

the human heart, and judge the God of Moses by the purest and the best that could find expression in Moses' words.

It is strange that we should find so great an inequality of ethical standards even in the *human* expression of "The commandments of the Lord" as they are set forth in the book of Deuteronomy, and we can have no doubt at all that the words, "And the Lord spake unto Moses" do not represent a literal fact. The hearts of men, responding to the *surer* word of God, have rejected many of the commandments of Moses, and amplified all of them, even though he declared: "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God."—Deut. iv, 2. The really and eternally sacred thing is truth. The human mind has never grasped the *ultimate* truth, nor the human soul *fathomed* the will of God, but the righteous in all ages have sought to find it, and in searching, the race is uplifted, humanity is made more and more divine, and the will of God is more and more clearly discerned.

WM. M. JACKSON

5th mo. 11th, 1895.

For the YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

### WOMAN'S SPHERE.

Ever since his very instructive series of letters of travel, published several years since, I have continued to be interested in the other communications of J. D. McPherson as those almost of a personal friend; but when I find him using the experiences of that same trip, directly against the worthy efforts of our own American women, I can scarcely recognize the same hand. Neither do I desire to enter into a controversy either through our valued YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW or elsewhere, other than to present some of the advantages to be gained by woman's entrance into the several fields of

activity in which she is at all adapted for.

You will at once perceive that I am not here a pessimist, ever fearful of woman's degeneracy, if permitted an opportunity of broadening out in her "sphere."

Our boasted modern civilization, as under the leadership of men's dominion alone, is not exactly a success in a moral and religious sense; and I felt this very keenly but a few days ago, on reading a lady cousin's single reason for not attending her only brother's funeral—"I did not go there, as everyone advised me not to go, as it was a great risk for a girl to go alone to New York City, unless she is acquainted."

Have we, as men, succeeded in conquering intemperance, immorality, profanity, or even the abuse of tobacco?

My query partly answers itself, in that the majority of men themselves are not yet prepared for such sweeping changes. I was about to declare that I have greater faith in our own motherhood and wifehood, and am ready to trust them, and that they will not take undue advantage, for they love us with a deeper and a purer love than we at first suspect.

While still using his own materials, I cannot understand how J. D. McP. has been misled in comparing downtrodden, continental Europe with liberty loving North America.

Excessive military rule for the pleasure of the few, expensive standing armies of enforced idlers, and social distinctions due to royalty of birth on the one hand and a hopeless pauperism on the opposite, rendering the daily lives of so many there one of despairing drudgery. It was from among these that our friend met the degeneration of womanhood.

With us the genius of humanity is of a far different color. Outside of certain sweat factories, and the slums of our larger cities, there is most always an intelligence of mind, an independence of bearing, that at once asserts a buoyancy of spirit that crops out