

ing single long after the age at which they should be married, and who are doing so at an enormous loss to their moral and physical welfare, give this as their principal excuse, that the average experience of their friends who have married, has been that the educated women of the present generation are physically unfit to be wives and mothers.

The writer recognizes several sources of error which must be allowed for before making sure that this conclusion is correct.

First, the men who, by great care in selecting, or by chance, have secured a healthy wife, say nothing about their happiness, for they take it as a matter of course, as if it were something that should be so, instead of being something remarkable; while the men whose wives begin complaining a few days after their marriage, and continue to complain until death comes to their relief, are almost sure to tell their friends about their misfortune, and in return for the sympathy which they deserve and receive, they advise their bachelor friends to remain single.

The other source of error arises with the specialist for women, who, because all the women who come to him are sick and give a history of never having had a day's health since their marriage, would come to the conclusion, therefore, that all married women are ailing. In other words, that because he never sees or knows any women, professionally, who are not ailing, well women do not exist.

There is another source of error coming from the married state itself which must not be charged to the woman or her education, but to the men, for no matter how perfect a woman's health may be before marriage, she may still prove a failure as a wife and a mother if she acquires gonorrhea, with its pus tubes and pelvic peritonitis.

There is still another source of error, which may or may not be due to the woman's education, namely, the inducing of abortions. These, of course, wreck a woman's health, and make her a failure as a wife and mother, but in the majority of cases it is because she is already a failure in health that she resorts to this crime, for, with few exceptions, it is only sick married women who dread pregnancy and the raising of a happy family.

Now, after making due allowance for these sources of error, the writer still believes that the majority of educated women on this continent reach a marriageable age in such a poor condition of health that it is a real hardship for them to perform the normal natural duties of wifehood and motherhood, and of raising an ordinary-sized family.