

not take up things which are in themselves valuable, nor do they give such effort to make themselves thoroughly valuable as men do. In regard to the first of these statements, it may be said that business is business. There can be no sentimentality in it. The law of supply and demand is inexorable. If there are twenty or fifty women to fill a position which any one of them can fill as well as another, no one of them will be well paid. In regard to the second, men make a study of their business, as a thing with which they wish to support themselves and their prospective or actual families—as a means to wealth. A woman, ninety-nine times out of a hundred, takes some business which will enable her to help herself till she marries. The hundredth woman is the well-paid one. Here lies the great trouble. Every woman, or nearly every woman, looks upon labor as an evil to be borne as lightly as possible till it can be shouldered upon a man. And at last, some sad day, she wakes up to a realization of the fact that there are not enough men to go around, and that she is stranded on the shore of low-waged incompetency. Some then make a noble struggle and retrieve their lost ground; and this is the reason that nearly all the well-paid women in our stores are those who by reason of their years have come to a realizing sense that probably no man will ever support them, and that they must carry the load themselves. As to that sad and weary army of sewing women, whose toil and hard lot brings tears to our eyes, it is mostly made up of those women who have never learned any real business; who have married, and, left widowed with little children to care for, and not the means to embark in that other weary business of boarding-house keeping, are obliged to take to that one thing which they as well as thousands of other women can do. They are forever handicapped.

Women do not usually—I say it with regret—put their hearts into their work as men do. They look upon it as a temporary affair, and so—as I have been told by both men and women who employ both men and women—they are not worth as much as a man, who wants to stick at the work.

There is but one remedy for this. As I have said before, let our young women and girls be taught that it is as necessary for them to know how to earn their livings with some true business as it is for their brothers.

Do not bring them up to believe that marriage is the aim of a woman's life any more than it is of a man's, or that it is more honorable and dignified than work. Let them learn one of the hundred real trades or employments which women can learn; let them feel that the better they can do their work the more account they will be in the world and the more respected; that they should put their whole hearts into their employment and make themselves valuable as working factors, leaving marriage to come or not as they and fate will; and then, and not till then, they will become as valuable working factors as men, who already do all this. There is always room and good pay at the top. Value will command value, and a dollar's worth will generally bring a dollar.

(I must make one parenthesis and one exception here, and that is with regard to the respective pay of men and women teachers. That the discrepancy in this is as great as it is unjust I do not pretend to deny; and the only reason I can give for it, according to my

view, is, that there are too many women who wish to be teachers. It is the great refuge for every woman who has a fair education and wishes to earn her living in a "genteel" manner. The market is glutted with women teachers.)

As I have said before, man has the advantage of possession; life is the survival of the fittest; and since man has the vantage ground, only those women who are armed with the same weapons, have the same determination to succeed and the same stake to lose, will gain the same footing. I do not mean to accuse man of any more injustice than comes of this struggle for life; as I have said, business is business. No man pays for anything more than he is compelled to pay. Let our girls become really thorough saleswomen, both wholesale and retail, even if it comes to traveling; let them practically learn printing, engraving, designing, light cabinet-work, stenography, book-keeping, watch-making, goldsmithing, dressmaking (at which the practical woman sometimes makes a fortune)—any of the hundreds of things for which their nimble and delicate fingers, native wit and taste, quick perceptions and faithful perseverance, fit them, and let them learn it as a business, thoroughly, honorably, with the determination to be first-class workwomen, and soon they will share the pay as well as the work of men. And believe me, our girl will be no less fitted to be a good, loving wife and mother, if she sees fit to marry; and she will not be driven into a thoughtless marriage to escape the drudgery of earning the pittance which will not support her, nor of making a sacrifice which is generally considered to be even more disgraceful than that. Think of this, you who bemoan the thousands of unhappy marriages and the frequency of divorce. And if she is left, as so many women are left, with children depending on her for support, she is in no worse condition than the widower who is left with them to care for. Think of this, you who may be widows.

I will say here that men have objected to this idea, saying that if women are self-supporting they will not care to marry. Surely, I reply, if a man depends upon his money alone to attract and keep, the time has arrived when woman should compel him to make himself worthy of her love and her possession.

There are many bright instances where women have met and understood this condition of affairs, and have gone to work like men and made themselves valuable. They have something which they can do better than other women and as well as a man. And I am glad to say that my experience has been that such women are admired, appreciated, and valued. As one old business man said to me, "If you want a faithful, trustworthy employee, have a woman who understands her business." Woman has every element of success in her; teach her to bring it to bear on the situation.

L. E. Holman.

Home Rule and Culture.

SHOULD the hoped-for "Reorganization of the British Empire" include "Home Rule" for Ireland, with representation in the Imperial Parliament, not the least interesting of the phenomena following it in Ireland will be the revival of national culture, especially in fine and industrial art. Travelers in Switzerland, in

Germany, in Italy, in France, and in Belgium are perplexed in the museums by Gaelic manuscripts, many of them delicately illuminated, concerning which the custodians or catalogues make scant explanation. At Oxford and in the British Museum, in various public and private collections in Dublin, are beautiful evidences that the arts of design were early associated with the classical and sacred volumes which the Irish scholars, driven from their native haunts, carried away with them. In decorative art, in architecture, in sculpture, and in the manipulation of metals, Ireland has an obscured history that makes more pathetic her long intellectual death. While Western Europe sank into darkness a twilight of learning and of art activity prevailed in Ireland; but when the glory of the Renaissance gradually spread over the Continent and extended its mild radiance to England, war and penal statutes had destroyed the vestiges of culture in Ireland.

Her churches, ark-shaped, with plain or twisted pillars and round-headed windows in incised moldings; with interiors in which simple dignity is warmed by modest ornament; her bells and bell shrines, her chalices and crosiers, her book-covers and book-cases, showing that her artists were expert in filigree and in damasking, in *repoussé* and enamel, both *cloisonné* and *champlevés*; her belfries, towers, and duns; her clasps and mosaics, glass engraving and gem mounting, of which authentic examples are cherished illustrating the skill of the country from the fifth century to the fourteenth — all serve only to make more deplorable the decadence of a people whom penal laws so depressed that when the present monarch reached the throne three-fourths of the natives could neither read nor write. The sturdy commercial industry of Ireland which appeared during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries had been as ruthlessly destroyed by statutes scientifically contrived in the interest of English rivals. To-day the shops of the Irish cities are filled with the manufactures of English towns. There is no considerable native production, except linen. All the arts of design have long been dead.

The happiest as well as the most trustworthy symptom in the Home Rule movement is that its growth has been parallel with the resuscitation of intelligence. The penal laws expired in 1829. The national schools were officially opened in 1832. With a population of 7,000,000 the enrollment was only 100,000, so long were the masses of the people accustomed to the conviction that education was felonious. Each succeeding decade has found the enrollment increased; and when it now reaches its maximum of more than 1,000,000 in a population of less than 5,000,000,—the highest in proportion to population of all countries, not even excepting our own,—the demand for Home Rule is found also at its maximum. More than three-fourths of the representatives chosen to speak for Ireland in Westminster have cast for three years a solid vote for the restoration of the national legislature. That this demand will be acceded to, no student of the English mode of dealing with modern political problems can doubt. The feud, political, religious, ethnical, that has raged for centuries, will cease. Good-will will become a habit of the English and Irish people towards each other. With the fixity of that habit we may look with confidence for a revival of culture in Ireland which will be found especially attractive in fine and industrial art.

Since the abolition of the Irish Parliament in 1800 there has been no native authority for the appropriation of revenue. During the same period England has become thoroughly aroused to the necessity of encouraging science and art. Availing herself of the fifty thousand volumes and the hundreds of cases of natural history left by Hans Sloane, a native of Ireland, she founded the British Museum. Later in the century she spent half a million dollars on the National Gallery, and has annually bestowed upon it a liberal allowance. The South Kensington Museum, the National Portrait Gallery, and the India Museum are all of comparatively recent origin, and have cost the treasury millions for their foundation and support. Museums of art have been opened in the provincial towns, supported in part by corporate, in part by private, and in part, indirectly, by Parliamentary aid. The effect of Kensington and other training schools upon the industry of England has been such that last year a leading French authority cried out that if France did not bestir herself England would take from her the markets of the world, which the superior technic and taste of the French designers have monopolized for a century, or since the establishment of art schools throughout France. Parliament expended last year upon the science and art of England nearly \$5,000,000, and upon science and art in Ireland less than \$300,000, one-half of this being only for buildings. Would not an Irish Parliament deal more wisely with Irish art and Irish manufactures?

England has used Irish talent for her own profit with sagacity and success. Her art owes much to James Barry and Sir Martin Shee — neither a first-class painter, but both admirable instructors and critics. When the Queen makes her progress to open or to prorogue Parliament, she passes through a national gallery the sides of which are frescoed by Maclise. In music Ireland claims Balfe and Wallace. In philosophy Boyle and Berkeley, Thompson and Tyndall, are hers. Moore obtained no attention until he tuned his dulcet lyre to praise a Prince of Wales; and Lecky is popularly classified as English with as little hesitation as a Burke, a Sheridan, a Goldsmith, a Philip Francis. There is a spurious and a lofty patriotism. There is a true and a false nationalism. It ought to be possible for the genius of the Irish people to express its individuality, as it was possible for that of Greece, for that of Venice; and that individuality is as genuine and characteristic as we believe American nationality to be. Under the beneficent operation of home rule and the permanent adjustment of the relations of England and Ireland on a political basis of justice and mutual friendship, we shall see the arts and industries of Ireland flourishing, encouraged by her own legislature; and her men and women of genius, no longer expatriated, working with love and confidence upon the noblest problems of her destiny.

Margaret F. Sullivan.

The Holt Method of Teaching Music.

BY A TEACHER.

THE Holt system, so rapidly growing in favor throughout the United States, differs very widely from most others in that it presents the "music end" first.

This mistake has been made in teaching music — the names of the characters representing music have