

In Woman's Sphere.

By One of the Sex.

WILL this new department in our old friend and dear companion the NEWS, give as much pleasure to the large circle of woman readers as it will to the writer of these words, who I am happy to say, has been chosen to fill the chair of editor for the Sisters' department? Here we want to meet on the common and yet sacred ground of sisterhood, not excluding any one who has a love for the true, the beautiful, and the development of womankind. We will be still broader and say that we will joyfully include every daughter of Eve, and if through misfortune she has lost all love for the good and the beautiful, we will lovingly seek to show her the upward paths of peace and virtue, while we cling to her hand as she climbs the stony path. Here in our warm and cosy corner, we will talk of all things that are of vital interest to our sex, of the games and plays of childhood, of the school interests and hours of enjoyment spent by girlhood, of the new duties and pleasures of young wifehood, of the cares and needs of motherhood, and we will not forget the wide and far-reaching labors of women who have entered the field of public work. Indeed, the only bound we shall set for ourselves in our weekly visits, will be the bounds formed by time and mortality.

There are so many topics of interest to us that we will not be able to speak of them all each week, but instead, we will take up our subjects in a somewhat arbitrary manner, giving important things important places, and speaking of other of our home labors than of our public interest. Thus, the "food we eat," and the "clothes we wear," and the "lives we live," will appear often upon our pages. Words of advice and comfort to the sick, the sorrowing and the needy women amongst our people will be given oftener than the reports of the elegant costumes or the grand receptions of the rich and well-to-do. Now I shall invite you all to aid me with, first and most important, your kind forbearance for mistakes made, your faith in the good that will flow from this interchange of ideas and purposes, and lastly, I will most cordially invite you to write to me upon matters of interest to us all. Ask any and all sorts of questions, and we will seek to answer them with all inspiration we can obtain. Address all communications to

MRS. FRANCES RICHARDS,
DESERET NEWS office, Salt Lake City, Utah.

THE CHILDREN.

The mother that is too busy to tell her children a story when that of repeated request is made, it to be pitied, if not blamed. While the hands are engaged in molding bread, in ironing, or in putting in the tucks or plaits of the children's new finery, the mother can, if she will, take her mind from the reflections which are occupying it, and tell the eager inquirer the story of how Columbus went to the king, and of the jewels pawned by the good Queen Isabella, or she can tell the

whole Bible through in short and simply worded stories. Did you ever try to tell the Book of Mormon through in that way? Try it, and you will enjoy it as well as the children. Then the infinite material found in history works up into delightful stories, and you will find no end to your profit and the child's pleasure if you will amuse him and yourself in this way. The child who has never been told stories is deprived of one of his most precious rights. Don't you know that the influence of the mother is of paramount importance to the character of the child? But I am of the candid opinion that the mother who is known only to her child as the woman who feeds and clothes him has not half the influence in the formation of his character that is possessed by the companion he meets in the streets and who fills his vacant and inquiring mind with questionable material. When will our sisters wake up to the fact that they have plenty of time to read and talk to their children if they will orly take it from the hours spent in idle gossip, in useless efforts to vie with their neighbors in the matter of clothes and style of living? You, my dear and overworked young mother, just take your little child this evening and when you undress the weary form, tell him the story of Adam and Eve, or Cain and Abel, of Solomon's Temple and how it was built, of Nephi and his brethren, of the good King Benjamin or Mosiah, of the conversion of King Lamoni, of Columbus, of Amerigo Vesputius, of the Pilgrim Fathers, or of the Boston Tea Party. If you are a little rusty on these things, take ten minutes before you go to bed and read it yourself, and then repeat it to him next night in the simplest and most childlike language. Your reward will be given you in the rest and joy it will be to your own mind; and who can measure the results in the future?

THE GIRLS.

Nothing can betoken the fact of the early coming of the dawn of the Millennium more clearly than the fact that there is such a widespread interest awakened in this country on the subject of physical culture. If our young and blooming girls once learn thoroughly the lesson of health and real beauty, marriage will not serve them as it has so many of their mothers; instead of changing from the rosy, plump, sprightly, laughing girl to a baggard, thin, scrawny, sallow, old young woman, they will rest your eyes with a glimpse of young motherhood, still plump, rosy and sprightly, the laughing gaiety toned down into a smiling, cheerful sweetness that will charm with a deeper fullness than all the sparkling charms of inexperienced girlhood. It is good to know that this work of physical culture is being started in this city, and that some of our most influential young maidens and matrons are eagerly interested in the study. Sound, healthy spirits can easily and happily dwell only in sound, healthy and pure bodies.

THE MOTHERS.

It is to be hoped that a certain innovation in the East will speedily find its way out here. Two firms in New York City advertise to keep all the gloves sold in their establishments in repair as long as there are any gloves left to mend. Think of that! No

hunting after the spool of black silk to find it all used up and Sunday at that! No vulgar appearance of finger tips through the torn ends of unsatisfactory gloves! And would you believe it? So popular has this innovation made these particular stores in question that the plan has been adopted by other stores, and then of course the original firm must do something more; and so they are now advertising to keep all the stockings purchased over their counters in good repair as long as there is a heel and a toe to mend. Spirits of our grandmother! What are we coming to? Can you believe it, all? Think of the vista that opens to the delighted gaze! No more stocking baskets, nor gaping heels. No more the weary Saturday night darning of countless heelless heels, toeless toes, and footless feet, and that is not all; if this thing keeps right on—and who says the Millennium shall not appear—think of buying shoes and having them kept in repair and daily called for to be properly blacked. Think of underwear, dresses, hats, furs, jewelry including the woman's notorious watch, and even dishes and tin pans, all mended and kept in repair by the enterprising and obliging dealer! Are you not ready to believe the prophecies of our coming rest from all labor?

Notes on Societies or Associations.

RELIEF SOCIETY.

It caused a glow of happiness in every woman's heart to hear the words of President Woodruff on the closing day of Conference. "Inspired men, yes, and inspired women," he said. "noble women, by tens and thousands here in this church; intelligent women, virtuous women, and their sons and daughters have imbibed the same spirit." Such words from our honored President are glorious.

The Societies have begun the work of incorporation. Some of the conservative ones dreaded the change and the burden entailed; but all have gone to work in the right spirit, and a large increase of intelligent experience will be the result of this last move.

Y. M. M. I. A.

The classes in the Y. M. M. I. A. Manual are very well attended in this city and in Provo colleges. Certainly some one is being benefited. Where are the young men between the ages of sixteen and forty years who ought to be enrolled in these classes?

The missionaries in this field last year performed so excellent a work that names are being rapidly selected to go throughout Zion in the interest of the Y. M. M. I. A.

Y. L. M. I. A.

It was understood that some sort of a manual specially adapted for the young girls was to be issued this Conference by the authorities here; where is it? It is an undeniable fact that there are ten to one young girls as compared with the young men who attend those various associations. Why is that? There is the same feature in the Y. L. M. I. A. that exists in the Y. M. M. I. A., few or no girls between the ages of fifteen or sixteen years, and the officers who are usually on the other side of thirty.

Will there always be more good women than good men?