

**THE DOCTOR'S  
DILEMMA, VOL. I**

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The Doctor's Dilemma, Vol. I by Hesba Stretton

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**HESBA STRETTON**

**THE DOCTOR'S  
DILEMMA, VOL. I**



THE  
DOCTOR'S DILEMMA.

BY

HESBA STRETTON,

AUTHOR OF "PAUL'S COURTSHIP;" "DAVID LLOYD'S LAST WILL," ETC.

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# THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA.

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## CHAPTER THE FIRST.

### AN OPEN DOOR.

I THINK I was as nearly mad as I could be ; nearer madness, I believe, than I shall ever be again, thank God ! Three weeks of it had driven me to the very verge of desperation. I cannot say here what had brought me to this pass, for I do not know into whose hands these pages may fall ; but I had made up my mind to persist in a certain line of conduct which I firmly believed to be right, whilst those who had authority over me, and were stronger than I was, were resolutely bent upon making me submit to their will. The conflict had been going on, more or less violently, for months ; now I had come very near the end of it. I felt that I must either yield or go mad. There was no chance of