

PUBLIC OPINION.

WHY DO NOT COLLEGE GIRLS MARRY?—As a woman who has had a college education, who is a bachelor of arts, is not married, and who is not obliged to support herself, I write to *The Bachelor* for an unprejudiced answer to certain questions. While engaged in obtaining my college education I succeeded in getting a very fair idea of what men consider woman's position to be, and I also succeeded in coming to the very definite conclusion that my ideas did not coincide with theirs. Men like women to be feminine and subservient, tender, loving, faithful, and not too well informed. Most men are not well read, and they fight shy of a woman who may, at any moment, inadvertently bring them to shame by referring casually and as a matter of course to books, writers, or ideas that they have never heard of. The average man dreads such a woman. These remarks apply to college men as well as to others.

My conclusions are that there is no reason why a woman should marry, nor why she should fit herself to marry. It is said that marriage is woman's natural end in life and the "nursery," as Dr. McKenzie says, "is her sphere." That may be true from the standpoint of the human race, but suppose one does not care to sacrifice one's self for the human race—what then? I think, therefore, that college education does tend to unfit a woman to be the wife of a modern man; for it makes her feel her individuality, and to test him by a severer scrutiny, and to think things out for herself. It also trains her so that she will have a better chance of supporting herself if she is compelled to do so. I think that there is among women an unjustifiable awe

and respect for men and their views, and I am glad to have escaped from this form of hypnotism. I should hate to be a school-teacher, or a market gardener, or a bookbinder, but I should rather be any of these than be a too submissive wife.

"ALUMNA."

The statement of "Alumna" seems to me very far "advanced." I am not a graduate of a woman's "college," nor do I wear a conspicuous Greek letter society badge on my collar. I was not "graduated" from any institution, and the people I know are not at all what are called the "college set." I confess that I cannot easily understand the position of a girl who admits she is "pretty," going about, and seeing how little men know. I can tell her that the men I happen to know—college men, some of them—would soon pass the word around that a Boston "blue" had escaped and was at large, and she would have absolutely no one who would take her out at a german, or who would make himself useful with bouquets, and in other ways. Men have their uses, we all know, and it isn't always to open their mouths and pour out "information." Generally, I consider men who think it necessary to tell me a lot of uninteresting facts, dreadful bores. I can go and read the encyclopedia, myself.

As to marriage, men want wives who will love them and be good-natured, dress well and soothe them after their business anxieties. I must say I think we are very silly in trying to be "learned" and not trying to be agreeable if we can. I do not want to fight my own way in the world and lead a lonely existence of self-support—not I. And if "submissiveness"