

woman's sphere that so many enjoy to-day was obtained by an earlier generation. Miss F. Nightingale, Miss Maria Mitchell, astronomer; Sister Dora (Miss Pattison), Miss Susan B. Anthony, Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lilly Devereux Blake, Julia Ward Howe, Lucy Stone, the late Mrs. Curzon, and a number of others took part in this movement, so differently regarded by different persons. Later on we shall see the movement take organized shape in Canada largely through the timely and effective aid of the Countess of Aberdeen.

The woman's rights movement, primarily directed to the attainment of woman suffrage, though a development of earlier arguments and doctrines, has attained in our time a success which some generations ago would have been considered almost impossible. The revolt against conventional ideas is not indeed wholly of our day. "The Vindication of the Rights of Women," by Mary Wollstonecraft, which was one of the blossoms of the French Revolution, was marked by a truth, sincerity and earnestness which won secret sympathy from many of her sex who had not her courage or her honesty. It was from this side of the Atlantic, however, that Europe was first forced to acknowledge the injustice of many of the restrictions to which women were subjected. Their legal position, their educational limitations, their relation to the professions and to public life—on all these points there was undoubtedly need of amendment. But, had not a small band of brave and devoted women dared to confront with determination the inertia of prejudice and to rouse it to thought by keeping up the battle, the dream of "sweet girl graduates," either with or without "their golden hair," would not have had its fulfilment. That is only one of the triumphs of the movement, but it stands central among those triumphs, and represents advances in many directions. An interesting survey of the results attained by the movement on this continent and of the changes that it has effected in the

conditions and prospects of young women may be read in an article by Mrs. Margaret Polson Murray (Montreal) in the *Nineteenth Century* for May last. One of the most extraordinary results of the woman movement has been the issue of a woman's Bible, in which the passages which seem to put woman in a position of inferiority or subjection to man have been omitted or revised. The work is in two parts: the first containing the new version with comments of the Pentateuch; the second including the remainder of the Old and the whole of the New Testament.

The spread of education has greatly enlarged the number of those (both men and women) who devote themselves to literary work as a profession. The number of publications issued yearly from the press has become enormous. The flood of fiction has so grown in volume that it demands special care on the part of publishers to avoid the use of titles that have been already appropriated. Mr. John Murray, of Albemarle St., London, gave a curious example of the embarrassment which this redundancy sometimes causes. A lady had left him the manuscript of a work which was to be published under the title of "The Touchstone." While it was in press he learned that another work bearing that title had already appeared in England. As the lady was travelling in Italy and her address was uncertain, he wrote to her that he was changing the name which she had given to "The Touch of a Vanished Hand." With this heading the sheets had been set up when he received a letter from the novelist giving another title. By this time he had been informed that the title he had chosen was already in use and soon after he learned that the lady's alternative was also before the public. He, therefore, chose a third, "A Gift from the Grave," hoping that nobody would come forward with an interdict against this also. That a fair proportion of the fiction published is meritorious may be justly conceded, though few critics admit that the best