

genius of man will have an opportunity in the sphere of social betterment such as it never had before since the world began.

Now, is it possible for us to put our finger on any one thing and say: "There is the main source of the world's evils"? The book which is to be the basis or text of my remarks to-night may be said to be an answer to that question. Mrs. Gilman practically upholds the thesis that the main trouble with the world lies in the fact that it has been and for the most part still is a man-made world.

I am well aware that many a man would laugh at any serious discussion of such a thesis and dismiss it from his mind as a product of feminine hysteria, but anyone who has read one of Mrs. Gilman's books, or has heard her lecture, knows that she cannot be dismissed by a mere supercilious wave of the masculine hand. On the side of form, I do not consider Mrs. Gilman a great writer either in prose or verse. In charm of manner and in imaginative power she cannot compare with Olive Schreiner, whose book on "Woman and Labor" I reviewed from this pulpit last spring; she has so much to say, and is in such a hurry to say it, that she does not stop to mass her matter or polish her sentences or care for her rhythm as the supreme literary artist is compelled to do. But on the side of substance, of the facts stated, of the arguments advanced, of the