

The White Ribbon

FOR GOD AND HOME AND HUMANITY

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OUR MAORI CAMPAIGN.

WE wish to call special attention to Miss Powell's story of the Maori campaign. Will each President see that it is, if possible, read at the next meeting of her Union?

ADDRESS TO WOMEN, LELAND STANFORD, JR., UNIVERSITY.

(Abridged.)

By ERNEST E. HALL, M.D.,
Victoria, B.C.

[After showing pictures of disease.]

You have seen how nature deals with those who trifle with her laws, you have seen her penalties and executions, and now can comprehend to some slight extent the burden of woe, sorrow, and wounds with unnecessary causes that our twentieth century civilisation groans under. With the very partial view that I have given you of society, can you wonder at the Man of Galilee weeping over the city that rejected His efforts? Is not the chapter of suffering innocence sufficient to melt the most unsympathetic and to arouse within us a determination to take a firm stand upon this, which is, to you, one of the most important of all social considerations.

I speak to you as future educators and leaders. I look to you to become the pioneers in the inauguration of an era of enlightenment with regard to the matters which I have endeavoured to bring before you. Yourselves, your homes, and all that is dear to you must be protected, and without an intelligent conception of the ramifications of disease, rational

prevention is impossible. The women of America hold the key to the saving of America. So long as women tolerate a dual standard of sexual morality, so long as they view with complacency the woman who is down and out, and tolerate the man who placed her there, who patronizes and keeps her there, just so long will they continue to expose themselves to disease, suffering, and to a mortality rate to themselves and to their children impossible to estimate.

Your physical danger

lies in tolerating immorality in men, your safety lies in combining to reject as friends or suitor any man whom you know to be guilty of easy virtue. Men will measure up to the standard that you persistently demand. When you have combined in your demand for the same standard of morality in men that they expect from you, we will see a movement of reform unprecedented in this direction. With equal educational facilities, let it be said that Leland Stanford, Jr., University, stands for an equal standard of sexual morality.

My purpose is to inform you, to protect you, and to champion the cause of succeeding generations, to throw about you such a barrier of protective information that will be defensive against the infections that are awaiting an opportunity to transform your health, beauty, and prospects, into disease, decrepitude and death. It is right that you should know these facts. No woman should leave this university without knowing that immorality almost invariably means disease,

that disease means degeneration of tissue, loss of function, and frequently death, and that every man who has sown his wild oats is liable to carry within his body, and possibly even unknown to himself, the potential of invalidism and death. A man who has venereal disease has no right to marry other than his kind, a reformed prostitute. I do not care what pretensions of reform, I care not how thorough his conversion may be. Psychic emotion and penitential resolve are not recognised agencies for the destruction of bacteria. They have not been known to kill poisonous germs. I refuse to believe that when once a man has browsed in the by-paths of indulgence, he has any moral right to be tolerated in the association of marriageable possibilities. The risk to yourselves and to future generations is too great, you can't afford to take it. Set yourselves resolutely against irregularity in men and it will go far towards society's reconstruction. We are glad to see the return of the prodigal son; but purity should say, "stand aside in an atmosphere of sanitation, until you have worked out your physical salvation, or engage in a whaling enterprise in the Antarctic Ocean." After either of these prescriptions have been taken the enlightenment of womanhood will have advanced to the stage that will condemn him to the matrimonial bone-yard, there to ruminate upon youthful follies and broken laws.

The sexual nature with which man and woman have been endowed differs in kind and degree; that of the woman being higher and nobler in aim than in man. The normal