

gard for the loss of life consequent upon a hasty and unprepared evacuation. And all their hopes are now limited to the rescue of General Gordon and to the defense of Egypt proper from the invasion of the Mahdi. The latter, flushed with success, is steadily advancing. The theological university of El Ahzar at Cairo, which is to the Mussulman world what the Pope and the College of Cardinals are to Roman Catholicism, has just recognized his mission as from God. No true Mussulman will oppose him now, and all the population of Egypt consider him as the deliverer from the yoke of Christians and foreigners, so that even the defense of lower Egypt may become a very difficult matter. And whether Gordon survive or perish, England, to save her prestige and vindicate her honor, must send an expedition to rescue or to avenge him.

R. E. Colston.

Late Bey on the General Staff of the Egyptian Army.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., July 18, 1884.

#### The Appeal of the Harvard Annex: A Claim on Educated Women.

IT is now five years since a circular was issued offering "private collegiate instruction to women" at Cambridge, Mass., the instruction to be given by members of the Faculty of Harvard University. A sum of \$15,000 had been raised by those interested in the experiment, which, with the fees of students, was estimated as sufficient to test "the scheme"—now well known as the "Harvard Annex"—for a period of four years.

During its third year the plan took definite legal shape; a charter was obtained from the State of Massachusetts, and the corporate name of "The Society for the Collegiate Instruction of Women" was adopted. This charter defines the object of the society to be "to promote the education of women with the assistance of the instructors of Harvard University," and authorizes it "to perform all acts appropriate to the main purpose of the Society," and also, whenever doing so would advance the objects of the association, to transfer "the whole or any part of its funds or property to the President and Fellows of Harvard College." It was in the exercise of the powers conferred by this special clause that, after four years of quiet, effective work, and when, in view of what had been accomplished, it seemed reasonable to ask an intelligent and generous public to assist in placing the association on a permanent financial basis, that in February, 1883, the ladies of the Executive Committee in due form asked for a permanent endowment fund of one hundred thousand dollars which would not only supply an assured income, but would gain for the "Annex" a recognized connection with the University, the goal of the highest hopes of its originators. The substance and ground of the appeal may be briefly summarized as follows: "The experiment (for so it was considered by those who projected it) has encountered no difficulties either from within or without; has excited neither opposition nor prejudice, but has worked so simply and easily that its success has hardly attracted attention. Few seem to know how closely the courses of study correspond in character with those of the University itself, instruction being given exclusively by officers of Harvard. . . . The annual

number of students has been from thirty-five to forty; of these, some have been themselves teachers, others young women fitting themselves to become such; a few have been brought by the simple love of study. . . . All have shown high average standard, some exceptional excellence. . . . A scheme which is of such evident value to women, and which has proven so practicable, should have an official claim on the University, a connection only to be secured by the endowment asked for." Thirty-six thousand dollars was already promised by some twenty persons concerned for the success of the work. The press throughout the country noticed the appeal, in many cases with a few words of editorial commendation; but only a little more than thirty thousand dollars additional has been subscribed.

Now, in a nation which numbers many thousands of women with both wealth and education, this should not be. How many—or rather how *few*—dresses, bonnets, wraps, etc., would the rich women of the cultured circles of the United States have to forego for one season, in order to respond to such appeals as that of the Harvard Annex?

There is no occasion in the discussion of this or of any kindred question—from the point of view of a *claim on women*—to look at it with the slightest degree of sentiment, or to commend it to the consideration of cultivated women with any theoretical rhetoric. Taking a thoroughly practical view of the matter, the peremptoriness of such claims can be frankly urged on wives and mothers of fortune, with almost the promise that if they thus cast their bread upon the waters it will return to them with interest, in the benefit to their children derived from thoroughly trained and cultivated teachers. The majority of the instructors of youth in America are women, and there can be but one opinion as to the desirability of all women who select the profession of teaching having every possible opportunity to prepare themselves for it; and it is to this class that the Annex and similar schemes will always be of special service. In its report for 1883, the students are spoken of as principally "young women fitting as teachers, or older women who are already teachers, but who allow themselves out of their small earnings the rare luxury of a little change from teaching to learning, that they may go back to their work refreshed and better. . . . We have had as yet no flighty students brought by the novelty of the thing. . . . The standard of our public and private schools can never be a matter of indifference to parents, and that standard can hardly fail to be raised by the closer relations of the schools to the universities."

If any woman is tempted to say in reply to this demand for a subscription, "Women do not control the purse-strings as a rule, and, to the extent of their ability to give, they respond to more urgent needs than those of Annexes, and distribute their pocket-money in less public channels than the endowment of universities," I bespeak her attention to some data which, collected for another purpose some few years ago, have special worth in this connection, and would seem to prove not only that women in America, even as far back as colonial times, have always given to educational institutions, but that less than a tithe of the amount they have given to colleges for men



would place the Harvard Annex in a more favorable relation to the University than its prototypes across the water — Girton and Newnham — bear to the University of Cambridge.

Up to 1880, passing over for the moment those colleges whose female donors had benefited them in sums under thirty-five thousand dollars (a little more than the Annex still asks for), we find that some dozen colleges — not including those to which women are admitted — had received from women over half a million of dollars, aggregating in the case of Harvard itself “in money very nearly three hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, besides the gifts of lands, books, pictures, and apparatus to a very great amount.”

Hamilton College received \$130,000; Amherst College, \$56,000; Union College, \$107,000; Bowdoin College, \$86,000; Phillips Academy, \$100,000; Dartmouth College, \$65,000; Andover Theological Seminary, \$50,000; Kenyon College, \$50,000; Chicago Theological Seminary, \$50,000.

Brown University, since 1860, had, according to its register's report, received \$37,770. Shurtleff College, Ohio, is strictly excluded from our list, as it includes a very small percentage of female students; but I desire to record its donations of \$42,395, and also the pertinent remark of its president, “Of course there are thousands of dollars to be added to this sum, coming from hundreds of women, but I can only make conjectures concerning such sums.”

Of smaller amounts, Lafayette College, Pa., “since 1864,” reports \$26,000; Ohio Wesleyan University, “before 1878, when women were admitted,” \$25,000; Trinity College, \$20,000; Princeton College, \$8,000; Cumberland University, \$15,000; and various others report smaller donations, from \$10,000 to \$1000.

As far as I can ascertain, American women have given to colleges for men considerably over one million dollars; and that the generosity of our sex toward educational institutions for the training of young men has been on the increase of late years is shown by the statistics of “educational benefactions for 1881” (the latest published data), where over five hundred thousand dollars appear opposite women's names, the two largest gifts being one hundred thousand dollars by Miss Lenox to the Theological Seminary for the Presbyterian Church in New York, and thirty thousand dollars to Amherst College by Mrs. Samuel Hooper, to increase the Hooper-Sturgis Professorship Fund.

The interest of these figures springs from the proof which they offer of the feminine estimate of the benefits of education. Over a century ago, when it would have been impossible to raise any question of “higher education” for women, not a few women had “well deserved to be gratefully remembered by the alumni of Harvard.” The roll of honor is headed by Lady Moulson in 1643, with one hundred pounds sterling, a worthy forerunner of Mrs. Ann F. Sever, whose noble legacy of one hundred and forty thousand dollars came to the University in 1879.

A list of the gifts of women to Harvard during the first years of its existence, before 1700, may not only be of general interest, but also induce other women to place themselves on the list of subscribers to the endowment fund of the Annex during its first decade :

“1643, Lady Moulson . . . . .	£	100	0	0	s. d.
1656, A Widow of Roxbury . . . . .		1	0	0	
1658, Bridget Wynes, Charleston . . . . .		4	0	0	
1676, Judith Finch, legacy . . . . .		0	14	0	
1695, Mrs. Mary Anderson, legacy . . . . .		5	0	0	
1696, Samuel Sewell and Hannah Sewell, his wife . . . . .					500 acres.”

*Catherine Baldwin.*

#### More Words with Countrywomen.

THERE are three classes of women, at least of countrywomen, whose lives lack something of the intellectual brightening that usually comes from the social contact and subtle magnetism of the city — who need the help and stimulus that may be found in systematic association, with some positive and clearly defined end in view :

First, the young women — the girls whose school days are but lately over, and who have not yet learned what to do with their lives, or how to use them :

“Standing with reluctant feet,  
Where the brook and river meet.”

Reluctant? The adjective was well chosen, for the path a young girl enters when she first leaves school is by no means free from briars and brambles. All transition periods are periods of unrest. She has entered one that demands patience and faith on her part, and patience and discretion on that of her mother. No earnest, thoughtful girl — and the world is full of such — after years of busy school-life, in which every hour had its regular, well-defined duties, and every day had its hopes, its achievements, its generous rivalries, its eager friendships, and its failures that were as helpful and beneficent as its successes, can settle down to a little crocheting, a little embroidering, a little housework, a little music, a little visiting, a little dressing, a little reading, a little of this, that, and the other, without a sense of inexpressible depression and weariness. Is this strange? For years she has been in daily communion, more or less close, with minds that lifted hers. She has been feeding upon the best thoughts of the good and great and wise of all the centuries. Suddenly she finds herself feeding upon husks instead. Life, that has seemed to her young imagination so noble, so grand, something to glory in and thank God for, dwindles down to a thing of mere shreds and patches — a round of eating, sleeping, dressing, dancing, and flirtation.

I speak now more especially of the girls who, fortunately or unfortunately, happen to be born to a station in life that seems to demand of them only that they should “enjoy themselves”; and for the truth of my statements I appeal not only to the girls themselves, but to the memory of every woman who has not forgotten her own girlhood.

In this emergency what shall she do? The quickest and surest way out of her troubles is to give herself some stated and regular work to do, in the line of her old pursuits. That noble institution, the Boston “Study at Home” society, would come to her aid here; and so would the more democratic Chautauqua circles. But there is a large class of girls, as well as women, who prefer to study independently, and who are repelled by the red tape that is quite unavoidable in all large movements.

Second, the middle-aged women, upon whom fall