

OUR YOUNG WOMEN.

At Manchester, Tenn., the telephone exchange is over the bank. One night, recently, the bank was robbed. The young woman operator occupying the room over the bank heard the explosion of the nitroglycerine when the safe was blown open, and immediately notified all the men in town who had telephones. In the meantime the robber had escaped with \$5,000, and started in the direction of Tullahoma. The operator learned of this and notified Tullahoma, with the result that the robber was captured promptly and every dollar was recovered. Modern science and the new woman make the way of the transgressor hard.

Probably the only blind girl in the world who leads a church choir is Miss Katherine J. Dugan. She conducts the music at St. Aloysius's Church, St. Johnsbury, Vt. Miss Dugan is a graduate of the Perkins Institution for the Blind in Boston, having graduated two years ago with honors. Last year she took the post-graduate course. In conducting she uses a baton as any other leader would. Her music is, of course, an exact duplicate of the choir's, only the characters of hers are raised, and she reads by feeling them. Miss Dugan is a bright, attractive girl, who is popular at St. Johnsbury, and quite modest about her peculiar distinction.

Miss Edna W. Parker, now in the service of the New York Central Railroad, has come into public notice as the first of the New York State Iroquois Indian women to engage in stenography and typewriting. Miss Parker comes of a Seneca Indian family which was founded before the Revolution, through the marriage of a young white woman with an Indian chief, and which in every succeeding generation has been distinguished by exceptional ability. She is a graduate of a commercial school, and is nineteen years old.

Annie Erickson, the twelve-year-old daughter of a farmer living a few miles from Beaton, Minn., has been made a heroine by a prairie fire, she having, at the risk of her life, saved her twin sisters, two years of age. To save them Annie rode a mad race with the leaping flames, carrying with her on horseback the two babies, with whom she was alone in the house when the fire surrounded the place. The wind was blowing a gale, and the fire was coming closer as it fed upon the matted prairie grass. Quickly wrapping the babies in a wet quilt, Annie mounted the horse and started upon the perilous ride for safety. To reach the clear district a sea of fire almost forty rods across had to be traversed, and into this ocean of flame the little girl forced the horse. Just as Annie thought she had reached a safe spot, the wind shifted, blowing the wall of flame directly toward her, and setting fire to the grass under her feet. The nearest creek was fully two miles away, and Annie realized that her only chance was to reach this. Once more she urged forward the horse. The fire was at his heels, and, race as he would, he could not get away from the scorching heat and the fearful roaring at his back. Several times it seemed as if she must give up and slide from the horse's back. Reaching the creek, she dropped from the horse with the children in her arms, just as the flames swept over her. She was slightly burned, but the babies, wrapped in the blankets, were not harmed.

For several months, Bertha Walz, a girl of sixteen, has run a ferry skiff to secure means to provide for her helpless mother and younger sister and brother. The *Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph* tells her story:

Bertha lives with her mother in an old but neat houseboat, on the banks of the Ohio river, near the Pressed Steel Car Company's works, in Lower Allegheny. This boat has been her home for the past six years. The idea of running a regular ferry came to her through the suggestion of mill men who cross the river at this point to and from their work.

Partly through the efforts of generous contributors a skiff was procured, and the girl entered upon a new career. She found her task rather arduous at first, and her fair young hands were covered with many a blister at the end of a day's toil. But soon the muscles of her arms bade fair to rival those of the crack oarsman of a varsity crew. Now she thinks nothing of rowing six or eight stalwart men over the river on a single trip. Some days she makes as many as forty trips, and has been known to take in as much as \$3 a day as a result of her toil.

Like women pioneers in other occupations, Bertha has had to fight her way. The *Chronicle-Telegraph* continues:

The widespread popularity of her ferry, however, aroused the ire of less-favored ferrymen living in shanty boats near by. First, her best skiff was stolen, and later a new one was turned loose on the river. Finally, she was not permitted to land her skiff on the McKee's Rocks shore at the large landing, but was made to run her

boat in at some obscure point. Considerable trouble arose over the ownership and use of a pair of wooden steps leading down the river embankment to the shore. The climax was reached one night recently. Richard Griffiths, a ferryman, tried to lay violent hands on her. Only the timely appearance of a mill man and the presence of her faithful dog, which usually accompanies her, saved her from serious injury. As a result, suit was promptly entered against Griffiths, before Alderman Lynch. Griffiths was fined \$10 and costs, or twenty days in jail. The steps claimed by Griffiths as personal property were declared to be government property, and it was decreed that the fair prosecutor was fully entitled to their use. F. M. A.

WILLIAM MORRIS ON WOMEN COUNCILLORS.

THE MOUNT, BASINGSTOKE, ENG., }
Dec. 20, 1900. }

Editors *Woman's Journal*:

The following extracts from the "Life of William Morris," by J. W. MacKail, may be of interest to your readers. The passages occur in two letters from Morris to Lady Burne-Jones, the wife of the great artist. The first, on Dec. 14, 1895, reads:

Well, now, I hope you will come in at the head of the poll (Lady Burne-Jones was standing for Councillor in their county parish); and I hope you will beat our Bumbles.

A week later Morris writes, on receiving her lucid address to the electors:

Many thanks for your book, which for the first time makes me know something about the Parish Councils. Could you let me have two or three more? Now I congratulate you on the election, and I am really quite pleased that you beat the Bumbles.

These items may help the anti-suffragists to see that women of great distinction think they have political duties, and that famous men are glad when they fulfill those duties.

HARRIOT STANTON BLATCH.

A MODERN PORTIA.

In Italy learned women as university lecturers on science and literature have been known from ancient times. Now a woman renews the tradition of Portia. Signorina Labriola, daughter of Prof. Antonio Labriola, through her appointment as docent in the philosophy of law, becomes the first woman to serve on the faculty of the University of Rome, and the first to lecture on jurisprudence in Italy.

A VOTER AT 83.

Mrs. Louise Maertz, of Quincy, Ill., a nurse of Union soldiers during the Civil War, sent a copy of her book as a gift to the Susan B. Anthony table of the Suffrage Bazaar. Mrs. Maertz writes us: "Perhaps it will interest you to learn of an old lady, my mother, who has just voted for the first time for the trustees of the State University, at 83 years of age."

TEACHING THE DOUKHOBORS.

Mrs. Eliza H. Varney, a Quaker lady of Kingston, Ont., and her young cousin, Miss Nellie Baker, last summer established a little summer school at one of the new Doukhobor villages on Good Spirit Lake. Mrs. Varney had already passed the summer of 1899 there, conducting a dispensary for the Doukhobors, who had no physicians among them.

They pitched their tents near three of the Doukhobor villages; a small tent for their residence, another for the dispensary, under Mrs. Varney's charge, and a third, 20x20 feet, for the school, under Miss Baker. For this work her studies at Queen's University had fitted her. Mrs. Varney had won the affections of the villagers last year, and they were not slow to send their children to the new school, some of them arriving before the ladies had unpacked their luggage. Miss Baker's report of her experiment has just been made to the Canadian commissioner of immigration.

She found herself confronted with a whole tentful of boys and girls, with none of whom did she have a single known word in common.

By signs and motions I got them seated in rows on the prairie grass of the tent floor, and, holding up a pencil, said, "One." I could not detect any apparent comprehension. Then, taking up another pencil, I said, "Two," and added a third, "Three." Still no response, and my heart sank somewhat. However, I decided to repeat the method, and as I said "One," I noticed a look on a boy's face that told me he knew I was counting, and I saw him turn and speak to the others. Almost instantly they understood, and soon, repeating after me, counted up to ten.

Some of the pupils walked five miles to school and five miles back every day. Miss Baker taught for six and a half hours a day and for five and a half days a week, and it was almost all oral teaching. She was naturally tired when the hour to close came, but the children were never tired.

The favorite method was object teaching. They learned the divisions of time from a watch, to count money from coins, and so on. The children had a natural taste for figures, and at the end of two months the older children had succeeded in getting through half the multiplication table, and some of the more advanced pupils were in the second reader (Canadian). In writing, she declares that some of them equalled or surpassed the teacher. The children were anxious to have tasks assigned to them to prepare at home, and never were satisfied with the amount of such tasks; they always wanted more. Their clothing was scrupulously clean, and picturesque as well. "The needlework and embroidery," Miss Baker adds, "done at home by the girls of my school is simply wonderful. For this purpose my handkerchiefs were taken, and soon returned beautifully worked."

Some of the older boys, who did not know a word of any language but Russian at the beginning, were able, after barely two months' teaching, to correspond with Miss Baker in "fairly understandable English."

At first the Doukhobors did not know that Miss Baker's work, like Mrs. Varney's, was entirely voluntary and unremunerated. When they found it out they sent a committee to her to offer her some compensation, although they were in need themselves. When she declined it, they told her that they thanked her "all the day and all the night."

It is worth while to quote Miss Baker's remarks upon the general character of the Doukhobors. She writes:

The dignified courtesy and hospitality extended to us in more than a score of their villages, the manly bearing of the men, the delighted sympathy and affection with which they regard everything connected with their homes—an estimation of the home that has little to learn from, and possibly something to teach to, even Anglo-Saxons—their dwellings that already surpass in comfort and cleanliness those of any other class of settlers excepting those from older Canada and Great Britain, all testify to the desirability of the Doukhobors as settlers, who will, I believe, soon make good citizens. It does not require very keen perception on the part of one having had a welcome into hundreds of their homes to be assured that this is a community living up to high moral standards and holding tenaciously to the simple tenets of Christian faith.

WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE.

"Architecture as an Occupation for Women" was the subject for discussion at a recent dinner of the New York Architectural League. The guest of honor was Miss Josephine Wright Chapman, of Boston, and among those present was Mrs. Minerva Parker Nichols, of Brooklyn, the pioneer among women architects.

The president of the League, Mr. Robert W. Gibson, called upon Mrs. Nichols, as the woman of the longest experience in the profession, to give her views as to the probability of women's success in architecture. Mrs. Nichols, described as "a pleasant-faced, motherly looking woman, whose appearance suggests rather the housekeeper than the home-builder," answered that it is only within the last twenty years that women have chosen architecture as a means of livelihood, and it was not until the World's Fair at Chicago that their work received public recognition. The number entering this profession is limited by the dearth of schools which admit women to their architectural course. In no other profession are women so handicapped. Schools of medicine, law and theology offer to them the same advantages as to men. Mrs. Nichols cited the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as the best of the few schools which women may enter. Mrs. Nichols believes that a woman may succeed in this profession, for which in many ways women are eminently fitted. In her own case she felt that she had been called to a higher sphere of action, that of motherhood, and although she still continues her architectural work, the draughting-room is now secondary to the nursery. Mrs. Nichols thinks that it will be especially as a builder of homes that women architects will excel, for who can plan so well the little convenient arrangements of a house which make it easiest for the housekeeper? In closing, Mrs. Nichols recommended the study of architecture to every woman, believing it to be as important as the study of music or any other art.

Papers followed by two young women employed as "draughtsmen" in the offices of prominent New York architects. Filled with the enthusiasm of the earnest student, they would admit of no obstacle in the path to success. But they believed that for some time to come women's work in architecture would be limited to the building of homes; and libraries, clubs, churches and other public buildings would be left to men.

Miss Chapman, who stands foremost among the practising women architects of the day, was the next speaker. She began by saying that she had known of some

men who have failed in architecture, and therefore it is not fair to expect that every woman who enters the profession will succeed. Women have difficulties to overcome. They know little of mechanics. They are prone to economize; where a man would rent a good office and conduct his business in a business-like atmosphere, a woman fancies it is as well to do her work at home and thus save expense. It is hard for a woman to gain men's confidence; they are loth to place the responsibility of a large building in the hands of a woman. On the other hand, there are reasons why women are exceptionally well fitted for architecture. They are fully as artistic in temperament as men; they are more patient in little things; the petty details which would bore a man are interesting to a woman. The lack of mechanical knowledge can be overcome if the student is in earnest. The manual labor, climbing about on buildings, and other branches of the work for which a woman seems unfitted, may be done by the draughtsman in her employ, for though she must understand all branches of her work and be able to oversee it, she need not necessarily perform the manual labor herself. The greatest stumbling-block to women's success is the lack of earnestness and grim determination to succeed. But where these qualities exist, woman's sphere in architecture is as broad as man's. In Miss Chapman's opinion, the building of houses is but a small portion of it.

Stereopticon pictures of buildings built by women were thrown upon the screen—the New Century Club House of Philadelphia and a schoolhouse in Cambridge being given as examples of Mrs. Nichols's work. Views of interiors and summer cottages, designed by other women, were shown, and as examples of Miss Chapman's work. Craigie Hall Dormitory, Cambridge; St. Mark's Church, Leominster, and several houses and clubs, with their plans. These pictures, which gave substantial proof of woman's progress in architecture, were warmly applauded.

Dr. Canfield, librarian of Columbia University, was asked to speak from the point of view of a layman. He advocated the open-door policy for women in every line of work. He agreed with Miss Chapman that if her calling is entered into in the proper spirit there is no reason why a woman may not be as successful as a man, and the next decade, he predicted, will show a greater advance of women in architecture than in any other profession. Professor Hamlin deplored the narrowness of Columbia University, which limits his classes in architecture to men, and he prophesied that in the near future the university would realize its folly and offer to women full advantages.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY WOMAN.

We need most, in this age, the kind of brain that is capable of grasping large social conditions and solving the social problems which are gathering thick before us; also, the kind of heart which cannot rest in peace when the doors are shut on one household's fed contentment, but which aches for the other children who are not fed.

Further social development in brain and heart and conscience,—this alone can lead our civilization beyond the dangers which have wrecked the others.

And this is precisely what is coming to us from the change in the position of woman. The restriction on her growth has held back her son. Freedom and enlightenment for her is instantly shown in him.

Human qualities have grown in us through our human groups and activities. Women are beginning to enter those groups and those activities as never before.

New powers and aspirations will open to them, and they will see the world needs as well as the home-needs.

It is not that this century has discovered woman, but woman is discovering, at length, what century she is in, and coming forward to take her place and do her duty in it. As a citizen of the twentieth century, she will bring new light to the dark questions which vex us, both domestic and social.

Her broad and trained intelligence will simplify the manifold difficulties of home life to-day, and give us an educated childhood,—free and healthy and beautiful.

With great-hearted and great-brained mothers behind them, and as noble women for sisters, wives, and friends, men can face our social problems better prepared, and not alone.

That is the line of advance we are entering upon in "the woman's century." Larger social relations for woman means a larger development in the human creature,—and we need it.

A better people, stronger, healthier, clearer-headed, bigger-hearted, we can take hold of this good world of ours and put it in better order. It is better than it was; we can make it far better than it is.

No unsexed masculine creation of our

timid fancy is coming to us; it is simply woman, beautiful and gracious, wise and tender, but of a nobler growth than now.

She who now makes home so comfortable, and who, when she comes bravely out into this "harsh," "sordid," "weary," "bitter," "cold and cruel" world, will clean house promptly, settle and put it in order, and make it what it should be to us all,—our home.—*Charlotte Perkins Gilman, in January Success.*

STATE REGULATION OF VICE IN AUSTRIA.

The State regulation of vice, which has been introduced into the Philippines by the U. S. military authorities, is carried out to its logical results in Austria. What those results are is indicated by the following protest, lately signed by a great number of the principal inhabitants of Czernowicz, including the professors of the University, and addressed to the municipal authorities:

The manner in which the *Police des Mœurs* (the department of police charged with the official supervision of vice) of Czernowicz perform their duties under the municipal administration has brought about a state of things which is absolutely intolerable, and which compels us to protest in the strongest possible manner. We have not sufficient influence to cause the immediate abolition of an evil so deeply rooted, but we expect the official authorities, to whom we address ourselves, to do their utmost to bring it to an end.

In support of the necessity for an immediate intervention on the part of the authorities, we beg to present the following facts:

On Sunday, between 6 and 8 P. M.,—at the time when most of the servants take advantage of their Sunday rest to go to church or for a walk,—the *Police des Mœurs* proceeded to make a raid, and every servant who was found at that time in the street was promptly arrested, dragged to the police office, and compelled to submit to medical examination. Against those who resisted, force was employed. Here are some cases among many others:

Two quite respectable servants, one in service with the State Councillor Klausner, the other with Professor Dr. Rump, were arrested as they came out of church at 7 P. M. by two agents of the *Police des Mœurs*, conducted to the police office, and subjected to the medical examination.

The servant of Professor Bumbacu, Municipal Councillor, had been sent to accompany home two ladies who had come on a visit, and was walking beside them. Scarcely had they gone twenty paces in the street when the servant was suddenly seized by two policemen, lifted up from the ground, and carried away. The two ladies began to call out, and a crowd gathered. The police struck the poor girl, who was at length set at liberty by the crowd.

A servant, only fifteen years of age, perfectly respectable, and in service with M. Ullman, Councillor to the Court, had been sent to get some ham from a shop at 7.45 P. M. The girl did not return for some time, and about an hour afterwards M. Ullman heard in the kitchen convulsive sobs and weeping. He went to see what had happened, and found the young girl in an indescribable state of distress and frenzy; she was so excited that she could not at first tell what had happened to her. It was not till several hours afterwards that she had recovered sufficiently to relate that, after having made her purchase, as she was quietly returning to the house, she was suddenly seized by an agent of the *Police des Mœurs*, and, in spite of her resistance, and without receiving any reply to the questions which she asked, she was thrust into a great room in the Hotel-de-Ville, where about fifty other women were already assembled, and shortly after she was taken to a room where there were four gentlemen. She was stretched upon a table, where she lost consciousness. When she came to herself, she heard one of these gentlemen say, "Let her go home." The examination had proved her respectability!

The Burgomaster, Baron de Kochanowski, on being questioned concerning these incidents in the public session of the Municipal Council, stated that the Mayor had given orders that the raid should only extend to servants found in the company of soldiers. Therefore the fact of a servant being found in the company of soldiers was deemed sufficient ground for treating her as a prostitute. But there is no doubt that this statement, made in good faith by the Burgomaster, rests upon false information. All the eye-witnesses who were questioned confirmed the fact that on the day in question every young girl appearing to be a servant was, without any distinction, arrested. It would even seem as if the police appeared to single out more particularly those servants who, at that hour, were returning quietly from church, and who certainly did not answer to the description given above. And the various cases which we have cited prove that the order related to all the servants whom the police met in the street, without any distinction, whether they were or were not suspected of prostitution. The excuse that they made some mistakes is not, therefore, tenable. The absolutely uniform procedure of the police could only result from equally uniform orders emanating from the magistrature.

This incident shows the ideas which dominate the *Police des Mœurs* at Czernowicz. The police receive the order from time to time to arrest, without formal procedure, every servant whom they find in the street after 9 P. M., to take her to the police station, where she is locked up all night, and then undergoes the medical examination at 9 A. M. And

"Women in Architecture." *Woman's Journal* 5 Jan. 1901: 2. Nineteenth Century Collections Online. Web. 21 Sept. 2015.

URL

<http://tinyurl.galegroup.com/tinyurl/gsnH5>