

THE SLAVERY OF WOMEN.

A SEDUCTION case was settled in the Hartford Police Court, Wednesday, by the marriage of a girl of sixteen to a man of forty-five, who had formerly been thrice married. The girl's false step is fearfully punished while the chief criminal escapes.

Mrs. CATHERINE HEALY, of No. 240 Navy street Brooklyn, this morning caused the arrest of John H. Kingsley, on a charge of assault. It seems that the lady was passing through Fulton street, when the prisoner, as charged, seized her by the arm, at the same time stating that he was an officer, and threatened to arrest her. Officer Kirby, of the Forty-first Precinct, hearing Mrs. H.'s cries, ran up and arrested Kingsley.

A YOUNG man about twenty-one years of age, named Philip Dunn, was arraigned before Recorder Pope, of Hoboken, this forenoon, on a charge of attempting to murder the wife of Thomas Flanagan, residing in Newark street, near Grove, who he has an idea he loved. It appears that the prisoner, who was under the influence of liquor, went into Flanagan's house, and proposed to Mrs. Flanagan to desert her husband and elope with him. The proposition was rejected, and, finding that persuasion or threats were of no avail, Dunn became enraged, and drawing a knife from his pocket, made a desperate attempt to plunge it into Mrs. F.'s heart. Fortunately, the point of the blade struck against a piece of whalebone in the corset, which saved her life, but the force of the blow caused the weapon to bend nearly double. Mrs. Flanagan succeeded in making her escape from the would-be murderer, and caused his arrest. Recorder Pope committed the prisoner to jail, to await trial.

THE *Macon Journal*, August 12, says: "We learn from a gentleman who is engaged in laying out the railroad track on the new Brunswick road, that on Thursday last two respectable young girls residing near station 14, upon the Central road, were on their way home from school, when they were overtaken by two stout negroes, who immediately seized them, and despite their screams for aid, committed a diabolical outrage. Having effected this brutal deed of violence, one of the negroes, who had but one arm, shook the mutilated stump of the other in the face of the eldest of the two girls, and exclaimed: 'I want my revenge, and I'm bound to have it. When I belonged to your father, I ran away; he followed me to the woods and shot me, and I had to lose this arm; do you see it? Now I'm bound to get even with him; and drawing his pocket-knife he severed her arm entirely from her body, between the wrist and elbow joint. The two scoundrels then broke away and ran for the woods. Very fortunately the girls had presence of mind enough to tie the mutilated arm tightly above the elbow, until medical aid could be procured, and it is barely possible that the young sufferer's life may be spared."

A MOTHER IN TROUBLE.—An aged woman named Reilly appeared before Recorder Aldridge yesterday and procured a warrant for the arrest of one William O'Neil for an alleged indecent assault upon her daughter Josephine. The prisoner was committed without bail to await trial.

WASHINGTON, August 21.—The *Alexandria Gazette*, of yesterday, contains an account of the lynching of two colored men, calling themselves Charles Brown and Jacob Merriman, who recently committed an outrage upon a young lady on the line of the Orange, Alexandria and Manassas railroad. It seems that after a preliminary examination of the outrage, the parties were committed to jail for indictment and trial by the Circuit Court of the county; but after the examination was concluded the injured lady confessed to her friends that the crowd present had so confused and embarrassed her that she hardly knew what she had said, and that she was ashamed to tell fully what had happened to her. To her intimate friends, however, she said that the arrested men were those who had attacked her, and gave full details of the outrage, which excited so much exasperation that threats of lynching were freely made, and at 2 o'clock on the morning of Thursday a party of disguised men surrounded the jail at Front Royal, where the negroes were confined; one of them knocked at the door, which was opened. A pistol was presented at the head of the jailor, and a demand made for the keys of the cell in which the prisoners were confined. The demand could not, under the circumstances, be resisted, and the key was delivered. The jailor was then locked up in his own room, and knows nothing more of what transpired, nor can any more facts be elicited, except that the cell in which the prisoners were locked up was empty this morning, and that the mail boy from Luray passed about daylight this morning, on the road to Front Royal, a number of strange-looking men.

RECENTLY a number of young men at Middlebury, Ind., decyded a poor girl into the old tannery at that place, where they kept her for more than a week, feeding her on crackers and such other articles of food as they could conveniently carry to her. They enjoyed their depraved passions to their hearts' content, until the novelty became stale, when they concluded to let her leave the town. She started off alone and penniless, and when in the vicinity of the graveyard, was overhauled by a company of vagabonds, and taken to the creek and ducked until nearly drowned, and this in the presence of quite a number, who refused the least intercession for the poor unfortunate.

J. H. KELLY was charged with outraging a child eleven years of age, at a picnic near Germantown. The Alderman heard the evidence of the child privately, so that the crowd could not listen to the revolting details. Every one was horrified at the revelations, and Mayor Fox, who was present, ordered the prisoner to be locked up forthwith.

Who can contemplate such facts as these, multiplying in all our daily journals, without feeling that some new safeguards must be thrown round womanhood that shall make her sacred in the heart of man?

The enfranchisement of woman will do far more than stringent laws to secure this end. The creeds, and codes, and customs that teach man that God made woman for him—his rightful subject—is the underlying principle of which these hideous facts are but the out-growth. They who maintain the dignity, independence and equality of the mothers of the race, and teach their husbands, brothers, sons, the same reverence for all womanhood that the pious Catholic feels for the Holy Virgin, proclaim the true gospel of reform. Here is the point of our hostility to the Fifteenth Amendment; in exalting all men above all women, it perpetuates and intensifies the old idea of woman's divinely ordained subject condition, and crystallizes it in the law and constitution of the land, which inverts the most holy relation in nature, making man master where woman should be supreme.

CONCERNING DELICATE WOMEN.

BY HELEN EKIN STARRETT.

ONE beneficial effect which I hope and expect to see as a result of the right education and ultimate enfranchisement of women is that it shall cease to be fashionable to be "delicate."

Ill health is doubtless a wide-spread curse of American women, and those who suffer from it are entitled to our most tender sympathy. The heavy burden of pain and suffering borne constantly, and often uncomplainingly, by women wrings the heart with sorrow when the fact is contemplated. Nevertheless it is true that many women, especially sentimental young women, rather enjoy the distinction of being physically frail and easily overcome by any little extra exertion. Indeed! they often feign an exhaustion and delicacy that they do not feel.

That miserable misanthrope, Lord Byron, wrote "there is a sweetness in woman's decay," and who can tell the amount of sentimental, sickly young ladyism that has resulted from it. A school of novelists, that, happily, is fast passing away, always represent the angelic young woman who is heroine of the tale, as slender, fragile, pale, fainting away upon the slightest provocation, exhausted by the smallest exertion. It seems to be the aim of many young women of the present day to imitate her.

There are a few considerations that might effect a reformation in the manners and complaints of some of these delicate ladies, could they but appreciate them. The advance in

physical and medical science enables us often to assign immediate causes for effects. The young lady who has "such a dreadful headache," and who attracts every one's attention to it by her sighs and complaints, may be simply informing on herself as having eaten to excess. The pain in her back which she so freely describes reveal secrets to the intelligent listener that she might prefer to keep to herself. That fatigue of which she complains, and which causes her to recline so gracefully upon the sofa, may either be constitutional laziness, or it may be a feminine stratagem for securing an expression of sympathy from some person of the other sex.

It should be borne in mind that disease and imperfection are essentially repulsive. A person who should continually exhibit to all around him an ugly wound, would soon be shunned. Friends might sympathize, yet a continual demand for sympathy would inevitably exhaust it. A person who is a cripple or deformed cannot but affect disagreeably every one except those whose natural affection is sufficient to overbalance such feelings. Yet many persons who would assent to the truth of these assertions will yet exhibit their weakness, disagreeable feelings, pains and aches to all with whom they come in contact, with an apparent unconsciousness that they can only excite disagreeable sensations in the persons upon whom they inflict the description of their infirmities.

A short time since I passed a couple of weeks with a family who exhibited a remarkable degree of obtuseness on this point. The family consisted of father, mother and three daughters—all "delicate." The assembling of the family, especially at the breakfast table, was the grand opportunity for all to display their distinguishing infirmities. The father would declare as he sipped his coffee that he hadn't slept half an hour during the night and that he felt "wretchedly." The mother would remark that she was unusually nervous and direct the attention of every one to the way in which her hand trembled when she poured the coffee. The eldest daughter would say her stomach was bad and that she had a bad taste in her mouth, while the others had each some special ail to exhibit and describe. Sometimes as a substitute, we had coughs, sighs, exclamations, grimaces, sudden clasping of the hand to side or head, intended to imply pain. Before I had been there a week I learned to dread to encounter any of the family alone, knowing that I would immediately be served to some complaint. I could but wish they could read what Ralph Waldo Emerson says: "If you sleep or if you do not, if you have the headache, or the sciatica, or if your digestion is impaired, by all means keep it to yourself, especially in the pleasant morning hours."

Contrasted with this fondness for and pride in complaining, how cheering and charming is the young girl, full of life and energy, with rosy cheek, pearly teeth and sparkling eye. It does not lay her upon the sofa for a day to take a morning's ramble. Her complexion tells of wholesome, nutritious food, and you know by the rosy redness of her lips that her breath is as sweet as new mown hay.

That invalid wives very often lose all influence with their husbands is a notorious, yet not a singular fact. Nothing will so soon outweary patience or cool the warmth of affection, as the complainings and disagreeable accompaniments of ill health. Girls, if you would be valued, cherished, beloved, attractive and useful wives, cherish GOOD HEALTH.