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### A Question

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stand upon the brink of that mighty cataract the thought of your own insignificance and utter helplessness rushes upon you, and you involuntarily utter to yourself, "What is man, that Thou art mindful of him?" You look into the clear green water, and the desire to touch it is almost irresistible. You try in vain to peer through the cloud of spray which envelops the falls, and the unnatural calmness of the river below seems a miracle. Two miles below are found the whirlpool rapids, where the water dashes so high and with such force, that you realize, better than ever before, the terrific forces which nature exerts. Everywhere, both above and below the falls, you see that seething, boiling, foaming mass of water. The most beautiful view is obtained from the Canada side, where you look at the different falls at a very small angle, and seeing the perfect rainbows spanning the river, it could easily be imagined that the windows of heaven had opened and let out a little of its glory from its bounds. We returned to the assembly in the evening, weary, but pleased at having seen America's greatest wonder.

We greeted Chautauqua with the same feelings that one has upon returning home, for it is so genial and homelike in its very atmosphere. An air of honesty and trust seems to pervade everything, and the lack of confidence and christian charity so often met with has no place there. If you have any great desire to know what it means to live where all is peaceable and congenial, go to Chautauqua. There, as in few other places, is illustrated constantly the great idea of the "brotherhood of man."

Laura B. Bennett.

Chicago University will have the largest and finest telescope in the world. The whole cost will be \$500,000; the lens will be forty-five inches, eleven inches larger in diameter than that of the Lick telescope. Yerkes, the street railway magnate of Chicago, said, "I'll pay the bill."—*Ex.*

### A QUESTION.

Great are the changes which the human race has experienced, and nothing can be more interesting than their consideration. We learn from this what we are, how we became what we are, and what we may become; consequently, the sum of the highest wisdom in public and private affairs.

Assuming a common origin for all men, for which there are many reasons, the strange diversity of contemporaneous individuals and nations upon the face of the globe, exhibits these many changes; and the different forms of the same nation, at different times. In general these differences are numberless and observable in everything which concerns the external or internal nature of man and his relations.

And whence these numberless diversities, these changes which succeed one another incessantly in the human species? Wherefore are there or have there been here, men of enlightened minds and mild dispositions; there, miserable and despicable herds of slaves; and all this in a strange intermixture and a variously changing succession, according to time and place?

The education of man, that is, the development or destruction and direction of the faculties and dispositions slumbering within him, is the effect of a thousand physical and moral influences which are susceptible of innumerable combinations. Physical causes may influence his moral nature, and moral causes his physical nature; and the determination of the fate or condition of nations, is, for the most part, at the same time cause and effect; they depend mutually upon each other, and are among themselves in a multiplied relation of reciprocal action.

Thus it follows that as woman constitutes quite a respectable portion of the human race, her status has likewise been modified by the ever-changing current of progress. But to whatever source woman's recognition in the past, may be attributed, in the future higher education

will form the "open sesame" for our women to all honors, all distinctions, all happiness, all opportunities, that are in any way desirable in after life.

Plato recognized the fact that natural gifts were to be found here and there in both sexes alike; and so far as her nature is concerned the woman is admissible to all pursuits as well as the man, though in all of them the woman is weaker than the man. We know that the period of their lives when both sexes can naturally and advantageously receive the same training is in their youth. And if girls from the time of birth were dressed, fed, taught and allowed to play as sensibly and healthfully as boys, their whole future lives would be benefited by it; but they are "cribbed, cabined, and confined"—restricted in a thousand different ways up to the period of adolescence, and then with weaker bodies and less knowledge of methods, they set out to compete with boys on their own ground; and at this important point, many finding the way rough and rocky, turn aside, preferring the bliss of ignorance to the bitter sweets of higher knowledge. Some one asked the question: "Will the coming man be a woman?" and cited in support of the possibility, the numerous instances where women carried the university contests over the heads of their male competitors; the numberless positions now filled by women, which formerly men only monopolized; also that in our own country woman's suffrage is already in "full blossom." Although very little now remains as a barrier to the full assumption by woman of her rights, the rank and file are not yet ready to assume these responsibilities. Her preparatory education has just begun. Several decades will yet elapse before the men are driven to the wall.

TAMAR ALTHOUSE.

Earlham College has two periodicals, the *Earlhamite* and the *Phoenixian*.

### "MONEY IN PRACTICAL POLITICS."

The most important article in the *Century*, perhaps, and certainly the one which should attract most attention, is Prof. Jeremiah W. Jenks' discussion of the use of money in practical politics. The facts which he spreads upon the page are not new, but they are apprehended in a vague way by the public as something that is said rather than as something that is capable of definite knowledge and statement; he gives specific illustrations of the objects and methods of corruption by the use of money in elections; he shows plainly enough that both parties are 'equally implicated, and he argues that the politicians on either side resort to such means of influencing results from a feeling of necessity in social conditions, rather than by choice. The only remedies he suggests are such as are embodied in the electoral laws of England, by which corruption there was practically put an end to at a single stroke. He points out that the immediacy of the result in England was mainly due to the searching minuteness of the provisions of the law, and he warns us not only that the objection made to such laws on the score of their intricacy and the near way in which they affect personal action, is the readiest resource of those attached to present methods, but also that concessions to this objection would be most fatal to the efficiency of such proposed legislation.

—*N. Y. Post*.

The following paragraph is of interest:

"In classes of university students, containing from ten to twenty votes, more than once I have found several,—from five to ten,—who had received from campaign managers their expenses home from college to cast their votes. These students were by no means common 'floaters'; their votes could not be directly purchased at all. But still, on first consideration, many of them defend the payment of expenses of voters by their own party, when they are unable to pay them themselves, not realizing that this is but a covert form of bribery, and that, after receiving expenses, one would not feel at liberty to vote independently. If people as intelligent and honest as are college students of voting age will thoughtlessly encourage corrupt methods of voting, what may we expect from the 'floater'?"