

and endurance, with the moral power to dare and do, with great strength of purpose, and with sympathies so boundless as to embrace every form and degree of human suffering. With these moral qualities southern women are as richly endowed as their sisters in other parts of the world.

As a physical force woman has always ranked below man, and has no ambition to outrank him. Nevertheless, in all the endowments which make up strength of character and moral force woman is the peer of man, and if true to herself and God, she holds in her heart a reserved force which neither death nor danger can daunt.

In times when heroism came of physical powers, man was a hero and woman a slave. And, true to her nature, she made a virtue of necessity, accepted the situation, and endorsed her own sorrows and her own degradation. But as this is an age in which educational and moral forces outrank the physical, as we are nearing a reign of thought and virtue, woman is taking her rightful place by the side of man, where she was placed by the creator when from His plastic hand she came in her highest state of purity and delicacy. Woman lost her empire of equality when men began to prey upon each other, when "might was right" and brute force bravery. But as the kingdom of mind is established the reasons of her subjection disappear, and as new avenues open to a man and his sphere widens, and the fact that she moves in a wider sphere no more unsexes her than the widening sphere of man unsexes him. Both must be subject to the respective laws of their sex, and woman is no more degraded and humiliated by being subject to the laws of her womanhood than man is degraded by being subject to the laws of his manhood.

In the vast world of thought, and in the vast world of moral force, the physical inability is not disparaging. So in the new era now ushering in, woman is being restored to her rightful place as the equal of man.

It is granted that in all the qualities of head and heart that make woman the peer of man the women of the south are up to the highest standard. What reasons, then, remain why