

years, exceeded those of females in the proportion of 108 to 100. It is evident from these figures that women are more liable to consumption than men, and hence it follows that they are less capable than men of resisting the morbid agencies which tend to its development.

We have seen that the occupation of teaching is an eminent consumption factor. The report of our City Inspector of Public Schools for the year 1879 shows that in the total of 148 teachers employed, no less than 126, or 85 per cent., were females. In a Toronto evening paper, under date Ottawa, July 8th, the following announcement appeared:—"Some important changes are announced in the *personnel* of the teaching staff of the Model School. The services of all the male teachers are dispensed with, with the exception of Mr. Parlow. Those of Miss Walsh have also been dispensed with." A happy dispensation, let us hope, for Miss Walsh! But are not Mr. Parlow's new aids unsafely above par in the school market? The man who fails to foresee the ulterior results of this school femalization must be very poorly versed in hygienic and sanitary science; and I feel well assured that the final economy will prove very fallacious. That women have a perfect right to fight their way up to the same position as men, or even to don the same garments as men, I would not for a moment dispute. Our most gracious Queen is a good woman and an excellent Sovereign; yet her ministers and high officers are all men; she has sent some of her male children and grandchildren into the army and navy, but none of her daughters or granddaughters; much less has she ever dreamt of manning her ships with women, or recruiting her army from their sex; and considering that 8 per cent. more males are born than females, it would be very unfair to expose the lives of the latter to as much danger as men are called on to encounter. Should we not apply the like rule to our educational army? I am thoroughly persuaded that women are unable to bear the tug and toil and worry of teaching as long and as well as men can do, and I think I shall, before closing this paper, adduce statistical proofs of this opinion in another department of disease, to be presently taken up, which will be found irrefutable, and should convince my hearers of the gentler sex that though it is quite fit and proper that they should assume and enjoy all those prerogatives and preferences which the chivalry of our sex and our good manners can never contest, whether they may be called for in our theatres and concerts, our railway and street cars, or any place else where they may condescend to bless us with their approving smiles and their refining society; yet it is not advisable that they should seek those killing-off positions in life which, in bygone days, have been less perilously, and, perhaps, not less efficiently, held by men.

A few months ago you all may have read in the newspapers the narrative of a female prodigy of learning, whose achievements, under