

Home Rule Bill or somebody's latest article on the labor question ?

By the way, has it occurred to you that the labor question is, in a measure, the parallel of woman's question of to-day? Labor demands of capital more evenly balanced opportunities for intellectual advancement, and complains that capital monopolizes mental culture and consequently outstrips labor in intellectual growth. Similarly have women challenged their brothers's monopoly of higher education, and complain to-day that circumstances prevent them from keeping pace with men in the march of mind.

"A healthy dissatisfaction lies at the root of progress." May we not then augur well from the growing discontent with things as they are, in so far as this discontent seeks something higher? Take heart, then, weary sister. Hail with delight the indications of that thrifty dissatisfaction, which is the site builder, if not the corner stone, of reform. Rejoice in this, and, more than all, in the universal interest manifested by every thoughtful mind in the woman's questions of to-day. The leaven of inspiration from such women as Francis E. Willard, Mary A. Livermore, and others, is fermenting and in time will leaven the whole lump.

Meanwhile, may we not forget our individual and collective responsibility in the matter,—our duty to ourselves, to our household and fellowmen,—more than this, our duty to God demands that we earnestly seek the solution of this problem. Is it not his ordering that the world should be better for our having lived in it? Are we not bound to find a way of making the best and the most of the lives entrusted to us? Why then deem housework imperative and culture a secondary consideration?

The agitation of a few isolated workmen cannot solve the labor question. It is by united effort that they seek their object. Nor can labor, unaided by capital, effect its solution. Only when the two unite in seeking the greatest good to the greatest number, do they approach its demonstration. So must we unite in discovering and applying the keys to our problem. Our overworked housekeepers must enlist the aid of sisters, fathers and brothers in discovering a means whereby the mothers and sisters of their homes may combine culture with the necessary housework.

L. S.

## Selected.

### MY OWN SPECIAL WORK.

There is work for all of us. And there is a special work for each of us; work which I cannot do in a crowd, or as one of a mass, but as one man, acting singly, according to my own gifts and under a sense of my personal responsibility. There is, no doubt, associated work for me to do; I must do my work as part of the world's great whole, or as a member of some body. But I have a special work to do as one individual who, by God's plan and appointment has a separate position, separate responsibilities, and a separate work; if I do not do it, it must be left undone. No one of my fellows can do that special work for me which I have come into the world to do; he may do a higher work, a greater work; but he cannot do my work. I cannot hand my work over to him, any more than I can hand over my responsibilities or my gifts. Nor can I delegate my work to any association of men, however ordered and powerful. They have their own work to do, and it may be a very noble one. But they cannot do my work for me. I must do it with these hands or with these lips which God has given me. I may do little or I may do much. That matters not in the least. It must be my own work. And by doing my own work, poor as it may seem to some, I shall better fulfil God's end in making me what I am, and more truly glorify his name, than if I were either going out of my sphere to do the work of another, or calling another into my sphere to do my proper work for me.

JOHN RUSKIN.

### A WRONG USE OF THE BIBLE.

In all court houses in New York, very dirty copies of the Bible are used in a way which, the editor of the "Herald of Health" thinks, and in which almost every one will concur, is dangerous to health. When jurors or witnesses are sworn, they are expected to take the Bible in one hand, and after repeating the oath, to kiss the book with their lips. Clean and unclean people do this indiscriminately, and it does not take long to make the cover, and even