

"He made an audacious effort to corrupt and debauch the First Church of Lattimore, of which he was pastor. This effort failed through the firmness in God's service of those members whose stability in spiritual affairs and in the life of business has made that church noted as one of the strongholds of religious militancy.

"From that time his course led downward. The press has told of the life in the lowest and most turbulent slums of the great cities of that ex-preacher whose sobriquet 'Strangler Courtright' is of such sorrowful import to those who know its low and tempestuous significance.

"His wife—one of the sweetest of Christian women—for the protection of her own child was forced to seek a legal separation from him—a step justified in this case, if it ever can be. We finally hear of him, in the packing-house district, choosing the most disgusting task possible, as if in a sort of fierce defiance of the society which once knew and loved him. And at last we find him renewing his *liaison* with the notorious woman, the guilty love for whom was one great influence in driving him from his first charge—first and last. The task of further comment is one from which we shrink. The old-fashioned preaching of old-fashioned conversion and churchly living, goes with the old-fashioned morality. The first and shortest step aside from either line, is the one charged with the greatest peril to the young clergyman. This is the moral of the life of Emerson Courtright."

They took the body to the church of his adoption—that Hall where the struggling, erring laborers met to work out in their imperfect way the problems of this