

marching on towards the goal, we quote the following from the *New York Literary Digest*: "In the General Conference of the Methodist Church, held at Westminster, Maryland, another phase of the woman question cropped out. It was the action of the Conference in striking out the word 'obey' from the marriage service. The matter came up in the consideration of the report of the Committee on Ritual. The discussion occupied nearly the whole of the afternoon. The Rev. J. N. Thompson, in moving that the word 'obey' be stricken from the service, said he was willing to let it remain if it be placed in the service again, so as to require the man to obey his wife as well as to honor and comfort and keep her. The vote was 35 to 26 in favor of striking out the word. The women delegates voted for it." Score another victory for the women. We are glad to see things made right, especially when the word "obey" is almost obsolete as far as fulfilling it is concerned. We feel sorry for the couple who sacredly promise each other to "obey," when they know all the time they don't intend to. If a married couple can get along at all, they don't require to be pledged for to do something which nothing on earth but their love can make them do. Many married ladies have said they got over their part of the ceremony, by either leaving the objectionable word unspoken or construing it so as to read *nobey*. But now that the Conference in Maryland have removed the obstacle, the ladies there ought to feel satisfied. In the meantime we will anxiously await the result and see

how it works. To us it looks as if the ministers thought to increase their fees, and at the same time make themselves solid with the ladies. Those who are old maids, *by inclination*, will now have one of the barriers removed, thus having no excuse for remaining any longer in single blessedness.

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THE subject of gambling has of late been one of much controversy, and the action of our city police in their endeavor to suppress this evil has met with the hearty approval of the citizens. The professional gambler is worse than the thief who robs your pocket or your house. He ensnares his victims and enflames their desire to recover what has been stolen from them by plunging more madly than ever into the vortex. How many young men have been ruined through play? How many prospects have been blighted and homes destroyed by this absorbing passion of play on which they have staked their soul. Failure to win, meant disgrace, suicide and death, while the winner only reaped a fleeting benefit, the forerunner of an end equally the same. A writer in the *Westminster Review*, in discussing the ethics of gambling, very aptly describes it as follows. He says: "Gambling excites the emotions, bringing unnatural alternations of hope and fear, of pleasure and pain. There can be no manner of doubt that this drain of nervous tissue represents, in perfection, the waste without repair, which is directly subversive of life, and when the betting is entirely upon chance there are no compensating advantages of any