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## The Great Crime of the Age.

**B**EHIND the half-transparent curtain with which modesty attempts to conceal from public gaze the mysteries of the sexual relation, there are follies and crimes enacted, pregnant with evil to the individual and to the race. Their existence is no secret, though their extent is scarcely conceived, except by those whose profession brings them into daily and hourly contact with disease and death. At their roots lie passion and ignorance. Christian and philosopher alike proclaim against the first; but it is equally necessary to disseminate knowledge of the immoral nature and the evil results of those acts which many deem at worst trivial, while others fancy them beneficial.— There has been too much silence on these important points. The pulpit, in general, has but little idea of the extent of these evils; and if it had, dare not proclaim too loudly against them. The congregations would rise in horror at such *immodest* preaching. Better for body and soul to die, than that our delicate ears should be offended. So, also, is the public press debarred this subject. The newspaper that will print with disgusting minuteness, cases of rape, seduction, incest and adultery, would be horrified at the thought of giving a word of warning against the social evils. Perhaps, even a journal like this, will meet with rebuke from the over-modest, for daring to print what I am about to write.

Of several evils, in this connection, I have designated one the Great Crime of the age. That one is the willful destruction of the unborn infant, or

### FŒTICIDE.

The practice of abortion has existed from time immemorial, like every other form of wickedness and vice. But along with it there has existed, to check its increase, among barbarians and civilized people alike, love of offspring, and public and private honour for those who become mothers. So the evil was of slight extent, till of