

despised and berated function? The most important, the highest, the holiest. Listen to that brilliant champion of evangelicism, Drummond, in his fascinating attempt to convince the Apaches of science that they are or ought to be orthodox Christians if they only knew their own province a *little* more accurately, and could take a broader view of its relations (in which he comes perilously near succeeding in a way he little intended). In the light of the Gospel, according to Darwin, he declares that "Sympathy, affection, fidelity, sacrifice, indeed all those noble traits included under the term altruism, spring from the reproduction instinct." Instead of being subversive of all morality it is the foundation-stone of it. With its feeblest and blindest flutterings altruism, the regard for others, is born.—"Ascent of Man," Henry Drummond.

Unselfishness, sacrifice, is no recent development due to "revelation," but goes back to the Ameba itself. From fission to parturition reproduction is self-sacrifice. And from the results of the process, from the care and nurture of "these little ones," have grown every atom of our morality, from earth-buried foundation-stone to heaven-soaring pinnacle.

In the light of the fifth Gospel we are just beginning to see the eternal truth of the saying of the first Gospel, "Suffer little children to come unto Me for of such (aye and *from such*) is the Kingdom of Heaven." True manhood, true womanhood, in the highest sense, is impossible without reproduction, while as for love, sympathy, philanthropy, sense of duty, it has simply created them. "The stone which the builders rejected is indeed become the head of the corner." Even the much lamented power of the sexual instinct is simply proof of the overwhelming importance and value of the function to the race, and the man or woman who can suppress it entirely is *less* than human rather than more, and will surely become *inhuman* sooner or later. The first duty of man is to perpetuate the species. The race has the first mortgage on him, and has had ever since he was a sea-weed.

If marriage is a failure it's because the breed is, and "the Caucasian is played out." Our whole social, ecclesiastical and political organization centres round this institution as nucleus. Civilization rises from the family, through the clan, the

tribe, the State, to the nation. "Charity," in the true sense of love-of-one's neighbor, literally "begins at home," and gradually broadens to include the tribe, the nation, the human race, in its scope. Indeed the family, the home, need but to be mentioned to be accorded the rank of *the* great and only true civilizing, humanizing, spiritualizing influences, and any nation which begins to weary of their control is marked for destruction.

Neglect of, or escape from, their obligations, is ruinous to all concerned. We all lament the sad lack of home-training so obvious in the children of to-day, but we forget that the lack of training suffered by the American parents of to-day on account of the scarcity of children is equally hurtful. This is the age of untrained parents, and they need training as much as children. The training of children works both ways, like mercy "it blesses him who gives as he who takes," and no man's or woman's education is more than half finished without it. Infancy, as Emerson has said, is indeed "a perpetual Messiahship."

And yet we constantly hear this magnificent sexual instinct of ours shrieked at and berated as if fornication, adultery, prostitution and rape were its chief and commonest results. Truly, "The evil that men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones." The instinct (like all other natural ones) is at least a hundred times as powerful for good as for evil.

Let us consider now for a moment the attitude of etiquette and morals—too often interchangeable terms—towards the sexual function, in the light of the importance of the latter. There is only one word to describe it, it is simply *idiotic*.

In the first place they attempt and assume to absolutely taboo the whole subject, after the fashion of that other bird of equally brilliant plumage and gifted intellect, the ostrich. Not only the sexual organs themselves, but even the whole of the body which is covered by the clothing under which they are hidden is forbidden to be mentioned or referred to in "polite" society. According to its canons the entire body from the neck to the tips of the toes is a sexual organ. The origin of this lascivious refinement is obvious, for the mention of the regions which happen to be merely geographically adjacent to the forbidden parts, and which no pure-minded or well-bred person would dream of asso-