

**PRIZE ESSAY ON THE
LAWS FOR THE
PROTECTION OF WOMEN**

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Prize Essay on the Laws for the Protection of Women by James Edward Davis

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JAMES EDWARD DAVIS

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PROTECTION OF WOMEN**

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ON

THE LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION

OF

WOMEN,

BY JAMES EDWARD DAVIS,

OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

“Si in hoc eos [pretores] eligimus, ut pecuniaria furta ac rapinas corrigere: quomodo non multo magis castitatis furtum ac rapinas eos coercere stemus?” — JUSTINIAN. *Novelle*, xiv.

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"From the first establishment of the society its parliamentary proceedings have been much impeded by the great diversity of opinion existing as to the real state of the laws in reference to the protection of women. Some public men have ventured to maintain that the law, in its present state, is amply sufficient, and therefore requires no alteration or improvement; while others contend that the law requires great alteration, and that its present state, so far as the protection of women is concerned, is a disgrace to our statute-