

A WOMAN ARCHITECT.

AUTHOR OF OUR SERIES OF "PRACTICAL HOMES."

MISS PARKER received from her ancestors strong native tendencies in the direction of architecture, but she has added to these what are even more necessary to

to fulfil just expectations at any personal sacrifice, a broad, just view of all interests concerned in her contracts, a reverence for honesty and truth, a modest but firm appre-



MINERVA PARKER, ARCHITECT.

success—fine intelligence and sterling business qualities. She illustrates in an eminent degree those moral characteristics which determine success alike for men and women. It is much to be regretted that they are not oftener found in women who undertake a profession.

She has great industry, a fine sense of personal responsibility, a strong determination

of her own power, and a love for and fidelity to the highest and best aims in her profession. She has fought her way to the front through difficulties and stands to-day on her merits, at the head of her profession; and although still a young woman, under thirty, she illustrates anew the fundamental law, that success in any direction is not a matter of sex, but of character and



MINERVA PARKER'S WORK-SHOP.

endowment. It is eminently fitting that the highest honor which can be given to a person in her profession should be given to a woman of her antecedents and attainments.

Miss Parker comes of sturdy New England stock, her ancestors having settled in Boston, Salem, and Plymouth, Mass., and, in common with most of the settlers in that region, espoused warmly the cause of their adopted country, and became actively identified with the various movements of the revolutionary war. Her grandfather, Seth A. Doane, was a well-known ship-designer and architect, who left New England about 1834-35, at the time when the wave of population began to move toward the then far West. He finally purchased a large tract of land on the shore of Lake Michigan, where the city of Chicago now stands. Her mother was one of the first children born in that thriving city, and from her youth up was accustomed to being associated with her father, not only in study, but in practical work, becoming in this way familiar with the plane and the saw, as well as with the compass and T square. Her father, a lawyer by profession, raised a regiment of soldiers during the late rebellion, and fell fighting in defence of his country on the field of battle. With such antecedents as these pioneers in the history of this new country, and springing from old Scotch and

English stock in the old country, it is not surprising to find Miss Parker possessing the courage of her convictions, and enthusiastic in following the natural bent of her mind for architecture, undoubtedly inherited from her ancestors.

Miss Parker's plans for the Woman's Pavilion at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago are now nearly ready, and when completed will include plans of a building, two-stories high, with Spanish tile roof and an interior fitted with apartments for accommodation of women, care of children during a visit, a medical department, press, legal and ministers' rooms, parlors for notables, musicians, stenographers, architects, designers, modistes, milliners, tailors, and representatives of every trade and industry; also writing and reception rooms and an emergency department, with trained nurses and remedies at hand, as well as physicians. A sewing-room, with attendants on hand for aid in case of need, a children's day nursery. The exact size of structure cannot be given yet, but its main entrance will be of an imposing nature, ornamented by a grand statue of Queen Isabella of Spain by the gifted sculptress, Miss Hosmer. Miss Parker has been selected as the architect of the new club-house to be erected this year by the New Century Club of Philadelphia.

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