

J. Heath A
*given me by His Imperial
Majesty, Alexander III.*

WOMEN AND WORK.

An Essay

TREATING ON

THE RELATION TO HEALTH AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT,
OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF GIRLS,
AND THE INTELLECTUAL OR MORE SYSTEMATISED EFFORT
OF WOMEN.

BY

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"THE RHYME OF THE LADY OF THE ROCK,"
"FLYING LEAVES FROM EAST TO WEST," "SONNETS,"
ETC. ETC. ETC.

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PART I.
*THE SENTIMENTAL DIFFICULTY
CONSIDERED.*

I.

“Prendre le parti des femmes, est-ce vouloir redresser les erreurs des hommes ou leur mauvaise foi ?”—M. FELIX REMO.

My object in the present essay is to present the problem of the enlarged sphere of action to which the women of our generation lay claim, under each of the three aspects from which it is commonly regarded, and to supply the best answers I have been able to arrive at, to the most forcible of the objections urged against it.

It may be said that this movement, which is looked on by thoughtful minds as one of the most important, if not actually the most important, of those which will set their mark upon our era, is at this time fairly on its way ; that the more thorough education of girls of all classes is already widely diffused, and that new modes of activity for women are opening year by year. All this is true ; but, when fully admitted, it still remains that some slight review, some further revindication of the subject as it at present manifests itself, may not be without its use ; and chiefly because there are still abroad certain erroneous notions with reference to this question, which have not been adequately refuted, and