

mother, has made the former a subject of almost daily solicitude: she honors them with regular visits of inspection, and no progress and no negligence escapes her vigilant eye. She makes it a point to honor work, and especially women's work, and since then prejudices are wearing away which used to form such an obstacle in the welfare of our middle and higher classes. I mean, since work is properly honored it is no longer a dishonor for a lady to earn her bread. The largest Association is that of the Patriotic Women of Germany, at the head of which stands Her Majesty the Empress; it was formed after the last two great wars, first with a view of providing the necessary nursing for the sick and wounded. It is quite unnecessary to repeat here with what ready enthusiasm our sisters of all classes of society worked in rank and file, and became the heroines of devotion and self-sacrifice. It is necessary, however, that I should mention here that just those two deplorable occasions opened the eyes of the public as to the great need of more skillful and practical training of nurses, of the necessity of a large number of such, and particularly the extreme need of the finer touch, the greater tact, the more educated judgment and foresight, and the authority of educated women in our hospitals. Her Majesty declared it an honor to do such work, and hundreds of the daughters of our oldest families replied to the muster-roll. Since then the condition of our hospitals, and with it a portion of suffering mankind, have undergone a beneficial change. In time of peace the care of the children of the poor, of the abandoned, of the fatherless has been added as a work of this association, and it gives pecuniary assistance on occasions of extraordinary need, such as famines, inundations, etc. We have in the third line a very perfect organization of the inner mission, and you all know what are the objects of such an association. Next to it are the different associations for a more thorough education, and foremost among the friends of these institutions ranks the Baroness von Marholtz Bulow, the great friend of Froebel, and one of the principal promoters of his system of children's gardens. This lady has for 30 years devoted her time and fortune to this work, and pays special attention to the training of nurses on that principle. In Switzerland I notice principally the *Sociétés de Secours*, formed with the obvious intention of offering moral protection to any young teachers or nurses leaving their homes for foreign countries. These societies were a result of Mrs. Josephine Butler's movement. In England a similar organization exists which prevents young women from leaving any village or town without letters of recommendation to the place to which they go, and you may judge yourselves how much good is done, how much evil prevented. In spite of the great pains taken by all these philanthropic ladies, the need and the want of work is distressing, and more even than in my younger years do I recognize the necessity and usefulness of opening up channels in the new worlds. Now in Canada, as in all new countries there is not only an opening for different branches of women's industry but there is an absolute want of women, viewing this want from the standpoint of a housekeeper, or looking upon it as a political economist. There always is a larger emigration of men—that of women might keep apace with it, for they are wanted not only as assistants in households, but sober, hardworking and industrious women are wanted as wives for your settlers, your farmers, who form the bone and sinew of a country; and such being the case, you perceive what importance you must attach to