

to be sublimely ignorant of what the great dramatist has written of the comparative value of one's purse and good name, treat a blackmailer as a person to be dealt with most tenderly—witness the mild sentences given to Cook and Mrs. Hirsch. And our national legislature has made it still easier for this class of blackmailers by enacting a law under which, as construed by our highest Court, a notorious prostitute who induces a boy of 17 to pay her fare on a steamboat or railroad or street car, may, if the youth refuses to accede to her demands, actually pose in the courts as a White Slave and have him sent to the penitentiary for a longer term than the average sentence of a burglar, a foot-pad or an assassin.

The six Spanish pirates who were hanged in the city of Boston (*Pedro Gibert and others*, p. 699) had stopped on the high seas an American merchant vessel and had appropriated all the specie they found there. But the merchantman returned safely to its home port and no man or woman or child lost his life. What a trifling offense was this compared to the crimes of German pirates who have in the past four years sent to the bottom of the sea hundreds of peaceful vessels and murdered thousands of innocent sailors, passengers, women and little children. Tried for their lives by the admiralty law Gibert and his associates had no defense; and when after the war the German pirates are tried by the rules of International law what defense will they be able to set up? International law is simply the unwritten and written law of the nations. It is the sum of those usages which civilized people have decided to be binding on them in their intercourse one with another; and it has its rules for times of war as well as for times of peace. Just as the common law in England and America is