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A Dangerous Policy.

President McKinley has promised to consider the request of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, that all the ports of Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines be open to the free entry of American products. If President McKinley is a statesman he will throw his influence against any such policy. In the first place it is not yet settled that the United States is to control the internal administration of Cuba or the Philippines. Congress, before the war, solemnly disavowed any intention of annexing Cuba, and the native Cubans evince a strong desire to hold the republic to its word. In the Philippines Aguinaldo imagines he is the George Washington of his country, and has nominated and elected himself its president. If, however, the Cubans and Filipinos are persuaded or thrashed into recognizing the sovereignty of the United States, will the Washington Government dangle the new possessions, or will it copy the generous example of Great Britain, and throw them open to the trade of the world? After fervently applauding Great Britain's stand for the open door in China, is the United States going to bang its own colonial door in Great Britain's face? If United States products are to be admitted free to the new colonies, the products of other countries must be taxed to raise the revenues. That is what the Illinois manufacturers ask. They want the United States to monopolize the trade of its new possessions—to deprive them of commercial freedom. This is the principle of Germany, France, Portugal and Spain. It has always been disastrous. It has starved their colonies; instead of becoming self-supporting, they have been a drain on the mother countries. Great Britain is the only great power that has colonized with success. She invites other nations to build up her colonies by giving them equal privileges with herself in her colonial markets.

American statesmanship has now a chance to confirm the glory of the recent war by following it up with an enlightened colonial policy. There may be some excuse for assimilating the Porto Rican and Cuban tariff to that of the United States on the ground that these countries are insular fragments of the American continent. But it would be a crime to shut the ports of the Philippines against the rest of the world. It would be especially unjust to Great Britain, who has by far the largest share of the trade of these islands, and who has been fighting America's battle for the open door in China.

The White Plague.

The sanitarium at Gravenhurst, established for consumptives, has done splendid work; but the medical authorities complain that most of the patients are sent there too late. As a rule the dread disease cannot be fought in its advanced stages with any hope of success; but incipient consumption can, as a rule, be arrested by proper treatment, and the purpose of the Gravenhurst Sanitarium is to provide the conditions most favorable for such cases. The atmosphere at Gravenhurst is peculiarly adapted to consumptives and nature, always the chief benefactor, is assisted by a high order of medical skill, which is free to work on the most approved lines. But this single establishment is only stopping one hole in a sieve. It can accommodate but a handful of those in this province, who are sinking every year into premature graves. If we are to cope in earnest with the disease, such agencies must be multiplied throughout Ontario. The sooner society recognizes that consumption is contagious the sooner will it seek to safeguard itself by these institutions. Medical science is even insisting on the isolation of consumptives in our public hospitals. By organized effort—by providing sanitariums where patients in the early stages may be isolated for the protection of society, and subjected to a proper regimen—the white plague, whose ravages are more fearful every year, will be checked and the evil confined within the narrowest limits possible.

It is gratifying to note that a movement toward this end has begun in Toronto. At a joint meeting of municipal and medical representatives the erection of a local sanitarium for consumptives was proposed and will be the subject of future discussion. Eighty physicians of Toronto signed a petition recommending the project, and it was stated by Dr. Bryce, chairman of the Provincial Board of Health, that the time would come when every municipality would have its home for consumptives. Independent of this scheme, a number of philanthropic citizens have offered to subscribe toward the building of a similar institution to be under private control. Well-to-do patients will no doubt prefer such places, but it will be incumbent on every community to care for its indigent consumptives when the condition of things predicted by Dr. Bryce comes to pass.

With Cuba and Porto Rico added to the census of the republic, the United States Catholic population has been increased by three millions. The see of Santiago de Cuba, by the way, was the first in the western hemisphere. Cuba was once known as "The Land of the Ave Maria."

Where a Short Workday Is a Success.

The question of whether or not the short work-day would prejudicially affect the earning power of a factory has been the sticking point at which all movements for a nine-hour day in this country, and an eight-hour day in Great Britain have been compelled to pull up. In Great Britain those who have favored the eight-hour day, or 48 hours a week, have been divided into two classes: The workmen who have urged that by such means the unemployed would be absorbed, and those who have held that the vigor of the individual working shorter hours would be so substantially improved that his output would not be diminished, but might be increased. The experience of the British war office factories favored the latter view, as did also that of the Messrs. Allan, the great engineering firm. The later and most important addition to the illustrations of the benefit of the short day, at least in certain lines of employment, is supplied by the Sunderland correspondent of the London Times. Seven years ago the eight-hour day was adopted in the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. Short Bros. This firm desired to have a prolonged experience before they pronounced an opinion, and the verdict is decidedly in favor of the short day. Over the whole period they have had more work done under the eight hours' system than under the nine. The men have not only worked better, but, what has had more obvious value, they have worked more steadily. Messrs. Short assert that they have experienced the apparent paradox of getting more hours' work under the short than under the long system. The short hours' system involved a start at 6 a.m., and a break at 9 for breakfast; and it has been the experience, wherever this rule has existed, that a considerable percentage of men miss the pre-breakfast spell. Under the eight hours' system this cannot happen, and there is the additional advantage of having to start operations—a process always taking some time—only twice instead of thrice a day. If all work with a single eye to secure the best results, it is wonderful how much can be accomplished in a short time. Less than 100 years ago, the British workman toiled sixteen and eighteen hours a day for much less pay than he now receives, and with much less satisfactory results to the man who employed him.

Splendid Testimony for Ontario.

The Christian Standard, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a widely-circulated religious journal, contains in its last issue (Oct. 15) one of the best testimonials that Ontario has ever been favored with in a foreign publication. It comes from former residents of the United States—members of the Christian Church—who located in Rainy River district, in this Province. The fact that their evidence is entirely unsolicited, and has none of the special pleading of the immigration agent, gives it double value. The letter is as follows:

"In view of the fact that large numbers of interested persons are making inquiry concerning the condition and possibilities of Rainy River, Ontario, we, the undersigned members of the Christian colony, feel it our duty to set forth some of the facts concerning the land of promise:

"1. Possibilities.—It is not a question of appearance only, but its fertility has been demonstrated by the crops grown. Wheat, rye, oats, timothy, clover, potatoes, and all other root crops are as fine as can be found in any part of North America. Some, of course, will say, 'virgin soil, you will expect that'; but there are farms on the river front that have been occupied and farmed fourteen years, which produce as fine crops as in the beginning.

"2. Probabilities.—Probabilities in the line of development. In the present condition the country is largely a wilderness. The difficulty of development, however, is not as great as one would first suppose. Farms which have been tenanted for from two to four years have open fields, with scarcely a stump visible; while the country proves to be beautifully rolling. In a few brief years we believe every acre of arable land will be taken by bona fide settlers. Farms are, and will be, opened up, and we will have one of the most beautiful rural sections north of the Gulf of Mexico.

"We expect trials incident to rural life. In some things we are disappointed, but our disappointments have been more than over-balanced by agreeable surprises in other ways. "We feel confident that any man with health, energy, and pluck, can have in this country a comfortable home for himself and family. The resources are here. What is needed is development. Chicken-heartedness, or utopian ideas are not the things which will win them for him.

"Signed by J. Carey Smith, from Indiana; A. M. Sweeney, from Oregon; J. L. Sweeney, from Oregon; John McDermid, from North Dakota; George Lang, from Ontario; Green Norris, from Illinois; Jerry Donaldson, from Illinois; Adam Donaldson, from Illinois; E. A. Baptist, from Illinois; J. H. Edger, from Iowa; G. E. Littlefield, New York; J. W. Moore, from Ohio."

There is the right ring about this letter. It is the sentiment of men who are not afraid of pioneer hardships when they see a reasonable reward ahead. It is a timely reminder, also, that Ontario offers as inviting a field to the immigrant as do Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. It is to be Rainy River district will induce more of their brethren to join them.

The city engineer of Toronto recommends a sewage farm system at a cost of \$1,730,000. As the estimated cost of our own system, completed, is only \$200,000, the figures for Toronto seem enormously out of proportion. In London, however, the sewage can be carried to the coasts by gravitation. In Toronto the sewage would have to be pumped to the filtering land at a cost of \$465,000. That is where London has a natural advantage.

Looking at Chicago and then at Paris just now, it would appear that a peace jubilee is a much happier affair than a peace commission.

Five-cent cotton has plunged the cotton growers of the south into gloom. It is the lowest price ever reached and a dozen Dingley Bills cannot raise it.

The poor in Germany are still eating dog-flesh, because of the tariff barriers against foreign meat. It must be a great comfort to these poor people to know that the dogs are "made in Germany."

The traction systems of the great British cities are woefully behind the times. Glasgow is only now adopting the trolley, and London clings yet to the omnibus. Still we must admit they can give us pointers on municipal government.

Some of our city aldermen have got themselves into a financial hole, and are trying to blame the city engineer. The following from the Hamilton Herald seems to fit the case:

"The city engineer of Ottawa has been asked to resign. It is claimed that he is inefficient. But the Free Press says that his plans have been thwarted by aldermanic interference. We shouldn't wonder if the Free Press were right. It's a way some aldermen have to impose their will upon civic officials, and then to blame the officials for all the bad results of that interference."

Winter is approaching, and therefore interest will be taken by householders in Canadian cities in the recent decision of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire, to the effect that a civic bylaw to compel occupants or owners to clear the snow off the sidewalk is unconstitutional. Many citizens of London seem to entertain the same view, if their actions have any meaning. In Ottawa, we learn from their civic laws, the sidewalks are kept clear of snow by corporation employees, just as they are kept in repair by those city workmen, and it is stated the people pay the infinitesimal frontage tax collected to meet this expense without a murmur. London is away ahead of other Canadian cities in some things, but it is behind Ottawa in this respect, and behind Toronto and Hamilton in that it has not yet inaugurated the civic co-operative system of removing all household, store and factory garbage at least once a week, thereby contributing to the comfort and health of everyone in the community.

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

Hear, Hear.
[Montreal Herald.]
Keep politics out of the civic affairs.

A Fearful Pun.
[Ottawa Citizen.]

The dragon is the national emblem of China. It has a modern anti-type in the she-dragon now ruling in China. But is she-dragon up the son and heir the way he should go? That's the question.

Salaries to Aldermen.
[Toronto Telegram.]

If Hamilton and Kingston will be advised by Toronto's experience, they will conclude and act upon the theory that paying salaries to aldermen increases the burdens of the people without at all increasing the efficiency of the city council.

Ward Extravagances Must Go.
[Belleville Sun.]

No wonder Belleville has decided to abolish the ward system.—London Advertiser.

Yes; and it will abolish more than the ward extravagances, it is hoped. The day for rigid economy in the conduct of our civic departments has come.

Protection Theories Exploded.
[Milwaukee Journal.]

Duties makes a difference in prices, but not in competition, whether there is a tariff or not. The simple fact is that protection has at last run its course and must be abandoned even in this country. The highest protection ever accorded to home manufacturers has proved a loss of revenue and hampered production to the utmost limit, and manufacturers are beginning to see that if their product is to be sold abroad at all they must be relieved of the burden of protection. The same is true of our commercial marine.

LIGHT AND SHADE.

Where, Oh! Where?

Where is that Emperor Chinaman? Please inform us if you can. Say, has he crossed life's little span, Killed by Harry or Jerry or Dan? Or drank a draught from a poisoned can, And done for himself, unhappy man? Was he speared by one of a rival clan? Is he wintering down in the Yucatan? Or gone on a visit to Persia's Khan, And having a time in Teheran? Or taking a sail in a catamaran? Or brained by a foe with a frying-pan? Or packed his goods in a railway van And away from his mother-in-law he ran? Was he killed by the most infernal plan Conceived of since the world began? Or gone 'neath the Indian skies to tan In the warm, warm clime of Hindustan? Tell us, oh, tell us, telegraph man, Whether in forests African, Or up on the Nile at Omdurman, Or whether in Beersheba or Dan, Is that missing Emperor Chinaman?—Ruralville Rooster.

He Liked Them.

"Do you like those short-haired girls?" "Well, I don't know. They can't scare a fellow off by saying, 'Look out! you'll muss my hair all up!'"—Chicago Post.

Tempus Fugit.

Said Lord Bowen: "The worst of these learned professions is that life goes so quick. You begin one morning to read briefs; you go on reading, with short intervals for refreshment, past Christmas, Easter, Long Vacations,

just as you pass stations in a first-class express. Here you look up, and the train has about come for the guard to begin to take the tickets."

Didn't Entertain.
Madame Theosophia—Tell me, have you ever seen a vision? Never welcomed some strange spirit from the unseen world? Mrs. Sinclair—Never. But then I entertain so little.—Punch.

THE FUTURE OF DAWSON

Dependent on Discoveries To Be Made the Coming Winter.

Plenty of Gold in the Klondike For Those Fitted for Camp Conditions.

Washington, Oct. 19.—Conditions in Dawson City as they exist at the beginning of fall are set out in a report made to the state department by United States Consul McCook. He says the city made rapid strides during August in the matter of buildings. There will be no lack of provisions or merchandise this winter. Prices of supplies were going down, owing to the large amount coming in, so that a 50-pound sack of flour, which formerly cost \$3, can now be had for \$5. "None but the wealthy," says the consul, "can enjoy hotel life at present at \$50 per night for a room with a mixture of husks and straw for a bed, candle for light, and board at the rate of \$12 per day."

The consul says that typhoid is on the increase, causing many deaths, but would decrease Oct. 1, when the frost began. Eagle City, 50 miles below Dawson, was in a position to rival that city in another year, and as a base of supplies would be more convenient, inside of the boundary line. Its site is marked on the United States coast survey map as Belle Isle, on the Yukon. The territory, for hundreds of miles around, is said to be very rich. The future of Dawson depends on new discoveries made during the coming winter.

M. H. Sinclair, of Los Angeles, says the future of Dawson will depend largely upon the opening of the quartz mines. There have been upwards of 400 quartz claims recorded at Dawson, and some claims in the vicinity of the city are attracting considerable attention on account of the immense deposits of gold-bearing ore. GOLD STRIKE ON FINDLAY RIVER. Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 19.—J. H. Hold, of Chicago, just down from Cassiar, reports a gold strike on Findlay River. Three men took out \$85 each from a river bar in one week. GOLD FOR THOSE WHO CAN MINE IT.

Ottawa, Oct. 19.—Speaking of the conditions as he found them in the Klondike, Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, the eminent explorer of the geological survey, said that much of the discontent and disappointment among the floating population in Dawson is traceable to the unfitness of the people themselves to contend with the conditions of a mining camp.

RESULT OF GLACIAL ACTION. Mr. Tyrrell says the conditions under which gold is found indicate its deposit there by glacial action, but it will take some study to definitely account for its occurrence. On the creek claims many of the nuggets are worn quite smooth, which on the bench claims on the hillside the coarse gold is ragged and sharp, as if directly torn from the lode, and shows no trace of attrition whatever.

A \$400 CHUNK. "I happened to be present on the Eldorado claim when the biggest nugget found this year was taken out," said Mr. Tyrrell. "In shape and dimensions it resembled a good-sized Early Rose potato, and was worth \$400."

Mr. Tyrrell says that no quartz veins have been located as yet in the Klondike country. The richness of the district, he believes, has not been exaggerated, but probably the vastness of the gold-bearing area has been overstated. Mr. Tyrrell brought back with him a boxful of gravel, just as it was taken from one of the bench claim workings. So rich is it that the "dirt" shows to be plentifully studded with gold.

INDIANS VS. PALEFACES. C. N. Black has just returned from Peace River. He states that several prospectors up there on one unfortunate day stole provisions cached by a tribe of Indians (who had always been friendly to the palefaces). The red men were not long in retaliating. They fired the grass in the district for miles around. The result was disastrous for the unscrupulous white men. Their horses died of starvation, and, half-starved themselves, they fled from the country and returned to Omineca. Had they not fled the district, Indian hostilities would have been carried still further.

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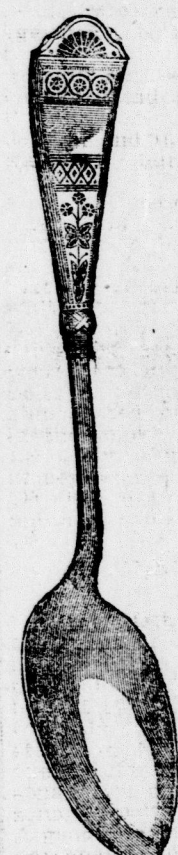
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