

dents as a mother hen is among her chicks. It would astonish them a good deal if they could hear the commiserating comments of their friends.

I well remember a lady artist who sent her young brother to the University, and supported two maiden aunts, one of whom was blind. One day, walking with this lady and a friend, we stopped to look in at a shop-window, in which some beautiful French silks were displayed.

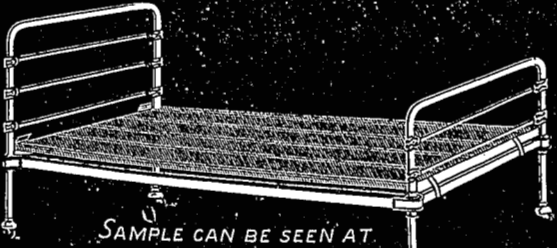
"Oh, come away," sighed the artist thoughtlessly, "it makes my heart ache to look at them. I can't afford them, and feel dreadfully tempted."

"It is a shame!" replied the friend. "If you were not so generous, you could afford those silks easily, and a pony trap as well! Fancy your working yourself to death supporting three people. Alone you would live in luxury." The artist was grave in a moment and looked offended.

"To begin with," she said, "I am not likely to die of work that I love, that keeps me out of doors a good deal, and that has made me many friends. Secondly, I had much rather pay for the society of my aunts than for French silks or pony traps; and lastly, I am not generous because I happen to please myself by spending my money in the way I like."

The sentiment of the artist is that of many, I had almost said *most*, bread-winning women among all classes of the population. Self-sacrifice and the sense of protecting those who need their protection is a greater joy and satisfaction to them than the possession of material comforts. There is no space to quote examples, but so many exist that every reader will easily remember one or two. The grumbles and complaints of women bread-winners are frequently thoroughly insincere. They would not *really* be deprived of their grown-up pets for any consideration—but an occasional growl is a luxury to most people.

Some letters in the *Daily Graphic* have recently dealt with the subject of lady-artists. Mrs. E. M. Ward (May 19th), attributes the fact that women artists do not meet with the same success as men to the natural discursiveness of the feminine mind, which is less able to concentrate itself on the hard and severe study, which may be called drudgery, necessary to the production of a really great work. . . . Mrs. Ward is sure that "were women to devote their time and energies to the study of anatomy, drawing, and colours with the same quiet devotion as the male student, there would be many more successful women represented on the walls of our Royal Academy."



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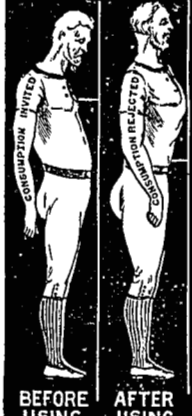
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