

and she has never ceased, and never will cease, to wage war upon it as the destroyer of woman's dignity and freedom. This freedom was won, and can be retained only by adhesion to that principle of faith which, for woman, is the greatest principle of Christian civilization,— that the marriage tie is indissoluble: "What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."— *Matt. XIX, 6*. By submitting to modern paganism which ignores the Christian religion, woman must in time lose the dignity and freedom she now possesses, and return to the condition from which she was emancipated. Human nature has not changed, human passions have not been extinguished. Their entire suppression is the only wise course; and the Church, speaking and acting for Christ, has never sanctioned their partial indulgence by countenancing marriage after divorce, but has always legislated against the very possibility of such an evil. May the world soon recognize the wisdom of the old Church in her struggle for the indissolubility of the marriage tie, in her efforts to save woman from a relapse into her moral degradation under paganism!

What Faith has done for childhood and womanhood, Christianity has done in quite an equal degree for two other great classes of suffering humanity—prisoners and slaves. It is painful to rehearse the tortures of the common dungeons of pagan civilization even at its highest culture, the gladiatorial contests in which even brother was forced to slaughter brother for the amusement of cultured men and society women, and the scourgings unto death of poor slaves at the hands of inhuman masters. These were common features of prevailing civilization, when a Prisoner stood before Pilate in his judgment hall at Jerusalem. He was bound, and He was scourged; but, by His death, He introduced the new civilization that has ever since demanded fair treatment for prisoners and the abolition of slavery. He taught that the prisoner, and the slave, and the outcast, are possessed of souls that will live on after the last echoes of the world, crumbling to dissolution, shall have died out—souls that will live forever. Again, Christianity teaches that all these unfortunates partake of the nature that the Deity