

not be greatly altered. This gives a majority of about one-fifth in favour of the election of women to the General Conference.

During the discussion special stress has been laid upon the *dictum* of St. Paul, that women should keep silence in the churches. On the same principle women should go about closely veiled as in the East. (See Cor. xi. 5 and 6.) Certainly if women keep silence in the Methodist Churches, some of the best and wisest things will remain unsaid.

Fifty years ago domestic work engrossed almost the entire energies of women. They carded and spun the wool, and dyed and wove the cloth; made the garments, and even the carpets, and did much manual work which is now accomplished by the tireless sinews and nimble fingers of machinery. With their ample leisure has come the opportunity for ampler culture in women's colleges and educational institutions. At the same time God is opening fields of usefulness in many ways and in many lands—in succouring the needy, in visiting the sick, in remembering the forgotten, in carrying brightness and gladness to many a saddened life; and, in mission lands, in pouring upon the dark zenana the light of the Gospel.

Whereas fifty years ago about half a dozen meagre employments were open to women to earn a living, there are now nearly five hundred honourable occupations wide open to her entrance. Especially in church life and church work is her presence felt. The majority of our congregations and membership are women. They do more than their full share in the great sphere of Sunday-school work and as missionary collectors. Especially through the organization of those wonderfully successful institutions, "The Woman's Missionary Society" and "The Woman's Christian Temperance Union," have they achieved marvellous results. It does not seem to be a very extravagant request that, where churches desire it, they may be allowed to send some elect ladies to represent such important interests in the great councils of the Church. Such seems

the prevailing sentiment among the Episcopal Methodists of the United States. The vote was not a heavy one, but it is claimed was as heavy as could be obtained on almost any question. The experience of churches in which women have the right to election—as the Baptists, the Congregationalists and the Quakers—has not indicated that anything very revolutionary would be likely to take place were such right granted in the Methodist Episcopal Church. As the *Christian Union* well remarks: "The opening of the pulpit to women will not be likely to result in any real increase in the sacred desk of feminine teachers. The platform is as open to women as to men, but women lecturers are very rare, and women political orators still rarer."

DR. KOCH.

The discovery of Dr. Koch is a splendid illustration of the triumph of science. He is well figured in an English cartoon as Perseus flying to rescue Andromeda, bound, as it seems, in her death doom. His discovery of a consumption cure will be like life from the dead to thousands. There are those who claim against the endless experiments of abstract science. Of what use are all those retorts and crucibles and alembics and test-tubes to the daily needs of man! Well-nigh three hundred years ago, Bacon declared that the dews of science that distilled upon the mountain tops would, in time, trickle to the far-off plain and benefit and bless all mankind. The abstruse studies carried on for years by a Pasteur, a Lister and a Koch have found antidotes to some of the most terrible diseases which decimated mankind. They have brought joy and hope to broken hearts and saddened homes, and have appreciably lengthened and brightened human life. Compared with such victories as these, how ignoble are those of war! Bismarck declares that but for him, three great wars, which cost 80,000 lives and an incomparable amount of suffering and sorrow would never have occurred. But who would not prefer to