

can poetry have been evolved? Was reproduction Nature's aim in giving birth to Shakespeare?

—Mr. Bellamy, of "Looking Backward" fame, proclaims on the other side of the Line the death of domestic service and tells us we shall all have to take to co-operative house-keeping. He seems hardly to know how deep and far-reaching a change in our whole life the renunciation of separate homes would imply. The cause of the disturbance he, like us, takes to be "the democratic spirit of the age which has rendered and is rendering the relation of personal servitude unpopular. "Domestic Service," he says, "implies a sacrifice of personal dignity in the relation of the employee to the employer which at the present day is required of no other class of workers and would be endured by none." The consequence is a perpetual effort on the part of the servant girl to assert her dignity by mutiny. Masters and Mistresses, says Mr. Bellamy, exact of their servants a submissiveness and even obsequiousness of manner not required in any other relation. This is not true of the best masters and mistresses, who are as careful of the feelings of their domestics as they are of those of their guests. Why are subordination and respectfulness of manner more intolerable in a household than in a regiment or a ship? If household service were degrading a girl in service would be a degraded being. But is she so? If she is in a good family is she not rather raised by intercourse with a more highly educated class? Would not a sensible man just as soon take her as a factory girl for his wife? We are misinformed if the discipline of factories is not full as strict and full as rough as that of most households. The factory girl goes where she likes in the evening, but the real value of the privilege depends upon where she likes to go. In rural France a maidservant wears the dress of her order with as little sense of degradation as a soldier wears his uniform. On this democratic continent we are trying to live up to a Jeffersonian