

One of the local papers in reporting the Congress said: "The topic under discussion at the Woman's Congress was the home considered sociologically, but it proved to be largely a dissertation on the bachelor maid. Why she is a bachelor and how long she will remain one these women discussed, but nobody so much as suggested that she had too much higher education. It is a cardinal principle at the congress that no human being can have his or her faculties too highly cultivated. If Sarah Grand had been at the congress yesterday she would have clapped her hands with glee. Very likely she would have joined Mrs. Gillette in the 'sound of that great amen,' for Sarah Grand's text in the 'Heavenly Twins,' was the text in the congress. There was a great deal said about an equal plan of morals for men and women, an equal moral training for boys and girls, and according to the hearty applause, Sarah Grand must have a great many San Francisco disciples."

Miss Shaw, in discussing the "bachelor maid" of to-day, said: "It has been thought that these unmarried girls hate men. That is not true. It has been urged against a college education that the women so educated do not marry. That is not the reason. It is because they have too high an ideal of marriage to enter into the relation under present conditions. There were just six months in my life when I did hate men, and that is all, for I am not made up on a hating plan. It was during my work in the slums of Boston, when I was associated with the so-called immoral women in that city. It was when I was looking at the association of brute men with brute women. When I saw that these women had been dragged down through the purest and best side of their nature, I hated men. My brother, who was a physician, saw that I was ill. He did not think I hated men because I was unmarried. So, Methodist parson though I was, my brother insisted on taking me to the opera six nights in succession, and by that time I was cured. I have never hated any one since. I have felt sorry for men since then. I am sorry that the world has given men a lower moral plane than women, and allowed them to stand on it."

Mrs. Cooper's views on home and the position of women, were enthusiastically received. She said: "A higher home should be a democracy, where even the little children have a part and can express their opinions. A child has as much right to moral and intellectual growth as physical. If there is anything that subverts the higher home it is having a boss in the family—whether it be the man, woman or the child. Shall a man trust his heart and honour to a woman and then ask her to account for every dollar? What sort of children come from a union of a tyrant and a beggar? I must refer to the increasing intelligence and power in women. It is God who is calling women to this advance. The cry of woman being out of her sphere comes from the weaker of the opposite sex, because they are afraid of competition. Women must expect this, but noble men will welcome them. Power and versatility will never affect the quality of womanhood. The woman question—why, it's half the human question. Woman as a half of humanity has been plundered of her birthright. The woman who is nothing but a wife and mother is no more the highest type of woman than the man who is

nothing but a husband and father is the highest type of man."

A leading member of the Paris Academy of Medicine has sent to that learned body a memoir in which he maintains that the numerous cases of chlorosis, neuroses, and neurasthenia observed among young girls is due to learning to play on the piano and the hours devoted to practising. He has drawn up careful statistics from which he concludes that, among 6,000 pupils obliged before attaining the age of twelve to learn to play the piano, nearly 12 per cent. suffer from nervous troubles.

There are some members of the medical profession continually raising alarms and cries of "Wolf." One day the basins in barbers shops are attacked as being sources of infection; next kissing is tabooed; then mice and rats are accused of spreading zymotic diseases. Oysters have for a time been boycotted; unwashed pence are supposed to be guilty of many and countless epidemics. Piano playing is now to be condemned on the score of causing "nerves." Life will be a much easier thing if tinkling pianos and "strumming" are to be banished; but one cannot help thinking that it is the nerves of those who listen rather than those who play, which suffer most.

The following statistics covering twenty years shows the progress in the United States of woman labour and is very encouraging by contrast with the slow advance being made in England in the industries of women as shown by Miss Collet's recent return.

Women employed as—	1870.	1890.
Actresses .. ...	692	3,949
Architects ... ..	1	22
Artists and teachers of art ...	412	10,810
Authors, literary and scientific persons	159	2,725
Clergymen... ..	67	1,235
Dentists ... ..	24	337
Engineers and surveyors ...	—	127
Journalists ... ..	35	888
Lawyers ... ..	5	208
Musicians and teachers of music	5,753	34,518
Government officials, Federal, State, and local ... ..	414	4,875
Physicians and surgeons ...	527	4,555
Theatre Managers, showmen, &c.	100	634
Book-keepers and accountants...	—	27,777
Clerks and copyists ... ..	8,016	64,048
Stenographers and typewriters...	7	21,185

### Science Notes.

At a ceremony recently held at Florence for the conferment of academical degrees, one of the students presented received quite an ovation. The young gentleman, who had been blind from birth, chose as the subject of his graduation thesis "Compensations in the Senses of the Blind." The thesis was declared by the examiners to be a valuable contribution towards solving the problem of the intellectual and moral education of the blind, and it was recommended for publication.

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