

better chance of living
r state; but Storer and
the ante-natal dangers
are left no room to con-

stered in Massachusetts 1859
ney in the number of births
as a year of war, and the
d—the birth rate was only
noticed by Dr. Geo. Derby
nties, while the deaths had
lation at that time being
sons, and even then it was
counties containing crowded
if in anticipation, adds: It
among the foreigners . . .
an element. But the most
ry of the Commonwealth:
170,752, the foreign popula-
tives produced 16,672, the
superior fecundity of the
think, abundantly proved.
foreign 266,270. They pro-
the latter 17,530—thus
four times as great.
pared with the preceding
foreign had increased by

crease over former years,
births had diminished 2.21
er cent.

ad decreased by 52, while
ed that the excess of birth

inished during the preced-
n births now exceed the
of the population.

board of Health, and Pro-
th rate for Massachusetts
eign births has remained
have steadily diminished
steadily advanced." He
k of Irish, Germans and
ck which has possessed
ts for the statesman, the
ority states: "The supe-
rly recognized, and one
year by the registration
ths by 234; of foreign by

deaths by 7,076, and the
cent. Again is noticed
a corresponding increase
s now entirely with the
sed by 1,125, the foreign

for 1875, just published,

, under direction of the
y-fourth Annual Regis-
3.63 for every thousand
he average for the pre-

ceding three years, and 27.4 the average annual rate during the twenty-five years, 1851 to 1875, a period which comprised the Southern war, when the birth rate was low from other causes than those I have alluded to. "The fact remains," says Dr. Draper, "that our birth rate in Massachusetts is lower than we would like."

The birth rate among the foreign born in 1875 was 55.51 per 1,000, while the birth rate among the native born was 16.46 per 1,000 in the same year.

It may be consoling to say that the question of survival is of great moment. And here the advantage, as I have said, is entirely with the native American element.

In looking at these figures, is there not reason to fear the fulfilment of Dr. Knox's prediction, that were the North American continent not fed by a constant influx of European blood, it would again revert to the Red man as its sole possessor. But no! other causes than climatal are at work, for the sun shines on the wil-lingly prolific, and the wilfully barren, alike; both are heated by the same summers and chilled by the same winters.

What I may have to say on this subject must not be considered as applied to any class of persons, but to individuals, here and there, in a class. A very small percentage of officious meddlesome females would disturb the birth rate of a large community. (At the moment of writing I can recall to mind the recent case of a well-dressed person, with somewhat of cultivation and refinement, who came from the adjoining Union, with shattered health and with heart bowed down, who admitted to me, unreservedly, having procured abortion, in her own person, fourteen times! She had so well learned the art from the fiend who had aided her at her first gestation that she required no assistance in the disposal of the subsequent thirteen.)

When persons have learned to regard man, in embryo, as a mere aggregation or union of fortuitous atoms, a plastic germ, a kind of colloid or protoplasm, which the chemical and mechanical laws of attraction and repulsion, selection and rejection, change and wave-like motion, may ultimately develop into a thinking being, but little heed will be given to the integrity of that immature creature suspended in the female womb. Broadcast over this land are sold pamphlets, the titles of which are alone attractive, instructing the female in measures for preventing conception, or for favouring abortion at an early period; and all in accordance with the views of certain classes of materialists and pseudo-philosophers. That the lesson is too well learned is evident from the experience of every physician who has written deprecatingly on the subject.

If the organization that now belongs to us had been progres-sively developed, the crime of fœticide would not be of that heinous