LECTURES ON FEMALE PROSTITUTION: ITS NATURE, EXTENT, EFFECTS, GUILT, CAUSES, AND REMEDY

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Lectures on Female Prostitution: Its Nature, Extent, Effects, Guilt, Causes, and Remedy by Ralph Wardlaw

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RALPH WARDLAW

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LECTURES

FEMALE PROSTITUTION.

GLASGOW:

PAINTED BY DAVID RUSSELL, BUCHANAN COURT,

ARGYLL STREET.

LECTURES

ON FEMALE PROSTITUTION,

ITS NATURE, EXTENT,

EFFECTS, GUILT, CAUSES, AND REMEDY.

BY RALPH WARDLAW, D.D.

Belibered and published by special request.

GLASGOW:

JAMES MACLEHOSE, 83, BUCHANAN STREET.

MDCCCXLIL



PREFACE.

THE REQUISITION OF MEMORIAL, referred to in the introduction to the first of these Lectures, runs in the following terms:—

"To the Rev. RALPH WARDLAW, D.D., by Members of various religious denominations in Glasgow:-

"REVEREND SIR,

"We, your Memorialists, beg to represent, that we view with unfeigned alarm and regret the vast amount and constant increase of female prostitution within the precincts of our own city, with all its deplorable and widely ramified evils, affecting the most valuable interests of the community, both for time and for eternity.

"Your Memorialists are also impressed with a conviction, that the means employed for the suppression of female profligacy are wholly inadequate thereto, by reason of their fewness and limitation.—Further, your Memorialists feel assured, that the public mind requires to be more awakened to a just sense of that wickedness, which is so great a stain both on our common christianity and our boasted civilization.

"On these grounds, Reverend Sir, your Memorialists are induced to make an earnest request, that you would deliver a lecture, or lectures, on a subject so truly important, anticipating, from your honoured labours heretofore, the most beneficial and gratifying results, which, accompanied by the divine blessing, would, we believe, contribute to bring the public mind into a right position respecting the great evil your Memorialists deprecate,—and which might ultimately unite all truly patriotic and christian men, and lead to active and strenuous co-operation for the prevention and cure of the prevailing immorality, and so advance the cause of Christ's kingdom."

To this Memorial there was subjoined a recommendation of its object, to which were affixed the signatures of thirtyeight Ministers of the Gospel:—and I should feel that I failed in justice to the cause which I was thus invited to plead, were I to withhold from that cause the weight of influence which those signatures, individually and collectively, carry with them.—The list will, at the same time,

show, how thoroughly free of the slightest tinge of sectarian predilection the whole movement has been. As the specific designations, of church, and chapel, and locality, are appended in only a few instances, it will be sufficient to give the names;—and I shall insert them as they stand in the document, according to the order in which they appear to have been obtained:—

"We, the undersigned, have much pleasure in expressing our entire satisfaction with the above Memorial. The
subject is, confessedly, of great importance;—and should
Dr. Wardlaw accede to the request of the Memorialists,
we cannot doubt of public attention being concentrated upon
the evil in question, and trust that it may be subsequently
followed by ulterior and more specific measures, of high
value to the best interests of the community.

JOHN GRAHAM.
THOMAS PULLAR.
WILLIAM KIDSTON, D.D.
JOHN MACFARLANE, L.L.D.
NORMAN M'LEOD, D.D.
GAVIN STRUTHERS.
JOHN MITCHELL, D.D.
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