

*dealers, a race of mortals whom no pious man wishes to resemble."* *Johnson.*

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XXIII. That single individuals of both sexes live chastely is certain; but that large associations can thus exist, is contrary to fact. The records of celibacy which detail the secrets of abbies and nunneries, demonstrate that all attempts to disunite the sexes under the pretence of additional purity, are the source of a torrent of licentiousness.

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XXIV. How far the prohibition, to rob the remaining partner and the children, of the property which should furnish support for them, will be effectual, time will discover. The man who tempted a woman to this sacrifice of every feminine sensibility, and to conduct so injurious to society, should be punished as if he had seduced her; and the husband who deserted his family, should surrender all his wealth to them, and be disfranchised until he returned to the performance of his domestic obligations. This is not laying unhallowed hands upon religion; for piety is as contrary to the Shaker's creed, as it is distinct from Atheism; and consequently, it is the indispensable duty of Legislators to make their conduct the subject of animadversion.