

smothered the frontiers between right and wrong.

"Woe unto you when all men speak 'well of you.'" During the last fifty years or so women have been praised and lauded (to my thinking far beyond their merits), and is this to be the awful fall? this utter failure to realise their duty to God and Country and Home. Is this to be the result of the generous praise so lavishly bestowed on us by the sterner sex?

"Whatever is not of faith is sin," Romans xiv., 23. Herein lies the crux of the matter. A dear old soul, the mother of fifteen, who is nearing the borderland, said to me the other day in a voice of cheery confidence, "God never 'sent a mouth but He sent the food to 'fill it.'" Oh, for a return to that dear, true, though, alas, old-fashioned, standpoint! that the tampering with life even in its most initial stage is *MURDER*, must be driven home to the hearts and consciences of our women. Yes, it is *MURDER!* Alas, alas, that we should have to say of so many of the women of Christian lands, "You are guilty of 'Murder!'" "Tremble, ye women that 'are at ease; be troubled ye careless 'ones; strip you and make you bare, 'and gird sackcloth upon your loins.'" Isaiah xxxii., 11. Nothing but disaster and ruin can come of frustrating the will of the Almighty, for we read in Ephesians i., 4, "He hath chosen us in Him before 'the foundation of the world.'"

This Race Suicide is rank rebellion against the will of the Most High God. It is kin to the sin that drove Satan out of Heaven. As in the Garden of Eden he tempted man to his fall by first tempting the woman, so now he once more in these last times comes with a subtle wile and lures to ruin our Christian womanhood, making the noble and honoured name of "Mother" a snare and a derision. As Milton says—

"The infernal Serpent! he it was whose guile
Stirred up with envy and revenge, deceived
The mother of mankind, what time his pride,
Had cast him out of Heaven."

We regard with pitying horror the Chinese women who destroy their girl babies and we send Missionaries to them to show them a more excellent way, but are we one whit better than these poor souls? When we read in Exodus i., 11, of Pharaoh, King of Egypt, issuing this decree, "Every son that is born ye shall 'cast into the river,'" we exclaim "What a monster of cruelty?" But again I ask are those who secretly practise this vice one whit better?

And note in this connection that it was by the faith of one woman,—bless her,

dear Jochebed, of her it may truly be said, "she being dead yet speaketh,"—I repeat, it was by the faith of this brave resourceful woman that a Deliverer and Law Giver was given to the poor heart-broken, down-trodden Hebrews. What a mother! and what a patriot!!

Again I say "What is not of faith is 'sin.'" And now I approach a very solemn and very sacred subject. Let us pause while the voice of the Eternal speaks to us out of unconsumable light, "Put off the shoes from off thy feet for 'the place whereon thou standest is 'holy ground.'" In that lovely maternity chapter the first of Luke we read, "The 'Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and 'the power of the Highest shall over-'shadow thee: Therefore that Holy 'thing which shall be born of thee shall 'be called the Son of God," Luke i., and in verse 38 we read, "And Mary 'said, 'Behold the handmaid of the 'Lord; be it unto me according to Thy 'word.'"

My sisters, with all reverence and from the depths of personal conviction, I say if Mary had not had faith, if like the cruel tyrant of Egypt she had said "Let us deal wisely," she could have robbed the world of its Redeemer. It was in the power of a woman to frustrate the eternal purpose of the Omnipotent.

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