The Sun.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1900.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, per Month	$0.50
DAILY, per Year	6.00
SUNDAY, per Year	2.00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year	8.00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month	70

Postage to foreign countries added.

THE SUN, New York City.

PARIS: Kiosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and Kiosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines.

It is the friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication with a view to their insertion in the paper, who must in all cases send a stamp for that purpose.

The Democratic Party.

To reorganize the Democracy, restore it to its former place of public power and dignity, drive out its agitators against wealth, suppress its spirit of enmity to the law, in short, to make the party what it was, has been the purpose of an immense volume of talk on the anti-Bryan side of Democratic politics since the election. It was all based upon the theory that the party of BRYAN could be made into the party of TILDEN by a transformation as simple as the mere relegation of BRYAN to the rear of the Democratic council room. An organization that had revelled in the heat of the Chicago platform was to be cooled at the behest of men for whom its fires had been insufferable. The restoration of a party, confirmed in radicalism, to the conservatism of which it had once been a stalwart defender was to be accomplished with no greater friction than attends the election of a new set of club officials unanimously desired.

In contrast with these well-meant fancies we call attention to the opinions expressed by two Democrats of prominence belonging respectively to the new school and the old school. The Hon. WILLIAM S. HARRIS, Senator from Kansas, a Bryanite elected as a Populist, whose standing in the Democratic party of to-day is unimpeachable, said last week to a reporter of the *Washington Post*:

"The majority of the Democratic party believes in the principles that were enunciated by Col. BRYAN during the campaign just past. It was a battle of principles and not of individuals. The tenets of Democracy for which we fought were adopted in the convention of 1896 and again in 1900. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the Democracy stands unalterably for these things and four years hence the issues will be practically the same."

In this there is neither sign of surrender to Democratic "reorganizers" nor offer of compromise.

It is inconceivable that the Democrats as a party would sink themselves to the level of the politicians who sought to prevent a "specific reaffirmation of the silver plank," or who would have had BRYAN, instead of himself remaining the candidate, name his successor. But these are tricks, both, too meaningless or too contemptible and transparent to receive favor from any large body of men. The Democracy is likely to abate nothing of the clearness and out spokenness of its next platform.

In exactly a dozen words the Hon. WILLIAM LINDSAY, Democratic Senator of Kentucky, one of the most distinguished of the patriots who refused to prostitute their partisanship to Bryanism, evinced his agreement with Senator HARRIS:

"I do not know whether there is any Democratic party to reorganize."

Senator LINDSAY gave the foregoing as an answer to a reporter of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, who had asked him for his plan of reorganization. "'The present Democratic party,' continued Senator LINDSAY, 'is nothing but a coalition of Silver Republicans and Populists. The Democratic flag is being followed by an army which is not Democratic.'"

Friends of reorganization will see sooner or later that the only Democratic reorganization capable of accomplishing the ends they seek is Democratic disintegration. The party that has just polled seven million votes will scarcely disintegrate, even after defeat. It will more probably go on as it is going, and the only political defence against it is continual and intent vigilance in strengthening and consolidating the party of the opposition, which to-day bears the Republican name.

The Approaching Contest Between Church and State in France.

We have pointed out that, although the Waldeck-Rousseau Cabinet repelled successfully the first assaults delivered by its Nationalist opponents, it will be placed in an awkward predicament on the arrival of ex-President KRUGER in France. Will it give him, or will it withhold from him, an official reception? In the one event it may provoke vehement resentment on the part of a large section of its own followers; in the other, it will give grave offence to Great Britain at a time when harmonious action on the part of all the treaty Powers in China is of obvious importance. Assuming, however, that this difficulty may be surmounted or evaded, we must recognize that the most serious test of the Ministry's strength is yet to come, for it stands committed to a duel with the religious associations, behind which will be all the power of Catholicism in France.

The Anti-Clerical programme framed by the present Ministry was announced during the last session of Parliament, but little was heard of it during the recess until it was reaffirmed in a speech made at Toulouse by the Premier just before the reassembling of the Chambers. M. WALDECK-ROUSSEAU is determined, it seems, to attack the religious associations, first, by crippling their financial resources, and, secondly, by ousting them from educational functions. He asserted that they had practically replaced the monasteries of a former day over a larger area; that they collectively possessed some $200,000,000 in real estate, and perhaps as much more in personal property; and that such was their influence on education that a youth trained in their schools was as being so different from one trained in the schools of the State that the former was often incapable of understanding the latter. He charged that by means of these associations the Roman Catholic Church had become an "occult and rival" power to the State, an imperium in imperio. The Government, therefore, was resolved to introduce a law of mortmain, which should prohibit the religious associations from receiving further gifts of property.

The Ministers had also made up their minds, he said, to strike a decisive blow at the educational establishments under the control of the associations by giving a monopoly of all State offices, including, apparently, military and naval commissions, and also the right to practise at the bar, to those who have been educated in strictly secular schools. This proposal has been justly described as the deadliest stroke levelled at Catholicism since the days of the Terror. In France, where the ideal of the educated classes is to fit their sons for Government appointments, the exclusion of all but graduates of State schools amounts to persecution. Such a law would be a counterpart of the Irish Penal Code, which, in the last century imposed such grievous disabilities upon Catholics, with this difference, however, that it would be framed, not by Protestants sincerely attached to their own faith, but by agnostics indifferent to all religions.

That M. WALDECK-ROUSSEAU may carry through the present Chambers what amounts to a penal statute against French Catholics is not impossible. Most of the members of those bodies are drawn from a social stratum which, since the time of VOLTAIRE, has been profoundly infected with scepticism. In the Convention of 1793-95 it would have been difficult to find a dozen legislators willing to avow themselves believers in the Christian religion. ROBESPIERRE, however, perceived that the worship of the Goddess of Reason was an astounding blunder from a political point of view, inasmuch as it shocked nearly all the women and two-thirds of the men in France. What NAPOLEON thought upon the subject is evident from the Concordat which he arranged with the Papacy, which is enforced to-day. NAPOLEON foresaw that, but for a well-timed concession to the Catholic prepossessions of his countrymen, he would have to face a tremendous reaction.

We repeat that M. WALDECK-ROUSSEAU may get his proposed penal statutes enacted by the present Chambers, just as BISMARCK carried the Falk laws through the Prussian Landtag. In that event, however, we shall probably witness all over France the phenomenon observed in the Rhine provinces, to wit, the transformation of lukewarm religionists into fanatics, and the creation of a formidable Catholic party, which will hold at least the balance of power, and may possibly acquire complete legislative ascendency.

The Only Remedy for New York.

Bishop POTTER, in his address to the Mayor protesting against the prevalence of vice and its protection and fostering by the police, recites no facts and describes no conditions not already and long known to the public of New York.

For many years disreputable and even distinctly criminal resorts and practices have been virtually licensed by the police, or indirectly by Tammany Hall, and the system has been brought gradually to methodical perfection. When PARKHURST made his series of nocturnal visits to these resorts he discovered nothing which was new to men at all acquainted with the policy of Tammany Hall and its consequences; and there is justification for CROKER'S accusation of last week that the strolling parson aggravated rather than diminished the evils by his proceedings. The Tammany policy, as carried out by the police, had been to confine vice to establishments illegally licensed by it, on the condition that they maintained an outward semblance of order and decency. The revenue from these illegal licenses, a great sum, was collected by police captains through agents, though the manner of its distribution was unknown. The circumstances that some of these police captains accumulated considerable fortunes and that the assignment most sought was the "Tenderloin district," the special seat of such resorts, seem to suggest where a part of it went.

PARKHURST'S attack on the system as then organized resulted in spreading and scattering the denizens of these establishments and distributing them in quarters of the town and in flats and tenements where they were brought into offensive and corrupting association with people of decency; whereas before they had been segregated by the Tammany police system. At the same time they began to appear at night on the public streets, giving them in that respect a character which bore a shadow of likeness to certain quarters in London.

That is what CROKER means when he puts upon PARKHURST the responsibility for the disgraceful and even terrible state of things now existing in crowded tenement districts of the town. The accusation, however, in no way relieves the Tammany-controlled police from the responsibility Bishop POTTER lays on them. Indisputable indications, amounting to virtual evidence, prove that this vice is fostered and that it prospers by their aid and connivance. Changes in the habitat of the vicious have simply made necessary changes in the methods of license and protection; but the system remains the same, only the consequences are even more corrupting than they were under the old policy of segregation and purchased immunity and regulation. The worst effect of this corruption is on the police themselves. Appointed guardians of law and order and decency are compelled by the authority over the Police Department to give immunity to offenders whom it is their sworn duty to circumvent and apprehend.

This system of illegal and grossly immoral police license goes much farther and reaches practically to all forms of offence against law and ordinance. Before the new system of State licenses for liquor dealers it reached to all saloons which desired to violate the license laws, by keeping open beyond legal hours and on Sunday. This was notorious; it was proved to the citizens generally by the evidence of their own eyes. Bunco men, the "green goods" business, "policy" dealers, gamblers, policy shops and kindred criminal practices and practitioners have secured the silence and the practical protection of police authority, for a price. This, too, has been obvious to all those who are acquainted with the "seamy side" of New York life.

Moreover, representatives or direct beneficiaries of these criminal activities have been and are included in the numerous General Committees of Tammany Hall, or at least are suspected of being there. One of the main foundations of that organization as it is and as it has long been is, unquestionably, the vicious and criminal or semi-criminal element of the town. The whole vote of that element is a Tammany vote. The office of the District Attorney, with the terror it holds over offenders through indictments in its charge, is thus a powerful political office.

Now Tammany has appointed a "committee of investigation" of the workings of an illegal and a corrupting system perfected by itself, for it wishes to present an appearance of cleanliness next year when it will seek to renew its domination of New York by nominating for Mayor a man of presentable character, like Mr. EDWARD M. SHEPARD, for example. Bishop POTTER, too, in his address to Mayor VAN WYCK, says that, having explained his case, "I leave it confidently in your hands." But the remedy he craves and demands cannot come possibly from Mayor VAN WYCK or from any Mayor nominated by Tammany next year, whether he be Mr SHEPARD or any other man of good and high personal character otherwise. It can come only from Tammany Hall itself and obviously the author and beneficiary of the system exposed and denounced will not and cannot destroy it.

What, then, is the remedy? Is the case hopeless? The remedy is possible, and it can be made effectual. It is to drive Tammany Hall from the control of the municipal government and thus relieve the police from its corrupting domination. It is for the people of New York to unite in the next municipal campaign against the candidates of Tammany Hall, under the leadership of a candidate for Mayor who has never felt its crushing hand. Individually, the police force of New York are usually men who would rejoice with all decent and law-abiding citizens in their rescue from a control which compels them to protect and foster the crime they are appointed to prevent and suppress.

Where Are the Powers of Government Vested?

The Constitution of this State vests the legislative power in the Senate and Assembly and the Legislature has seen fit, in its wisdom, to vest the powers of governing this city in the Mayor, in the Municipal Assembly and in the various heads of Departments of the municipality.

There is a popular theory that the legislative power of the State is, therefore, to be exercised by our Legislature, and that the right of governing this city is to be exercised by the duly elected or appointed officers of such city.

Two manifestos have been issued orally during the last week by private citizens, which would seem to indicate that the public impression is erroneous, and that the various functions of government are in reality exercised by powers behind the throne. Such a condition of affairs would seem grotesque were it not that the matter is too serious and too real and actual in the lesson which it inculcates for it to be even amusing in any aspect. The Hon. THOMAS C. PLATT has declared that a bill shall be passed by the Legislature establishing a State constabulary over New York city. Mr. RICHARD CROKER has appointed five officers of the municipality to investigate the errors and faults of administration for which a coordinate Department of city government may be responsible. Mr. CROKER, through Mr. MCMAHON, chairman of Tammany Hall, has appointed Mr. JOHN J. SCANNELL, Fire Commissioner and head of the Fire Department; Mr. MICHAEL C. MURPHY, Commissioner of Health and President of the Board of Health; Mr. JOHN W. KELLER, Commissioner of Public Charities and President of the Board of Public Charities; Mr. LEWIS NIXON, Commissioner of the New East River Bridge Commission, and Mr. GEORGE G. CLAUSEN, Commissioner of Parks and President of the Park Board, a committee of five for the purpose of investigating the moral conditions of the city and for receiving suggestions for the correction of abuses. Of the public officials named, only one thus far, Mr. SCANNELL, has shown his good sense by refusing to act on such committee.

The spectacle of the appointment of municipal public officers by a private citizen, to investigate the workings of another City Department, is new in the history of civic government. By special provision of the Charter it is made the duty of the Chief of Police to suppress common gambling houses and gaming rooms, and of the Police Department to inspect houses of ill fame and to repress all disorderly conduct therein, while the members of the police force are authorized to arrest without warrant any person who commits or threatens to commit any offence directly prohibited by act of the Legislature or by lawful ordinance. And, aside from these express provisions of the Charter, the general powers vested in the Police Department are adequate to enable it to remedy such abuses as can be remedied and which exist in the city's moral conditions.

This Committee is virtually ordered to inquire into the prevalence of crime and vice which must, if existing, be due, at least in part, to negligence or lack of zeal in the Police Department or in the officers thereof. Such an investigation should not, in its very nature, be conducted by officials of other City Departments, which are, in their practical operation, more or less allied to the Department under scrutiny. These heads of Departments are appointed by the Mayor of this city to discharge certain official duties and it is only right and proper that their whole time and energy should be devoted to the work of their several Departments and the assumption of new and voluntary duties imposed upon them by private behest would seem to indicate a strange misconception of public duty.

The Demand for Our Copper.

We have been selling over a million pounds of copper a day all this year to foreign consumers. The foreign demand has been increasing, while our production has not quite held its own. It is said that our mines are prepared to increase their output to a considerable extent, but there is little prospect that the supply will be so far enhanced as to diminish the price.

In proportion to the world's supply no metal is now in so great demand as copper. The market for it is very active because, though the United States and all the leading nations of Europe are great consumers, none of them produces it in large quantities except this country. The United Kingdom, France and Germany are by far the largest buyers of copper ingots, bars and plates in Europe, but none of them produces the metal except Germany, and the German output is only from 17,000 to 20,000 tons a year. Great Britain can buy copper in no parts of her vast empire except in Australasia and Canada, and the receipts from these sources are only a small part of the metal she consumes.

But we have plenty of copper and to spare. The United States produce more than one-half, and Spain and Portugal about one-fourth, of the world's supply. We sell about one-half of the copper we mine, though we lead the world in the amount of copper consumed. Great Britain, France and Germany buy nearly all of the United States product that is sold abroad, and about one-fourth as much copper as we sell to foreign lands is brought into this country, not for consumption here, but for conversion at our Atlantic coast refineries into plates and wire for foreign use.

The world's production has increased about one-third since 1894, and it has increased more rapidly in this country than in any other large producing region. But still the supply has scarcely kept pace with the demand, swollen constantly by the expansion of electrical industries. Next to silver, copper is the best conductor of heat and electricity, and with the vast development of the telegraph and telephone services and the new use of electricity to transmit power and thus supplant the horse and the steam engine, the demand for the metal steadily grows. Germany's consumption of copper, for example, increased 50 per cent. in eight years, owing to her greater use of electricity. In addition to the large use of the metal for electrical purposes, enormous quantities are alloyed with zinc in the production of brass, which next to iron is the most important metal used in the arts. And copper goes with tin to make bronze.

Fortunate is the country that is able to supply most of the raw materials as well as the manufactured articles it needs. No wonder the United States excite the astonishment of other nations when they practically supply 76,000,000 people with all the breadstuffs, metals, minerals and fibres they require and have an enormous surplus to distribute to the world.

The Armor Plate Settlement.

The agreement between the Navy Department and the armor plate manufacturers is a victory for Secretary LONG, at all events so far as the vessels now partially built and those authorized are concerned. The dispute may be revived possibly over the armor for the next group of vessels, but the present agreement will make another disagreement less likely to occur.

The financial profit obtained by Secretary LONG'S refusal to accept the original bids is considerable. The bids made in August were $490 a ton; the agreement reduces the price to a minimum of $420 and a maximum of $455.52 a ton, the difference being due to the possibility that royalty may have to be paid on the armor. In figures the saving will be $850,276 compared with the price asked in August, and $2,228,528 compared with the price of $550 a ton asked by the companies more than a year ago.

This saving is the least of the advantages of the settlement. More important is the obviating of the necessity of creating a Government armor plate establishment, which the Secretary of the Navy was authorized and directed to build, unless he obtained reasonable bids for armor. The sum of $4,000,000 was appropriated for the cost of this plant. To create such a factory would be impossible in any reasonable time; and the cost of the 36,000 tons of armor plate to be produced at such a place to fill existing needs undoubtedly would have exceeded the "unreasonable" price of $550 a ton.

Much more important, however, is the fact that the agreement makes it possible to complete the battleships Maine, Missouri and Ohio, to make contracts for the Georgia, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, which were authorized in 1899, but were not to be constructed unless their necessary armor was in sight, and to contract also for the Virginia and Rhode Island, the two battleships authorized on the same conditions at the last session of Congress. These battleships were not the only vessels whose construction, though authorized, depended on an agreement on the armor plate question; six armored cruisers likewise were delayed by the dispute over the price of armor, so that the agreement just made releases some fourteen vessels of the first class, for every one of which there is need.

The full effect of Secretary LONG'S management is thus seen to be very great.

Punishing fiendishness with fiendishness is more horrible than the original crime. The lynching of the negro boy with fire at Limon is the most shocking savagery ever perpetrated in this country. It was madness of the darkest sort, deserving universal execration, and uncompromising vindication of the law on the part of the authorities of Colorado.

Cincinnati is the only American city of more than 300,000 population in 1890 or 1900 which shows by the census less than 10 per cent of an increase for the past ten years. It has gained very little compared with all other American cities, and suggestions from Cleveland, Columbus, Wheeling, Toledo, Indianapolis and Covington (Ky.) that Cincinnati is decadent have provoked a formal rejoinder in what is perhaps the most of the United States as "the Queen City of the West." This rejoinder is in the rather of detail than of generalization, and is offered by the *Times Star*, not in mitigation of the meagre city growth shown by the census figures, but in answer to the intemperately envious comments of other Ohio cities and neighboring West Virginia and Kentucky towns. What is claimed for Cincinnati—with the Queen City of Hamilton county, Ohio, a distinction no census figures can take from it—is as follows:

"Cincinnati has the largest veneer mill in America.

"It has the largest playing card factory in the world.

"It makes more candies than any other American city.

"It makes more iron safes than any city of the world.

"More harness and saddles are made in Cincinnati than in any other city of the United States.

"It has the largest tannery in the world.

"There are in the United States no soap figures as large as Cincinnati's.

"Cincinnati and the neighboring Kentucky cities of Covington and Newport pay one-sixth the entire internal revenue of the Government.

"No other city in the world but Cincinnati owns an entire railway, the Cincinnati Southern."

In the face of such an array of sundry and authenticated claims to civic preeminence, those willing to disparage Pork polis—one colloquially so called—will do well to forbear from further criticism of a great municipality which has really so much to commend it to public regard.

American Soldiers Commended by British Generals

From the London Gazette.

Among many instances of personal bravery in the action I would specially bring to notice the conduct of First Lieut. Smedley D. Butler, United States Marine Corps, in bringing in a wounded man from the front under heavy and accurate fire. Lieut. Butler was wounded while so doing, and was himself carried out of the firing line by the Adjutant, First Lieut. Henry Leonard, who, I regret to say, was dangerously wounded in so doing.

Capt. Lawton, Acting Adjutant of the Ninth Regiment, brought me news of their condition, under a heavy fire, and when returning with the relief requesting guide them to his regiment was severely wounded.

A. R. F. DUNWARD,
Brigadier-General.

I would also like to mention the names of two American officers who gallantly supported our fighting line, viz.

Major William Quinton, Fourteenth United States Infantry.

Capt. J. R. M. Taylor, Fourteenth United States Infantry.

As regards other officers and men, I deem the conclusion of the campaign to be the most fitting moment to bring their services to your Lordship's notice. ALFRED GASELEE, Lieutenant-General,
Commanding China Expeditionary Force.

A Tax on Childless Frenchmen.

From the Medical Record.

A bill has been introduced into the French Senate providing for a tax on celibates of both sexes after they reach the age of 25, and upon childless couples who have been married for five years, the tax to be maintained until a child is born to them. The aim of the bill is, of course, to provide a remedy for the threatening depopulation of France by increasing the birth rate.

CHICAGO'S CONSTABULARY ERA.

Police Corruption Which Followed the State's Attempt to Govern the City.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Some newspapers in New York have cited the effect of a constabulary police law in other cities. None that I have seen, however, has referred to the evil which befell Chicago when the Governor of Illinois, under such a law as Senator Platt proposes for New York, appointed a police board for the metropolis of the sucker State.

It happened about twenty-seven years ago, soon after the big fire. If I am correct, Harvey D. Colvin was Mayor.

The Police Board appointed by the Governor consisted of two Republicans and one Democrat. The board appointed the chief. In the police history of Chicago there was never anything to compare with the period in which this Police Board was in power. The chief was a Democrat. He was not even competent to travel beat. With the Police Board behind him, however, he was a terrible fellow. He surrounded himself with men who were fearless, faithful, brave, and, what is more, they were honest. The chief was a big man, with a face that would frighten a man who was guilty of anything. He was a man of great physical courage, and he was a man who was not afraid of anything. Being a native of Ireland, he was a man who was not afraid of the devil himself. Tammany leaders were afraid of him. Tammany judges were afraid of him. Tammany aldermen were afraid of him. The chief was a man who, if he had a duty to perform, was not afraid of anybody. He was a man who, if he had a duty to perform, was not afraid of anything. He was a man who, if he had a duty to perform,