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ELLEN DOWD, THE FARMER'S WIFE.

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CHAPTER I.

The house was a dilapidated log cabin of severely primitive pattern, black with age, and weak and tottering from the effect of many adverse battles with the wind and sun and snow and rain.

The old nurse, Aunt Betsey Graham, with her pale but leaming face, watched for a lull in the tempest, and when a hard gust had spent itself, in its efforts to overturn the rickety cabin, she timidly opened the door and peered out into the fast falling night.

"Dear a-me!" she sighed, despondingly. "I fear they'll never make a trip over the foot-log on such a night and in such a wind as this. I've told Jacob for many a day that it was a duty we owed our fellow creatures to fix a railin' along that log."

The wind, which had for a moment ceased, as if to gather courage for a fresh attack, came howling up the hill, freighted with mingled snow and sleet. Aunt Betsey threw herself against the door with all her force, and managed by severe exertion to secure the latch.

"Remember, Aunt Betsey, she mustn't know it—not now." "Well, you can trust me. Has anything happened to—Peter?" "He fell from the log just after I did, and we should both have gone under the drift if it had not been for Bouncer."

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"The sufferer was long and terrible. The Lord pity me; I must work as well as pray!" exclaimed the good woman, rising from her kneeling posture and going to the fire, which had by this time blazed and burned into a ruddy heat. She seized a half dozen large ears of Indian corn and plunged them into boiling water, in an immense, old-fashioned pot.

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The New Northwest.

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NEW YORK, Nov. 28, 1871.

Just now the "women women," as the World facetiously calls those of us who are addicted to suffrage, are doing very little in the way of public work. There is no association devoted to "the cause" with any vitality in it.

"Midnight!" said the Doctor, looking at his watch. "I'll know by one o'clock whether we shall be able to save her or not."

The baby wakened, and in real baby language screamed out vigorously. "Poor creature! It's hungry. I ought to have been prepared for this, but I've been so taken-back by everything that's happened that I couldn't think."

"Yes, I promise, 'pon my faith as a Christian; but what have you got to tell me that's so awful, Doctor?" "Bouncer whined dolefully, the suffering patient groaned in guttural accents, and the wee baby snapped its sparkling eyes and looked knowingly at the feeble light that was emitted from a burning wick in a saucer of melted lard, which was sputtering away on a rude shelf above the fireplace and doing its sickly best to shine."

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effort is being made, I understand, to hush up the whisperings that have gone about concerning this matter, but as the statements have been bruited by members of the principal medium's own household, and as a report of it has already been sent to the Banner of Light and published, it is not likely that the curiosity concerning it will be quieted until some further investigation is made.

This department of the NEW NORTHWEST is to be a general vehicle for exchange of ideas concerning any and all matters that may be legitimately discussed in our columns. Finding it practically impossible to answer each correspondent by private letter, we adopt this mode of communication to save our friends the disappointment that would otherwise accrue from our inability to answer their queries.

Mrs. S. E. M., M. D., Cincinnati: If you are "doing well pecuniarily" where you are, we would not advise you to pull up stakes and emigrate for the purpose of bettering your condition. There are more professional men and women in Oregon, according to population, than in any other part of the Union.

W. & C's Weekly, on the other hand, cripples itself and is shut out of the influence it might exert by its Pantarchy and frequent publication of matter immoral or verging upon indecency. The avowed principles of Mrs. Woodhull, expressed in her paper, in her lectures and in her present conduct of life, keep her paper from having any great furthering influence on this important subject.

The latest movement worthy of note is that among the workingwomen to found a workingwoman's home on the co-operative plan. There are three or four so-called workingwomen's houses here, but none of them are successes, simply because their founders and managers make the mistake of confounding charity with benevolence.

Mrs. M. O. B., Seattle: Your copy of Woodhull & Claflin, containing the whole of the article on "Chastity," about which so much has been said in the papers, has been received. It was just as we expected. The piece was garbled shamefully by the press, yet there is no denying that Mrs. Woodhull's theories upon the social question are Utopian.

Mrs. S. E. W., San Francisco: We have received a letter from you, including many "notices of the press," for which we gratefully return thanks. As you say, "the S. F. papers are indeed very respectful toward the woman movement now."

ANGER WITHOUT SIN.—One of the late Dr. Spencer's parishioners in Brooklyn, New York, met him hurriedly on his way down the street one day; his lip was set, and there was something strange in that grey eye.

THE "FREE LOVE" ORY.

[Communicated.]

Gentlemen of the Press, we rise to a point of order. Let a division of the question be made, and let us settle one question at a time.

There is an effort to divert the controversy upon Woman Suffrage from its legitimate channel, and other questions foreign to the subject have been forced into discussion by our opponents.

Timid people shuddered at the thought, and fell back to the rear of that progressive movement, but still the cause went on to a successful termination and dragged these timid souls along with it.

Have any of the predictions made by the opponents of the anti-slavery movement been verified? No, not one. Against Woman Suffrage we have the same class of men and women prophesying all manner of evil consequences.

LETTER FROM WEST VIRGINIA. WEST COLUMBIA, Mason Co., West Virginia, Nov. 24, 1871.

I have just seen an extract from your salutary, in the Christian Union, copied from the Advance.

Paris has learned nothing, forgotten nothing, and she sends out to-day styles of attire as shameless in their immorality, vanity, prodigality and defiance of true feminine grace as anything which scandalized the last years of the Empire.

It is not surprising that the women of the far region of North Carolina are high-pitched.

A Journal for the People. Devoted to the Interests of Humanity, Independent in Politics and Religion. Alleviate all Live Issues, and Thoroughly Radical in Opposing and Exposing the Wrongs of the Masses.

Correspondents writing over assumed signatures must make known their names to the Editor, or no attention will be given to their communications.

Woman Suffrage in Wyoming Territory.

The following telegram was published recently in the New York Globe.

A final vote was reached in the House to-day on bill No. 4, entitled, "An Act to Repeal the Woman Suffrage Law." The bill was introduced by C. S. Castle, of Anita county.

So important is Mr. Downey's testimony, he being on the ground and observing the working of the law, that we give the following extract from his speech, as we find it reported in the Laramie Sentinel.

Wyoming, the newest of the Territories, has tried an experiment upon an issue which has been the strength and importance by slow degrees, until now, when it is about to be rolled upon the nation as a national question, for national action and national decision.

Mr. Chairman, I would avoid, if possible, in the discussion of this question, any allusion to party lines. Whether it stands or falls, it is in its nature above the throes of ordinary party strife, and should stand upon its own merits.

Be it remembered that this is not an ordinary question of policy, but the suppression of a right of one-half of our people, and the better half, I would not impugn the motives of any party or of any man, but I must condemn that legislation, which degrades the high privileges of the elective franchise to the level of party schemes, and remorselessly grants or surrenders for the accomplishment of party ends, and becomes a fit object for the hand of scorn to point his slow, unmoving finger at.

Let us look further into the history of the experiment. Woman, true to her nobler and better impulses than man, ornamented with political and official privileges, has proven the foe of vice, corruption and debauchery.

Progress encounters earping adversaries at every stride, and these adversaries are not without plausible and often cogent argument. Substantial reforms cannot transpire with one accord. They must first be broached to be decided; then urged to be considered; then striven for to be adopted, and then tested to the measure of their merits or demerits.

It becomes so shriveled up that is not large enough to retain what the body needs for the maintenance of strength and health.