,' and not regard it merely as a pleasant diversion or grim necessity, not to be gladly accepted but to be endured for a little while between girlhood and matrimony.

"The young man knows that he will be discharged if he does not do his work well. The young woman often thinks that winning ways, or regard for the sex, or, as a last resort, tears, will avail to excuse slighted tasks and work ill-done. And this attitude on her part for business lowers the price of her own and her sister's labor in all the markets of the world. The only remedy is the one above suggested—to take hold of life's work both hands."

A Celestial Compliment.

A secretary of the Chinese Embassy in Washington was introduced to a lady, who among other questions asked him, "What virtue do you most highly prize in your women?"

"The virtue of domesticity," was the reply.

"Then you do not like your women to move in society much?" she questioned.

"Not at all. Our law even recognizes cause for divorce when a woman—pardon me, madame—is inquisitive and talkative."

"Then I would be in danger of being divorced if I lived in China?" smilingly asked the lady.

"The very day that my country would have the luck to possess a womanly being like you," replied the gallant son of the heavenly realm, "every cause of divorce would be removed from the world."

Tell Your Mother All.

The London Freeman gives this good advice to girls: "Your mothers, dear girls, are the wisest and best confidants you can have. Their love will be sure, will guide and counsel you aright, and although you make many mistakes and blunders, you can never go very far astray if you tell your mother everything. A girl whose first thought is, 'Mother mustn't know anything of this,' is standing on very unsafe ground. Hide nothing from your mother. If you do wrong, go to them and own it; don't wait for someone else to tell them, and thus shake their confidence and trust in you. Concealment and deceit should never be tolerated in your intercourse and association with other girls; show those who take pleasure in such things, and seek the companionship of those with whom there need be no mysteries."

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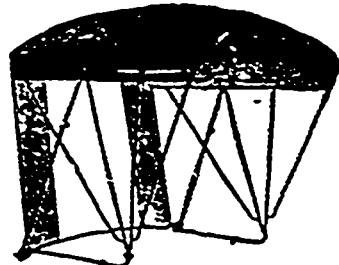
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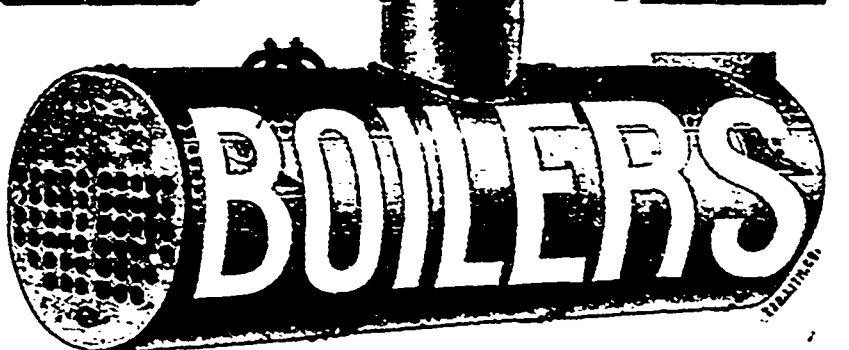
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