### FEBRUARY 1, 1810

# Benjamin Reece in Popular Ecience Montuly.

The political and material progress of the nineteenth century have been truly wonderful. The past year was memorable as the anniversary of the inaugura. tion of the first President of this great republic, and what a record of bewilder ing changes do those hundred years unfold? Thirteen States have been in. creased to forty two, and the center of population has moved back from the seaboard to a point nearly a thousand miles in the interior. The lakes of the North have given birth to gigantic commercial

murts, which rival in trade, wealth and culture those seats of ancient pomp, and empires and cities of media val gra flourished on the shores of the Mediterranean. The affairs of the remotest portions of

this immense domain, together with the this immense domain, together with the world's more notable events, are regularly recorded in the daily press and read the morning following at the breakfast table. The traveller boards the train at New York, having telegrephed his friend in Chicago to meet him at the station tweaty four hours later, giving the exact minute of his arrival at a place a thousand miles distant from his starting-point A change of cars is made for Sau Francisco, and after riding over hundreds of miles and after riding over hundreds of miles of fertile prairie covered with growing of fartile prairie covored with growing crops, crossing wide rivers spanned by bridges which fifty years ago were deemed impossible, across boundless plains where countles herds of cattle aud flocks of sheep are fed, and passing through was mountain ranges pierced by tunneted pas sage-ways, the travoller reaches his destin ation upon the shores of the Pacific Osean the year winning of the date anones of the the very minute of the day announced to him by the ticket agent in New York. If we turn our thoughts seaward the

development is no less remarkable ; for the long, dangerous and uscertain voyages once by sail to Europe are now con ducted with almost equal regularity and safety, and the mammoth steamers of the Olyde accomplish in days the trips which formerly took months to perform, and, within an hour of the eafe landing of the passengers, the electric telegraph through the media of lines and ocean cables dis-closes to friends at home the news of their eafe arrival. In the political world the progress of the century has not have progress of the contury has not been less marked England, which during the reign of George III. so persisted in tyran nical measures of taxation as to push its American colonies into a successful struggle for freedom, has extended the utmost liberty of action to its remaining American dependencies and Australian colonies; so, when Britian was threatened with hostilities in the East, she moved to the scene of action the dusky warriors of her Indian empire, while the impetuous youth of her distant colonies volunteered to do her service on the desert cands of Africa or in the mountain fastnesses of Asiatic Russia. Within a generation has been witnessed the voluntary liberation of the serfs of Ruesia, the slaves of Cuba and South America, and in our own country chattel slavery was forever extin

gutched by the sword. The growth of liberal ideas and the love of liberty have been very marked. Hungary has been granted the right to legislate upon its own affairs ; a republic been established in France, and in of dire forbedings and prophecies of evil has withstood every shock and weathered every storm ; while the greatest of English parliamentary leaders, in his declining years exhibiting all the ardor of youth, combined with the vigor of robust manhood and the matured wisdom of old sgo, has brought his feliow-countrymen to a recognition of Ireland's wrongs, and is moving the English masses to extend the principles of Anglo Sixon liberty and home rule to Ireland, which for centuries has been intbralled. But volumes would be required for the mere enumeration of the growth and development which have come with extended knowledge and the more general schooling of the people. Is it any wonder that statesmen unstint-ingly provide for the wants of our public

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS AFFECTING CRIME AND VICE. dustrial, commercial, and mechanical de-velopment all that the statesman and student of sociology is to our moral, social, student of sociology is to our moral, social, and political progress If in a convention of engineers a verified report had been made that bridges of accepted form were showing visible signs of weakness, the report would have been listened to with the greatest construction and dismsy The convention would have instituted the closest inquiry and most searching exam-inations; it would have stopped the con-struction of such bridges until the causes of failure had been determined and the remedy escartained, and failing in this the construction of such bridges would have construction of such bridges would have been permanently shandoned and more perfect structures substituted. But here was the m at astounding fact

Ratio of saloons to population.

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But here was the mast actounding fact that in South Carolina, which in 1880 had more than half its population resurced as illiterate, the educated negroes furnished a large proportion of its crimicals, pressed upon a representative body of philenthrop late, publicits, and stateemen, and it did not so much as provokes comment, while the author of the statement body the author of the statement boldy sfirmed his upersken faith in a theory the facts of which he hed himself im pugned. What deference should we pay to thought unless based upon correct abservations, and of what utility are facts and experiences unless their teachings are beeded and their meaning properly in-

terpreted ? In his "Political Science" Woolsey tells In ms "Political Science" woolsey tells us that "the fall of the Roman Empire was an effect of a moral ruin." Yet all will admit that Rome and the other civilizations of antiquity were richer and more learned in the time of their decay more learned to the time of their decay then during the period of their infancy and growth; but, the moral correlative being wanting, they tottered to their fail Just look at the records of our mentally and morally deranged as exhibited in our statistics of insanity and erime and vice, and they alone are enough to cast doubt upon the claim that a public school edu-cation for our illiterates is sufficient to usure a decrease of mental and moral delinquency. For it remains to be ex plained why, in the decade ending with 1880, population baying increased thirty per cent, and illiteracy only ten per cent, a relative decrease; that the number of criminals during the same period present the alarming increase of eighty two per cent, while of insue persons there ap pears the enormous addition of one hun-dred and forty-five per cent.?

Oan it be possible that with greater educational facilities there is to be inreased crime, and that every enlargement in the seating capacity of our schools is to be followed by a larger corresponding demand for insane accommodations, and additional felons' cells? Perish the the thought ! Yet if the instruction of our common schools subdues the tendency to crime, why is it that the ratio of pricon-ers, being one in 3,442 inhabitants in 1850, rose to one in 3/42 in navimula in 1850, rose to one in every 1 647 in 1860, one in 1 021 in 1870, and one in 837 in 1880; while upon the authority of the Rev. S. W. Dicke, the amount of liquor consumed per capita was three times as the ability of counsel whose services great in 1883 as in 1840?

One naturally looks to the large and Constant inflax of foreign immigrants as a partial explanation of this growing dis porportionate increase of crime; but the inad quately portray the extent of crime which, in strict justice, is properly charge. able to the educated classes Of the pris oners of Auburn and Sing Sing it is further noted that twenty per cent. were total abstainers from intoxicants, showing

which

borportionate increase of crime; but the facts decay the hope, for the great increase is to be found among the native born. The Rev F H. Wines, who conducted this brauch of the "Tenth Census Report," says that, while in 1850 the ratio of foreign climinals to population was five times that of the netive born, in 1880 the ratio was only two to one and if an day ratio was only two to one ; and if we de-duct the commitments for disorder and mmorality, the ratio of foreign criminals s but little in excess of that for native whites. So clearly is this indicated by facts and figures that Mr. Wines arrives at the conclusion that "the foreign disre-gard for law shows itself far more in im morality and disorder than in dishonesty and violence."

An examination of the "Compendium of the Teuth Census" of the United States di-closes some novel and threatened facts. The fliterates of the United States comprise seventeen per cent. of the total population. The morally and mentally deranged, as shown by the number of the average ratio of the mentally and morally unsound is only reached in the State of Maryland. South Carolina, which shows the highest percentage of illit erates, viz, fifty five and four tenths, pre sents the lowest average of any State in the Union as regards instally and crime, having but one delinquent in every 568 inhabitants as compared with one in every 167 in California, one in 205 in Massachu setts, and one in every 222 in the State of New York. With the single exception of the State of Maine, every Northern State east of Ludiaus has a larger ratio of Senate insane and criminals than the average for he Union, while the States west of Ohio, hose on the Pacifi: slope excepted, fail below the general average. If we measure the extent of unrecorded vice by the proportion of seloons to pep-ulation the showing is no less remarkable. The "Report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the Year 1887," page xxxiii., shows that, for the entire country during that year, a retail license for selling liquor was granted for every 329 inhabitants. Of the fifteen States thousand convicts in the State not more thousand convicts in the State not more than fifty were whites, it was asked by a in the State of Lousiana; while the lowest average in the country was to be found in Mississippi, which, with forty nine and five tenth per cent of its inhabitants returned in 1880 as being illiterate, supported but one saloon for every 1.695 persons. Even the prohibition States of vote possible. Maine and Kansas secured licenses for the sale of intoxicante at retail to an ex sufficient to prove that the voters in the tent only equaled by four of the fifternt States adhere more closely to the super illiterate States. The proportion of scloons to population throughout the fifteen super-liliterate States is one of the States every 700 inhabitants, while of the other

#### THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

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Far from mental stimulation being essential to moral development, the most perfect order and development, the most perfect order and deepest sense of justice are often found associated with the densest ignorance among the lowest races of huma-ity. Turn your attention to the Papuan Islanders the Veddahs, the Dysks of Burne the Evendance and other backs Papuan Islanders the Veddahe, the Dyaks of Borneo, the Fuegians, and other bar barous races which, in the abence of rulers or organized societies, with no learning and but little acquainance with even the rude arts of many primitive people, have developed the highest de-gree of tribal plety, integrity, chastity, and regard f r cover auts almost unknown to diving d man. The tastiment of each to civilized man. The testimony of early travellers proves conclusively that intense poverty and deep ignorance are by no means incompatible with honesty, integ-rity and virtue. The table shows that where the ex.

tremes of poverty and wealth prevail, as in the Eastern States, there is found a maximum of moral and mental derauge ment, a exhibited in insaulty, crime and vice. Where weslth is more evenly dis tributed, as in the Western States, there are noted less insuity and crime, but almost as high a ratio of saloons as in the East. In the South ra States, although having a low per capita of wealth, yet the mental and moral forces of development . more nearly in adjustment with the material environment ; hence the average of crime and vice is shown by the table to be relatively low.

be relatively low. The Rav. F. H. Wines, statistician and philanthropist, who has made questions of crime and criminals the study of a life-time, was selected by the authorities at Washington to compile the statistics b: ar ing on delinquents in the tenth census; and after a careful study of the mass of figures returned, but few of which appear in the compendium, he makes this very remarkable statement concerning the facts The table unmissikably shows a greater per capits of wealth where the fewest clearly shows that this angumentation of riches has been accompanied by increased insanity and crime and more widespread Bat we need not confine ourselves to But we need not confine ourselves to the general statistics of the United States for the records of New York presen similar conditions, which can be analyzed more in detail. The "Annual Report of the Superintendent of the New York State Prisons, 1886" records that the prime of Auburn and Sing Sing conremarkable statement concerning the facte collected and enumerated : "If a comparison is made between offeness against public morals and against public peace, the smallest amount of disorder and the largest of immorality, relatively, are fond smong the native whites, the most disorder and least immorality among the tained 2,616 convicts ; of these, 1 801 are credited with a common school education, 373 are classed as being able to read and negroes; and the foreigners occapy a middle ground between the two." ("American Prisons in the Tenth Census," write, 19 are returned as collegistes, 10 as baving received classical and 75 academic educations, 57 as being able to read only, and 238 as having no education. Is it not "Proceedings of the National Prison Association for 1883," p 268) When it is realized that the native whites repreand 23S as having no education. Is it not contrary to our most confident predic tions and uncoubled expectations that the common schools should furnish eighty-three per cent, and the colleges and academies over four per cent, of the in-mates of Auburn and Sing Sing ? When it is remembered that the de tacted illiterate generally finds his way to prison, while the bighty educated or wall sent the batter educated portion of our population, and the negroes the more illiterate, while the foreigners are on an educational scale between the two, the significance of the statement can neither

e saineaid nor belittled. We are, they, confronted by facts which reveal a condition of decreasing illiter-acy and increasing crime, of augmenting prison, while the bigbly educated or well to-do are frequently saved by friends, who compound the felony to escape ex-posure and consequent family disprace; that many are saved from conviction by While inventors and engineers have united continents by steamship lines and cables, States by telegraph and railway lines, and diffes by bridges, statesmen have far beyond the means of the illiterate poor, while still many others escape into voluntary exile to avoid imprisonment, it will be seen that even the figures given vainly sought to unite the interests of employers and employes, of railway managers and shippers, of producers and con-sumers; and every legislative measure in tended to harmouize the interests of these coufficting elements has given rive to greater irritation and more complicated evils.

Since the record of material progress very clearly that a perfect mastery of self is by no means necessarily allied with an and mechanical construction has been one of unvarying cortainty and triumph, while legislation has so often led to failure in the investigation of this educational problem, honest regard for the rights and property of others. But if the education of the masses is will it not be well to reject the hap hazard devices of the legislator, and confine our accompanied by no diminution of vice, crime and insanity, what shall we say of selves to the scientific methods so succe fully employed by the constructing engineer and mechanical inventor? Take, for illustration, the history of Bessener steel railway-bars. The introduction and the effect illiteracy may have upon our institutions by the abuse or misuss of the suffrage? The following extract from the address of the Rev J C Hartzall, dellv-ered before the National Education As use of these bars for our railway-tracks so chespened the cost of transportation that it made possible the development of the sembly at Ocean Grove, in August, 1885 with other extracts, is incorporated far Western States and Territories, which far western States and territories, which find themselves enabled to profitably market produce thousands of miles away.

in the speech of Senator Blair on his Educational Bill, delivered in the Senate, February 8, 1886, presents a fair example of the rather extravegnt statements often made by publicists and statement concern-ing the dangers attending the exercise of Twenty years ago, under a traffic which constituted but a small fraction of the mileage which the same roads are per the elective franchise by illiterate voters forming to-day, iron rails became worn down and laminated with such rapidity more general schooling of the people, Is it any wonder that sittesmen unstint-ingly provide for the wants of our public schools; that divines dwell with rapture upon the blessings they have brought us; that political crators eulog'ze them as the foundation of the average ratio of the acception of Missouri, but I'ne reverend doctor thus appealed to the to the reason and the consciences of the duced, and its hand, homogeneous metal people; but the figures disclose the alarm. officient appeared; for, while the steel rails suffered but little from wear, they ing fact that in eleven States these illiter te voters outnumber the votes cast in the ST. MARY'S ACADEMY, WINDSOR, OVTARIO. This institution is pleasantly located in the town of Windsor, opposite Detroit, and combines in its system of education great facilities for acquiring the French language, with thoroughness in the rudimental sawer, with thoroughness in the rudimental sawer, and tuition in French and E glish, pra-and tuition in French and E glish, pra-num, \$100; German free of charge; Music and use of plano, \$49; Drawing and Paint-ing, \$15; Bed and Bedding, \$10; Washing, \$20; private rooms, \$20. For further par-ticulars address the Mother Superior. last presidential (1884) election by either of the political parties. Thus, should they unlite under any strong, impassioned, successful leader, they would have abso-lute control of legislation and offices in developed a provoking tendency to break without giving any previous warning, which served to increase the danger of lute control of legislation and offices in railroad travelling. Upon the discovery those States, and of the election of of this evil, the engineers in charge twenty two members of the United States neither discarded the Bessemer rails, nor did they close their eyes to its obvious defects, but, in imitation of our social con-corns, they kept accurate statistics of the Only a moment's thought is necessary Only a moment's thought is necessary to expose the folly of such ill founded fears, for the suggested peril is contra-vened by the very conditions set forth as dangerous, as the hability to read and write affords a complete and absolute bar against the possibility of such concerted scient for what merus of computations life and breaksge of the rails, and finally discovered that, in the effort to resist the tendency to wear, they had gone so far as to make the metal brittle ; hence the saving to wear was partly lost bacause of the failure of rails by breaking. Lass carbon wes put into the steel, and a softer metal action : for what means of communication act to be employed to unite, for a single purpose, the illiterates of eleven States, who can neither read letters, circulars, documents, nor newspapers, and, still fur was produced, which, while vastly superior to iron as against lamination and abrasion, was sufficiently soft to avoid the breaking, was summerently solt to appear. Do not the facts disclosed by our social statistics cause it to appear that, in the ther. are unable to write answers in rether, are unable to write answers in re-torn? It requires the most perfect organization, careful canvass, and the expenditure of vast sums of money, to bring out a full vote where conditions are adjustment of our schools, we have gone too far in our aim for material advance the most favorable for it, in the enlight-ened and thickly-settled portions of the Union, and only where States are very evenly divided is the organization so per-fected, at great cost, as to make a full ment and development of wealth, and that we are correspondingly losing in the direction of moral growth and culture? Let us, then, imitate the prudence of the ratiway engineer, and, though seeking to retain the advantages which are aiready ours, let us not be blind to the visible de-Hours-12 to 4. D.B. HANAVAN, SURGEON TO "D' Royal School of Infartry. Office and residence, 389 Burwell street, second door from Dundas. But the election returns themselves are fects and besetting dangers of our present system. Let us determine the composi-tion of the training of our public schools; let us see if its parts are well perpertioned and the compound skilfully wrought, and niticen super-liliterate States is one for every 700 inbabitants, while of the other States California heads the list with one to every 99 persons, New Jersey coming next with one license to every 171 in-habitants, followed closely by New York with one to every 179. The table which follows presents some disquieting facts, which should serve as a reslutary warning to those who expand to the same fifteen States cast but ten per selutary warning to those who expand to the same fifteen States cast but ten per the same fifteen states cast but ten per and the compound skillally wrought, and a thorough avalgels may prove, as with the Bessemer steel rail, that, by a judicious change in the nature or proportion of the ingredients, our rapid increase of wealth may suffer a triffing diminution, but the moral balance of education will be re-etored, and material, political and moral progress will mays forward together

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become depraved and the system en-feebled, is the parent of innumerable maladies. That Ayer's Sarsaparilla maladies. That Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the best cure for Indigestion, even when complicated with Liver Complaint,

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foundation of our prosperity and the mainstays of our libertles; that sgitators vehemently demand an extension of their benefits; or that the people feel an honest and unquestioning pride in this govern mental institutions of their own creation, which has promoted religious tolerance, extended the bounds of political liberty, enhanced the nation's wealth, and con-tributed so largely to its power? It, however, is further claimed, and

almost universally silowed, that the instruction of our public schools serves to ennoble the emotions and to moderate the passions, to regenerate the victously in clined, and to correct and subdue the tendency to crime. Devoutly as such a result is to be desired, the facts unhappily flatly contradict the theory, and unless the glaring inconsistencies are reconciled. and contravening evidence is satisfactorily explained, the claim must be abandoned

At a session of the National Prison Cougress, held in Boston during 1888, Mr. Brooker, chairman of the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Penitentiary, than fifty were whites, it was asked by a delegate, "What is the condition of the education of the colored people?" To this question Mr. Brooker made the fol-lowing reply: "Before emandpation the colored people had no opportunity for colored people had no opportunity for education. When made suddenly free, all negroes were illiterate and ignorant. Since that time a yourg generation grown up, and of them a very considerable num ber are well educated. But it is a fearful fact that a large proportion of our prison population is of the educated class. This is so much the case that the idea has become prevalent that to educate the negro is to make him a rascal. But this idea is of course superficial, and does not find lodg ment in the minds of thoughful men. I ment in the minds of thoughtful men. am totally averse to it myself, and think that all reasonable means should be ex-erted toward their enlightenment and education." ("Proceedings of the Na-sional Prison Association," 1888, p. 72) in the table which follows presents some sional Prison Association," 1888, p. 72) fad in mental stimulation an equivalent fad in mental stimulation are equivalent in the table which follows presents some ether to those which follows presents some ether to the same fifteen States cast but ten per cast in the State of Kansas alone, and Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in The constructing engineer is to our in- for moral growth and culture :

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