

a living difficulty is experienced in getting making, etc. is so keen that great competition in teaching, dress-making for hard labor, and the

"Here the typewriter comes in. It is especially adapted for feminine fingers. They seem made for typewriting. Typewriting involves no harder labor, and no more skill than playing the piano. To command a good salary necessitates a certain amount of business knowledge, but to any girl of fair education this should be no hindrance. Indeed, women have reason to bless the invention of the typewriter almost more than men have. Figures setting forth the number of thousands of educated ladies in the United States, who at the present time earn their living by means of the typewriter, are so startling that those unacquainted with the facts might doubt them."

ing the following remarks:
Company delivered a speech contain-
Soby of the Remington Typewriter
convention in Philadelphia Pa., John
And in March 1902, at a

men — less than 29 per cent. number there were about 4,604 16,247 stenographers. Of this employment departments placed during the year 1901 (Remington United States, and find that seven of the largest cities in the "I have examined records covering

"It is a common saying that the girls have crowded the boys out of the stenographic profession. If a person believes something to be a fact, that thing, however absurd, becomes a fact to him. It is what the professors call a subjective fact. If, therefore, the boys have gotten the idea in their heads that the girls have crowded them out, the effect becomes exactly the same as if their idea were correct.

inference in their minds from the employers. Perhaps it is simply an idea? Certainly not from the "But where have they gotten the

inconvenience. The marriage was one of typewriter and the emancipated noble in the relationship between the the better choice. There was nothing children. Women apparently seemed nobody left to hire except women or last, been men, but finally there was them go. The first typists had, in available in the labor pool to make not hundreds of thousands of men merce and industry, but there were typewriters in use throughout com-were hundreds of thousands of was a means to riches. In time there a-blooming, and a better mousetrap mechanical age was then just designed typewriters because the the condition of women. Most intention that they would improve designed their typewriters with the is that very few typewriter designers color retrospect differently, the fact some historical references try to typewriter's existence. Although these events were incidental to the to the typewriter. But the fact is that of these things could be traced back of changes in accepted conduct. All following that emanated all manner tion a century ago; and yes, these points having been in conten-physical and psychological stamina women did prove they had the historians. Yes, at the typewriter therein we take issue with other for what it did for women, and

from the same period:
similar vein is the following advice
learn to be business-like." In a
position, they can hold it if they
present; and having gained the
that "lady-operators are in vogue at
as 1890, a typist's manual counseled
itself early in the game. As far back
female, however, began implanting
The idea that the typist would be

"In this much-peopled world, and in this much-educated age, the social problem of ways and means is daily becoming more complex. Particularly is this true in the case of women. Physically they are

worse than they'd hoped. That things were becoming even to first over, would quickly witness ers, apparently in need of something head-shakers and the tongue-click- ing on the mouth — the ways embrace — sometimes actually

If the role of woman is today accepted as being broader than once before — both as capable producers and as sexual beings — because of the presence of the typewriter, should not the typewriter be prized and emplaced on some feminist pedestal to be cherished as the symbol of freedom? Not hardly. Even women who are not overly bright — and contrary to popular dogma there must be just a few — are now widely conditioned to resent the typewriter and the male domination it is supposed to represent. Fortunately machines cannot feel the sting of injustice; otherwise, tearing melodramas would be performed wherein the noble typewriter conceals the broken heart rendered by cruel fate and the cold, ungrateful world.

In the absence of such scenarios, we can more soberly acknowledge the fact that many libertarians routinely come into disfavor in the eyes of those they have liberated. Rejection of a resource is an ultimate necessity in the use of that resource. For only by demonstrating that one has outgrown the resource can one demonstrate that one has grown at all. The typewriter may be relegated to an unjust caste, but this has nothing particular to do with the typewriter. It has everything to do with human nature and with the conduct of those who insist they have been unjustly treated. If the Americans of the late 18th century expressed disenchantment with George Washington, which they did, is wholly consistent that women 200 years later feel somewhat the same about typewriters.

for anyone to applaud the typewriter
Then again, there is no real reason

of things mechanical. These being masters of historical fact, supporters of the typewriter and supplied her a foot to stick in it. writer both opened the door for her status of folk hero in 20th-century then the vote, and eventually the

The probability is there, perhaps, and from it one can derive all manner of interesting asides. It could be said, for example, that along with the white-collar employment of women came the so-called sexual revolution. For at the height of the Victorian era, when proper ladies kept the company of gentlemen in the presence of chaperones, the new office situation had both sexes in daylong proximity behind closed doors. The task-taking could have been rampant, and the commonplace assumption was that the typist was, shall we say, lacking something of a moral stature.

This was a situation where moral principles found itself at odds with practical expediency, though, so, as it usually the case in such confrontations, principles lost out. Women were necessarily to make all those type-writers go. So they were hired, and if prudes could not be catjoked into acceptance they could be ridiculed. The theme of bankyanky at the office became a popular joke, recounted in endless variation in the Vandeville hall, depicted in magazine cartoons, and even delivered through the mails by the U. S. Government in picture postcards. By 1910 the unthinkable relationship between white-collar men and women had become a universal gag, and proponents of restrictive morality themselves became inseparable from the joke; they found it increasingly harder to get taken seriously. Once the vision became commonplace of the well-attired couple in lustful



...woman's independence, again, and that was almost acceptance, prior to the OF WOMEN RESPONSIBLE FOR