

WOMAN'S EXPONENT.

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[For the EXPONENT.] AFTER LONG YEARS.

*Impromptu lines suggested on unexpected meeting a friend
after a lapse of twenty-two years.*

After long years over time's shifting sands
Of strivings, of conflicts, and care,
When leaving behind us youth's sunny lands,
That once looked so golden and fair,
And th' bright stream of life merges into the tide
That is nearing eternity's sea,
Whose waters no longer sparkling glide
Through vales where it sported with glee.

Like a rift in a cloud-darkened sky,
Gleaming down on chill winter's snow,
Is the clasp of a hand, or glance of an eye,
From dear ones of long, long ago.
Old years roll back like the vesture of day,
We're carried on swift wings of thought;
Bright scenes, fair faces, long hidden away,
Well up from the depths of the heart,
Lapsible powers sweep over the soul,
Like glory that heralds the dawn,
Bearing glad visions of beauty untold,
From out the long years that are gone;
Households deserted are peopled again,
We mingle with them as of yore;
Sweet voices blending in thrilling refrain
Come back from the "Evergreen Shore."

Welcome the power that after long years
Cements broken links in time's chain,
Helps us to see, through the rainbow of tears,
Restored to the ranks of the slain,
Heroes who battled for freedom and truth,
Daring dangers, righting foul wrong,
Now all clothed anew, in eternal youth,
Shout anthems of Freedom's glad song.

Magical choir, reaching down through the years,
And up through the heavens above,
Like a wind-driven wave rounding the spheres,
Key-note of our Father's great love.

L. M. HEWLENGS.

Salt Lake City, Feb. 16, 1879.

[For the EXPONENT.] A LESSON TO MOTHERS.

To those who are permitted to give the allotted time of man upon the earth, to live to a good old age, life seems but a passing dream; in speaking of their childhood they often say, "It seems but yesterday." Very little can be accomplished by those who make the best use they can of their time. Scenes change so quickly, duties and cares crowd upon us, so much to do and to think of, that to a reflecting mind there is no time for superfluities. If we would make our record one of usefulness and honor here, and of glory and exaltation hereafter, we must make every hour count, we must not waste our time upon things wherein there is no profit. We should strive to store up knowledge and to lay up such treasures as will not fade.

Some will spend their time, means and principal thoughts in cooking, cleaning and adorning their houses and persons, to the neglect of their own minds and the minds of their children. If you ask these persons about any of the current items of the day, they do not understand you. I admit that it is right and proper, nay, more, it is our duty to make our homes pleasant and attractive; every Latter-day Saint will do that, every mother will aim to make her home the best place on earth to her loved ones; it is her duty also to provide suitable clothing for them, and to arrange it in the

best, most comfortable and tasteful way with the means she has at her command, but she has no right, it is not her duty to waste her precious time, or wear out her body in putting on so much useless, yea, worse than useless trimming, causing so much labor and wasting so much time in washing and ironing. Many a young mother has been permanently injured by this folly at the sewing machine. I think it is wrong, it is not pleasing in the sight of the Lord; far better would it be for us who profess to be above the follies of the world to spend our time in trying to adorn and cultivate our minds and the minds of those who are given to us of the Lord.

There is enough of sorrow and suffering for all to bear who live out their days on this earth, and mothers should try to fortify the minds of their children with good and true principles, and unwavering faith in God under all circumstances. This will make them brave and strong, this will constitute men and women of character; we do not want "paper men." We should teach our children correct ideas of life, and with patience and gentleness teach them to labor and to endure some of the fatigues and cares of older life. Do not, dear sister, give your beloved and carefully nurtured daughter to some one for a wife and mother who, though she may be educated and accomplished in branches taught in school, yet knows nothing of the more important duties of life, or the responsibility she has assumed. There is sorrow and vexation in store for her, poor girl; the education of her hands has been neglected. This will apply to boys too. No father should send his son out to fight the battle of life without giving him a knowledge of getting a living, which cannot slip away from him; no matter how much property he may have, teach him to labor.

We should try to arrange all that we do so as to accomplish the most and best good. If we can give our children good school education, that is good, but let not this exclude other practical and useful knowledge. If we can afford to have good comfortable houses and costly apparel without getting into debt, that is good too, yet let not that suffice; better to have a soul adorned with love, meekness, patience, honesty, truth and thankfulness, than all the glory and riches of the whole world, for these will fade, but the beauty and riches of the soul will reach beyond the grave.

We should try to cultivate in the minds of our children a love for the beautiful in nature, in the grand old mountains around our homes, a love for music and good reading, and for everything that is noble and true and that will refine and exalt their ideas. It needs not wealth to attain these things; there can be refinement and peace in the humblest cottage. I once knew a family who lived in a dirt-roofed log cabin, so brown and bare outside that no spear of grass, or even a weed grew around it, only a green field not far away could be seen, to save the mark and relieve the eye. Inside some of our best papers and books could be seen, a few choice flowers stood in the window, every little arrangement in the house, though of the simplest kind, betokened

neatness and taste; the boys would bring out their little instruments of music in the evening, and there was "love at home." There was a spirit of improvement. I have watched the boys from that home; they are now making a mark in this kingdom, putting their shoulders to the wheel and trying and expecting to do their part in the redemption of Zion. When fathers and mother co-operate together to make home pleasant, and reach after improvement, it is not hard for children to follow.

ANNIE N.

NOTES AND NEWS.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS IN JAPAN.—A woman's rights demonstration has been made by a lady in the Southern Province, who protests against paying taxes unless she is allowed the privilege of voting. Her letter which is pertinent and logical even in Japanese estimation, has been referred by local authorities to the central government and awaits decision at the capital.—Ex.

On the outside of the April number of the "Woman's Suffrage Journal" published in Manchester, Miss Lydia E. Becker, editor, is an earnest entreaty to the women of England.

VOTE! vote! vote!—Women Ratepayers are reminded that Elections of poor-Law Guardians, Members of Local Boards, Church wardens, Overseers, Auditors and other Officials take place during April. Vestry meetings for the Elections of Church wardens usually take place on the Tuesday in Easter week. Women Ratepayers have the right to attend and vote in all local elections, and they are earnestly exhorted to use the suffrage, which the law confers upon them. Elections for Guardians and Members of Local Boards are conducted by means of voting papers, which are left at the houses of the Ratepayers, and are called for before the election. Women ratepayers should see that their papers are duly filled up and signed ready to be given up when called for, and in case of failure to collect the papers they should themselves forward them to the proper officer, who is bound to notify by public advertisement the time and place when he will receive papers which have not been called for.

It is of the utmost consequence that women should exercise their votes on every lawful occasion.

Doreas, drawing-room, and other meetings have been held in various parts of England to awaken an interest and prepare Parliamentary petitions for the member Hon. Mr. Courtney in support of his resolution. The question was submitted to the House in March under new conditions, and in a slightly altered form. This question was a resolution offering the principle once laid down by Lord Beaconsfield that it is anomalous that the Parliamentary franchise attached to a household or property qualification when possessed by a woman should not be exercised, though in all local elections, when similarly qualified she exercises this right; and that this anomaly is injurious to the best interests of the country.

