

have been some sense in speaking of the encroachments of the English, whose soldiers were at that moment rioting in the wealth they had pilaged from us. But the language of the papers of that day were very different from the republican tone of this. Will you believe it, dear sister? after a sickening encomium on the bravery of this man, it wound up with the sentence, 'An honest man's the noblest work of God;' a quotation, by the way, that I believe has been oftener prostituted than any other in the English language.

"Well, our good mother, who certainly appears to have as little of the leaven of malice in her disposition as almost any other, stood perfectly petrified a few moments after reading it. At last she broke forth in a burst of resentment that would have electrified the old tyrant himself, if he could have heard it.

"'Yes, thou wert honest,' she said, 'as I can witness. Thou didst agree to do this deed for a specific sum, and thou didst it. No pang of remorse, no touch of pity, was suffered to disturb the integrity guaranteed by the purchase-money. If the plunder of the defenceless, the separation of families—if insulting the religion, and breaking the hearts of thousands—if burning of dwellings, and turning out poor dumb nature to perish, and inflicting merciless chastisement upon our hunted race—if, in short, the extermination of a whole people, in obedience to the commands of a tyrant, and in requital of his gold, be *honesty*, then thou wert honest; for never did Lucifer, from his dark dominions, send forth a messenger more prompt and unrelenting: and I only wish thou couldst have lived to have been driven out in thy turn, as others like thee have been, to the fields stained with our blood, and blackened by the fires of thy fierce soldiery.'

"You may imagine my astonishment, but I