

AS SEEN THROUGH WOMAN'S EYES.

How Women Have Invaded Professions Hitherto Held by Men.

The recent rejection by the Benchers of Gray's Inn of the suite of Miss Bertha Cave has called attention to the undoubted success of lady lawyers abroad, particularly in France and the United States. Indeed, in the latter country they have ceased to excite comment. At the same time, a family of lady lawyers is unique.

Such a family is to be found in the town of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A. It consists of Mrs. Kate Pier and her three daughters, all of whom have been admitted to the Bar, though the youngest has only just attained her majority.

In Milwaukee these lady lawyers are well known, and have on more than one occasion distinguished themselves by the able manner in which they have piloted their cases through the courts. Business men who have placed matters in their hands have never had occasion to regret the venture, for they have quickly discovered that the fair lawyers have had their clients' interest at heart, and their advice on legal matters has been practical and to the point.

Miss Pier evidently had a legal mind, for during her last school years she began reading law, and became absorbed by it. Mrs. Pier had never given the profession any thought, but on the death of her husband the management of the estate devolved upon her, and immediately she realised what a help a knowledge of the law would be. Inspired by the example of her eldest daughter, who was then studying earnestly, Mrs. Pier determined to take the course, and began immediately. She applied herself with such zeal to the task that before the end of the year she and her eldest daughter, Kate, graduated from the law school of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, New York. Next year—1895—the family removed to Milwaukee, where the two graduates opened an office, Miss Pier devoting herself to the office work while her daughter went into general practice.

No sooner had Miss Pier begun to understand the practice of law than she set about making more possibilities in it for women, and it was mainly due to her efforts that the Wisconsin Legislature passed a Bill making women eligible for the office of Court Commissioner. Then Miss Pier had the great pleasure of seeing her mother receive the first appointment, which she has held ever since.

It was not long before the second daughter followed her elder sister's example, and donned the gown. A year or so later Harriett Pier entered the legal profession. Neatly printed on the letter paper of the firm you read the following inscription: "Kate Pier, Kate H. Pier, Caroline H. Pier, Harriett Pier, Lawyers."

All four are admitted to practice in the Supreme Court, Miss Kate being the first to attain that honour. She is an expert in the modish legal lanch of her profession. Mrs. Pier is devoted to Court commission business, guardianships, and trusteeships, and Miss Caroline looks after the family estate, while Miss Harriett attends to the general civil practice which comes to the firm.

It has been said that lady lawyers, with the exception of the family just mentioned, have by no means been a great success. Such a remark cannot be brought against Miss Kate Clark, of the C. M. Clark Publishing Company, of Boston. She is said to be the only successful lady book publisher in the world. This plucky American girl netted £10,000 during 1903 in publishing books. The feat is all the more commendable when it is remembered that Miss Clark has built up her vast business single handed and without

any influence. Her two most recent successful novels were "Quincy Adams' Lawyers" and "Blumenbassetti"—books well known on the other side of the Atlantic. After she accepted the manuscripts she printed and published the works, advertising them in a manner in which no American novel had ever been advertised before.

For the first three years of her career as a publisher Miss Clark worked very hard, from morning to night. Now she employs quite a large staff of assistants. Periodically she makes extensive journeys to various cities, and commercial travellers have been astonished at the ground she covers and the immense amount of business transacted. Arriving at a town, she spends two or three hours visiting her agents and arranging important sales. The moment her work is finished train is taken to the next stopping place, and so on until the programme is completed. It should be explained, perhaps, that Clark is her maiden name, for she is a married lady. Her husband, Mr. Atkinson, is a well-known Boston business man, and even he has marvelled at his wife's wonderful fact and sound commercial judgment.

One might suppose that engineering would be man's exclusive province. Yet Miss Myerda M. Stout, a bright, dashing American girl, has shown that women can compete with men as engineers. She holds the position of engineer in a large flour milling establishment. Her duties consist in looking after a large stationary engine. She shovels her own coal upon the fire, attends to the furnace, performing her work as competently as a man.

Previously she was employed in the firm as a bookkeeper, but, finding this position offered no great advancement, she decided to make a bold plunge into a work hitherto untried by woman-kind and learn milling.

In her study of milling Miss Stout had to learn the uses and construction of the various kinds of machinery and how to operate them. She then braved firing, and in the end persuaded her employers to allow her to take charge of the entire plant. In a recent test the district examiner found that Miss Stout answered more questions correctly than most men. He regards her, he says, as a model engineer, and one who could compete with any man and hold her own.

In speaking of her work, Miss Stout says:—"Engineering is not the hard work most people consider it, and although it calls for a pretty thorough understanding of and liking for mechanics, I see no reason why women should not follow the profession with success equal to that of the men."

Another lady deserving of mention is Miss May Nannary, a clever and talented actress. In the theatrical world she has earned the title of the "Memory Wonder." According to her own story she has committed to memory no less than 500 plays during a period of three years, and can at an hour's notice recite the words of any leading part she has studied. Such a power of retention, involving as it does the memorising of over two million words, may be fairly termed prodigious.

"The most rapid, and at the same time most intelligent, method of learning plays," said Miss Nannary to the writer, "is reading aloud. I began by reading aloud attentively a chapter or two of some engrossing work at short intervals, so as to cultivate the power of sustained and continuous attention. I made myself interested in what I was reading, for those matters which are best comprehended by the understanding are longest retained by the memory.

"I would then try and recollect what I had read, for it is impossible to recall what one has not consciously put away. Once, on a wager, I memorised fifty pages in less than fifty minutes, and did it, as it seemed, without any mental effort."

It is in America where women have successfully invaded those professions in which man has hitherto reigned supreme. There we find women station-masters, women postmen; while in one small town the majority of the tramway-cars are driven by women.

Why the "Only Daughter" is, After All, the Best Girl to Marry.

(By a Man who Married One.)

Young man, if you ever come across an only daughter, the only child of her parents, who is looking around for a husband, snap her up at once. Don't let the chance go. Propose immediately, and hasten on the wedding. This is advice based on experience.

The mother of an only daughter can take pains with her training. She can teach her thoroughly all the different things which, had she possessed a number of daughters, would have been divided among the lot. Consequently, if you wed such a girl, she comes to you with all the knowledge which has often to serve a good-sized family of girls. Each of the latter knows a certain amount; the only daughter is thoroughly trained in everything.

And her temper is so sweet, too, as a rule. You see, there is no opposition in the home to ruffle it; she has not to fight and scramble with brothers and sisters for a share of everything; consequently she is not selfish. Moreover, her manners are much better than those of a girl from a home where there were many brothers and sisters. The latter type is apt to be a bit of a tomboy; the only daughter is womanly altogether. There is no forwardness with her.

An only daughter can manage a household well. Her mother has taught her the value of method. She won't get into difficulties. She knows just how to set the day's work going, and all things are done with precision.

And she will guard your money well. Her mother has taught her where to buy, and how to buy; the kind of articles to avoid, and the right kind to purchase, and so forth. Economical she is, but never stingy.

You will find that she does not care over much for company, and in wearing apparel she is thrifty. The girl who is extravagant in dress is usually one from a large family of girls, where each sister tries, so far as possible, to outshine the other. The girl with sisters, too, has many companions; some, perhaps, of doubtful character; the companions of the only daughter are generally highly respectable girls. The father and

mother see to it that the daughter's friends are well behaved.

True enough, it takes a little courage to woo an only child, and when it comes to asking "papa" the matter is serious; but there is usually no difficulty; the girl herself will attend to that. She can manage father all right, and will make a man's way as smooth as a suitor's well could be.

There is another way of looking at the matter. You may think it a sordid way, but there is a deal of the practical in it. The girl will, in all likelihood, inherit most of her parent's goods and cash. Now, this is something in these days. You need not deny it; you would be very pleased to marry a girl with the certainty of cash coming her way one day.

But a very important consideration where an only daughter is concerned is the absence of any kind of brothers or sisters, old or young.

We all know how lovers are tormented when there is a crowd of boys and girls around, but look at the peace and contentment which reigns when the courting epidemic is strong within you and your "object" is an only daughter.

Her Opinion.

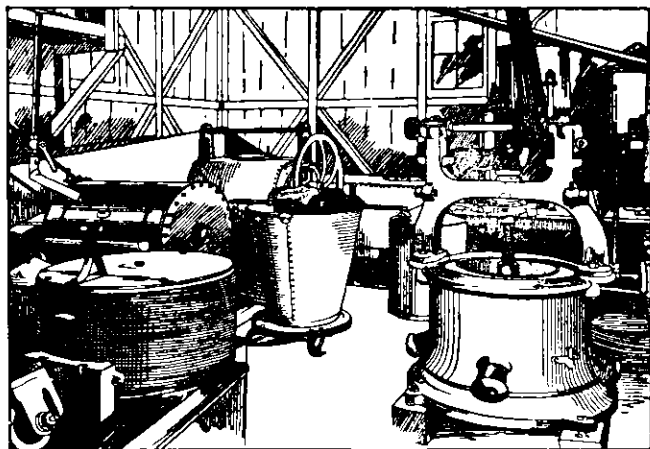
He was very badly gone in love indeed, as may be judged by the fact that he sat up till the wee sma' hours and nibbled two inches off a pen in composing the following epic:

"Beautiful one with eyes so blue,
Oh, how my fond heart sighs for you!
Sweet spirit, listen to me now,
Hear once again my ardent vow!"

There was about two feet six inches of this soul-inspiring verse, and he sent it to the object of his adoration, with a request that she would express an opinion on its merits. He got it.

"Dear Mr. Theodore Hopkins (she wrote), you ask for my opinion of your verses. I do not like to hurt your feelings; but if you will read the initial letters of the first four lines downwards, I may say that you express my sentiments exactly.—Yours very truly, Mabel Browne."

And when Theodore strung the first four letters together, he pondered bitterly.



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