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A LESSON OF THE FAIR.

The great exhibition at St. Louis is no more. It was the largest affair of the kind ever attempted, and it commemorated one of the most important events in the history of the world. It has brought its innumerable lessons to the present generation, and passed away, leaving those who came to see and to admire, to profit, or not, by its wonderful illustrations.

The marvels of the Fair were many. There were placed in view the wonderful labor-saving machinery invented during the last century for the benefit of the agriculturist. There were specimens of the infinite variety of fruits and flowers cultivated in our age. The spectator was almost bewildered by the display of electric appliances, none of which were even thought of a century ago. Then, there were exhibitions of the results of our educational system, and it was impossible not to note, from the work of children on view, that children of from eight to ten or fifteen years of age are now further advanced in reading, writing, mathematics, history, etc., than were the great majority of people a hundred years ago. It is not so very long since the English law was framed permitting any peer of the realm unable to write his name, to make his "mark" on any official document. Fancy a senator, or congressman, in our age unable to write his name! And then there was the display of machinery of all kinds and for all purposes, and of wealth, almost fabulous.

The lesson of all this is that the world has, apparently, developed more rapidly during the past century than during an entire millennium previous to it. And it is perfectly clear to anyone who will study closely the causes and effects, that this development is due to the influence of the American republic. Here people were free, and here talent gathered from all parts of the world. Had the world had no America, it would have been about where Russia is today. And under despotism, inventions are suppressed. Genius is suppressed. Intelligence has no chance, except where there is freedom. What the world is today, it owes very largely to this country, which, under Providence, has become a treasure-house for all that is best on earth.

The world has always had its intellectual giants. No matter how far back we turn the leaves of history, we meet their names on almost every page. We find Galileo, Newton, Shakespeare, Luther, Melancthon, Gustavus Adolphus, Paul, Plato, Socrates, Solon, Moses, Abraham—all men who, in one way or another, helped framing the history of the age in which they lived, but such progress as this last century has seen, such general diffusion of knowledge, the world has never witnessed before.

And yet, this universal knowledge does not appear to be sufficient to save the world from the dominating influence of crime, or from pending trouble. If signs do not fail, we see brewing all around us in the world, the ingredients which ultimately will produce difficulties. The world is apparently nearing a time in which the passions, the frenzy of mankind will easily overflow and threaten its civil, social and religious institutions with anarchy. It is the very knowledge that is being spread abroad in the world today that is preparing for this great "trouble," as it is called in the Scriptures. If knowledge and all the inventions of today are permitting some to become the masters of the world and transforming the masses into puppets, it is also inspiring to resistance. The masses will never again become slaves. If the great combinations go too far, there will be an outburst without parallel in history.

JAPAN AND FRANCE.

The Japanese government is said to be very much irritated on account of the action of France in permitting the Russian squadron to coal in French harbors. If Japan loses in this war, she certainly has ground for complaint, and we would think an arbitration court would award her heavy damages. If Japan comes off victorious, she can afford to overlook the assistance given to Russia by France, and collect her damages from Russia, but otherwise she certainly has a good case against the ally of her enemy. Russia, without some such assistance, would hardly have been in a position to send her Baltic fleet to the Pacific. The battleship Gallia and the steamer Petersburg and Smolensk would have been unable

to get out of the Red Sea but for French aid. Japanese ships found Cherbourg a good port of call, and they also were harbored at Dakar, French West Africa. Aigiers was also used by the portion of the fleet that took the Mediterranean route. France might as well have permitted a Russian army to pass through French territory, and obtain supplies there, provided she had territory near the scene of war, as to aid and assist a fleet sent out on a hostile mission. During our war with Spain, the attitude of France was correct. That country refused to permit Cervera to take in coal at Martinique. Why she has not followed the same policy now, is quite apparent. But the violation of her neutrality may yet cause trouble.

THAT LABOR BUREAU.

According to the instructions issued annually from the office of the presiding Bishopric, stake presidents, bishops, and others, are requested to look after people who may come here, without means and without friends to take care of them. In order to do this kind of charity work effectively, they are asked to furnish information concerning opportunities for employment, such as farm help, mechanics, and artisans of all kinds. Also if land can be acquired on reasonable terms upon which homes can be made, or where land can be rented. Such reports are kept on file in the office of the presiding Bishop, and if anybody comes there asking where employment can be had, he is given the benefit of the reports sent in from various places. He is not even asked what his religion is, but the information obtained is as freely given, as it is received.

This work, we understand, was inaugurated some years ago, when work was scarce and many were unable to support their families, because they did not know where to go to seek employment. Many were thus benefited. Many who in the city would have become a public burden, were directed to places where they found an opportunity of making a living. In later years, the information offered has not been sought very eagerly, because of the greater facilities for obtaining work by all classes.

This "labor bureau," as it has been called, has been in operation for several years. It has publicly announced its existence, and every well informed person here has known something about it. There has been no secrecy as to its aims and purposes. Everything connected with it has been, and is, open to the public. It is an institution of which Church members are rather proud, for they believe that it is an acceptable service to the Almighty, to render assistance, of a temporal as well as spiritual nature, to any of His children, even the least of them.

We make this statement for the benefit of those who possibly may believe that there must be something in the story concerning contract labor connected with the Church. The Tribune knows perfectly well that it is a falsehood concocted for its own purposes. Some of its readers may be less correctly informed. But how funny, to try to start a storm now around charity work which has been carried on for years, in the open daylight, without adverse comment!

A MENACE TO CIVILIZATION.

The London Spectator, speaking of the increase of crime in the United States expresses the opinion that the American people must, to avert "a grave menace to civilization," undertake radical reforms in the administration of justice.

Mr. McClure, in the current number of McClure's Magazine, takes practically the same view. Commenting on the terrible statistics of homicides, he asks these questions, which may be considered a clue to the underlying cause, as well as a suggestion of the nature of the reform needed:

"Is it possible for officials to prevent ordinary crimes who are selected and elected generally for reasons other than special fitness for their task, and frequently for the definite purpose of robbing the people who elect them?"
"Can a body of policemen engaged in blackmail, persecution and in shielding lawbreakers make a community law-abiding?"
"Can a body of policemen engaged in criminal practices prevent others from committing crimes?"
"Can a board of aldermen who for private gain, combine to loot a city, govern a city well?"

It is evident that where such conditions prevail, and they are not fictitious, the suppression of crime cannot be attempted seriously.

The New York World adds this indictment of public officials:

"There is hardly a state in which legislation cannot be bought. There is not a large city in the United States in which it is not possible to purchase the privilege of violating the law. The cheapest 'fin-horn' gambler in New York can swing more effectively political influence than the president of Columbia University, and there is hardly a municipality in which the balance of power in government is not held in a close election by men who should be in the penitentiary."

These quotations show that many eyes are opened to the dangers of lawlessness. In this country the people are, themselves, responsible for the existing conditions. For a certain time they may be imposed upon, but as soon as they realize the dangers of bad government, there will be a day of reckoning and reform.

HUMAN SACRIFICE IN AMERICA

The New York Evening Mail has this to say of a subject that should be of general interest:

"Not much progress, surely, is made in the movement to render American football a little more humane by bringing it a trifle nearer to the Rugby game. A semi-official list of the fatal accidents in the game this year brings the number up to thirteen, which was exactly last year's figure, though the season is not yet quite over. And it appears that the list of serious injuries will exceed that of any year since American youth took to the game."

"Thirteen dead boys—boys sent suddenly to the grave by concussion of the brain, by broken necks, by internal injuries—in one short autumn, constitute a terrible indictment of any sport, as

they would of any occupation of stress and peril. The advantage to be derived from football must be very great to compensate for such a slaughter."

"Nor is the record of death the end of the story. It was lately given as an explanation of Harvard's poor record against Yale this year that its players had been so 'done up' by the game that only one of its original team, at the beginning of the season, was unharmed and able to face Yale. The same, as at present playing, leaves a trail of cripples and weaklings, as well as of dead, behind it."

This view, if we are not misinformed, is gradually being adopted by all whose opinion is worth anything. School teachers ought to be among the first to throw their influence against human sacrifices upon the altar of sport, and in favor of some athletic exercises that are bracing and manly, without needlessly brutal.

Farewell to the World's Fair!

All roads no longer lead to St. Louis.
It is the drummer who leads the true sample life.

President Diaz of Mexico believes in interminable terms.

Is Zeigler, Illinois, trying to rival Telluride, Colorado?

It is too late for the fall of Port Arthur to occur in the fall.

The Louisiana Purchase exposition has joined the ranks of the closed shops.

Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick seems to have been indulging in a little frenzied finance.

The Oregon land fraud cases show there is much of the land of promise in the Webfoot state.

In what meter will the Japanese sing the capture of the 203 Meter Hill? It offers some fine figures.

A rolling stone gathers no moss but the pension roll does. More than a million names on it now.

"Don't make eyes in church," says Dowie. This must be for the protection of the unknissed Gladstone.

A partisan school board means partisan schools, and partisan schools mean unsatisfactory schools.

The Kaiser brought down nine hundred and ten pheasants in one day's shooting. Truly he is a royal shot.

It is still hard to convince a defeated candidate that it is better to have voted and lost than not to have voted at all.

"Is Magna Charta a myth?" asks an exchange. If it is isn't a sun myth, for the sun rarely shines at Runnymede.

Vice President-elect Fairbanks' definition of the administration's tariff policy is, practically, Let well enough alone.

According to the organ of the un-American party a non-sectarian Board of Education means an anti-Mormon board.

Champion Jim Jeffries has not reached the top rung in the theatrical ladder of fame but he has a good fighting chance.

General Stossel continues to hold his own at Port Arthur. He is likely to become the hero of the war on the Russian side.

The first qualification for a senatorial candidate is votes. Without them all others sink into insignificance. Experience proves this.

Queen Alexandra was sixty years old yesterday. She doesn't look it; and queens as well as other women are just as old as they look.

Nissen, proprietor of the Foolkiller No. 3 has justified the name he gave his strange craft or balloon. His body has been found on the lake shore.

General Jacob S. Coxey has become a bankrupt. Paid too much attention to the good roads movement instead of following the road that leads to fortune and to fame.

It is right and proper to listen to Panama's complaints, but it will probably be found in the end that they are nothing but complaints. Revolution being out of the question, some vent must be found for the Panamanians' pent up revolutionary feelings.

OPINION OF A SOUTHERN OPTIMIST

New Orleans Picayune.

That these southern states of ours will become the seat of a grand material development and a splendid civilization which will give them a political and material power like unto which that which the south enjoyed in the first fifty years of the republic's existence will be but a mere shadow of greatness is sure. But it must be borne in mind that wealth and power come not by supine indolence and waiting, but by seizing every opportunity and utilizing every resource to the utmost. Then only will the south realize the highest grandeur of its destiny.

A SOUTHERN MAN NEXT TIME.

Atlanta Constitution.

The character of the defeat administered the Democratic national ticket has had one effect most gratifying. It has served as an object lesson corroborative of the contention the Constitution has for a long time advanced, that "The Democrats of the south should insist upon the nomination of a southern man for the presidency in 1908."

THE SPECIAL WAR CORRESPONDENT

Washington Post.

We incline to the belief that the mission of the special war correspondents is at an end. There will always be one or two trained, practical men with each army, but the duty of these men will be to write about accomplished facts and to amplify and render intelligent to the general reader the brief official telegrams. This, indeed, has been the extent of the journalistic work in the present war. It has served every purpose. We have, it is true, missed some picturesque English and been denied the views of some of the military strategists, but the deprivation has not been severe. All the essential facts have been laid before us

promptly and accurately, and with this presentation we can well afford to be content.

HE HAS A FREE HAND.

Harper's Weekly.

The most effective words ever written by Theodore Roosevelt were those penned on election night, declining renomination. We say "effective" advisedly. To the hundreds of thousands who had voted on faith these words bore the definite assurance that their confidence was not misplaced. That Mr. Roosevelt had determined upon this course was well known to his friends, but with commendable pride he withheld the announcement until a time when by no possibility could it be construed as a bid for political support. We cannot say that we approve of his position, for the reason that circumstances might arise which would put it in flat opposition to the welfare of the country and the desires of the people, nor in these times do we attach much importance even to the wholly misunderstood two-term tradition. But if it was to be done, that was the time to do it. If, in consequence, anybody ever had a freer hand to write his name full and large upon the pages of history, we cannot recall his name.

GOOD ADVICE.

Cannon Falls Beacon.

Let us administer the chloride of lime treatment to the remains of the late political unpleasantness, immerse it in the tomb of the dim, damp past and let it go at that.

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