

for women. She says: "To exchange thoughts and ideas, will be a great help in the life work before us, especially to those like myself, situated in a secluded part of the world. By communicating with our sisters, we may gain a wider field of knowledge, which will enable us to lighten the burdens of house-keeping, and also brighten our homes and existence generally." She farther says: "The main points in house-keeping, are to learn simple methods of preparing wholesome food, and plain, comfortable clothing. These contribute most largely in making our homes happy, and we can not enjoy life unless our homes are pleasant. Home should be made the one spot on earth. We need not be rich to do this. A very little, tastefully arranged, will accomplish wonders."

Wash-day is the dread of every house-keeper, in country places, who has not adopted some of the new methods of lightening this irksome task. So many washing machines have proved failures, that many women despair of ever using any machine equal to the "armstrong," so they humorously denominated the old method of scrub, wash-board and tub. However, there are many machines which do lighten the work very materially, if such be kept in proper condition, which is one of the great advantages of using a machine. Suds better than can be borne with the hands, will loosen the dirt much more quickly and easily, than that of blood temperature, or a little above. There are various solvents, also, that may be used, which make the washing easier, and do no harm to the clothing. I give you one which I have known tried for two years, with no cutting of fabric, whatever. Sal-soda, 4½ lbs.; borax, ¼ lb.; bicarb, ¼ lb. Dissolve this compound in five gallons of water, and it is ready for use. The lady whom I know to use this fluid, sorted the pieces to be washed, on the evening before wash-day, and placed them in a tub, the most soiled ones at the bottom. She prepared suds to cover well, by putting a tea-cupful of the prepared liquid, and two thirds of a bar of soap, in a boiler of water. When this came to a boil, she poured it over the clothes, then covered with a blanket, to retain the heat, letting them stand over night. When ready to wash, the next morning, the suds was yet warm, and the clothes were easily rubbed out. Two clear waters and a living water finished the work. Of course the last waters must not become soapy. Try this method, and when you have thoroughly learned how, your clothes will be as white as when you wash the old way.

An incident which shows the growing sentiment concerning war, is the recent action of Miss Dayer, the wife of a Danish member of parliament, assisted by several ladies. They held a meeting, at Copenhagen, to protest against war. The following is the declaration which they drew up: "Women, though incapable of working directly toward the prosecution of peace, have an equal right with their fellow citizens, to protest against official acts which are accomplished in direct opposition to their opinions and judgment. Consequently, we demand of all our fellow countrymen, and countrywomen, to join with us in protesting against war, and more especially against the senseless formula, generally received, that war is legitimate, indispensable and natural. We act in the name of humanity, morality and truth. Let us Danes bear in mind, and remind other nations of the fact, that the end of all humanity is to aid in the progress toward perfection. Let us teach our children that it is nobler to work for peace than for war." War is not a fruit of the highest civilization, but is the outgrowth of the neglect of timely effort and a deficiency of that brotherly love which treats its neighbor as itself."

Some of the expressions of Sojourner Truth are worth remembering. In her reform work, she often said, "I go in for agitation," which was certainly a very practical opinion to hold in such work. Another of her expressions was, "If de first woman that ever made war strong enough to turn de world upside down, all 'em, dem (referring to the women of her time) ought to be able to turn it back and git it right; and now dey is askin' to do it, de more better let 'em." In Sojourner Truth, we have a striking example of native genius, love and courage. A slave until the age of forty, her education was the result of observation and practical experience, yet she was as the sturdy oak which stands alone in the field.

Many houses have corners in them which are of very little use, because not well planned. I saw, recently, the space under a stairway, so built up that it was a casing of what would have been expense and labor. The stairway ran up between the kitchen and library. Directly beneath the stairway, was a flight of steps, leading to the cellar. From the top of the cellar-way, to the wall opposite it, was a space of about eight feet. Five feet of this space, next to the wall, was built up from the library side, into a book case and secretary case.