

rather than the young men.* But leaving this physiological view, let us look at the purely educational. Imagine an educated mother, training and moulding the powers of her children, giving to them in the years of infancy those gentle yet permanent tendencies which are of more account in the formation of character than any subsequent educational influences, selecting for them the best instructors, encouraging and aiding them in their difficulties, sympathising with them in their successes, able to take an intelligent interest in their progress in literature and science. How ennobling such an influence, how fruitful of good results, how certain to secure the warm and lasting gratitude of those who have received its benefits, when they look back in future life on the paths of wisdom along which they have been led. What a contrast to this is the position of an untaught mother—finding her few superficial accomplishments of no account in the work of life, unable wisely to guide the rapidly developing mental life of her children, bringing them up to repeat her own failures and errors, or perhaps to despise her as ignorant of what they must learn. Truly the art and profession of a mother is the noblest and most far-reaching of all, and she who would worthily discharge its duties must be content with no mean preparation. It is perhaps worth while also to say here that these duties and responsibilities in the future are not to be measured altogether by those of the past. The young ladies of to-day will have greater demands made on their knowledge than those which were made on that of their predecessors. I saw this amusingly illustrated lately in a collection of nursery rhymes of the future, which, if my memory serves me, ran in this wise :

"Twinkle twinkle solar star,
Now we've found out what you are,
When unto the noonday sky,
We the spectroscope apply."

and so on. Or again

Little Jack Horner, of Latin no scorner,
In the second declension did spy,
How of nouns there are some
That ending in "um,"
Do not form the plural in "i."

Under these little bits of nonsense lies the grave truth that the boys and girls of the future will know more and learn more, and for that very reason will require more wise and enlightened management than their predecessors.

But the question has still other aspects. A woman may be destined to dwell apart—to see the guides and friends of youth disappearing one by one, or entering on new relations that separate them from her, and with this isolation may come the hard necessity to earn bread. How many thus situated must sink into an unhappy and unloved dependance? How much better to be able to take some useful place in the world, and to gain an