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| 91) | Chap. 9  The creature finished speaking and fixed his  looks reply.  ~~eyes~~ on me in expectation of a~~n~~ ~~answer~~.  ^  But I was bewilde~~r~~red & perplexed & unable [5]  to arrange my ideas sufficiently to under  stand the meaning of his proposition. He  continued.  You must create a female for  me with whom I can live in the [10]  interchange of those sympathies necessary  for my being This you alone can do &  I demand of you as a right which you  must not refuse.  As he said this I could no longer suppress [15]  the anger that burned within me. I do  refuse it, I replied, & no torture shall ever  extort a consent from me – You may  render me the most miserable of men  but you shall never make me base [20]  in my own eyes. Shall I create another like  yourself whose joint wickedness would  desolate the world? Begone –I have answer  ed you – You may kill me but I will  never consent. [25]  You are in the wrong, replied he, &  instead of threatening I am content to reason  with you. I am ~~wick~~ malicious, because  I am miserable. Am I not shunned &  hated by all mankind? You my creator [30]  would tear me to pieces & triumph –Rem  ember that & tell me why I should pity  man more than he pities me. You  would not call it murder if you preci  pitated me into one of those ice rifts & [35]  own  destroyed my frame, the work of your hands.  ^  ~~And~~ shall I respect man when he con-  temns me? Let him live with me in  the interchange of kindness and instead of [40] | [142:]CHAPTER IX.  The being finished speaking, and fixed his  looks upon me in expectation of a reply.  But I was bewildered, perplexed, and unable  to arrange my ideas sufficiently to understand  the full extent of his proposition. He  continued—  ¶“You must create a female for  me, with whom I can live in the  interchange of those sympathies necessary  for my being. This you alone can do; and  I demand it of you as a right which you  must not refuse.”  ¶The latter part of his tale had kindled anew in me the anger that had [143:]died away while he narrated his peaceful life among the cottagers, and,  as he said this, I could no longer suppress  the rage that burned within me.  ¶“I do  refuse it,” I replied; “and no torture shall ever  extort a consent from me. You may  render me the most miserable of men,  but you shall never make me base  in my own eyes. Shall I create another like  yourself, whose joint wickedness might  desolate the world.**†** Begone! I have answered  you; you may torture me, but I will  never consent.”  ¶“You are in the wrong,'**†** replied the fiend; “and,  instead of threatening, I am content to reason  with you. I am malicious because  I am miserable; am I not shunned and  hated by all mankind? You, my creator,  would tear me to pieces, and triumph; remember  that, and tell me why I should pity  man [144:]more than he pities me? You  would not call it murder, if you could precipitate  me into one of those ice-rifts, and  destroy my frame, the work of your own hands.  Shall I respect man, when he contemns me?  Let him live with me in  the interchange of kindness, and, instead of |

**margin:19-20,37-40]***ink marks (not offset from facing folio 34 recto [page 92])*  **3]***period after ?pbs* reply *possibly on and canceling n-dash* **4]**an *altered to* a **5]***misspelled* bewilderred *was corrected by canceling first* r **7]***faintly inked period after* proposition **12]***semicolon was written over n-dash*  **18]***two ?stray ink dots before n-dash*  **29]***ink dots on* h *and above* u *in* shunned *(possibly offset from* I *and from canceled* ~~a~~ *on facing folio 34 recto [page 92], line 32)* **36]***?pbs* own **38]***?stray ink line (or possibly misformed and misplaced comma) below* man*; ink dot after* con *possibly represents hyphen*

**1818 text:23]***draft question mark (for which no fair copy is extant) was ?mistakenly altered to period in 1818, and the period was retained in 1823 (II, 75) and in 1831 (page 126)* **1818 text:26]***misprinted single quotation mark (for double quotation marks) was corrected in 1823 (II, 75) and in 1831 (page 126)*

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|  | upon him  injury I would bestow every benefit with (92  tears of gratitude at his acceptance. But  that cannot be; the human senses are ~~an~~  insurmountable barriers to our union. [5]  But mine shall not the submission of abject  slavery. I will revenge my injuries ~~&~~ if I  cannot inspire love I will cause fear  towards  and chiefly you my arch-enemy because [10]  inextinguishable  my creator; ~~I w~~ do I swear ~~unutterable~~  hatred– I will work & destroy nor finish  untill I desolate your heart so that you  curse the hour of your birth." A fiend [15]  -ish rage animated him as he said  this; his face was wrinkled into contortions  too horrible for human eyes to behold;  but presently he calmed himself, &  proceeded. [20]  I intended to reason. This passion  is detrimental to me, for you do not  sole of its excesses.  reflect that you are the cause. If  ^ ^  any being felt emotions of benevolence [25]  towards me I should return then an  hundred & a hundred fold; for that  one creature's sake I would make peace  with the whole kind– But I now indulge  of bliss [30]  in dreams that cannot be realized. What  ^  I ~~a~~ask of you is reasonable and moderate.  I demand a creature of another sex but  as hideous as myself. The gratification is  small but it is all that I can receive [35]  and it shall content me. It is true we  shall be monsters cut off from all  the world but on that account we  shall be more attached to one another  Our lives will not be happy but they [40]  the  will be harmless & free from misery  which  ~~that~~ I now feel. Oh! my creator make | injury, I would bestow every benefit upon him with  tears of gratitude at his acceptance. But  that cannot be; the human senses are  insurmountable barriers to our union.  Yet mine shall not be the submission of abject  slavery. I will revenge my injuries: if I  cannot inspire love, I will cause fear;  and chiefly towards you my arch-enemy, because  my creator, do I swear inextinguishable  hatred. Have a care: I will work at your destruction, nor finish  until I desolate your heart, so that you  curse the hour of your birth.”  [145:]¶A fiendish  rage animated him as he said  this; his face was wrinkled into contortions  too horrible for human eyes to behold;  but presently he calmed himself, and  proceeded—  ¶“I intended to reason. This passion  is detrimental to me; for you do not  reflect that you are the cause of its excess. If  any being felt emotions of benevolence  towards me, I should return them an  hundred and an hundred fold; for that  one creature's sake, I would make peace  with the whole kind! But I now indulge  in dreams of bliss that cannot be realized. What  I ask of you is reasonable and moderate;  I demand a creature of another sex, but  as hideous as myself: the gratification is  small, but it is all that I can receive,  and it shall content me. It is true, we  shall be monsters, cut off from all  the world; but on that account we  shall be [146:]more attached to one another.  Our lives will not be happy, but they  will be harmless, and free from the misery  I now feel. Oh! my creator, make |

**lower left corner]***paper folded over; darker areas in photofacsimile exaggerate curling and discoloration of paper* **right edge]***some carry-over ink marks (e.g., after period in line 5 and after* I *in line 7) complete final strokes of words at right edge of folios 32 recto and 33 recto (pages 88 and 90)* **1]***ink blot, with trailing ink line, above numeral* 9 *in page number* 92 **4]***wet offset ink line before* cannot *(from cancel line on* n *in* a~~n~~ *on facing folio 33 verso [page 91], line 4);* The *altered to* the*, probably after semicolon added* **6]***word(s) omitted after* not **11]***uncrossed* t *in pbs* inextinguishable **14]***variant spelling* untill **24]***possible period after* \pard plain cause *may be obscured by a half-formed insertion caret (both period and caret are represented in transcription), but it is equally possible that period is covered with a cancel line* **26]***miswritten* then *(for* them*)* **31]***period after* realized *partially blots to the right* **32]***stray ink dot after* reasonable **39]***blotted and smeared* o *in* to *(the direction of the smudge here and on* misery *and* make*, lines 42 and 43, suggests something brushed the newly inked paper)*

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| 93) | me happylet me feel gratitude towards you for one  benefit; Let me see that I excite the  one  sympathy of creature. Do not deny me my  ^  request. [5]  I was moved. I shuddered when I thought  of the possible consequences of my consent  but I felt that there was some justice  in his argument. His tale and the fee  lings he now expressed ~~ap~~proved him to [10]  be a creature of fine sensations and  as  did not I his ~~creator~~ maker owe him  ^  all the portion of happiness that it  my [15]  was in ~~pw~~ power to bestow? He saw my  ^  change of feeling & continued.  If you consent neither you or  any human ~~being~~ creature shall ever see  us again. I will go to the vast wilds of [20]  America. My food is not that of man; I  do not destroy the lamb or the kid to  glut my appetite. Acorns & berries afford  me sufficient nourishment. My com  panion will be of the same nature [25]  as myself and will be content with  the same fare. We shall make our bed  of dried leaves; the sun will shine on  us as on man & will ripen our food. You  are moved. The picture I present to you [30]  is peaceful & human and you must  feel that you could deny it only in  the wantoness of power & cruelty. Pitiless  as you are towards me I see compassi  on in your eyes. Let me seize the [35]  favourable moment & ~~pro~~ persuade  you to promise what I so ardently  desire.  You promise, replied I, to quit the habitations | me happy; let me feel gratitude towards you for one  benefit! Let me see that I excite the  sympathy of some existing thing; do not deny me my  request!”  ¶I was moved. I shuddered when I thought  of the possible consequences of my consent;  but I felt that there was some justice  in his argument. His tale, and the feelings  he now expressed, proved him to  be a creature of fine sensations; and  did I not, as his maker, owe him  all the portion of happiness that it  was in my power to bestow? He saw my  change of feeling, and continued—  ¶“If you consent, neither you nor  any other human being shall ever see  us [147:]again: I will go to the vast wilds of  South America. My food is not that of man; I  do not destroy the lamb and the kid, to  glut my appetite; acorns and berries afford  me sufficient nourishment. My companion  will be of the same nature  as myself, and will be content with  the same fare. We shall make our bed  of dried leaves; the sun will shine on  us as on man, and will ripen our food.  The picture I present to you  is peaceful and human, and you must  feel that you could deny it only in  the wantonness of power and cruelty. Pitiless  as you have been towards me, I now see compassion  in your eyes; let me seize the  favourable moment, and persuade  you to promise what I so ardently  desire.”  ¶“You propose,” replied I, “to fly from the habitations |

**margin:1]***comma added to n-dash, possibly representing semicolon*  **2]***?semicolon (but could be ?inverted exclamation mark that cancels n-dash)* **21]***period after* America *could be colon* **22]***?stray and faintly inked line after* lamb **26]***wet offset ink blots above and on* will *(from cancel lines on* ~~of~~ *on facing folio 35 recto [page 94], line 23)*  **33]***blotted* w *and blot on* n *in misspelled* wantoness **35]***incompletely formed* r *in* your **37-39]***ink blots and smears, similar to those at bottom of recto (page 92)*

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|  | of man and to inhabit those wilds where (94  the beasts of the field will be your only com  panions. How can you who long for the love  man  & sympathy of ~~human being~~s persevere in [5]  ^  this exile? You will return and seek  ~~for~~ their kindness & you will meet their  detestation; your evil ~~w~~ passions will  be renewed, & you will then have  a companion to aid you in your [10]  task of destruction. Begone; I cannot  consent.  The Monster replied with fervour,  How inconstant are your feelings; but  a moment ago you were moved by [15]  my representations, & why do you again  harden yourself to my complaints? I  swear by the earth which I inhabit  & by you that made me that with  the companion you bestow I will [20]  quit the neighbourhood of man &  dwell, as it may chance, in the  most savage ~~of~~ places. My evil  passions will have fled, for I shall  meet with sympathy. My life will [25]  flow quietly away & in my dying ~~momen~~  moments I shall not curse my  maker.  His words had a strange effect  upon me. I compassionated him & [30]  sometimes felt a wish to console him  but when I looked on him when I saw  the filthy mass that moved & talked  my heart sickend & my feelings were  those [35]  altered to horror & hatred. I tried to  ^  stifle them I thought that as I could  ~~sympathize~~  not ~~comfort~~ ~~him I h~~ ~~sympo~~ sympa  ^ | of man, to dwell in those wilds where  the beasts of the [148:]field will be your only companions.  How can you, who long for the love  and sympathy of man, persevere in  this exile? You will return, and again seek  their kindness, and you will meet with their  detestation; your evil passions will  be renewed, and you will then have  a companion to aid you in the  task of destruction. This may not be; cease to argue the point, for I cannot  consent.”  ¶“How inconstant are your feelings! but  a moment ago you were moved by  my representations, and why do you again  harden yourself to my complaints? I  swear to you, by the earth which I inhabit,  and by you that made me, that, with  the companion you bestow, I will  quit the neighbourhood of man, and  dwell, as it may chance, in the  most savage of places. My evil  passions will have fled, for [149:]I shall  meet with sympathy; my life will  flow quietly away, and, in my dying  moments, I shall not curse my  maker.”  ¶His words had a strange effect  upon me. I compassionated him, and  sometimes felt a wish to console him;  but when I looked upon him, when I saw  the filthy mass that moved and talked,  my heart sickened, and my feelings were  altered to those of horror and hatred. I tried to  stifle these sensations; I thought, that as I could  not sympathize |

**entire page]***darker areas in photofacsimile exaggerate slight discoloration of paper at top edge and at bottom left and right corners* **bottom left corner]***two ?stray ink lines, one bolder and longer* **2]**con *altered to* com *at end of line* **5]***uncanceled* s *in* ~~being~~s **6]***stray ink dots before question mark* **8]***canceled* w **13]**Monster *could be* monster*; comma below (rather than after)* r *in* fervour **17]***faintly inked question mark*  **34]***misspelled* sickend **35]***word(s) omitted after* those

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| 95)  which | thize with him I had no right to refuse him  the small portion of happiness that I had it  in my power to bestow. You swear, I said, to  be harmless but have you not already shown  a degree of malise that would reasonably [5]  make me distrust you? May not even this  be a feint that will encrease your triumph  ~~& desire of revenge~~  by affording a wider scope to your revenge.  How is this, cried he; I thought I had moved [10]  your compassion, and yet you still refuse to  can  bestow on ~~give~~ me the only benefit that soften my  heart and render me harmless. If I  have no ties & no affections hatred & vice [15]  must be my portion. The love of another  will destroy the cause of my crimes & I shall  become a thing of whose existence every  one will be ignorant. My vices are  a [20]  ~~ch~~ the children of forced solitude that I  ^  abhor and my virtues will necessarily arise  ~~sh~~ shall  when I receive the sympathy of an equal.  the of a living being [25]  I shall feel ~~human~~ ~~sy~~ ~~f~~ affections &  ^  become linked to the chain of existence  & events from which I am now excluded  to  I paused some time reflect on all [30]  ^  he had related and the various arguments  employed  ~~that~~ he had ~~used~~. I thought of ~~his pro-~~  promise of which  ~~mises & threats~~ the ~~various~~ virtues he [35]  had displayed on the opening of his exis  of all  tence; and the subsequent blight ~~caused by~~  kindly feelings by inspired by  the detestation & horror  ~~that his~~ [40]  protectors had manifested towards  him. His power & threats were not  ommitted in my calculations; a crea  ture who could exist among the ice caves  of the glaciers & hide himself from per [45]  the ridges  suit in inaccessible precepieces was | with him, I had no right to withhold from him  the small portion of happiness which was yet  in my power to bestow.  ¶“You swear,” I said, “to  be harmless; but have you not already shewn  a degree of malice that should reasonably  make me distrust you? May not even this  be a feint that will increase [150:]your triumph  by affording a wider scope for your revenge?”  ¶“How is this? I thought I had moved  your compassion, and yet you still refuse to  bestow on me the only benefit that can soften my  heart, and render me harmless. If I  have no ties and no affections, hatred and vice  must be my portion; the love of another  will destroy the cause of my crimes, and I shall  become a thing, of whose existence every  one will be ignorant. My vices are  the children of a forced solitude that I  abhor; and my virtues will necessarily arise  when I live in communion with an equal.  I shall feel the affections of a sensitive being, and  become linked to the chain of existence  and events, from which I am now excluded.”  ¶I paused some time to reflect on all  he had related, and the various argu- [151:]ments  which he had employed. I thought of  the promise of virtues which he  had displayed on the opening of his existence,  and the subsequent blight of all  kindly feeling by  the loathing and scorn which his  protectors had manifested towards  him. His power and threats were not  omitted in my calculations: a creature  who could exist in the ice caves  of the glaciers, and hide himself from pursuit  among the ridges of inaccessible precipices, was |

**margin:14]***larger bleed-through ink blot (from blotted* f *in* fervour *on recto [page 94], line 13) and smaller wet offset ink blots (from heavily inked* hood *in* neighbourhood *on facing folio 36 recto [page 96A], line 11)* **3]**Y *overlays* I *in* You **5]***variant spelling* malise **6]**n *added in* even **11]***possible comma (or period or n-dash) on final stroke of* compassion **12]***?pbs* can **14]***stray ink line on* h *in* harmless **21]***wet offset blotted ink line below* d so *in* forced solitude *(from cancel line on* ~~clouds~~ *on facing folio 36 recto [page 96A], line 17)*  **22]***bleed-through ink blot rather than comma after* abhor *(from blotted* s *in* bestow *on recto [page 94], line 20)* **25]***?pbs* the **31]***bleed-through ink blot above* a *in* had *(from blotted* d *in* dying *on recto [page 94], line 26)* **33]***cancel line in transcription obscures canceled hyphen after* ~~pro~~ **38]**their *was altered by ?mws to* the **43]***misspelled* ommitted **45,47]***variant spelling* persuit **46]***word(s) omitted after* ridges **47]***misspelled* precepieces

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|  | ~~a powerful cre being.~~ was a being poss (96A  essing faculties it would be vain to cope  with; ~~I thought~~ ~~And~~ After a long pause  of reflection I concluded that the justice  due both to him & my fellow creatures [5]  demanded of me that I should comply  with his request. Turning to him  therefore I said.  I consent to your demand on  you solemn oath to quit Europe & [10]  every other place in the neighbourhood  of mam as soon as I shall deliver  into you hands a female who is to  accompany you in your exile.  I swear, he cried, by the sun & by [15]  blue sky of heaven  the ~~clouds~~ that while they exist you  shall never behold me. Depart  then to your home & commence  your labours. I shall ~~th~~ watch [20]  their progress with ~~utt~~ unutterable  anxiety and fear not but that when  {?but} that  you are ready for me I shall appear.  Saying this he suddenly quitted me [25]  fearful perhaps of any change in  my sentiments. I saw him descend  the mountain with greater speed than  the flight of the eagle and quickly lost  him among the undulations of the [30]  sea of ice.  His tale had occupied the whole day  and the sun was upon the ~~ve~~ verge  of the horizon when he departed. I knew  that I ought to hasten to descend to the [35]  valley as I should soon be encompassed | a being possessing  faculties it would be vain to cope  with. After a long pause  of reflection, I concluded, that the justice  due both to him and my fellow-creatures  demanded of me that I should comply  with his request. Turning to him,  therefore, I said—  ¶“I consent to your demand, on  your solemn oath to quit Europe for ever, and  every other place in the neighbour- [152:]hood  of man, as soon as I shall deliver  into your hands a female who will  accompany you in your exile.”  ¶“I swear,” he cried, “by the sun, and by  the blue sky of heaven, that if you grant my prayer, while they exist you  shall never behold me again. Depart  to your home, and commence  your labours: I shall watch  their progress with unutterable  anxiety; and fear not but that when  you are ready I shall appear.”  ¶Saying this, he suddenly quitted me,  fearful, perhaps, of any change in  my sentiments. I saw him descend  the mountain with greater speed than  the flight of an eagle, and quickly lost  him among the undulations of the  sea of ice.  ¶His tale had occupied the whole day;  and the sun was upon the verge  of the horizon when he departed. I knew  [153:]that I ought to hasten my descent towards the  valley, as I should soon be encompassed |

**1]***mistakenly repeated and uncanceled* was *(see* was *as the last word on preceding folio 35 verso [page 95]); penciled* A *(in hand ?other than mws or pbs) in page number* 96A *(see explanatory note on verso [page 96B])* **3]**A *overlays* a *in* After **5]**f *overlays ?*p *in* fellow **10,13]***miswritten* you *(for* your*)* **12]***misspelled* mam *(for* man*)* **18]***blotted* D *in* Depart **19]***wet offset ink blot below* h *in* then *(from* g *in pbs* living *on facing folio 35 verso [page 95], line 25)* **24]***blotted second* p *in* appear **33]***misformed* v *in canceled* ve

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| 96) B | in darkness. But my heart was heavy, and  mys steps slow. The labour of winding a  mong the little paths and fixing my feet  firmly ~~a~~ as I advanced teazed me occupied  which [5]  ~~that~~  as I was by the feelings the occurences of the  ^  day had produced. It had long been night  when I came to the half way resting place  & seated myself beside the fountain. The stars [10]  shone at intervals as the ~~dark~~ clouds passed  from over them – The dark pines rose  before me & every here and there a broken  on  tree lay ~~listless~~ ~~of~~ the ground; it was [15]  ^  a scene of wonderful solemnity & ~~moved~~  ~~me~~ stirred strange thoughts within  me. I wept bitterly and clasping my  hands in agony I exclaimed– Oh stars,  & clouds, and wind ye are all about ~~ye~~ to mock [20]  me – If ye really pity crush me but if  me  not depart depart & leave to darkness.  ^  ~~Wild~~ These were wild & miserable thoughts  but I cannot describe to you how the [25]  eternal twinkling of stars weighed upon  me, and I listened to every blast of wind  as it were a dull ugly siroc~~k~~ on its way  to consume me.  It was morning before I arrived at [30]  the village of Chamounix – but my presence  so haggard & strange hardly calmed the  fears of my family who had waited the  whole night in anxious expectation of  my return. ~~What could I say to them~~ [35]  ~~or how account for my disappearance~~  ~~and present miser~~  The following day we returned to Geneva.  The ~~purpos~~ intention of my father in | in darkness; but my heart was heavy, and  my steps slow. The labour of winding among  the little paths of the mountains, and fixing my feet  firmly as I advanced, perplexed me, occupied  as I was by the emotions which the occurrences of the  day had produced. Night was far advanced,  when I came to the half-way resting-place,  and seated myself beside the fountain. The stars  shone at intervals, as the clouds passed  from over them; the dark pines rose  before me, and every here and there a broken  tree lay on the ground: it was  a scene of wonderful solemnity, and  stirred strange thoughts within  me. I wept bitterly; and, clasping my  hands in agony, I exclaimed, “Oh! stars,  and clouds, and winds, ye are all about to mock  [154:]me: if ye really pity me, crush sensation and memory; let me become as nought; but if  not, depart, depart and leave me in darkness.”  ¶These were wild and miserable thoughts;  but I cannot describe to you how the  eternal twinkling of the stars weighed upon  me, and how I listened to every blast of wind,  as if it were a dull ugly siroc on its way  to consume me.  ¶Morning dawned before I arrived at  the village of Chamounix; but my presence,  so haggard and strange, hardly calmed the  fears of my family, who had waited the  whole night in anxious expectation of  my return.  ¶The following day we returned to Geneva.  The intention of my father in |

**margin:1]***mws repeated page number* 96 *on this verso, and someone (?other than mws or pbs) distinguished the two* 96*'s by penciling* A *on recto and* B *on this verso; wet offset ink blot on page number* 96 *(from blotted page number* 100 *on facing folio 37 recto [page 100(97)], line 1)* **margin:28]***faint bleed-through ink blot (from ink blot on second* p *in* appear *on recto [page 96A], line 24)* **1]***possible comma after* heavy**2]**mws *miswrote* s *after* my *in* mys **4]***variant spelling* teazed **7]***misspelled* occurences **15]***terminal* e *overlays* a *(or overlays misformed* e*) in* tree **18]***period (above which is brown spot) after* me **19]***n-dash on final stroke of* exclaimed*;* Oh *could be* oh **22]***?pbs* me **28]***word(s) ?omitted between* as *and* it *(1818 text reads* as if it*)* **29]***ink blots before and above* m *in* me **30]***wet offset ink blots below* was *and below* m *in* morning *(from cancel line on* \pard strikefrom *on facing folio 37 recto [page 100(97)], line 26)* **35]***ink blot above* e *in* return **38]***ink blots before* The

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|  | coming had been to divert my mind & to restore (100  to me my lost tranquillity. But the medecine  had been fatal & unable to account  for the excess of misery I appeared to  suffer he hastened to return home [5]  hoping that the quiet & calm of a domestic  life would by degrees alleviate my suf-  ferings from whatsoever cause they  might spring.  For myself I was passive in all [10]  their arrangements, and the gentle  affection of my beloved Elizabeth was  inadequate to draw me from the  depth of my despair. The promise I  had made to the dæmon weighed [15]  upon my mind like Dante's iron  cowl on the head of the hellish hypo  crites. all pleasures of earth or sky  passed before me as a dream & that  one thought only had to me the [20]  reality of life. Can You wonder that  sometimes a kind of insanity possessed  me or that I saw about me a  multitude of filthy animals inflic  ting on me incessant torture that [25]  often extorted ~~from~~ screams &  bitter groans.  By degrees however these  feelings became calmed. I entered  again into the every day of life if [30]  not with interrest at least with  some degree of tranquillity. | coming had been to divert my mind, and to restore  me to my lost tranquillity; but the medicine  had been fatal. And, unable to account  for the excess of [155:]misery I appeared to  suffer, he hastened to return home,  hoping the quiet and monotony of a domestic  life would by degrees alleviate my sufferings  from whatsoever cause they  might spring.  ¶For myself, I was passive in all  their arrangements; and the gentle  affection of my beloved Elizabeth was  inadequate to draw me from the  depth of my despair. The promise I  had made to the dæmon weighed  upon my mind, like Dante's iron  cowl on the heads of the hellish hypocrites.  All pleasures of earth and sky  passed before me like a dream, and that  thought only had to me the  reality of life. Can you wonder, that  sometimes a kind of insanity possessed  me, or that I saw continually about me a  multitude of filthy animals inflicting  on me incessant torture, that  often extorted screams and  bitter groans?  [156:]¶By degrees, however, these  feelings became calmed. I entered  again into the every-day scene of life, if  not with interest, at least with  some degree of tranquillity.  end of vol. ii. |

**entire page]***four sets of two pin holes (pin was used to affix slip of paper, folio 38, to the verso of this folio 37): four holes are on left of page (in* a *in* had*, line 3; to left of* for*, line 4; and two holes in left margin, lines 5 and 6); and four holes are on right of page (ink smear connects two holes on and below* h *in* they*, line 8; and two more holes are above and after* all*, line 10)* **top of page]***darker area in photofacsimile exaggerates soiling of paper* **1]***page number* 100 *overlays page number* 97 *(it is unclear why mws misnumbered this page, but it may have resulted from the other complications in pagination between folio 36 recto and 44 recto [pages 96A and 103])* **2]***variant spelling* medecine **9]***wet offset ink blot below* ht \pard cs9*in* might *(from cancel line on* ~~dark~~ *on facing folio 36 verso [page 96B], line 11); period is partially obscured by* l *in* myself *in line 10* **14]***period touches final stroke of* despair **18]***lower-case* a *in* all **21]**You *could be* you **31]***misspelled* interrest