

least that it would speedily have sunk into oblivion, and have been allowed to rot, forgotten amidst the mass of falsehood and impurity which disgraces a portion of the New-York press; but it would seem, from the notices which appear from time to time in the periodicals, that it is determined to persist in the system of falsehood so shamefully commenced. A reply has been deemed necessary.

It is here offered with a feeling of deep regret on the part of the author, that the tissue of horrors which calls it forth should have ever been thought or printed. It will be necessary to place before the public gaze persons whose habits and inclinations especially fit them for retirement, and who might reasonably have expected to have walked through life in the peaceful and undisturbed discharge of their pious avocations. The necessity of invading the privacy of the good, the charitable, and the humble, weighed strongly with the author as an objection to making any reply whatever to the "Awful Disclosures of Maria Monk;" but the opinion of wise and reflecting men, that they should no longer be suffered to remain uncontradicted before the world, has prevailed. It only remains to add, that the reply here presented is complete, that it is sustained by authenticated documents and indisputable evidence; and that nothing will be advanced in the text, the truth of which has not been ascertained by careful investigation and personal observation. Is it too much to hope that this refutation of the "Awful Disclo-