

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA REVIEW

Vol. XI.

OTTAWA, ONT., MAY, 1909.

No. 8

Entered at the Post Office at Ottawa, Ont., as Second-Class Matter.

Co-Education.

(Speech delivered at the Prize Debate.)

Mr. Chairman, Rev. Fathers, Worthy Judges, Ladies and Gentlemen:

My honourable colleague has shown that from moral and intellectual considerations co-education is detrimental, destructive and deadly. I will endeavour to unveil the equally pernicious and morbid results which follow it in the educational and social order.

If we follow the human race through its various stages of development, through savagry and paganism, through rudimentary civilization when first the beams of celestial love flickered on the souls of men and reflected from thence the nobleness and beauty which had for so long a period lain dormant; if we follow it through the long lapse of years during which it was cast and re-cast by revolution, religion and war; and if we view it now in all the effulgence of its splendour we see a marked and indelible distinction between the duties of man and woman. While in the savage state the man wielded the arrow and the sword, the woman kept guard over wigwam and children: in the middle ages the man guided the plough, the woman plied the distaff: and to-day the man seeks for a livelihood in the scheming, subtle world while he confides to his wife the sanctity of home and children.

The home is a place of peace, of shelter and protection from the