

Correspondence

We reproduce below a number of letters from our readers on various subjects.

Correspondents when writing this office are requested to attach their signatures and address, not necessarily for publication but as an evidence of good faith. Otherwise no attention will be given them. All correspondence strictly confidential.

Editor Western Home Monthly.—I am a reader of your paper and follow the correspondence with great interest. The ladies have some letters of great interest. I see the "Young Woman" from Saskatoon has one which is pretty near the truth about some of the bachelors. There are a few of the bachelors who make fools of themselves with whisky. I am a bachelor myself, and don't think of touching the whisky. I would like you to request the lady of Saskatoon to correspond with me. I am making a comfortable home for myself, and will also do the same for any lady partner.

BACHELOR.

Ponoka, Alta., Nov. 16, 1905, Editor, Western Home Monthly.—In looking over your paper I notice an article signed "Marriageable Woman," and the thought struck me that your paper might be of benefit to some of us lonely bachelors of both sex.

My experience has been that the poor man that comes here without a helpmate can acquire plenty of this world's goods but while doing so he has no time to devote to society while busy on a ranch.

I came here from Wisconsin in 1900 at the age of forty, with a few hundred dollars in U. S. currency. In five years of "bacheling," I learned that without a helpmate it was not a real home, and then advertised my ranch for sale. I sold it for \$6,000 where, if I had a good helpmate I would not have taken less than \$9,000. With best wishes for the cause of matrimony.—Yours,

N. McEWAN.

Minto, Oct. 10, 1905, The Editor, Western Home Monthly.—Of all positions in the world, that of the home girl on the farm has the least advantages. This girl has got to stop home from school at the early age of thirteen or fourteen. If she has higher ambitions than that of a farmer's wife these are generally quenched. If her soul is longing to be something higher and nobler and better these ambitions are generally used as a jest. On the farms in Manitoba education is too generally lacking. Children are kept from school to work, are turned into men and women when they ought still to be believing in fairy tales. They are taught to look on education as a luxury, not a necessity; and what is the result? ignorance for generations. I heard a man once remark that "education on the farm was a superfluous luxury." What is more interesting than an educated father and mother taking interest in the education for their children? Too many parents are blind to the interests of their children. Don't jest at their ambitions, encourage them. Perhaps you are giving to the world a genius.

FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

Brandon, Manitoba, December 18, 1905. To the Editor.—Having read with some interest your correspondence page of Western Home Monthly for December, 1905, I felt I would like to say I admire the spirit of the letter headed Wolseley Sask. and dated Oct. 27th, 1905. I cannot understand why girls prefer slavery in the cities, at small pay too, as a rule, to free country life with a fair remuneration where they can have plenty of fresh air and exercise. In many cases I know where a girl might live at home with her parents in comfort with plenty

to do to help make that home all that it should be, which is anything but slavery, and should be one of her greatest pleasures. About as soon as she leaves school, nothing will do but she must rush off to some city and spend her life in a stuffy store during the day, then seeking pleasure until a late hour at night or an early hour in the morning, getting only about half the sleep she should get, and again dragging herself to work in a half dead state. So they go on day after day, week after week, till months and years are past, with a result that they are old long before their time. In some cases they may marry comfortably, but in many cases its far worse than marrying a fellow unable to support himself or even not getting married at all. Many things are to be more despised than a single life. If many of those girls only knew what was best for their own interest, how willingly they would share the life of some of those kindly bachelor farmers who must find it very lonely sometimes with no one to make home what it should be. Another letter says, "a good woman is hard to get," that may be. Another thing, I don't think bachelors as a rule exert themselves at all to try to get a good woman, and I am quite sure that a good man is hard to get. So far as my experience goes there is hardly one in ten who is worthy of a good woman. I don't wish to be hard on the opposite sex, but my opinion is, the best men as a rule keep themselves to themselves, and vice versa. Regarding my own sex, there is a poor chance in this country of their getting to know desirable young men. When I hear of women talking about the chance of voting, etc., etc., I am utterly ashamed of them, and would like a means of showing every woman very plainly that her duty is in the home. They certainly have the making or marring of the same. Would to God that every woman would be a true woman in her own sphere, and leave politics to those who are intended to rule. Words fail to express my very strong feelings on those points. I hope some one will take it up and speak a great deal stronger.—Signed, One who wishes to do her duty.

"WHERE DUTY LIES."

Lacombe, Alta., December 14, 1905. Editor, Western Home Monthly.—Sir, In reply to the correspondent in your November issue, signed "Marriageable Widow," would like to obtain her name and address. Her age and disposition seem suitable, and as I am lonely I think we could hitch up.

RANCHER.

To the Editor of the Quiet Hour, in the Western Home Monthly.—In looking over the Quiet Hour, was much impressed by the answer of the little woman from Nova Scotia. It is the real friend we need, not the Butterfly of society, one who seems to think of nothing but dress, teas and parties, which are all very well in their way, but the glimmer soon wears off, and oh, what an empty useless life it seems! And our hearts turn to something deeper and more lasting, and what on this earth is more so than a genuine friend. One whose clasp of the hand speaks more to us than words, we feel the true sympathy in time of trouble, a responding chord is felt that cannot be mistaken. In our joys or sorrows we find them always the same. How even a letter from such a one seems to give us strength.

Dear woman readers of this quiet hour, if we possess a friend like this, what are society teas and parties compared to it?—Box 3, Cardston, Alta.

W. J. M., Saskatoon.—Your letter was duly forwarded to the correspondent in the December issue.—Ed.

We would be pleased to have the address of the lady who contributed a letter to this page which was published in the September number signed "A marriageable woman." There are replies in this office from several well-to-do bachelors who are anxious to correspond with her. Correspondence of this nature strictly confidential.

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