

are followed in the public schools, and he depends for pupils on the proficiency of these same schools.

People generally may have accorded some scant recognition to male teachers. But when the attention is turned to the public's valuation of the mass of its teachers, the women, who form the majority of that profession, we must accuse the public of very grave injustice.

In a certain sense the misfortune of teachers has seemed to the advantage of the public. The remuneration offered to men has been sufficient to retain enthusiasts for life, while it has never sufficed to entice into the profession those who are not dominated by a love of the work. To this is due the large number of able men teachers whom we are proud to include within our body. This is the fact, *par excellence*, which has enabled men teachers to attain a position so honourable among us.

But when we observe the work done by many, many women teachers with whom we are personally acquainted, we cannot fail to observe their grasp of their work, their noble use of their influence and power over their pupils. Yet we accord to them only such a position as would befit Shenstone's school-mistress or Goldsmith's scarcely more-to-be-venerated village teacher. It seems as though we thought them a necessary evil, to be discarded and cast aside at the earliest opportunity.

The reasons for this lie in two general subdivisions, external and internal. There is, to begin with, a certain amount of Anglo-Saxon prejudice in our minds against women being found anywhere but in the home. Friends who have lived both in English and Canadian homes tell me that there is a good deal of friction in the so-called "happy homes of England." Several women in one household fritter away time and talents and temper in petty occupations which need only occupy one,—the remainder of the time too frequently being spent in gossip, jealousies and useless fancy work, while the whole family live in straightened circumstances. The wasted time might profitably be spent in useful employment, adding thereby to the general sum of human happiness. How they must envy us who, in similar cases, would relieve the overburdened males of the family, and win personal independence, making it possible for the whole family to live in comparative affluence.