

# THE STATUS OF WOMEN

in the

## PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

### CHAPTER I.

#### INTRODUCTORY.

A general view of the advancing status of women in the last century—political and legal rights—marriage—industrial status, etc. Examples of France, England, United States, New Zealand, etc.

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The struggle for democracy has for the last 25 years been closely connected with what is popularly known as the movement for "Women's Rights," comprising of course the vote, the right to hold office, higher education, the entrance to the professions, etc., etc. But this association has not always existed. On the contrary practically all of the great political thinkers of the 18th (and indeed most of the 19th) century carefully left the feminine side of the question out of their calculations altogether. True, many of the leaders of the French Revolution received their greatest inspiration from the "Salons" of the French society ladies. Miss Peixotto tells us that "Each hostess had in her own way taken eagerly to politics, and to the notion of the Revolution, and the deputies and their satellites, who were to be the active instruments in the formation of the principles of revolution, found a welcome at one or the other of these drawing rooms. . . . But no matter which lady was favored the talk at any one of these salons was politics; in all