

of the criminal class among men who are recruited mainly from the idle and shiftless among all classes, and from the defective classes. These two causes, including heredity, accounting for nearly seventy-five per cent. in the above table. It may be regarded as emphatically a *trade*, chosen from love of idleness, of luxury, and absence of sense of honor, or decency. Even Du Chatelet, after assenting that over sixty per cent. are driven into it by seduction, desertion, and want, admits in a lucid interval "C'est le desir de se procurer jouissances sans travailler qui est don ans le premier rang de causes." Again "C'est la vanitie et le desir de briller." Bitter as is the scorn and contempt heaped upon the prostitute she deserves it all, for she has in the vast majority of cases deliberately sold her birthright not for pottage, but for champagne and tinsel.

In reply to the question what is the chief and what is the second cause of prostitution, the results are, from twenty answers:—

	I.	II.
Love of display, etc.....	10	10
Bad family surroundings.....	4	10
Heredity.....	3	
Seduction.....	2	
Lack of employment.....	1	

Here the results are singularly uniform and strongly emphasized, the conclusions from the former table.

The next question relates to the class of society from which the mass of our prostitutes come, and I know of no point upon which popular impressions are more widely generally erroneous. The prevalent view appears to be what might be described as the "W. C. T. U." one, that its priestesses are all the victims of man's lust and base deceit, and drawn alike from the mansion and the hovel. Like most of the conceptions with which this body has blessed the world it lacks the support of facts.

Out of twenty-one answers to this question eighteen reply "lower," "lowest," and "poor and defective," "factory girls," or some equivalent term. One replies "lower middle" and two "middle."

Now as to the grade of education of these recruits, seventeen reply "very low," "uneducated," "analphabet," etc., and four reply "fair" or "average." This corresponds with the results

of Du Chatelet, who found that the prostitutes of Paris practically all came from the laboring or artisan class, and especially from those whose lack of intelligence and persistence makes them mere day laborers, "roustabouts," as the modern term is. By an elaborate examination of their certificates, he also found that of 4,470 prostitutes, 2,332 could not sign their names (fifty-five per cent.), and 1,781 could sign "but badly," leaving only 110, or barely two and five-tenths per cent. who could write at all, or legibly.

In short, as a professional man of extensive opportunities for observation, once remarked to me, "I have seen and studied thousands of these women all over the Union, and have never been able to detect any difference between them, which was not the work of the milliner and the upholsterer." As another of my friends expressed it even more tersely, "Out of thousands I have never seen one with good table manners."

There are, of course, exceptions to the rule, but the prostitute possessed of a spark of refinement, education or intelligence, is extremely rare, and usually very soon either marries or becomes owner of an establishment, and in either case retires from active practice.

And just here I would like to say one word in correction of what I believe to be another popular error as to the personality of a prostitute, and that is that she is usually beautiful. The advocates of the seduction-theory even go so far as to declare that she must be, otherwise no one would be tempted to seduce her, which is a fair sample of their logic. From a somewhat extensive experience with women of this class in the general hospitals of London, Paris, and Vienna, and a systematic study of the physiognomies of thousands of them upon the streets of the above cities, and of New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago, I have no hesitation in declaring that a handsome, or even attractive-looking prostitute is rare, and that the average of beauty is lower among them than in any class of women. The only important exception to this statement is the unchaste class of women among actresses and artist's models; who are no real exception, as they are almost forced into vice from the extreme exposure and pressure of their occupation. Whatever other evils the "fatal power of beauty" may be responsible for, it has no more to do with prostitution