

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MARRIED LIFE

Love is the sun of life; most beautiful in morning and evening, but warmest and steadiest at noon. Misery, some say, grows out of married life; so does the deepest joy. The misery is not against marriage itself, but against wrong, foolish marriages. These every parent should guard against. As the laws of reproduction are unchangeable, and as perfection is only in proportion to obedience to these laws, it is necessary that we comply with these requirements of nature.

WOMAN'S LOVE STRONGER THAN DEATH

Woman's love is stronger than death; it rises superior to adversity, and towers in sublime beauty above the niggardly selfishness of the world. Misfortune cannot suppress it; enmity cannot alienate it; temptation cannot enslave it. It is the guardian angel of the nursery and the sick bed; it gives an affectionate concord to the partnership of life and interest; circumstances cannot modify it; it ever remains the same to sweeten existence, to purify the cup of life on the rugged pathway to the grave, and melt to moral pliability the brittle nature of man. It is the ministering spirit of home, hovering in soothing caresses over the cradle, and the death-bed of the household, and filling up the urn of all its sacred memories.

REQUISITES NECESSARY FOR COMPANIONSHIP

You ask what is meant by a companion? We reply, a congenial spirit. one possessed of an interior constitution of soul similar to our own, or similar age, opinions, tastes, habits, modes of thought and feeling. A congenial spirit is one who, under any given combination of circumstances, would be affected, and feel and act as we ourselves would. It is one who would enjoy what we would enjoy, dislike what we would dislike, approve what we would approve, and condemn what we would condemn, not for the purpose of agreeing with us, but of his or her own free will. This is a companion; one who is kindred in soul with us; who is already united to us by the ties of spiritual harmony; which union it is the object of courtship to discover. Courtship, then, is a voyage of discovery; to see wherein and to what extent there is a harmony existing. If in all these they honestly