Problems of Sex

whether from pulpit, platform, or study chair? The physician, the alienist, the criminologist, have all been compelled to examine ugly facts, which all concerned with prevention have so far to face also. But even this inevitable phase of painful realism may become hopeful instead of hopeless, in proportion as we possess clear knowledge and discernment that not disease and ugliness, but health and beauty are the essential characteristics of the normal reproductive life. Thus considered, our lily becomes again a talisman of purity, a symbol of hope, a sign of assurance. Yet, after all, it is but one expression of the Protean life-miracle of beauty and perfection ever renewed.

Leaving, however, the child to admire and wonder among the lilies, and the moral philosopher to reconsider them and his system together, we may best turn for immediate practical suggestion to the animal kingdom, and ask how through it there may lie ways towards man's.

In the lower reaches of the animal kingdom the two sexes are often quite like one another externally. Thus, in many cases, no one can tell a male starfish from a female starfish, or a male sea-urchin from a female sea-urchin. At this humble level, as one would expect, there is a great deal of the haphazard in the production of offspring. The eggs and the sperms are liberated into the sea, and if the sperms (the milt