

# I

## PRIMITIVE PERIODS

THE "impressionist" account of creation given in the biblical narrative declares that God created man, "male and female created he them." Within the family of man this line of cleavage is plainly apparent and must always be taken into consideration. Upon it depends, to a certain degree at least, a division of labor between the man and the woman. How far this difference renders imperative a distinction in duties, beyond certain manifest biologic functions, is a subject for discussion upon which there has been no unanimity of opinion up to the present time.

Lester F. Ward's theory that life was at first essentially female seems to have only a presumptive basis, if it has that, of recognition in the biological world. The theory of the matriarchate, or an original rule by women, held by Bachofen and others, and described by some enthusiastic champions of woman's rights as indicating a golden age in woman's history, is without historical or scientific foundation. Some tribes of mankind traced, and still trace, lineage through the mother, and there seems to be evidence that among such tribes women