

quires the close attention of the mother, and both require the care and labor of the father. Let divorce separate the parents, then how unhappy is the lot of the child. To which of his parents will he turn for support, or how is he to render the honor due to parents?

We have heard of enraged sons pointing revolvers at the breast of their father, and threatening to shoot him, should he not return to their mother. Will the mother bring her daughter to her new husband? and the husband his son to his new wife after divorce and a new marriage? Poor children! Were you consulted before birth you would rather not be born than of such parents.

It is urged in favor of divorce, that it would be intolerable for the innocent party to be obliged to remain with the criminal. To this We say, a separation from bed and board is permitted for causes which We need not now enumerate, and this law meets that difficulty. It is further alleged, that it is hard for the innocent party to remain unmarried.

There are, it is granted, individual cases of hardship, as there are individual cases of maladies and accidents; but general laws for the good of the whole community must take their course; and individuals must pray, must forbear, must mortify their passions and concupiscences, and God, who never "permits any one to be tempted above his strength," will comfort, and give them victory.

Divorce is the offspring of unbridled passion, and the frequency of divorce argues hasty and carnal marriages. We rejoice, that the Catholic Church, true to the mission of her Divine Spouse, has at all times and under all circumstances, steadfastly resisted with all her power any infringement of the Divine institution of Matrimony; and that her children notwithstanding the legal inducements held out to them, have always obeyed that Law. Some have been found who have transgressed it; but they, by the fact, have incurred the excommunication of the Church, or have apostatized.

We warn our people against the evil examples that surround them, and we would remind them, that it is an article of faith solemnly defined by the Church that the Sacrament of Matrimony is indissoluble among Christians, and that no Christian legislator can conscientiously aid in framing a law of divorce for a Christian community. Let him bear in mind the sentence of our Lord, so often quoted, "What God hath joined let not man separate."

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