

Right in the fervor of just finishing the reading of your article in the Ladies Home Journal I want to answer the question with which you close this article. Answer the question which I have often asked myself & of late have answered it just as I am going to send it to you- very recently I have began to talk to my friends particularly the girls- the girls from eighteen to thirty- ^{with some very} We can never "dignify or make beautiful or satisfying" our work as long as we ourselves are all the time depreciating it- I have a young friend who is wonderfully proficient & efficient in household matters & whose father is a grocery man & she is continually refering to the domestic work as "so narrowing" recently when she made such a remark I asked her why taking nice clean butter & sugar etc in her own nice clean dishes & making it into something nice & nourishing in her own home ^{for her own people} as she & her mother did was more narrowing than for her father to deal the same articles out over his counter to people often times not clean & the money- when he got it- not even clean, why that was so much broadening than

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her work? She made answers trying to prove her side but seeing herself that they did not prove she rose to go with the last word "well I can hardly tell why but I know our work is more narrowing"-

Recently a mother of three beautiful ^{children or - the man is} children the wife of a professional man resorting to many out side schemes to husband out a living- told me that if she could only be out in the open like her husband was she could know much more what was good for the children than she did now- & when I asked her if her husband had more time to consider & read than she did she replied "No- but he knows better because he sees more people & his work is not so narrowing"-

Again a clergymen's wife told me she could not do much to help her husband in his work because it took all her time to study how to make their small salary cover their needs because her husband left all that to her- I replied in a woman's way by asking a question trying to learn if she could make the small salary do this work & she said "Yes & some put away

for a stormy day" I then suggested that she hate the ladies of the parish meet with her & tell them how she did it for Mrs. B. & Mrs. J. were up against just such a proposition as she was for they had no more money to live upon & she said "O do you think I could interest any one with any thing I said when I've been all my life narrowed down by doing just woman's work" -

Again a friend of mine wife to a young college professor told me she could never hope to be in society with Mrs. Old Professor' because she the wife of the older man knew she had been painting some of the chairs etc etc for their home in an effort to make old new & she Mrs. O.P would not tolerate such frugality. When I enquired if she didn't prize the ability to do those things more than the friendship of so shallow a woman she said " *Phoebe - no she can't* but she is broad minded you know she has never had any children or house hold cares to narrow her down".

With these & hundreds more- which I could give you as illustrations of what women- of all spheres- of many advantages- think of our highest & noblest duties the question- it seems to me, is how to open our own eyes-

and I am trusting that is what you will do in your next article-

I have read so much of your writings that I feel as though I almost knew you & your pictures suggest to me dear Phoebe Carey- who once visited my father & mother in our home that I just wish you- or some one would write the story of your life in minutia & I could buy it-

Very Sincerely,

Georgia Pelletier Porter
(*Mrs C. B. Porter*)
C. B. Porter
me

