A contemporary, discussing the servant girl question, encounters the difficulty so often experienced for want of a personal pronoun in the singular number of a common gender. "The American is noted for his wasteful propensities. We say his, but we mean hers, in this connection," says our contemporary. It is a familiar way of getting round this pronominal difficulty to say that we may use the masculine singular to designate an individual of either sex, on the ground that "the men embrace the women." It is necessary to add in this connection, however, that if it were not for the pecuniary obstacles and perplexities that arise on account of the wastefulness of the present modes of living, it is probable that the men would embrace the women oftener than they do.