

Men, are the lords of creation, at least by the actual possession of power, their greater leisure for the study of every branch of philosophy, gives them a title in the opinion of the fairer sex also, to pronounce upon the modes of instruction and education, to be adopted in the bringing up of families, and woman consequently takes tone of feeling and of thought in a great measure from the early lessons of childhood, which are generally calculated to impress her, with an opinion, not only of conditional, but also of mental inferiority, which last is the error I strenuously combat. In the whole economy of the human family, the right division of labour and of care, must be advantageous and promotive of the welfare of society, and while different degrees of strength and capacity of enduring the toil of severe manual labour or exercise, mark the sexes at the same time. Woman has her peculiar duties and cares, which necessarily withdraw her in general from sterner, and more active scenes of strife and public competition. But let none found thereon an inference injurious to her mental capacity, nor presume to degrade her from her just and noble claims to equal partnership in all the honors of intellectual and moral being; beware of wronging her gentle nature. She knows how to suffer with patience and in silence, and remember that when she leans upon you for support, it is but an acknowledgment, while she shelters there, that she owns the power of your stronger arm; and that your cares are different from hers, while the concerns of both combine for your common happiness. Yet beware, for in spite of pride and false conceit, you value her esteem and court her smiles, but narrow minded conception of her intellectual title of respect, entertained by you may sink you in her opinion, to an unenviable point, which you would little desire. Still I own you have much to expect from her kind consideration of your weakness, and prejudice, for she is even capable of pleading against herself, and excusing your foibles and absurdities, but you should not task her charity and affection too far.

It is not my wish at present to consider the variation in the education of females that appear in ancient history, nor their effect upon the society generally. Yet I will observe that in proportion as woman is cherished, honoured and esteemed for noble qualities, and amiable dispositions, in the same degree the happiness of the whole human race prevails. It is a mark of civilization improved by morals, and sanctified by religion, when woman's character is deeply revered, and her happiness becomes the first care of heartfelt concern of him to whom she was given as a companion and a help meet. In order to apprehend the nature and extent of woman's influence in the world we must regard her as an intellectual, beautiful and social being. I am persuaded that in proportion as she is degraded by barbarous customs, or mistaken

philosophy from the noble position she is entitled to maintain, as a rational and moral coadjutor, the happiness of society of which she is not only a main support, but the pride and brightest ornament, will deteriorate and never will the glory of a nation be exalted to a degree of becoming dignity, unless where woman is not only cherished, but honoured with heartfelt esteem and love, but those to be sincere must be founded on the just appreciation of mental qualities and moral amiabilities of no mean degree. As a being of beautiful and matchless attraction, woman exercises a potent influence in the world. The concentration of so many charms in her person, establish for her a dominion in the human heart, felt in every clime, and acknowledged with implicit submission in every land, she rules the nations with a magic wand, and holds in silken fetters the noble and the ignoble, the learned philosopher, and the rustic swain. Kings own the superior sovereignty of her smile, and the electricity of her glance might discompose the ermined judge or disarm the savage hand of ruthless cruelty. Neither the plumed warrior nor the peaceful citizen is proof against the mysterious influence of her attractive loveliness. How should I enumerate the combination of beautiful, engaging and endearing qualities that surround her, which we view with admiration, and are consumed as we behold! What can be conceived of beauty, of shape, that is not combined in the graceful contour of her delicate and chaste moulded form! What amongst our finest senses, or the faculties of our mind, and the tenderness of our heart, is it that woman does not address, in the charms of her person, the ennobling sentiments of her soul, or the endearing affections of her still softer feelings; lightness, elegance and delicacy moulded her figure, and the finest tints of heaven, and of nature, are blended in her countenance; her glance borrows its brightness from the sun, while it penetrates with the subtlety and quickness of the lightning's flash. The winning softness and sweetness of her smile is but an indication of her unborn goodness, her voice has a tone not due to melody itself, but which disposes the listener to a unison of soul and sentiment, graceful in motion and dignified in mein; discretion, with its presiding influence, sits upon her brow, while her vivacity enlivens the circle in which she moves.

The metaphysicians perhaps know something about the essential nature of beauty, but for my own part I am satisfied to own its power, where I acknowledge its existence, though I attempt not to analyse its first principles, nor constituent elements. But it is not to the *chef-d'œuvre* of human art and the plastic skill of the statuary, I turn for the beauty that entrances and overpowers that brings down the monarch from his throne, that paralyses the stubborn hand of the warrior, and staggers the wis-

dom of the sage. A *Venus de Medici*, may exhibit the beautiful rotundity of the tapering limbs, and the elegant contour of the form, where the excellence of choice proportion and symmetry combines with the finely curving and undulating outline. The polished and finely turned marble, obedient to the imitative art of the sculptor, may preserve the form and fashion of lively and noble features, and all the elegance and chastened boldness of a noble bust, or of a lofty, an airy, or a beautiful figure, but can never convey the expression of the person animated with life, inspired with thought, and excited or agitated with passion. The step that speaks of mildness of nature, and tenderness of feeling and delicacy of thought, and refinement of sense, that crushes not the tender flower, in its path, and scarcely bends the verdant grass; cannot be transferred to insensate matter, nor mimicked in colour, although to the peotic fancy, with all the elaborate power of graphic art.

(To be Continued.)

Lord Napier's illustrious namesake, the conquerer of Scinde, was considered to have made a daring innovation, when, for the first time in our military annals, he mentioned the names of private soldiers who had distinguished themselves in battle. The example set by the Napier of Meenah was followed by the Napier of Magdala; and it is a significant indication of the change which has come over the spirit of the time that we take such a thing nowadays for granted. What was startling a quarter of a century ago seems now perfectly natural, as in the high sense of the word, it really is. Most heartily to be commended is the prompt way in which the services of gallant fellows have been recognized and rewarded. The first two men of the whole British army who entered Magdala were Drummer Michael Magner and Private James Bergin, both of the 33rd; and everybody will rejoice to read that these fine soldiers have received the Victoria Cross. Our private soldiers cannot as yet encourage themselves with the French reflection that they carry a marshal's baton in their knapsacks; but there is room on their broad, brave breasts for the proudest of our decorations, and the heartiest congratulations are due to the two gallant men who have now so conspicuously earned it.

The latest device for crossing the channel from Calais to Dover, is that of an English engineer, who proposes to place an immense raft, sufficiently large to carry a whole train of cars, on three powerful steamers, and thus cross the channel in all weather in an incredible short time.

SHOOTING MATCH.—The Ramsay Rifle Association will hold its annual competition for prizes on the first day of September next, when, it is expected, a considerable amount will be offered in prizes. Any person wishing to become a member of the Association before that time can do so by sending in a dollar to the Secretary and Treasurer, Peter McArthur, Esq.—*Almonte Times*.