## A WOMAN'S LOVE DREAM.

MRS. NETTIE P. HOUSTON BRINGHURST.

We all have waking visions—I have mine, And being young, and fanciful, and counted fair.

I sometimes dream of love.

And sitting all alone, and musing still, While yet the firelight flickers dim, I ask myself if I should learn to love, If my stil heart could wake to life,

How would I love, and how would I be loved?

I would be loved in calmness— Trusted and not feared.

I do not ask that he be proud and cold, But calm, and grave, and very strong— A king, like Saul, among the sons of men.

And kinglier o'er himself.

He must not tremple at my slightest frown,

Nor shudder if another meets my eye; I would not rule, nor yet would I be ruled:

I scorn the tyrant as I scorn the slave. There is a love of sweet equality, The love God gave and smiled upon,—

For it was very good.

He whom I love must be my king,
But I must be his queen;

And he should yield me, as my tribute due.

The reverence I had earned.

Not only by my womanhood, but by my gentleness,

Long-suffering, the patient sweetness, Only love can teach;

for looking on me he should feel and know

That peace and rest which follow after toil.

I do not ask for him the world's applause,

His deeds the annals of a nation's pride, His name upon the lips of men; But I must feel his powerMust know he could be what earth's heroes are—

I could not love him were he not thus great.

His hand must be both safe and strong; A hand to shield, to trust, to lay mine own within.

To stake my life upon;

A hand that might have fought with Hercules.

Yet would not harm the worm before his path;

For though the heart of woman loveth oft

A thing she doth unwillingly despise, It is a pitiful, imperfect love that hath not

For the corner-stone the rock of Faith.

His heart must be most tender and most true—

A heart that loves, and pities, and befriends

Earth's suffering children, whether high, Or yet among the lowly and the poor, And he must love me perfectly.

If I should ever meet this man,

While he bent down to kiss my shining hair,

Or smooth its clusters from their clinging rest,

A sweet, unspoken language in his touch, Would lift my bright eyes to the light of his:

And, as in fair Judea, when the world was young,

Sarah with reverence said to Abraham, My lips should call him "Lord!"

Athletic Branch of A. M. C. A.

A few words in regard to this feature of the Y. M. C. A., may not at this time be out of place. Its history is brief. Some two years ago it was thought that the interests and influences of the association might be considerably advanced by the addition of