

its individuality, - and to have assumed those conventional characteristics which come only from combination. As society progresses in the means of self defence against crime, and discovers new methods of detection more efficient & more certain, - the wicked man is forced to multiply his agents - or means of escape from the strong grasp of justice. He has at command but one kind of skill within himself, and he is led to study how he may render available the skill of other knaves in combination, - & thus we see the depravity of man by necessity reduced to a system.

In no period of the world have we seen so many conspiracies against property, innocence & life, as during the past three years. Altho' this feature of the times may be regarded by the cursory observer as singular & unaccountable, still, a little reflection will show the desperate position of the wicked man of the present times, as compared with that of former days. To say nothing of the gradual improvement of the Police of civilized nations, of the reciprocal action of governments in the surrender of criminals, which has been considerable & even striking, as it would appear to any one who will study the subject as it may be found developed in the pages of history, - we may find in the modern discovery of the magnetic telegraph a topic sufficiently vast & prolific in causes for all purposes of present illustration.

By this instrument of science it may be said almost without exaggeration that the Police of our Country is omnipresent.

It was said in olden time that the wicked fleeeth when no man pursues, - and it has always been viewed by the wrong-doer that safety consisted in the means of flight from the scene of his guilt. - But now it is far otherwise. The crime is discovered, the criminal is sought for by every means which the judgment of man is capable of yielding. It is published here, & there & every where with the speed of lightning. All eyes are