

HEROINES OF FREETHOUGHT.

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FREETHOUGHT.

BY
SARA A. UNDERWOOD.

"To reject consecrated opinions needs a consecrated mind. The moving impulse to such rejection is faith; faith in reason, faith in the mind's ability to obtain truth."—
O. B. FROTHINGHAM.

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PREFACE.

THE word Freethinker in times past has implied a censure of the person so designated, and especially if the one so called chanced to be a woman. But, in spite of this fact, here and there in the history of Freethought has appeared a woman strong enough of heart and brain to understand and accept Liberal truths, and brave enough to avow publicly her faith in the "belief of the unbelievers." Among these courageous souls we find the names of some of the most brilliant lights of feminine literature. The Orthodox world could not well afford to reject their valuable contributions to the pleasure and well-being of society, but in accepting them did so with an ungracious protest against the religious conclusions of these daring Thinkers.