

## Moral Cowardice &amp; Modern Hypocrisy;

OR,  
FOUR WEEKS IN LUDLOW-STREET JAIL.

THE SUPPRESSED BOSTON SPEECH OF VICTORIA C. WOODHULL.

"Truth crushed to earth will rise again,  
The eternal years of God are hers,  
But error, wounded, writhes in pain,  
And dies amidst her worshippers."

Fresh from a cell in the American Bastille, to which she was consigned by the cowardly servitude of the age, a woman appears upon this rostrum—talking a change of venue from the jurisdiction of the United States courts and the public press to the public itself. One of the most sacred rights of the American citizen is to be heard in a court, where justice can be received, and before a jury of peers. This woman having affirmed that she believes she is held by a court, in which there are good reasons for thinking justice is not intended, and that she could be tried there: by no jury of peers, now comes before the court of the people—a court higher than all others, and which creates all others, and presents the case for the defense, knowing that justice reigns where intrigue cannot enter nor money corrupt.

It is scarcely necessary that your attention should be called to the degradation of courts. There is before the world the mournful fact of the impeachment and conviction of judges of the highest tribunals. The light shed by their trials is sufficient to cause any one, to at least doubt, what may be the issue of any given case, brought before any given court, unless it be well fortified with greenbacks, gold or bonds. Indeed, in the present case, which has not yet even reached an examination, the defendants have been made to feel the power of money so sensibly that this question forces itself: If so much can be done before the hearing is reached, what may not be accomplished before the trial is ended? It has been stated in the public prints that one gentleman publicly announced that he would spend a hundred thousand dollars to secure conviction in one part of the case; while the New York *Tribune* said that a representative of another part of it declared that "she should be pursued to the death." Undoubtedly he should have added, even if it required the million dollars upon which the threat was based. Do you wonder then that a change of venue from courts, whose judges may be

a proposition at once so ridiculous and preposterous as this is, should have subjected its advocates to the suspicion of being Bonaparte Politicians?—that is, in the esteem of those who hold the political power and do not want to divide it with women?

From this point they rapidly degenerated in the opinion of immaculate editors, into "humbugs," "frauds," "prebenders," "female bores," "public nuisances," and finally into "prostitutes," "harlots," and "blackmailers," and still more recently into "publishers and venders of obscene literature; defiling the United States mail with the same," and into attacking "revered citizens of spotless reputations"—a calendar of crime sufficient to put the community in mortal fear of the subjects, and to make it believe them "ghouls," "vampires," or "devils." Originating in the press of New York these things have been authoritatively copied into almost every journal in the world. It is to be wondered at, then, that there has been a terrible public opinion manufactured against them; especially when it is remembered that this war of the press was, in a measure, justified by unfortunate family feuds, which, in turn, were fostered, if not actually incited, by a certain set of lawyers, who, lying in wait, are ever ready to prey upon the misfortunes of the people.

Now, by all of these, the defendants have been brought into public dishonor and disrepute, while not a single fact of crime to justify a single one of the various charges has ever been advanced by any journal. Imagine, for a moment, how easy a thing it is to ruin the usefulness of any person by this system of insinuation and innuendo. It is not enough that a person be charged with murder; he must be charged with the murder of a particular person, else there is no opportunity for defense. It is not enough that the press charge the defendants as prostitutes and blackmailers. It ought to have charged them with specific cases of prostitution and with blackmailing certain persons, then the charges could have been disproved; indeed, if cases would be brought before a court, this would be the course they would take. It would have to be proven that a certain act of prostitution had been committed, or a certain person blackmailed. Are editors and publishers of this city, and of the country also, prepared to go before the courts to maintain these charges; to be put upon this proof? and if not, can their course be justified? Hitherto all those general charges, against which there is no statute law, have been disregarded; but now that a crime, by law made punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary, is charged, it can be no longer overlooked. If the defendants are

Undoubtedly he should have added, even if it required the million dollars upon which the threat was based. Do you wonder then that a change of venue from courts, whose judges may be as corruptible as others have been shown to be, and from persecutors with pockets filled with money and large bank accounts at their backs with which to purchase decisions, to the people, the honest, moral, the great laboring masses, is sought? or is it cowardly to fear the first, or mistaken confidence to desire the jurisdiction of the last?

The fountains in human character from which the persecution in these cases springs are Moral Cowardice and Modern Hypocrisy—fountains in which almost all human action now finds its source and whose waters carry blight and mildew wherever their influence is felt.

It was two years the 14th day of last April that the defendants began the publication of a journal entitled WOODHULL & CLARK'S WEEKLY, for the avowed purpose of discussing the social question and of calling public attention to the evils of the present system, and of proposing a new one, not only to remedy the evils of the present, but to ultimately wholly supplant it. The subject was carefully approached, and every step coolly, but laboriously argued. No incendiary or revolutionary proceedings were advocated; but the prejudices as well as the authorities of the present were cautiously respected. For a considerable length of time our ultimate purpose was not suspected, or if it were, it received no special reproval from the public press. On the contrary the editors of the WEEKLY received the most generous, courteous and commendatory treatment at its hands, especially in the cities of New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Its columns were always open for their communications, of which not infrequently advantage was taken.

But suddenly there came a change. It was shown by defendant in Congress that women, equally with men, were citizens, and like them entitled to be electors; and, in the words of the much lamented Horace Greeley (who, by the way, was the most bitter opponent of woman suffrage, but an equally earnest advocate of impartial suffrage): "Nobody has a right to claim to be a citizen who does not vote." The admission of this claim would involve a complete revolution of the politics of the Government, introducing into the governing function an element equal in quantity to that which now monopolizes it. It was at first received with a guffaw of incredulity; but the serious aspect which it soon assumed replaced incredulity by astonishment at the sweeping changes it foreboded; and this again by a decided hostility, manifested not only against suffrage, but against every thing that happened to emanate from a similar source.

Previous to this time the defendants had been written up in the daily press as "The Fascinating Financiers," "The Lady Brokers," "The Future Princesses of Erie," "Commodore Vanderbilt's Protégés," "The Queens of the Quill," and other equally flattering and rose-colored and sensational terms. At the time these filled the press it was thought they were too sweet to last long. The milk of human kindness hath not yet an unfailing spring in the heart of man. But as its flow had been almost an *outpouring* of its fountains, so did the gall of bitterness replace it in equal volume. First it was discovered that they were "Political Harlequins," with a soft place somewhere in the head that permitted them to imagine women had sense enough to and could vote like men. Is it to be wondered at, that

statute law, have been disregarded; but now what a variety of law made punishable by imprisonment. If the defendants are charged, it can be no longer overlooked. If the defendants are guilty of this crime, they ought to be held accountable to the behests of the law; but if it exist only in the minds of editors, who have combined to write them down, then they who make the charge are as infamous as the defendants would be, were they guilty of the crime. And here, and now, it is announced that this charge is as false as it is infamous, and the various editors of newspapers who have made it are notified that, unless complete and satisfactory retractions are made within a reasonable time, legal proceedings will be instituted.

It may be alleged that the defendants, as advocates of social freedom and the abolition of compulsory marriage, are open to the charges of all social irregularities that can be suggested by a sexually debauched mind. The defendants deny the proposition, and contend that their advocacy of "free-love" has nothing whatever to do, either with their sexuality or their spirituality. If sexuality were to be the standard by which to determine whether or no a person is a Free-lover, it may safely be put down that three-fourths of all the male population of cities are "Free-lovers." No! that proposition will not do. It proves too much—a great deal too much. Indeed, the defendants know that few of those who have daubed them all over with the slime of debauchery, could, if judged by that standard, escape the appellation. On the other hand, the defendants know that some of the most strenuous and earnest advocates of social freedom are, even in the common acceptance of the term, the most virtuous of people. Hence, it no more follows, because a person is an advocate of social freedom, than it follows because a person that he is also a sexual brute, than it follows because a person is a sexual brute that he is also an advocate of social freedom. This system of reasoning is equally as fallacious as was that which, in the days of Van Buren and Webster, claimed, because all horse-thieves were Democrats, that, consequently, all Democrats were horse-thieves. And yet the ubiquitous, the self-important, the self-select male portion of thought upon every new and round in the self-same circle of thought upon every new issue that comes up for discussion. Will they never, from experience, learn wisdom! Never, until woman is made politically and socially equal to man! Wisdom is the offspring of a unity of action between the head and heart. These are respectively represented by man and woman, who must labor in practical unity before it ever be determined what wisdom is.

Nevertheless, the defendants do not wish to be understood as claiming any specific standard of so-called virtue. What they do claim for themselves is freedom, and they frankly accord it to others, holding it is simply nobody's business what anybody eats, drinks, or wears, and just as little who anybody loves, or how he loves, if the two parties to it are satisfied. In other words, self-ownership is inalienable, and it can neither be sold, bartered, or given away. If, however, they made hypocritical pretensions to a certain standard of sexual morality, while secretly practicing according to quite another standard, then it would become the business of others, whom they should thus attempt to deceive by their false pretences of virtue. Still they admit, if their lives were upon a no more highly developed sexual plan than are the lives of those who amuse themselves

**CANCER.**—In another column will be found the card of Dr. J. M. Comins, to which we call the attention of those afflicted with that terrible disease—cancer. It is not a usual thing for us to mention prescribing phys- ics; but in this case we know without of we speak, and we speak in the interest of the afflicted, rather than on that of Dr. Comins. He has specimens of cancer cases which have been cured by his treatment, which place him at the head of his profession. But the po- sition he occupies in this disease is held by him in all others, especially in those of a chronic character.

The New York Liberal. Cures meets every Friday evening at 8 o'clock, for the discussion of scientific and other interesting subjects. Good speaking and entertaining discussions may always be expected.

A BOOK for the times. "The Clergy a Source of Danger to the American Republic." Sold by subscrip- tion only. Agents wanted. Address W. F. JACKSON, 10 North Jefferson street, Chicago, Ill.

**S A F E S.**

**Marvin & Co.'s are the Best.**

265 BROADWAY.

**CHICKERING & SONS'**

**Piano-Fortes.**

**THE BEST PIANOS AT THE LOWEST PRICES** and upon the most favorable terms of payment.

We invite the attention of persons intending to purchase Pianos to our New Illustrated Catalogue, giving full description of Styles and Prices, and the terms on which we sell to those desiring to make

**EASY MONTHLY PAYMENTS.**

**CHICKERING & SONS,**

No. 11 East Fourteenth St., New York.

**WM. DIBBLE,**

**LADIES' HAIR DRESSER,**

864 BROADWAY.

Has removed from his Store to the  
**FIRST FLOOR.**

where he will continue to conduct his business in all the branches TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT CHINA-PAPER than elsewhere, in consequence of the advantages in his year.

FOR USE IN FAMILIES,

THE FAMOUS

**HALFORD LEICESTERSHIRE**

**Table Sauce,**

**GREEN BROS. RELIABLE**

Put up in any part of the world for Family Use.

Can be bought of any First-Class Grocer

**APOLLO HALL.**

**SUNDAY LECTURES,**

**BY THOMAS GALES FORSTER,**  
FRANCE SPEAKER.

**EVERY SUNDAY MORNING & EVENING.**

At half-past 10 A. M. and half-past 7 P. M. during the year, commencing February 4, 1872, at Apollo Hall, corner Broadway and Twenty-eighth St., New York.

**JOHN KEYSER, Treasurer.**

**D. W. HULL,**

**PSYCHOLOGICAL AND CHIROPOYAN PHYSICIAN,**

will diagnose disease and give prescriptions from a book of hair or photograph, the patient being required to give name or age, residence, &c. A better diagnosis will be given by sending in the leading symptoms, but sketches are not, or direct to Hobart, Ind., and will fill for his address, or forwarded to him. Terms, \$3. Money refunded when he fails to get on report with the patient.

**HOME**

**INSURANCE COMPANY,**

No. 135 BROADWAY.

Branch Office 586 Sixth Avenue.

Capital, - \$2,500,000

Assets over 4,000,000

This Company having provided for all its Chicago losses, without borrowing a dollar or distributing a single Bond and Mortgage, invites the attention of the public to the following certificate of Hon. George W. Miller, Superintendent of the Insurance Depart- ment of the State of New York, that the Capital has been restored to the full amount of Two and One-half Millions of Dollars.

**CHARLES J. MARTIN, Pres.**  
**J. H. WALKER, Sec.**

**FRANCIS DEZARTELLI, AGENT, N. Y.,**  
Dec., 27, 1871.

Having, on the 10th day of November, 1871, made a requisition, directing the officers of the Home Insur- ance Company, of New York, to require the Stock- holders of said Company to pay up the sum of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars deficiency then existing in the Capital of said Company, and upon the examination made, it appearing that the said amount of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars has been duly subscribed and fully paid in, in cash, I hereby certify that the capital of said Compa- ny has been fully restored to its original amount of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal on the day and year above written.

**GEORGE W. MILLER,**  
Superintendent.

**LIBERAL BOOK STORE,**

**WARREN, CHASE & CO.,**

614 N. FIFTH STREET,  
ST. LOUIS, MO.,

**LIBERAL AND SPIRITUAL BOOKS AND PAPERS**  
PARLOR GAMES, VOLTAIC SOLES,

PHRENOLOGICAL BOOKS, ETC.

Comprising a complete assortment of all Books Published and advertised by Wm. White & Co., J. P. Menting, S. S. Jones, and other Liberal Publishers, with all Liberal Papers, &c.

**Dr. H. Spence's Nutritive Compound.**  
**Dr. Spence's Positive and Negative Powders.**

**The Great Discovery!**  
**CATHARTIC MEDICINE MADE PLEASANT**  
**TO THE TASTE AND DELICIOUS**  
**IN EFFECT.**

**DR. ORVIS'**  
**Cathartic Compound**

Is pleasant to the taste, and will be readily taken by children or adults. It is free from poisonous drugs, is purely vegetable, and, unlike other Cathartic Medi- cines, does not need to be increased from con- tinued use. And it positively cures constipation. The directions accompanying each package. Read the following recommendations:

"Dr. ORVIS: Dear Sir—Please send me, C. O. D., one box such as I had before, and which pleased me so, it has acted as a charm with my wife."  
"Yours, H. BIA CREVELL."  
(This was one of the worst cases of constipation I have ever known.—A. O.)

"BROOKLYN, L. I., Nov. 8, 1871.  
"Dear Sir: Since your Cathartic Medicine was made known to me, I have used it, and it only, in my family, to obviate the evil. It is intended to remedy, I as- sure you I prefer it to all other cathartics. Its opera- tion is gentle and wholesome, not irritating the sys- tem, or leaving a tendency to increased difficulty. It cures the complexion, relieves oppression, and invig- orates the whole physical economy."  
"Respectfully, Mrs. H. C. MAITLAND."

It is extensively used by Dr. Foster, of Clifton Springs, and many other eminent Physicians.

**SPECIAL AGENTS:**  
Hudson, *Zerkel* Building, Broadway, New York; Dr. G. Farwell, cor. Ann and Broadway, do.; Macy, cor. 6th avenue and 14th Street, do.; Holt, S. McCurdy, 434 Broadway, Albany; J. K. Post & Co., Lane & Paine, and Abmy, Osborn House, Rochester, N. Y.; S. W. Senneff, Columbia, O.; Dixon & DeWald, Dayton, O.; Briggs, Clifton Springs, N. Y.

**FOR SALE BY DRUGGISTS GENERALLY.**  
Price 25 cts. per Package.

Address all Orders.

**CANCER.**

**J. M. COMINS, M. D.,**

**FIRST FLOOR.**  
 These he will continue to conduct his business in all the branches TWENTY-FOUR FINE CANTON CHINA, &c. in the same manner, in consequence of the difference in the value.

**CHARLENE BRALDS.**  
**LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S WIGS.**  
 Everything pertaining to the business will be kept in hand and made to order.

**DIBBA VANTA** for stimulating **JAPONICA** for soothing and the **MAGIC TAR SALVE** for promoting the growth of the hair, constantly on hand. Consultation on diseases of the Scalp, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 9 A. M. till 3 P. M. Also, his celebrated

**HARABA ZEIN,**

of **FLASH BEAUTIFIER**, the only pure and harmless preparation ever made for the complexion. No lady should ever be without it. Can be obtained only at

**Wm. DIBBLE'S,**

64 Broadway, Up-stairs.

**LEO MILLER,**

of New York, will present to the public

**THE WOMEN QUESTION IN A NEW LIGHT.**

**SUBJECT:**

**"WOMAN AND HER RELATIONS TO TEMPERANCE AND OTHER REFORMS."**

Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, in letter to Gen. Jordan, of Pennsylvania, says: "I had the pleasure of conversing with Leo Miller, Esq., in New Jersey, and I most cordially recommend him to our friends in your State as a gentleman of rare talent and character, and a most effective and eloquent speaker."

**CHARLES H. FOSTER,**

Test Medium,

16 East Twelfth Street, N. Y.

**DR. C. S. WEEKS,**

Dentist,

No. 412 FOURTH AVE.,

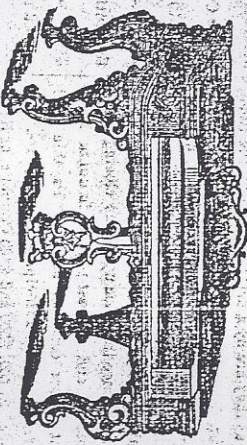
Between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-ninth Streets, NEW YORK.

**WEEZY EXTRA QUA WYZZOQT PALM,** by the use of Chemically pure Nitron Oxide or Lanthan Oxide. Dr. W. has used it several years, extracting teeth for thousands with complete success, and without the slightest pain in any instance. All operations pertaining to Dentistry performed in the most careful and successful manner at reasonable prices.

Will be given by giving him the leading symptoms, but sketches are not required to be sent. When the papers for this address, or direct to H. B. Hart, Ind., and will fill the letters can be forwarded to him.  
 Terms, \$3. Money refunded when he fails to get an report with the patient.

**THE LAW OF MARRIAGE, AN EXHAUSTIVE ARGUMENT AGAINST MARRIAGE LEGISLATION.**  
 By C. L. JAMES,

Author of "Manual of Transcendental Philosophy." For sale by the author, post paid, for 25c.  
 ALMA, WIS. Address,



**KNABE & CO.'S PIANOS.**

(Established 1833, KATZHOFF, MD.)  
 18,000 of these celebrated instruments are now in use in this country and Europe. They have been awarded 85 Gold and Silver Medals. Every instrument fully warranted for five years.

**J. BAUER & CO.,**

630 Broadway, N. Y., and 69 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.  
 GENERAL AGENTS.  
 Pianos for rent; sold on installment; and old ones taken in exchange. Illustrated Catalogue sent on application.

**Only Direct Line to France.**

**THE GENERAL TRANSCATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAMSHIPS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREAST.**  
 The splendid vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier 80 North River as follows:

**VILLE DE PARIS.** BREAST... Saturday, Oct. 19  
**WASHINGTON.** BREAST... Saturday, Nov. 2  
**ST. LAURENT.** BREAST... Saturday, Nov. 16  
**PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD** (including wine)  
 TO BREAST OR HAVRE:  
 First Cabin.....\$125 | Second Cabin.....\$75

These steamers do not carry steerage passengers. American travelers going to or returning from the Continent of Europe, by taking the steamer of this line, avoid both transit by English railway and the discomforts of crossing the Channel, besides saving time, trouble and expense.  
**GEORGE MACKENZIE, Agent,**  
 No. 63 Broadway.

**FREDERICK KURTZ'S**

**DINING ROOMS,**

**23 New St. and 60 Broadway**

**76 Malden Lane & 1 Liberty St.**

Mr. Kurtz invites to his warm and comfortably furnished dining apartments the downtown public, assuring them that they will always find there the choicest viands, served in the most elegant style, the most carefully-selected brands of wines and liquors, as well as the most prompt attention by accomplished waiters.

**CANCER.**

**J. M. COMINS, M. D.,**

**PROF. OF OBSTETRICS & DISEASES OF FEMALES.**  
 Gives special attention to the treatment of CANCER of all varieties, and is particularly curing large numbers of them.  
 Call or address at

142 E. TWENTY-SIXTH STREET, N. Y.  
 From 8 to 9 1/2 P. M.; 4 to 6 P. M.

**The Road to Power.**

**SEXUAL SCIENCE. PHYSICAL AND MENTAL REGENERATION.**

A pamphlet of 60 pages by F. B. DOWD. Prescribed to wives and mothers, and ought to be in every woman's possession. Price 5c. Address F. B. DOWD, 100 W. 4th St., New York, N. Y.

**DR. AMNI BROWN,**  
 DENTIST,

25 WEST TWENTY-SEVENTH STREET.

**DR. H. SLADE,**

(CLAIRVOYANT),

**J. SIMMONS,**

210 WEST FORTY-THIRD STREET, N. Y.  
 OFFICE HOURS FROM 9 A. M. TILL 9 P. M.  
 NOW OPEN SATURDAY.

**MIDLAND FIRST MORTGAGE**

7 Per Cent Gold Bonds.

Issued by the Montclair Railway Co.

Guaranteed by New York Midland.

The MONTCLAIR is the Director and Short Line of the Midland through New Jersey. Its bonds are issued on the basis of half cost. They are GUARANTEED. It is a home road, running DIRECT FROM THE CITY OF NEW YORK, owned of a large business and a fine future. THIS BOND OFFERS AN ADVANTAGE OVER ALL OTHER MIDLAND FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS. IN THAT, WITH EQUAL SECURITY, IT IS LESS IN LOSS. We commend it to investors. For sale by

**Allen, Stephens & Co.,**  
 BANKERS,  
 No. 27 PINE STREET.

and disgust the public by daubing the defendants with their own slime, that they would be ashamed to stand before the people and claim to be social reformers, and would justly deserve to be exposed; and if they felt they were aggrieved by the exposure, they would be justified in seeking redress and compelling proof by legal proceedings for libel.

But if, instead of proceeding for libel, they should procure the institution of a prosecution for sending alleged obscene literature through the mails, the alleged obscenity being the language used exposing their hypocritical pretensions, and they should have sufficient influence to subsidize the Court in which the action should be brought, and thus resolve the court into a "Whitewashing Committee," to protect their reputation as "revered citizens being well worth the while of the Government" to "indicate; and, to continue the farce, should secure an indictment grown, like a mushroom, in a single night, with which to smother an investigation, and should succeed in so smothering it, and, as a consequence, should thus secure the commitment to jail of the expositors, where, by money, intrigue and threats used upon those who should propose to furnish bail, they should succeed in holding the alleged offenders, already adjudged guilty by the court that had denied them an investigation, "until they should rot;"—if all these things should be attempted and should succeed, would not the persons made the objects of them be entitled to a change of venue to a court under whose jurisdiction such practices could not obtain? Would not you grant the change if it were within your jurisdiction? And more, would you not, having granted it, stand by and see that nothing but justice was done in the case?

Or, again, if they assumed the saintly air of the puritanical sort of virtue to the respectable society into which they had *entree*, and, at the same time, were constantly procuring the seduction of young girls, and thus starting them on the road to hell, they would deserve to be exposed; but, if so exposed, and they had a hundred thousand dollars, and were "*ladies*," because, "living from the interest of their money," they would undoubtedly spend it all to crush their expositors and screen themselves. And nobody would blame them. Self-protection is the first law of nature.

But, if legal prosecution should descend into persecution, aided and abetted by the courts, under the influence of money or other influence, then would the persecuted be justified in asking for a change of venue to another court that could not be corrupted.

Perhaps, however, this is anticipating; but let it be remembered that all these things are possibilities under present systems; the only other things necessary to make them into facts, are opportunity and an object. Perhaps both may be shown to exist in this instance.

The defendants had not only become objects of political hate, by their advocacy of political equality for all persons, but also were feared by those who have managed to secure the possession of all the wealth of the world, on account of their boldness as well

their souls as they will, scout at it, denounce it, call it a lie, as they do—to this complexion at last will every woman be forced to come.

But what of the meantime? The defendants answer that they demand equality of right and of responsibility for both sexes, and claim that, so long as the loss of virginity is held to be a disgrace to unmarried women, it should also equally disgrace unmarried men; if the mothers of children born out of wedlock are ostracised, so should their fathers share the same fate; if a life of prostitution is wrong for the woman, so must it also be for the man; if women are inspected and recorded under contagious-disease acts, so should men who associate with them be also inspected and recorded.

On looking upon it from the standpoint of man, if the man *débauchee* be permitted the *entree* of respectable society, so should the woman with whom he associates; and if he be permitted to move in such circles, and to marry his daughters, so must she also be permitted to do the same and marry his sons; and having married, be equally as respectable as the men who have married the daughters; and they claim that public theatres, hotels and reading-rooms, where men are admitted unquestioned and without a certificate of character from their ministers, should also be open to women upon the same terms. Now, is there anything so unjust, so terribly revolting in these claims as to warrant the wide-spread denunciation that has been poured upon the defendants through the medium of the press? But yet, search their writings and their speeches through and through, and nothing beyond these demands for women can be found. Nevertheless the constant cry of the press has been, "They are advocates of prostitution and promiscuous sexual intercourse;" but they hurl the charges back in the teeth of the liars who vend them, and challenge the production of a single sentence ever written or spoken by them to substantiate their truth. It would be equally as inconsistent to charge the advocates of political freedom as being advocates of ballot-box stuffing as it is to charge the advocates of social freedom as advocates of promiscuousness; and they who make the latter charge know this. Therefore the press have built a solid wall of sham morality and bar-faced hypocrisy between the defendants and the masses of the people whom they seek to reach, smirching them with the slime of their own prurency and frightening the people by raising the cry of "thief," "mad dog," "small-pox," and so effectually that the defendants found it next to impossible to live in New York. No landlord would rent them a house except such as had been used for prostitution; they were denied admission to every boarding-house at which they applied; they were refused the hospitality of nearly every first and second-class hotel in the city; their office in Broad street was intruded away from them, and by mere accident they succeeded in obtaining another; their children turned out of every private school, and their own names became a by-word and reproach on the tongue of almost every individual not personally acquainted with them.

The defendants had not only become objects of popular derision by their advocacy of political equality for all persons, but also were feared by those who have managed to secure the possession of all the wealth of the world, on account of their bold, as well as incontrovertible theories of industrial equity, which demonstrate that cost, instead of supply and demand, should be the regulator of price, and that cost consists of two items—namely, consumption of time and material. These, reduced to a governing industrial rule, may be stated thus: Equal rights, equal opportunities, and equal compensation for all persons of both sexes.

In the persistent advocacy of this doctrine, as foreshadowed in the Academy of Music speech, entitled "The Impending Revolution," which drew an audience of 8,200 inside the house and 10,000 outside, the monopolists of wealth, which is the product of labor, saw danger ahead; and certain influential journals, taking the cue from the New York organ of the bondholders, immediately discovered that the defendants were dangerous people, given to stirring up feuds between labor and capital, and ought to be suppressed as public nuisances; in fact, that they were the "foolish virgins" of the present generation, whose "lamps were without oil;" but it is to be observed, that, whether or not their lamps lack oil, they nevertheless continue to burn, and to illumine the minds of those who labor all their lives long, building pyramids of gold for the Astors, the Stewarts and the Vanderbilts. Thus another portion of the community—the "upper ten"—was arrayed against the defendants by their efforts to alleviate the condition of the "Lower million." But this did not complete the measure of their alleged iniquities. They even dared to lay their polluted hands—so said the press—upon the sacred institution of marriage, for the purpose of tearing away the foundation of society, so that it should fall in pieces; just as though it were not better to take the institution down by piecemeal, warning the inmates of its approaching destruction, rather than to continue to "patch it"; calling it sound, until its foundations should become so rotten as to tumble it in a grand crash, involving the whole people in ruins. Can there be any doubt in any reasonable mind as to which is the wiser method? The defendants answer No! But what further "horrible and revolting social theories" have the defendants advocated that have brought upon them the vengeance of still another class in the community? They have claimed that woman should be emancipated from sexual slavery—that is, that the social system should be so amended that no woman would ever even be tempted, much less compelled, to barter her sex either for a permanent home or for temporary support. It is futile to attempt to escape the fact that stars every woman squarely in the face; that, if it were not for her sex, she would be obliged to obtain her livelihood outside the duties of the wife, the pleasures of the mistress, or the horrors of the prostitute. Seeks to evade it as they may, attempt to hide it from

and their children turned out of every private school, and their own names became a by-word and reproach on the tongue of almost every individual not personally acquainted with them.

Matters being in this condition the question which Hamlet discussed in his famous soliloquy pressed itself upon them and would not down. It had to be answered. Were they to quietly submit to this unbearable ostracism and give over the work in behalf of the future of humanity which they had set about to perform?—a work in which they were engaged, not as the press have asserted for mere notoriety's sake, but because they believed it to be a part of their mission on earth, which, though it brought sorrow, trial, affliction, poverty and disgrace, they did not feel at liberty to avoid. And yet, unless they could burst the barrier of mock modesty, sham morality, of damning hypocrisy, which shut them out from the public, it were useless to wear out their lives in worthless strife. No ordinary means would accomplish this. The most terrific resources at their command, which it seems had been almost providentially committed to their care for this emergency, would necessarily be brought into requisition. It was a terrible exigency with which to contend. But they did not hesitate. They launched the ponderous bomb-shell, and its explosion startled the whole world from its lethargy and caused it to stand terrified or appalled, scarcely believing the fact before it that the terrific deed had been done.

\* And there was hastening to and fro  
And gathering fear and signals of distress,  
And cheeks all pale when, but an hour before,  
Had blushed at praise of their own loveliness.

a nervous, spasmodic coming together and consultation as to what should be done. Never was the question "What shall we do to be saved" asked more anxiously, or replies to it grasped more, as if life itself hung in the balance. And the following brilliant programme was decided upon:

It is generally known that in certain circles of society there are persons who are called "stool pigeons." Well, there was one of these specimens required to take the initiatory step in this programme. As might be supposed, that exemplary body of individuals known as the Young Men's Christian Association had one on hand and in working order—as sanctimonious a looking individual as can be found in the City of New York—one who, if such a thing be possible, would deceive the "very elect" by his saint-like face. In short, he carries conviction in his very look. It is said that when he appears in the Broadway concert saloons, where he goes, ostensibly to find the vendors of obscene pictures, but, perhaps really, to drink beer from pretty waiters, there is always an evident and general desire to instantly unite in prayer; and it has been seriously considered, whether the better way to abate those nuisances, is not to secure the attendance of more of these living examples of purity, in the hope that the influence which they exert may become con-

Dec. 28, 1872.

WOODHULL & CLAFFLIN'S WEEKLY.

tations, spreading in the souls of the inmates of these places, and rescuing them from the downward paths to ruin. Oh, Christian Comstock! cease not thy labors! let no fear of scandal permit you from persistently following up this great work of redemption thou hast so well begun, and great will be your reward!

Having been appointed generalissimo to conduct the campaign, this individual of fertile resources soon began operations. He dispatched a courier, some would say a spy, into the camp of "The Woodhull" to secure some of the "villainous" stuff that was being discharged from the camp in constant streams, carrying consternation and dismay in all directions. Having secured some of the stuff, and, to avoid suspicion, having it prepared for the mail, with strict injunctions that it should be dispatched *instantly*, he then, unsuspected, made good his escape. When this package arrived at the Post-office, the General's emissaries being there, pounced upon and secured it, and carried it off in triumph. The official report of this encounter says there were no lives lost, and but little blood uselessly spilled. With this damning evidence that Uncle Sam's mails had been outrageously polluted, the General at once reported progress, and repaired to the quarters of Commissioner Osborn, of the United States District Court, where, by the aid of Assistant District Attorney Gen. Davies, the plan for the capture of the offenders was consummated; and from this point the strategic operations of Comstock were succeeded by those of General Davies.

The defendants soon discovered that there had been a spy in the camp, and immediately began preparations to receive the enemy; but he did not appear until Saturday, November 2, 1872, when he found his prey absent. They, hearing of the call made, and fearing the ability of the enemy to ascertain their whereabouts, considerably hunted him up, and, finding him, invited him to a seat in their carriage, requesting to be shown the way to the great Hall of State where Justice sits enthroned. The invitation to a seat, however, was slightly misunderstood, since, instead of accepting a seat on the carriage, he inconspicuously plumped himself squarely on their laps—a feat of politeness which belongs to a class so highly refined and, withal, exceptional, that it has never been the pleasure of the defendants to reach. But this unexpected circumstance did not prevent an

counsel, that it seemed to them a rather remarkable proceeding to attempt to load the case with a proposition to vindicate the reputation of a revered citizen whose name is implicated by the alleged obscene language. These were two separate and entirely unrelated cases, over at least one of which the Court has no possible jurisdiction. Why, then, should it be brought into the case in which the Court has jurisdiction, for the purpose of making it appear necessary to exact a large amount of bail? It was an extraordinary, it might safely be said an unprecedented, proceeding, for a United States court to volunteer to defend the reputation of a gentleman who does not even appear in the court to ask it. The Government has neither authority nor right to thus interfere with the affairs of one of its citizens. If he desire to take action on an alleged libel, he must proceed in the courts of the State. The bail in this case should be determined by the character of the case over which the Court has jurisdiction. It cannot pretend to hold the defendants in bail for the alleged libel. The Court is, therefore, requested to separate in its mind these two cases, and fix the bail at a reasonable sum for the case into which it is to proceed to an examination on Monday.

Whether or no the Court saw the absurdity of the position into which the zealous representative had placed the prosecution, bail was fixed in the sum of eight thousand dollars, with two sureties in each case to justify in double that amount: that is, the Court demanded persons representing sixty-four thousand dollars, and they were required to be freeholders of the city of New York. In default of bail the defendants were committed to Ludlow street Jail, and on Monday, at the appointed hour, appeared and demanded an examination. And now occurred another remarkable part of this case. The investigation to see if there were probable cause to hold them for trial was denied. Frightened at the appearance the case had assumed when it was found that the "revered citizen" could not be made a part of it, and without that upon which to spread his oratorical wings for a heavenward flight, knowing it was lost, he, General Davies, in the short space of time between Saturday at half-past two o'clock and Monday at noon, had inconspicuously rushed before the grand jury to procure an indictment; and it must be supposed, since its deliberations are secret, pleaded something after the following fashion: Frantically flourishing a Woodhull & Clafflin Weekly of November 2, he said: I have got a couple