

thwart it, or even failure to give it proper development, will result in either dwarfing or decay.

The freedom of intelligent, refined conversation upon sexual subjects ought to be broadened, it should no longer be considered indecent to speak plainly. Most of the flavor of obscenity which hangs about the discussion of sexual matters is due to this very restriction. No excuse or danger should be left for boys and girls on the grounds of ignorance of this important function. In other words, intelligence, altruism, true refinement, should be promoted by every possible means, and Nature will continue to assist us by emphatically discouraging their opposites.

Above and beyond all we should foster, glorify, deify if necessary, the one instinct in man's bosom which can master the sexual, the highest, the holiest, the strongest of which he is capable. His love for the one woman who is or is to be all the world to him. Once touch this spring and he is safe. Well may all of clearest, and deepest vision among us, the poets, never weary of singing its praises. The age of chivalry should be brought back in nobler, truer form.

Lust laughs at opposition and exults in danger, but sinks ashamed at the whisper of love. Impress upon every man not his own danger, but that of his wife that is to be, of his children yet unborn. Nay, further, make him to see that the last insult he can offer to the one for whom he would cheerfully lay down his life, is to make, in the burning words of the apostle, "her members the members of a harlot" and prostitution will disappear from the face of the earth.

#### HOW VAGINAL DOUCHES SOMETIMES CAUSE SEVERE ACCIDENTS.

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On June 4th ult. attended Mrs. W. in her confinement and instructed the nurse to give her a vaginal douche of hot water twice a day.

A week later received a message to visit her, when I was told by the nurse the patient had an abnormal condition of the vagina interfering with the use of the syringe. I then gave the patient a vaginal douche with the syringe the nurse had employed, but met with no difficulty or abnormal

condition. To make sure everything was right I made a digital examination, and found cervix very low down, os widely dilated and much relaxed, allowing index finger to pass easily through it into cervical canal.

Requested the nurse to make a similar examination to ascertain if the structures in the vagina had not been mistaken by her for an abnormal condition of it as well as the obstacle to the introduction of the syringe encountered in attempting the last douche.

She acknowledged them to be one and the same, and related how she had felt the point of the syringe pass through a ring-like structure—the os—while introducing it to give the last vaginal douche.

On this occasion it was the ordinary enema syringe with long nozzle, measuring not less than five inches, that was used, and the nurse kept the point of it well to the front in the vagina, making it more difficult to avoid the os.

The patient maintained she felt the injection each time in the uterine cavity, and while receiving the last treatment complained of a good deal of pain, discomfort and a feeling of faintness, followed by a considerable hæmorrhage which greatly alarmed both patient and nurse.

I now realized the cause of unpleasant, troublesome and dangerous symptoms in certain cases arising from the improper use of the syringe in connection with the vaginal douche. I remember this same patient, while receiving similar treatment after one of her previous labors, experiencing suddenly excruciating pain and great shock that produced an alarming state of collapse followed by a very severe attack of metritis that almost proved fatal. After most of her labors the patient suffered from somewhat similar attacks, while the vaginal douche was being given, but they were not so severe.

I have a very vivid recollection of another patient who had an abortion about fifth month, and for whom I ordered a vaginal injection of hot water. The nurse had scarcely begun administering the douche when the patient suddenly felt a severe pain, became pale, gave a loud scream and exclaimed she was dying, lost consciousness and passed into a condition of dangerous collapse.

An urgent message brought me to the bedside of the patient in a few minutes—found her almost