

WOMAN IN THE PULPIT

BY

FRANCES E WILLARD

//

PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN
TEMPERANCE UNION

"There can be no male and female: for ye all are one man in
Christ Jesus."—GAL. iii. 28 (R. V.).

BOSTON
D LOTHROP COMPANY
FRANKLIN AND HAWLEY STS

cwm

BV676
W5

**COPYRIGHT, 1888, BY
D. LOTHROP COMPANY.**

**ELECTROTYPED BY
C. J. PETERS & SON, BOSTON,
U. S. A.**

CONTENTS.

CHAP.	PAGE
INTRODUCTION — LETTERS FROM REV. DR. JOSEPH PARKER, REV. DR. TALMAGE, AND JOSEPH COOK	9
I. THE LETTER KILLETH	17
II. THE SPIRIT GIVETH LIFE	40
III. THE EARTH-BORN ARGUMENT	63
IV. TESTIMONY OF PREACHERS WHO ARE MEN	73
V. TESTIMONY OF WOMEN PREACHERS	94
VI. HENRY J. VAN DYKE, SR., D.D., OF BROOKLYN, N. Y., ON THE SUBJECT	113
VII. PROF. L. T. TOWNSEND'S REPLY TO DR. VAN DYKE'S COUNTER ARGUMENT	129
NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S WORDS	173

INTRODUCTION.

1 So. OXFORD ST., BROOKLYN, Mar. 2, 1888.

DEAR MISS WILLARD, — Thanks for your letter, which is on my table like a great glow of sunshine.

About the subject of woman's preaching, let me say that I do not think the story of the Gospel will be fully told until Christian women all round the world tell it. There is a tenderness and a pathos and a power in woman's voice, when she commends pardon and sympathy, which the masculine voice can never reach. My pulpit is always open to women, and when they have preached there the impression has always been deep and good and lasting.

As taking some garbled report of one of my sermons as a genuine report, I have been represented as opposed to woman's suffrage; let me say that I am in favor of having the vote put in woman's hand. I want the experiment made, although I have not as much faith as some have in its power to correct the evils of the day.

But I cannot see why women should be called on to pay tax for the support of government, when they are not allowed the opportunity of expressing at the ballot-box what that government shall be.

May the blessing of Almighty God rest perpetually on your voice and pen. Yours, etc.,

T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

DEAR MISS WILLARD, — What constitutes a providential call to a woman to be a preacher?

Let me cite a single unembarrassing example, fairly typical of thousands of cases occurring in both Christian and pagan fields of effort.

In a beautiful city on the Inland Sea of Japan, I once met, in company with my wife, a young lady whose distinctively feminine refinement and sensitiveness, conjoined with remarkable intellectual and spiritual endowments, made even her silent presence an inspiration. She was of New England birth, training, and instincts. That lady writes as follows in a recent periodical: —

“ . . . I have been teaching English to men and boys, as well as to women and girls. In June I had in the neighborhood of three hundred of the former under my regular instruction in different ways. The work was forced upon me. . . .