

Thus, *blindness* in the new-born is now known to be a gonorrheal infection; and more than half the inmates of the blind asylums are said to be victims of that infection.

Much *misery* in families and many *divorces* are due to gonorrheal or syphilitic infection of the wife by the husband. Medical science has also succeeded within recent years in tracing with much more accuracy than formerly the consequences of syphilitic infection.

The general *paralysis* which now sends many patients to asylums for the *insane* is usually traced to syphilis. Physicians who see much of the insane attribute to syphilis twenty to thirty per cent. of all cases in the insane asylums.

Since surgery has been enabled by anesthesia and asepticism to treat with some success the *diseases peculiar to women*, it has become known that a large proportion of these diseased conditions are due to syphilitic or gonorrheal infection.

In short, the amount of human agony and degradation due to the diseases of profligacy is unimaginable and incalculable, and the annual toll of misery is not diminishing.

All these woes are primarily due to the sexual vices of men. If most men should become as chaste as most women are under present conditions, there would result a great diminution of these abominable evils. If the same true standard of chastity should be effectively applied to men and women, they would gradually disappear.

Within the past twenty years the conduct of civilized communities in regard to the *ordinary contagious diseases* and the occasional *pestilences* has changed much for the better. A modern city or state now undertakes to prevent the free transmission of scarlet fever, diphtheria, or smallpox through the whole body of the population. It isolates more or less thoroughly cases of such diseases. It provides hospitals to which the sufferers from these diseases can be promptly carried; and it provides for the registration of every such case. In carrying out such measures for the protection of the community as a whole, the health authorities invade private houses, separate sick persons from their families, prevent children who have been exposed to contagion from going to school, and provide at public expense vaccines and antitoxins.

In striking contrast to the habitual treatment of other contagious diseases is the practice of American cities in regard to the *venereal diseases*. With