

debt, and many of them to die out. In nine of the wards of the city, with a population of 195,131, there is no Presbyterian church whatever.

And what is the result, from a moral and spiritual point of view? Full half the population of this once favored city are living without church instruction and influence. The Protestant Church provides for only a small part of her population. There is already a marked change for the worse in the tone and moral sentiment of the city. The Sabbath is now largely a day of pleasure and dissipation. More than 3,000 saloons are in full blast, defying the law even on the Sabbath. King's County has become the "Paradise of Gamblers."\* The rum power and "bossism" rule our politics. Theaters have multiplied at a fearful rate, and some of them are of a most demoralizing character. The church, though manned with some of the most popular and gifted ministers in the world, is essentially weak, and her power is scarcely felt on the mass of population. If this state of things continues and grows worse, as it naturally will, for ten or fifteen years to come, Brooklyn will inevitably become one of the wickedest and most God-abandoned cities in our land! There is no helping it. Her doom is decreed as truly as if a mystic hand traced it on the sky.

And what is true of Brooklyn is substantially true of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincinnati, and other great cities of the United States. The same conditions exist, the same forces are operating, in them all, and with similar results.

Take New York. The population of the city has for years been steadily and rapidly increasing, while at the same time the number of churches has been relatively decreasing. In 1830 there was one Protestant church to every 2,000 people; in 1880, one to 3,000; and in 1887, one to 4,000. South of 14th street there is an estimated population of 587,616; and north of 14th street, exclusive of two wards, 732,043. Survey the latter first.

The xvi., xvii., xx., xxi., xxii., xix., and xii. wards had a population, according to the census of 1880, of 622,872, probable increase in eight years of 109,176. Present population, 732,043. These wards had 221 Protestant churches and chapels in 1880; *now*, 195. They contained 2,947 saloons in 1880; *now*, 3,983. In these *seven* wards there was *one* church to 2,947 of population in 1880, and *one* to 3,754 in 1888. In these *seven* wards there was *one* saloon to 211 of population in 1880, and *one* to 184 in 1888.

"Ten thousand saloons, or *one* to every 150 of the inhabitants of the entire city, stand over against the 355 Protestant churches, or *one* to 4,464 of the inhabitants of the entire city, as a constant menace. They breed poverty and crime. They increase in ratio faster than the churches and schools. They are open day and night. They make legislators, aldermen, district attorneys, and judges. They modestly claim to control 40,000 votes in this city; and twenty men, mostly brewers, hold 4,710 chattel

\*The main issue in a recent election in Brooklyn was, whether the laws relating to gambling should be enforced or remain a dead letter, and the candidate who had prostituted his office to shield the open violators of the statute from punishment, and who on the eve of the election made a bold and scandalous bid for the saloon influence, was re-elected to office! And he is anything but a terror to evil doers.