

she may, if courageous, kill herself. How much shall we then blame her? The world does not blame men very much who have yielded to less temptation. She may not have an opportunity, nor the means, to go away and safely and secretly bear her child. Her life must be ruined or an abortion must be produced. She will go to a charlatan or the professional hypocrite, and will have a sound passed, and run considerable risk of life. I now remember two cases in which girls of good morals, if we except one lapse, died in their father's houses of septicemia due to abortions produced at physician's offices, in which cases the fathers knew nothing of the cause of the illness. I remember a hired girl brought to the hospital dying of septicemia from abortion, because she had not dared to tell of her trouble and employ proper treatment. I was called to see a case at the house of an abortionist, in which I found the intestines hanging out of the vagina. At the *post-mortem* a catheter was found under the liver. The posterior wall of the uterus had been curetted nearly all away, and the intestines had been mistaken for fetal parts.

"Such deaths are constantly occurring in our larger cities and only one or two interested parties usually know the facts. Many a sterile wife is going about to-day because of pelvic disease caused by abortion before or after marriage. But when, after wasting much strength and valuable time in trying to arrange some way with such a patient of avoiding an abortion, and after preaching to her, frightening her, and refusing to help her get rid of her disgrace, I send her away, I feel as if something was wrong with myself or with the world, that her wrong could not in some way be righted, that she must go and put her life in the hands of a man who makes abortion a business because he has not the education and skill to make a living without becoming an abortionist.

"If public opinion can not be changed, if there is no way of infusing any mercy or tolerance into it, then public opinion should wear blue glasses that it may not distinguish all that is going on. One of the greatest possible charities would be endowed hospitals in various parts of the country where such cases could be secluded and their children be taken care of, that there might still be preserved to them a chance of enjoying life. I remember when one of our largest and best known hospitals in Chicago, supported by a religious institution, refused to take illegitimate cases of labor. I sincerely hope that the ministers will have some helpful suggestions to give us who are the first to see such cases, and I sincerely wish that in imitation of Christ of the New Testament they would preach tolerance and mercy to this class, for I have found that they can not be influenced by fear, and can only be helped by