

To the Editor of the Times

Sir. Although it cannot but be obvious to all readers that the article 'Woman's Sphere' by Hansford Jukes is fully answered - more than answered by the one in June 13 yet for humanity's sake I will expend this much time to re-explain my remarks to him - if you will kindly give me space - for it were a vast pity even one unit of the human race should so misunderstand his native tongue.

'Truth is divine' - a good text, thank you, I remember it only too well when (may Hansford do the same - tho' his memory did fail him when he wrote) he ascribes to me the words 'The evils of tightlacing can never be known by woman till she is a licensed Physician'. It was never said.

That some knowledge of their own anatomies known to all women would have averted the late exposure of woman's ignorance thro' the tightlacing controversy is truth. That some knowledge - the more the better of Hygiene - Physiology - medicine would make fitter mothers is truth. That higher education would lead the feminine thought to higher & more delicate paths than 'setting her cap' making a good match &c is truth, divine truth.

That she would be able to fill any & all positions circumstances made her fill - meet all exigencies of her life better - truer - fuller - by a greater general knowledge - by a knowledge of herself - is truth.

My truth is divine - I thank thee Hans for teaching me that word -

Over all - above all - Hans - she would be more competent to mature the young ideas committed to her charge - more competent to aid them - physically - intellectually - &

morally ~~if~~ her own were wide than were they 'cribbed - confined'.

That - How far - misquotes Dr Guthrie deliberately is a question - that he does so - is truth - for Dr Guthrie emphatically approved of the advancement of the education of women - he said "I believe there are tens of thousands of women in the country who will hail the day when ladies pass as qualified physicians as a blessed one - and it will be a great relief to their feelings" And he not only approved with his voice but worked for us in ~~in~~ his life - especially in gaining the admission of women for study to Edinburgh hospital.

The next - departure - the fantasia his disordered imagination plays on the words virtue - modesty - delicacy - has but one merit - age - Oh we have heard so much on this score from such sources - so much. Such futile attempts to frustrate the progress of good - the growth of morality & intellectuality as his - Oh we know the keynote well.

Who ever heard of Dr Guthrie - Prof Masson - Prof Husley - John Stewart Hall or any of the largeminded men of past or present times who gave the subject thought - trying to veto womans right to all & every good - by a weak play upon the words modesty, delicacy, virtue, ?

Oh no, they & the best men of every time believe ~~womans~~ womans moral character as of stronger stuff than to perish with the first contact with what they call the rude buffets of the world.

As a learned writer said "Are charwomen & seamstresses less virtuous & modest than their neighbors because

3
"They have to fight their way & win their fame - in the
"struggle for bread? Are the Turkish women veiled &
"secluded as they are kept more virtuous than those of
"European nations? Is her ^{mate} modesty so small a
"thing - of so frail a material - that it will bear no
"contact with externals? If you admit it is - then I
"answer that I deny that a woman possess either virtue
"or honor who cannot without harm read & live & work
"as holy men have read & lived & worked x x x x x

"Bear in mind too that the women who enter ~~into~~ into
"public competition go armed with a higher education
"mental, moral & physical than those have whose thoughts
"never soar above the contemplation of a comfortable
"home & plenty of excitement."

The only part of Hans juer's effusion worthy
a woman's notice is that she retire from (presumably
his) vulgar notice. For when such as he are ousted in
any argument of this nature - in any case where
woman is concerned - ~~then~~ who so quick as our
would be guide - protector - & lover of delicacy - to hurl
insult as he. A pretty guide to all things good & pure
such would be!

Yes uncalled for - unwarranted - by anything
said - by anything hinted - he uses the poisoned
arrow of insult - as the most effectual weapon at
his command - & that to against a woman, for
women - for right. None other than he - who so
loudly assigns us our place - second to him -
subservient - to him.

for Hans juer
Would it not seem well to think more of the
true rendering of 'man's sphere'?
It would seem more appropriate - at least - if

he should occupy his hours of leisure in cultivating his own moral character - than attempting to crush those who object to his dictation - by falsity & insult - How dare any creature assign his fellow creature his rights - his limits - his or her sphere? Co-equal - of the same flesh & soul consisting God made them man & woman. It seems a huge impertinence that either should assign the other - place - or dwarf their powers.

That some should have the power - disposition to do is too evident - that they should have the power is lamentable. It would serve the interests of society better if such men would so nourish their own moral & intellectual characters that they might attain to that strength - "to be in the world but not of the world" that they might grow to that nobility of character that is strengthened by trial - purified in the furnace & made lasting from victory - rather than that abnormal article - of jourdlike growth - that perishes in the using - which they call virtue, honor - delicacy - "words in some hands, is a sceptre in theirs a rattle". In short that they might do & be the best - man may do or be - as many men have been before them - as many & many men & women have been before & now.

If Harris fur. never knew such men & women it is to be regretted & certainly forms some excuse for his judgement of them. For he would lead us to believe society was in this state: - Society consists of individuals - individuals signifies man & wife man - means the greater part of the individual - who goes into ^{the world} (i.e. among his fellow men) grows callous - evil - debased - quite lost - to delicacy - virtue truth

5:
wife means a small part of the individual - a help-
who stays all day herself within four walls - to preserve
her modesty & virtue - & exists a very useful(?) angel.

Truly a worthy mixture - worthy of Harris' imaginings!
The man the guide (to what?) helper (to what?) - protector
(from what?) - how can anyone imagine a more ill-
assorted ~~for~~ individual - scarcely a pair, ~~in~~ for there
is no equality. Was anything ever more incongruous
more strangely awry than this picture

Of course it is fully understood that this is only a
dream of Harris - that a few minutes may dispel - for
most-people of civilized races believe that the ideal
man & wife is vastly different from that. Not only the
ideal but the real - where education & generous ideas
have had room & breathing space.

The man possessing a moral character too high - too strong
too sure to be lost - by contact with the world - The wife all
virtuous modest & true & withal educated enough to be able
to sympathize - to understand - to follow the daily progress
it may be of the man. He her protector because of his
manliness not because of her ignorance - her counsellor
because of his wisdom & her intelligence - not because
of her imbecility.

If we would believe Harris ~~just~~ it would seem
that ~~in~~ ~~his~~ eyes a wife's life is so unbearable that if
she could maintain herself alone & knew enough to take
care of herself alone - she would do anything rather than
marry - It is a very sad thing if he knows any such
unhappy - still it is only fair to suppose that an
educated woman was never the cause of his misery
by marrying him - An educated woman no

marrying with any⁶ less than her equal - it is only fair
to suppose he will never be made thus unhappy.

Just here Haas is enigmatical even to himself
He avers if women are highly educated they will not
marry - Yet he believes education to mature the mind
sharpens insight - makes wise - And still he asserts
most emphatically that marriage is the highest
good - the happiest end woman can achieve - If so, as
we would fain believe it - Why with growth of
intellect would she not - be better see it - & choose it?

The gross insult cast on all women
supporters of the Suffrage movement by Haas is of
too small moment to discuss -

That it is wholly false those who know anything of the subject
know well - Whom he thought to delude by such a heinous
indictment is hard to imagine - And for his own benefit
let me advise Haas to read the 'Apothegms of the Woman's
Canadian Suffrage Association' before he pronounces
such sentiments as 'Free Love' as their prominent
characteristic on his own responsibility.

To think of the thousands of noble pure hearted women
in America - in Canada - in Toronto who are not afraid
or ashamed to demand what is clearly right -

To think of such womanly women as Mrs McEwen
& her colleagues being thus insulted by this intellectual
stripling is rather an ill advised jest; indeed it is
all sui generis & not worthy notice for truth is Divine

But if Haas has not awakened ere this from his
chaotic dream - it is evident it is too late to save him from
fatal syncope & from the heart of a happy household I
finally say Requiescat in pace A woman