

circumstance of being in a condition which will certainly bring down on her head the wrath of those whom she loves and honours, and render her a byword and a scorn on the lips of those whose friendship she esteems, ay, holds even higher than life itself? Who can estimate the amount of mental suffering which she undergoes ere she applies to the abortionist? Ignorant as we are of these things we cannot tell the force of the temptation. Let us, therefore, judge lightly, giving our affectionate pity while we condemn.

Our feelings then may be touched by the misfortunes of the victim of the seducer, and we may find in the circumstances of her position somewhat in extenuation of her guilt, but what are we to say of the conduct of that mother who, hedged round securely by the "bonds of holy wedlock," conceives, and, crime most foul and unnatural, seeks the aid of the professed abortionist, to procure the murder of the fruits of her conception. Horrible deed! No language can fully express the intense loathing and disgust with which we would regard the perpetrators. It passes our comprehension, how mild, beautiful women, delicately nurtured, well educated, and who have themselves received all the care and attention which the holy undying love of a true mother prompts her to bestow on her offspring, should become transformed into such hideous moral monsters. When we think over these matters, and of the extent to which the crime of abortion prevails among so called respectable women in the United States, we are seized with feelings of profound despondency. Whereunto are we tending in the much boasted light of the nineteenth century? What new depth of degradation will poor human nature plunge into? If the mothers of the present day—those who are to guide, instruct and mould the minds of the children who are to be the men and women of the next generation, exhibit so much laxity of principle and unblushingly perpetrate crime of so deep a dye, what a fearful picture will the future present. As an illustration of the prevalence of the criminal practice of causing abortion, and the indifference with which it is viewed by our American neighbours, we will relate what occurred to an esteemed friend and correspondent of ours who lives in Canada close to the line 45°. We are sorry our readers cannot hear it from the lips of our friend, as he is an inimitable story teller. We remember, moreover, the principal facts of the case merely. On a certain day then, this gentleman received a message from the keeper of a hotel to visit his wife. The hotel was in the States, some miles from his residence, and situated near a place much resorted to by sportsmen during the summer months. When he alighted at the door he was met by a servant who shewed him into a room and told him Mr. —,