

of greatness, said on one occasion that he never would have been able to stand, to persevere and prevail, had it not been for the inspiring sympathy and hopeful counsels of a devoted wife. Those who are seen by many, as he was, must stand in a conspicuous position, but there are thousands of wives, whose names are seldom mentioned, who are known only to the few around them, who make life a blessing and home a paradise to husbands, who bind them to their own firesides by cords that cannot be broken, but so skilfully swayed that the husband never suspects but that his own will simply is his law. The tavern keeper has always a smile and a welcome for his paying customers, and the cheerful fire for the cold night, and his den has its attractions, and the wife who fights him with his own weapons and continues to make home as pleasant as any other place can be, will in most cases bring her husband home in season; but if he knows that he has, like Tam o' Shanter, to meet on his return a

"Sullen sulky dame,  
Gathering her brows like gathering storms,  
Nursing her wrath to keep it warm,"

he may be in no haste to exchange smiling faces for frowns. The strong point of attraction is not the *object of our affection*, but the one *by whom we are loved*. By the same attractions by which ladies secure husbands they can keep them, and wise ladies do keep them.

But it is in the MOTHERS that we discover the greatness—transcendent greatness—of woman. In this character she rules the world. "What is wanting," said Napoleon to Madam Campan, "in order that the youth of France be educated?" "Good mothers," was the brief but comprehensive reply. In that Book of books which suggests an hundred fold more than is expressed—and every suggestion has been anticipated by the Author and has His sanction—we read of the mother of Zebedee's children. It was something to be the mother of Zebedee's children—of the Boanerges. We read of the faith of the mother and of the grandmother of Timothy with special reference to the well-defined and amiable character of the evangelist. We never get a glimpse of Zebedee but in the fishing boat, in company with the hired servants; and the names of Timothy's father and grandfather are not once mentioned.

We are looking to our sons for our future magistrates, legislators, and ministers—all that shall give complexion and form and character to society in the coming age; and they are the creation of mothers. The mother is before the professor, before the schoolmaster, and before even the father in the work of education. The tastes of children are cultivated, their moral sentiments are formed, their habits are shaped, under the mother's supervision, just at the time when no external influence has yet been called forth to counteract her operations. The teacher to whose care and diligence children are in after years entrusted only builds upon a foundation already laid. There is not an intelligent and observant schoolmaster who has not learned the character of the mothers of his pupils before he is a week among them. They are a reflection of the mother's image, till other agencies are brought to bear upon them and to distort the likeness. It gives me pleasure to be able to sustain these ideas by an appeal to a well-known writer. "Woman," he says, "has