

States had gone up to \$48,950,000,000.

Our national debt is becoming less every month, while that of leading nations in Europe is on the increase, owing to immense standing armies. Such incentives to industry, such good wages, such favorable opportunities for the poor to better their condition and such general contentment and happiness among the masses of the people exist only here. The followers of such demagogues as Most or of theorists such as George are comparatively few, mostly foreigners, as are nearly all Anarchists. In 1880 we had only five persons out of every 1,000 who were the objects of public charity; but in Europe the number was five times greater.

ACCORDING to Rev. Frederick Howard Wines, Secretary of the National Prison Association, the census of 1880 showed nearly 60,000 convicts in all the various grades of prisons in the United States; 11,000 inmates of reformatories; in all, a criminal population, actually incarcerated, of 70,000. He estimates that the next census will give 75,000 or 80,000 in the prisons; 15,000 in the reformatories; in all between 90,000 and 100,000 men, women and children confined for some crime or offense. Among the 60,000 in prison in 1880 nearly 10,000 had been sentenced for terms over five years or for life. The direct cost of maintaining the prisons is \$15,000,000; of police, \$15,000,000. While the expenses borne by the public on account of proceedings against criminals in the 2,000 courts and before 80,000 justices of the peace in the United States, and the losses incurred by means of them, is something enormous. State prison reports show an increase of convictions for high crimes one-third more than 20 years ago.

The large number of objectionable arrivals from Europe is undoubtedly a potent agency in the growth of crime. A very large proportion of

the arrests made by the police are of persons of a foreign origin. The influence of the gambling-room and the saloon in originating, fostering and perpetuating crimes of all kinds can hardly be overestimated.

THE pen of Mr. Warner Vanorden we think we recognize in these stirring paragraphs:

We are come to a crisis unequaled since the Reformation, and church and state are beset with dangers threatening social progress.

I. Note first the immense, unceasing and ever enlarging *influx of foreigners*—more than a thousand souls a day—mostly ignorant and irreligious, often discontented and restless, and not seldom vicious and criminal. Our civilization is thus undergoing dilution. We are engorging ourselves with crude barbarism, far beyond the possibilities of easy assimilation.

II. The country towns of the East, the old-time nurseries of our national piety—suffering from the attraction of cities and the alluring invitations of the West, in part depopulated of the former devout stock, and rapidly filling with foreigners, hostile or indifferent to evangelical religion, threaten now to paganize our future rural population. Religious indifference replaces devoutness, and there creep in spiritualism and various low forms of fanaticism, followed by lunacy, vice and crime.

III. In the South eight millions of freedmen and their descendants, a distinctive and utterly unassimilated people, doubling in numbers every twenty years, of whom scarce 10 per cent. can read, appeal in tones monitory rather than suppliant, not only to benevolence, but to patriotism, nay, even to the instinct of self-preservation. Among large masses of the white population of the South illiteracy and degradation are as great as among the negroes.

IV. In the West new villages and