

one lost in the labyrinths of Truth.

You are at heart then a Cynic. The Philosopher? bah! The Man, mortal, moody, morose. Curse your flower if you will, curse your creed if you will for who can cast censure. If the river that sweeps in and out the piers, cold, clammy, desolate, runs not deep enough I will ask you whether or not the fact of Beauty became the fiction of Truth. If the oily taste of that poppied liquor is not sweet enough I will ask if you can remember whether or not the fact of Creed become the fiction of Belief. Ah! you are justly then a cynic? What if they rail and reject? Ask them of *their* Elysium. Is it not Rest? Rest from what? Why you can answer that. Rest from labor: rest from sorrow: rest from Creed: and rest from Truth.

So runs the world. Cynicism is natural because it is inevitable but why it is inevitable we do not know. The rapture of Ideality is soon lost in the rude awakening of Reality. The sweet trust of infancy, the honest confidence of Youth is crushed and broken, swept on by the black waves of Time, like the bits of stick and straw by the wind, into the ever-widening whirlpool of Death. Cynicism is natural and down the ages come the notes of the Song of Sorrow, now the cunning chord of the minstrel, now the chant of the monk, now the wail of the mother. Will it ever cease? Not while the fire of the one is the ashes of the other; not while the belief of the one is the illusion of the other. Plunge deep, drink deep for in the slime of the river, the stupor of the cup is the key that unlocks the golden gates of Oblivion and the haven of Hereafter—Rest.

"The Advanced Woman" From Another Standpoint

It is so seldom that "poor abused man" takes up his pen in protest against the pretensions of what are called our "advanced women," that I feel considerable diffidence in entering the arena, particularly as I believe the only effectual way to meet our "wayward females," is to speak the *whole* truth as to how men *really* regard them. Opinions solicited from men by pretty women, are about as reliable as if they had been obtained by actual suggestions of boycott. Away from such influences, in the privacy of my study, let me give some expression to my honest opinions on this most serious subject.

I understand that the "advanced woman" begins as a