

or baking all the bread that was required ; or cooking the dinner ; or repairing all the old clothes which the monks wore when they were only fit for a paper-mill. As there was no special accommodation in the shape of a laundry, Christina had to collect sticks, and make a huge fire beneath a copper cauldron in the open air, into which she plunged all the different vestments of the monks and priests, and stewed them before washing. This was a Cyprian "maid of all work," whose gross ingratitude troubled the minds of her "pastors and masters ;" and one day a peculiar mental disturbance pervaded the whole priestly establishment and caused a monasterial commotion, as, after a violent fit of temper attended by crying, Christina had declared solemnly that she "would stand it no longer," and "she wished *to better herself!*"

Whenever there was a difficulty the monks came to me ; why, I cannot imagine. If the shepherd's goats invaded their gardens and destroyed the onions and the beet-root crops, they applied to me. Of course I advised them to "fence their gardens," and they went away satisfied, but did not carry out the suggestion ; so in due time their crops were devoured. They now told me that *they always had a difficulty with women!* This new theory startled me almost as much as the novelty of the old monks' stories. They explained that *young women wouldn't work, and old women couldn't work.* It had not occurred to them that a middle-aged woman might have combined all that they desired. Knowing their strict moral principles, I had suggested an "old woman" as the successor of Christina ; as I explained to them that, to be in harmony with the establishment, a woman of a "certain age" as general servant would not detract