

CORNELIA.

After months of earnest and somewhat thorough research we have amassed a surprising amount of facts, which prove beyond all possible doubt: First, that philanthropic endeavor on the part of woman renders her more loyal and helpful in her own home; and, second, that almost every woman who has achieved national or world-wide fame as a true mother has not lived a secluded, domestic life.

I make this assertion now without the slightest reservation, because I have a wealth of evidence, in well authenticated facts.

Passing by hundreds of illustrious examples, let me call your attention to the model mother the pet of masculine orators, the typical woman, the great model ever set before the imagination of girl-graduates—Cornelia, the mother of the Gracchi.

Now, tell me, my good gentleman friend—honest confession, now—didn't you suppose that Cornelia was a sweet household divinity, somewhat majestic to be sure, but, nevertheless, a woman with no thought of a mission other than to her own children.

Well, then, remember that Cornelia, the mother of the Gracchi, was a thoroughly educated, philanthropic, strong-minded, eloquent woman, who gave public lectures on philosophy in Rome, and was even more fortunate in her disciples than in her sons. Cicero says: "Cornelia, had she not been a woman, would have deserved the first place among philosophers." We say had she not been a wise philosopher she could not have been so royal a mother. It requires a rare combination of intellect and heart to be a wise mother.

Mrs. Hale, in her carefully prepared biographical sketch of Cornelia, says: "The whole life of Cornelia presents a beautiful character;" and, from the facts which are in our possession, we draw these inferences:

1. Cornelia must have been educated in a very superior manner by her father, for in no other manner can we account for her knowledge and love of literature; nor, for the fact, that while yet young she was regarded as worthy the most virtuous and noble men of Rome.

2. She must have been from the beginning a woman of fixed principles and undaunted courage; for in no other manner can we give a solution to her rejection of the King of Egypt, her unremitting care of her family, the high education of her sons, and the great influence she held over them.

3. She must have cultivated literature and the graces of conversation, for how else could she have attracted to her home the men of letters, and won the compliments of distant princes.

It is the same—like causes produce like results everywhere. Earnest study and loving philanthropy enriches the heart of the mother, and blesses first and enriches most the home shrine, and thence overflows until it brightens and blesses the weary home-sick world.

Give us more mothers prepared to instruct the world in the true philosophy of life, and we will have more sons to be numbered with philosophers.

It was a grand inscription worthy the aspiration of every mother: Cornelia the mother of the Gracchi! But one can scarcely imagine one of those "Gracchi" boys commanding his mother to "keep silent" on any question of church or state.—Mrs. Harbert in *Inter-Ocean*.

THE MIND.—There is no sculptor like the mind. There is nothing that so refines, polishes, and ennobles face and mien as the constant presence of great thoughts. The man who lives in the region of ideas, moonbeams though they be, becomes idealized. There are no arts, no gymnastics, no cosmetics which can contribute a tittle so much to the dignity, the strength, the ennobling of man's looks as a great purpose, a high determination, a noble principle and unquenchable enthusiasm. But more powerful still than any of these as a beautifier of the person is the overmastering purpose and prevailing disposition of kindness in the heart.

HOW TO SELECT A HUSBAND.

It has been profoundly remarked that the true way of telling a toadstool from a mushroom is to eat it. If you die, it was a toadstool; if you live, it was a mushroom. A similar method is employed in the selection of husbands: marry him, if he kills you he was a bad husband; if he makes you happy he is a good one. There is really no other criterion. Some young men that seem unexceptionable, indeed very desirable, when they are single, are perfectly horrid as soon as they are married. All the latent brute there is in the heart comes out as soon as a sensitive and delicate being seeks her happiness in his companionship. The honeymoon lasts a very short time, the receptions and the rounds of parties are soon over, and then the two set down to make home happy. If she has married a society man, he will soon begin to get bored; he will yawn and go to sleep on the sofa. Then he will take his hat and go down to the club, and see the boys, and perhaps not come home until morning. If she has married a man engrossed in business he will be fagged out when he comes home. He may be a sickly man that she must nurse, a morose man that she must seek to cheer, a drunken man that she must sit up for, a violent man that she fears, a fool whom she soon learns to despise, a vulgar man for whom she must apologize—in short there are thousands of ways of being bad husbands and very few ways of being good ones. And the worst of it is, that the poor silly women are apt to admire in single men the very traits that make bad husbands, and look with contempt or ridicule upon those quiet virtues which make home happy. Men with very little personal beauty or style often make the wife happy—and sometimes quite the reverse. The number of ways of being a bad husband is almost as great as the number of ways of being ugly. No one can tell from the demeanor of a single man what sort of a husband he will be. However, she must marry somebody.

HONORING MRS. HAYES.—Now that Mrs. Hayes is on this coast, and many of our people are making her acquaintance, they will be interested in knowing what they are proposing to do for her at the East. The *Utica Herald* says: Miss Esther Pugh, "the staunch Quaker Treasurer of the Hayes Fund Commission," at 54 Bible House, New York city, will receive contributions for a "temperance testimonial to Mrs. President Hayes for the noble stand she has taken for total abstinence while hostess of the White House." This testimonial is to take the shape of "a life-size portrait of Mrs. Hayes, to be painted by one of our best artists," and when finished to be placed in the White House. Every \$5 subscriber will have an engraving of the portrait, and it is expected that the subscription will be so large that enough will be left over to serve as the nucleus of a fund named "the Hayes fund," to be employed in circulating total abstinence literature. Miss Frances E. Willard is President of the commission, and Felix R. Brunot, Mrs. Joseph Cook, Bishop Simpson, Bishop Jagger, Mrs. Gov. Fairbanks, Neal Dow and Gov. St. John, of Kansas, are among the members of the Hayes Fund Commission.

TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.—Dr. Chapin, of New York, says: "I can not honor too highly the industrious mechanic, patiently using his hammer or his wheel. If he only sews a welt or places a knot, he helps to build up the solid pyramid of the world's welfare. There is no doubt of his nobility over those who compose the feathery foam of fashion that sweeps along Broadway, who consider the insignia of honor to consist in wealth and idleness, and who ignore the family history by painting a coat of arms to cover up the leathern aprons of their grandfathers."

QUEEN VICTORIA has declared war on bangs. Time they were killed before.

WEDDING OUTFITS.

What an absurd idea it is that when a girl gets married she must have an enormous wardrobe, dozens of stockings, handkerchiefs and gloves, and bales of underclothing, the greater part of which will be yellow and out of style before she can use it. This great preparation implies that the girl has never had anything decent to wear before, or that she does not expect ever to get anything of the sort from her husband, depending on him only for her food and shelter.

It is the custom—and a very lamentable one—for the parents to supply the daughter's trousseau on her marriage, without any reference to her future condition in life, but in accordance with her own wishes, or the extent of her mother's desire to make a show. Many a bride has had her trunks filled with fine clothes and costly jewelry, but not a dollar she could call her own.

It is well to provide a girl with a good outfit, but it should be a suitable one, that will be of use to her in the future as well as in the present. Piles of underclothing are as unnecessary as a great number of dresses, for while the latter go out of fashion, the former grow yellow and rotten. A friend of mine, who has been married 25 years, tells me that she is still wearing the white skirts made for her trousseau. She had 28 of them, all elaborately trimmed, and has never felt able to afford to give them away and buy others, though the fashion in skirts has changed very materially since then, and they are gored now, while at that time they were made full, fuller, fullest.

In her anxiety about the selection of her outfit, the style and fabric of her dresses, the variety and fineness of her underwear, the young lady about to be married often wears herself down to such a condition that she is in no fit state to go through the trying ordeal of the wedding ceremony, the weariness of the reception which follows it as a rule, and the fatiguing wedding tour. Only yesterday a lady was telling me how ill her daughter was for weeks after her marriage, and the doctors said it was in consequence of the many hours she had bent over her needle "getting ready." Her mother said:

"Hattie wished then that she had put fewer tucks in her white skirts, and less ruffling and embroidery on her dressing sacques." A fit of sickness was needed to teach her common sense, you see.

A cousin of mine, who was engaged to a naval officer, was obliged, owing to his being ordered away on a three-years' cruise, to be married much sooner than she had anticipated if she would not stay single for three years longer. She had but three weeks in which to make all her preparations and no time was lost. Her mother, sister, a dressmaker and herself were busy literally day and night sewing on the trousseau. The night before the eventful day she fainted three times while trying on her numerous dresses for the last time, to see that they were perfect in fit and draping. On her marriage day, when she should have looked her brightest and best, she was pale, wan, weary and hollow-eyed, and fainted during the long breakfast which followed the reception.

Half a dozen of each article of underwear is amply sufficient to start the bride of moderate circumstances in her married life, with a traveling dress (if she is to travel), a black cashmere for evening wear, a pretty wrapper, and two morning dresses. If she expects to attend any evening entertainments after her marriage, it is well to provide herself with a light silk or a Swiss muslin. This outfit is for the fall marriage. Some changes are necessary if the bride enters on her new life in the spring, and these will suggest themselves. It is hardly necessary to speak of gloves, hose and handkerchiefs, for these are a matter of course. It is reasonable to suppose that the young lady has at least a few articles of clothing already, which, being suitable for her single days, will not be unsuitable for her married ones.—*Florence H. Birney, in American Cultivator.*