

sense to prevent saloon-keepers, thieves, gamblers, jail-birds, and prize-fighters from dominating our municipal politics, we have as good officials as we deserve.

Inferior Moral  
Development

The character of the men who usually get control of our largest cities, such as New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago, together with the corruption which has been laid open in recent years, indicates that the moral development of the city has by no means kept pace with its material growth.

Crime in  
Chicago and  
New York

Chicago's moral development is not the feature of its growth which has made it one of the wonders of the modern world. Its increase of crime has been even more astonishing than its growth of population. We read of a dozen highway robberies on its streets in a single night, and of 128 homicides in a single year. During the same year London had only 24 murders. Allowing for the difference in population, the chances of being murdered were sixteen times as great in the American city as in the English. During 1906 there were 253 homicides and 707 suicides in New York City—nearly 1,000 murderous deaths in a single year!

No moral failure is more significant in a

democracy than a spirit of lawlessness, which, there is reason to fear, is on the increase in the United States. An odious law may be successfully enforced among a lawless people under a monarchy; but if in a democracy the people do not respect their own laws, what becomes of government?

Lawlessness  
in a  
Democracy

Disregard of the rights of person and of property, or, in a word, lawlessness, is much more hurtful and dangerous in the city than in the country; and yet it is much more prevalent there than elsewhere. Philadelphia and Pittsburg are not exceptionally bad cities, but in Philadelphia there are seven and a half times as much crime to a given population, and in Pittsburg and Allegheny City nearly nine times as much, as in the average rural county of Pennsylvania.

Greater  
Lawlessness  
in City

It would seem to be sufficiently clear that the moral development of the American city has not kept pace with the material; and, generally speaking, the larger the city the greater the disproportion. An inadequate intellectual growth is serious enough, but moral failure is much more so. It was the latter, so history shows, which proved fatal to the great civilizations of the past. Greece had no lack of intel-

Moral Failure  
of City

lect; hers was a moral failure. The same is true also of Rome.