

ways be, a starting point. Thus it is with the struggle to uplift the Negro woman there is a starting point, and this I believe to be the home. The two words, home and woman, are so closely connected that I could not, even if I desired, separate one from the other.

Some one has said, "No race can rise above its woman." This is just as true as the fact that no river can rise above its source: are we not the source of the home life, and if our influence upon this life is not good, how can the home be better? History will bear us out in all that we say in reference to woman and home. Our own Emerson says, "A sufficient measure of civilization is the influence of good women." Plato, the Athenian philosopher, when he stood at the height of his intellectual attainments, gave to the ancient and modern world his great 'Republic,' which he had thought it worth the while to write to the world his regard for woman in the home. He held that women are a very important factor in the human race, and that, holding out to her the help she so much needed, she will raise the standard of the home, and thus from the home will come stronger men to execute the nation's plan."

After a word picture, which sets forth only too truly the condition of slave mothers, Mrs. Washington adds:

"In the awful days gone by, the word 'home,' the word 'woman' was a mockery, so far as we are concerned; in fact there was no manhood. All were chattel, bought, used, and sold at the master's will.

"The log cabin of one room, with perhaps no hole to let in sunlight and air holding the household goods, cooking utensils, furnishing room for cooking, sleeping, eating, and living, was a substitute for home. Could anything good and healthy come out of this? Was it at all probable that these mothers could hand down to their daughters and sons correct ideas of home making, pure ideas of family life? Was it at all probable that there should have come from homes like these women strong to fight disease, strong to fight the tempter who stands in the South as a sentinel by day and by night? Was there anything in this sort of living to instill purity of thought, and purity of action?"

But because there was so much excuse for sin, sin is not condoned. The writer faces the situation bravely, and makes this appeal.

"Let us all rise, shine, and push right along in the work of helping our women in the South, in the North, everywhere it is needed—and it is needed everywhere; let us rise with our money, though it be little; let us rise with our voices even though they be weak, with our hands even though they be feeble, and do this all-important work. Then only will there be fewer thrusts at the immorality of the race; there will be less lynchings of negro men and women; then only will the white man who hates everything black, and the black man who despises everything white, recognize in the broadest and truest sense the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God, and more readily accept the doctrine that of one blood hath he made the nations of the earth."

THE NEW NEGRO WOMAN

Mrs. Booker T. Washington writes of her and appeals to her:

Booker T. Washington, who is regarded as one of the most extraordinary colored men of the day, has a wife who is not one whit behind him, in intellect or education.

In the October number of *Lend a Hand* she has an article upon "The New Negro Woman." It is full of the Pathos which centuries of oppression planted in the breast of all women of her race. It is a plea to those who have risen above the environments in which their mothers were born for those less fortunate. It is full of noble thoughts and lessons which no woman of whatever race or color can afford to ignore. In is full of truth. A few extracts will show the general tenor: "We are a race of servants, not in the low sense of this word, but in the highest and purest sense, and in our serving let us keep the beautiful lines of the servant of all women as our guide.

"In struggling for money, for power, for intellectual attainment, for growth of any sort, there is always, and must al-