

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

The image of woman as portrayed in *The Professor* was a portrayal of an independent woman. However her way to be an independent woman was not an easy one. She had to struggle to finance herself for a good education. By women's usual art which was despised by most people, she could propose herself for an education.

However her independency was still continued after she came to the marriage life, as reflected in her desire to continue her career she had while she was single, even though financially she could depend fully on her husband. Nevertheless her career did not make her trapped in so much trouble since she could make her two roles in balance. She was a loyal and a faithful wife, a good mother for her only son and a good career woman. In one side she was independent, but on the other side she still respected her husband and admitted the

subordination of wife by calling her husband as 'master'.

Hence in the image of woman in this story, the author offered an alternative for a married woman to have an independent and active life. The domestic life was not the only world that woman could have, but she could have both a happy family and also a good career.

By performing many aspects of her own life and women's life during her life time, this story became closer to the real life of the Victorian women, especially the middle class. As seen in Charlotte perception of the ideal of womanhood, this perception was almost the same with a 'true womanhood' which was held by the middle class women. Both believed that women should be like what men wanted them to be, but at the same time developing their own identities.

The image of woman as portrayed in Frances Henri's character was the author suggestion of the ideal of womanhood, in which she gave a choice for women to have career after they came to the marriage life by considering women's need of expressing themselves and also women's need of possessing a happy wifehood.

Author's own life was important in this novel, not only her autobiography but also her social life. These two aspects of her life had affected her work. As seen in the woman major character who shared much of the author's life. Furthermore this novel was also a reflection of women condition during author's lifetime.

BIBLIOGRAPHY