

THE DESTRUCTION OF GOTHAM

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The destruction of Gotham by Joaquin Miller

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JOAQUIN MILLER

**THE DESTRUCTION
OF GOTHAM**

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DESTRUCTION OF GOTHAM.

BY
JOAQUIN MILLER.

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PROLOGUE.

Twelve Drunken Women Sent Up.

POLICEMAN WEMER arraigned before Justice O'Reilly, in the Tombs Police Court, yesterday, twelve filthy-looking women. He charged them all with drunkenness

Justice O'Reilly sentenced them to the Island for one month.

The janitor of the Tombs sprinkled carbolic acid about the room after the women were led off to jail.—*Evening Telegram, New York, June 24.*

* * * * *

A Baby in the Police Court.

To-day, when the car-driver, R., arose to plead drunkenness, induced by want and overwork, in palliation of the crime for which he was to be sentenced, a baby voice cried out from down in the dirty crowd: "Oh, mamma, dar's poor papa! Papa, tome and tiss baby." But "poor papa" was sent away from "baby" fifteen years, for his drunken crime. And we stop here to wonder where and what "baby" will be when he comes back from the States Prison?

* * * * *

But let us not multiply these daily reports. These are given merely as an example of the life here, the death here—the death of soul; the death of body and of soul.

These two examples are both from the lowly walks of life—the lowest, perhaps.

Let us now take two from the higher walks of life—the highest, perhaps—and then you can guess fairly well what lies between. By striking the highest possible average you can see clearly that a city lies here in the shadow of its doom; that its destruction is not far off if this condition of things long prevails. But here are the