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Boy's Suits, good quality, from 99c. up.
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THE BATTLE OF LIFE

WORDS OF CHEER FOR WOMEN WHO WORK.

Dr. Talmage Preaches From the Text, "Every Wise Woman Buildeth Her House"—Honest Independence Better Than Uncongenial Matrimonial Bonds.

[Copyright, 1898, by American Press Association.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—This sermon of Dr. Talmage is a great encouragement to women who have to earn their own living, as well as to all toilers with hand or brain; text, Proverbs xiv, 1, "Every wise woman buildeth her house."

Woman a mere adjunct to man, an appendix to the masculine volume, an appendage, a sort of afterthought, something thrown in to make things even—that is the heresy entertained and implied by some men. This is evident to them because Adam was first created and then Eve. They don't read the whole story, or they would find that the porpoise and the bear and the hawk were created before Adam, so that his argument, drawn from priority of creation, might prove that the sheep and the dog were greater than man. No. Woman was an independent creation and was intended, if she chose, to live alone, to work alone, act alone, think alone and fight her battles alone. The Bible says it is not good for man to be alone, but never says it is not good for woman to be alone, and the simple fact is that many women who are harnessed for life in the marriage relation would be a thousand-fold better off if they were alone.

Unfortunate Wives.

Who are these men who year after year hang around hotels and engine houses and theater doors, and come in and out to bother busy clerks and merchants and mechanics, doing nothing, when there is plenty to do? They are men supported by their wives and mothers. If the statistics of any of our cities could be taken on this subject, you would find that a vast multitude of women not only support themselves, but masculines. A great legion of men amount to nothing, and a woman by marriage manacled to one of these nonentities needs condolence. A woman standing outside the marriage relation is several hundred thousand times better off than a woman badly married. Many a bride instead of a wreath of orange blossoms might more properly wear a bunch of nettles and nightshade, and instead of the wedding march a more appropriate tune would be the dead march in "Saul," and instead of a banquet of confectionery and fees there might be more appropriately spread a table covered with apples of Sodom.

Many an attractive woman of good sound sense in other things has married one of these men to reform him. What was the result? Like when a dove, noticing that a vulture was rapacious and cruel, set about to reform it, and said, "I have a mild disposition and I like peace and was brought up in the quiet of a dove-cot, and I will bring the vulture to the same liking by marrying him." So one day, after the vulture declared he would give up his carnivorous habits and cease longing for blood of flock and herd, at an altar of rock covered with moss and lichen, the twain were married, a bald headed eagle officiating, the vulture saying, "With all my dominion of earth and sky I then endow and promise to love and cherish till death do us part." But one day the dove in her fright saw the vulture busy at a carcass and cried: "Stop that! Did you not promise me that you would quit your carnivorous and filthy habits if I married you?" "Yes," said the vulture, "but if you don't like my way you can leave," and with one angry stroke of the beak and another fierce clutch of the claw the vulture left the dove eyeless and wingless and lifeless. And a flock of robins flying past cried to each other and said: "See there! That comes from a dove marrying a vulture to reform him!"

Many a woman who has had the hand of a young inebriate offered, but declined it, or who was asked to chain her life to a man selfish or of bad temper and refused the shackles, will bless God throughout all eternity that she escaped that earthly pandemonium.

Decreed to Celibacy.

Besides all this, in our country about 1,000,000 men were sacrificed in our civil war, and that decreed 1,000,000 women to celibacy. Besides that, since the war several armies of men as large as the Federal and Confederate armies put together have fallen under malt liquors and distilled spirits, so full of poisoned ingredients that the work was done more rapidly, and the victims fell while yet young. And if 50,000 men are destroyed every year by strong drink before marriage that makes in the 33 years since the war 1,650,000 men slain and decrees 1,650,000 women to celibacy. Take, then, the fact that so many women are unhappy in their marriage, and the fact that the slaughter of 2,550,000 men by war and rum combined decides that at least that number of women shall be unaffianced for life, my text comes in with a cheer and a potency and appropriateness that you may never have seen in it before when it says, "Every wise woman buildeth her house"—that is, let woman be her own architect, lay out her own plans, be her own supervisor, achieve her own destiny.

In addressing those women who have to fight the battle alone, I congratulate you on your happy escape. Rejoice forever that you will not have to navigate the faults of the other sex when you have faults enough of your own. Think of the bereavements you avoid, of the risks of unassimilated temper which you will not have to run, of the cares you will never have to carry and of the opportunity of outside usefulness from which marital life would have partially debarred you, and that you are free to go and come as one who has the responsibilities of a household can seldom be. God has not given you a hard lot as compared with your sisters. When young women shall make up their minds at the start that masculine companionship is not a necessity in order to happiness, and that there is a strong probability that they will have to fight the battle of life alone, they will be getting the timber ready for their own fortune and their saw and ax and plane sharpened for its construction, since "every wise woman buildeth her house."

Should Learn Self Support.

As no boy ought to be brought up without learning some business at which he could earn a livelihood, so no girl ought to be brought up without learning the science of self support. The difficulty is that many a family goes sailing on the high tides of success and the husband and father depends on his own health and acumen for the welfare of his household. But one day he gets his feet wet, and in three days pneumonia has closed his life, and the daughters are turned out on a cold world to earn bread, and there is nothing practical that they can do. The friends come in and hold consultation. "Give music lessons," says an outsider. Yes, that is a useful calling, and if you have great genius for it go on in that direction. But there are enough music teachers now starving to death in all our towns and cities to occupy all the piano stools and sofas and chairs and front door steps of the city. Besides that, the daughter has been playing only for amusement and is only at the foot of the ladder, to the top of which a great multitude of masters on piano and harp and flute and organ have climbed.

"Put the bereft daughters as saleswomen in the stores," says another adviser. But there they must compete with salesmen of long experience or with men who have served an apprenticeship in commerce and who began as shopboys at 10 years of age. Some kind hearted dry goods man, having known the father, now gone, says, "We are not in need of any more help just now, but send your daughters to my store and I will do as well by them as possible." Very soon the question comes up, Why do not the female employees of that establishment get as much wages as the male employees? For the simple reason in many cases the females were suddenly flung by misfortune behind that counter, while the males have from the day they left the public school been learning the business.

How is this evil to be cured? Start clear back in the homestead and teach your daughters that life is an earnest thing, and that there is a possibility, if not a strong probability, that they will have to fight the battle of life alone. Let every father and mother say to their daughters, "Now, what would you do for a livelihood if what I now own were swept away by financial disaster or old age or death should end my career?"

"Well, I could paint on pottery and do such decorative work." Yes, that is beautiful, and if you have genius for it go on in that direction. But there are enough busy at that now to make a line of hardware as long as Pennsylvania avenue.

"Well, I could make recitations in public and earn my living as a dramatist; I could render 'King Lear' or 'Macbeth' till your hair would rise on end, or give you 'Sheridan's Ride' or Dickens' 'Dick Swiveller.'" Yes, that is a beautiful art, but over and anon, as now, there is an epidemic of dramatization that makes hundreds of households nervous with the cries and shrieks and groans of young tragedians dying in the fifth act, and the trouble is that while your friends would like to hear you and really think that you could surpass Ristori and Charlotte Cushman and Fanny Kemble of the past, to say nothing of the present, you could not, in the way of living, in ten years earn 10 cents.

My advice to all girls and all unmarried women, whether in affluent homes or in homes where most stringent economies are grinding, is to learn to do some kind of work that the world must have while the world stands. I am glad to see a marvelous change for the better and that women have found out that there are hundreds of practical things that a woman can do for a living if she begins soon enough and that men have been compelled to admit it. You and I can remember when the majority of occupations were thought inappropriate for women, but our civil war came, and the hosts of men went forth from north and south, and to conduct the business of our cities during the patriotic absence women were demanded by the tens of thousands to take the vacant places, and multitudes of women, who had been hitherto supported by fathers and brothers and sons, were compelled from that time to take care of themselves. From that time a mighty change took place favorable to female employment.

Appropriate Occupations.

Among the occupations appropriate for woman I place the following, into many of which she has already entered and all the others she will enter: Stenography, and you may find her at nearly all the reportorial stands in our educational, political and religious meetings. Savings banks, the work clean and honorable, and who so great a right to toil there, for a woman founded the first savings bank—Mrs. Priscilla Wakefield? Copyists, and there is hardly a professional man that does not need the service of her penmanship, and as amanuensis many of the greatest books of our day have been dictated for her writing. There they are as florists and confectioners and music teachers and bookkeepers, for which they are specially qualified by patience and accuracy, and wood engraving, in which the Cooper institute has turned out so many qualified, and telegraphy, for which she is specially prepared, as thousands of the telegraphic offices will testify. Photography, and in nearly all our establishments they may be found there at cheerful work. As workers in ivory and gutta percha and gum elastic and tortoise shell and gilding, and in chemicals, in porcelain, in terra cotta. As postmistresses, and presidents have given them appointments all over the land.

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Continued on fourth page.

ESTABLISHED 1870.

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3. It sells a Life Scholarship for the usual 6 months' fee and
4. furnishes the books and stationery with out extra charge.
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SURETY BONDS FURNISHED.

FIDELITY AND DEPOSIT CO., OF MARYLAND.

Home Office, N. W. Cor. Charles & Lexington Sts.,
BALTIMORE, MD.

RESOURCES, April 30th, 1897:

PAID-UP CAPITAL	$1,000,000.00
SURPLUS	750,000.00
RESERVE REQUIREMENT	397,691.09
UNDIVIDED PROFITS	153,608.03
TOTAL	$2,301,299.12
LOSSES PAID SINCE ORGANIZATION	$199,413.33.

THE OLDEST AND STRONGEST SURETY COMPANY IN THE SOUTH.

BECOMES SURETY ON BONDS of Executors, Administrators, and in all undertakings in Judicial Proceedings. Does nothing to conflict with the business of lawyers. Accepted by the United States Government as sole surety on Bonds of every description. BECOMES SURETY on Bonds of Sheriffs, Registers of Wills, Clerks of Courts, Collectors and other Officials of States, Cities and Counties. Also on Bonds of Contractors and Employes of Banks, Mercantile Houses, Railroad, Express and Telegraph Companies, and on those of Officers of Fraternal Organizations.

HERMAN E. BOSLER, *Secretary and Treasurer.* EDWIN WARFIELD, *President.*

THE GUARDIAN SECURITY, TRUST AND DEPOSIT CO

Legal Depository for Court or Trust Funds.

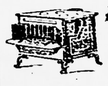
General Banking and Trust Business. Receives Deposits and Allows Interest on Same

Acts as Executor, Administrator, Trustee, Receiver, Guardian, etc., alone, or with an Individual Appointee. Makes Loans on Call or Time on Approved Collateral. We have on hand, and offer to investors, a line of first-class Investment Securities.

EDWARD STABLER, Jr., President.
DANIEL MILLER, JONATHAN K. TAYLOR, Vice-Presidents. WM. M. BYRN, Secretary and Treasurer
7 North Calvert St., - - Baltimore.

ROBERT W. CARTER,

—SYKESVILLE, MD.—
—DEALER IN—
Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machines,
Ball-bearing, very latest improvement—excels all others.



Buggies, Stick Wagons and Daytons. Prices to suit the times.
Orders taken for FURNITURE and STOVES of all kinds.

LIVERY TEAMS FOR HIRE, with or without driver.
HANDY TO RAILROAD STATION.

GREAT * OPENING * SALE

OF NEW FALL GOODS

Selected With the Greatest Care Before the Advance of Prices.

We again trace consumers in their own interest TO MAKE THEIR PURCHASES NOW. These prices will have to be advanced to correspond with wholesale market when present stock is sold.

—OUR REPUTATION FOR CARRYING THE MOST COMPLETE LINES OF—

MEN'S, YOUTH'S AND BOYS' CLOTHING,
OVERCOATS, LADIES' CAPES AND COATS,
BOOTS, SHOES, HATS AND CAPS,
DRY GOODS, NOTIONS,
LADIES' AND GENTS' FURNISHINGS,

has been well established and it is due to our never-ceasing efforts ever since that

WE ARE THE ACKNOWLEDGED HEADQUARTERS FOR CLOTHING.

—WONDERFUL BARGAINS IN—

BLANKETS AND COMFORTS.

DON'T FORGET TO GIVE US A CALL.

PEOPLE'S BARGAIN STORE,

AARON SCHROEDER, Propr.,
NEXT DOOR TO ODD FELLOWS' HALL,
MAIN STREET, - - ELLICOTT CITY, MD.

Please Notice—That an advertisement in THE TIMES always brings a customer if there is one in Howard county