

suggestions thrown out, of the insight to see and the courage to state the truth, Mrs. Gilman has no equal among the women writers of the present time with whom I am acquainted. She is no mere free-lance in the world of journalism, with a knack of saying superficial things sharply and catchingly; she is a real thinker, grounded in genuine knowledge of biology and economics, familiar with the writings of Ward, Giddings, and Ross, and all the best and most advanced sociologists, and wise with the wisdom which only large human experience and wide observation can give. I do not hesitate, then, to treat with perfect seriousness her thesis that the main trouble with the world lies in the fact that it is almost entirely a man-made world, or, in her own words, is due "to the effect on our human life of the unbridled dominance of one sex."

To show you just what she means by this, let me state the first great distinction which she makes. We are accustomed to divide the human world into the masculine and the feminine, as though the two sexes had very little in common; but Mrs. Gilman uses a new classification, which seems to me a much fairer and truer one. She speaks of the masculine, and the feminine, and the human. Masculine qualities are those which belong mainly to men, feminine qualities are those which belong mainly to women, human