

their struggles, their trials and their achievements. The heroic spirit is not confined to the soldier. Look to the gentle, long-suffering, self-denying mother, cheerfully bearing the wearing grind year after year in her humble home, for its highest development ; yet some male bipeds in trousers talk glibly of "the weaker vessel," and think their own mothers and sisters not qualified to vote for a school-trustee or a ward constable.

Autumn and winter brought little relief, except to vary the style of work. The women carded wool with hand-cards and spun it on small wheels, for stocking yarn and the weaver's loom. Knitting was the endless task, by the light of the hearth fire or the feeble flicker of a tallow-dip, and everybody wore homespun. Now all this is changed. The modest spinning-wheel is thick with dust in the garret, machinery knits and sews and turns out underwear, the music of the shuttle in the condy-loom is hushed forever, hand-me-down and tailor-made suits have superseded the honest homespun, and the kerosene-lamp has consigned the tallow-dip to oblivion. Threshing wheat and oats with the flail employed the men until plenty of snow fell for good sleighing. Then the whole neighborhood would go in company to Bytown—now Ottawa—to market their produce. Starting at midnight, the line of ox-sleds would reach Richmond about daylight, stop an hour to rest and feed, travel all day and be at Bytown by dark. Next day they would sell their grain, sometimes on a year's credit, buy a few necessary articles, travel all night to Richmond and be home the third evening. A night's lodging at Bytown, unless they slept on their sleds, was the total outlay, as they carried food and hay with them to last the three days and nights of the trip. When the small grist mill was built at Carleton Place, the farmers would grind their wheat, often watching by their sleds two or three days and nights, in the open air, until their turn came. They sold the flour at Bytown, the nearest market. Four dollars a barrel for flour and eight for pork were the highest prices, while the dry goods and groceries were extravagantly dear. Leather