

ther law nor public sentiment should debar her from any sphere of remunerative labour or usefulness, which she may desire to occupy. She should be the best judge in every case, as to whether she should engage in any special work. I am always doubtful of that class of "friends" who think they know better what is good for you than you do yourself; and will oppose your attainment of some object because in their wisdom they think you are better without it. I especially think it is time that the distinctions in the provisions for the education for boys and girls should come to an end. There is no justice in endowing colleges and making ample grants for boys' schools, and leaving girls to grow up without any provision for continuing the education begun in the common school. I confess, however, I see no advantage likely to accrue from wives and mothers coming to the polls and taking part in the strife of political elections. Single women who hold property in their own right should not be denied the privilege of voting if they so desire. But there is no inferiority implied, when we maintain that woman is evidently designed to fill a different sphere of usefulness from man. Difference does not imply inferiority. I hold that in many respects she is vastly our superior. And if I would in any degree appear to exclude her from any employ to which men have access, it is not because I would deny her any privilege or right, but because I would, as far as possible, shield her from everything that would tend to make her more like the opposite sex, or in any degree rob her of that indefinable delicacy, tenderness, and gentleness that are the charm and glory of womanhood. In one thing we will all agree. If the new reformation should, by opening up new spheres of labor, deprive us of her gentle ministries in sickness and suffering, it will be a great loss to the world: and it will not be easy to find any one to take her place.

*Fifth*—One of the most marked features of the times is the extent to which all philanthropic efforts are carried on by the agency of organized associations. Nothing can be accomplished now, without forming a society, with President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee of Management. Well, this popular method has its advantages. It organizes available resources. It enlists the feeble and indifferent, who if left to themselves would do nothing. It lays hold of the social element in our nature, and utilizes it by yoking it to some work of practical benevolence. And it gratifies a certain class of small persons with office and position, that probably could not be made to feel the force of any higher motives. And yet, this system has its disadvantages. It frequently causes delay; and the evil is allowed to remain uncorrected, as if nothing could be done till a sufficient number is enlisted to form an Association.