

## What Workingmen Have Done for Our Country

BY A WORKINGMAN

(Conclusion.)

The main object of this letter is to summarize as briefly as possible the more important statements made in preceding articles and to give a bird's-eye view, as it were, of the whole field we have covered. As a result of the numerous facts to which attention has been called, we have seen that it was the son of a poor, hard-working man who discovered the American continent and in that portion thereof composed of the United States alone opened up a theater, so to speak, for some of the grandest and sublimest performances ever witnessed upon the stage of human activity. Workingmen and their families made up, for the most part, the original settlers of our old 13 colonies, and to them we are most largely indebted for the rapid increase in population which has been going on among us ever since these early days.

They have furnished most of the pioneers who have been constantly blazing the way of civilization from where the Atlantic's rolling billows glitter in the morning light to where our Western shores are laved in the waters of our foaming, sun-set sea—from where our Northern lakes are clad in winter ice to where the sunny regions of the South are robed in fragrant flowers, and birds of brilliant plumage fill the air with music and with song. To them we are most largely indebted for the rapid advancement that has been made in the development of our natural resources—an advancement embracing within its range of activity our fisheries, forests, mines, agriculture, manufacture, transportation and commerce, both foreign and domestic.

But aside from the part they have taken in the matter of our material development, in the capacity of skilled and unskilled laborers, they have done much more, as we have seen, in various other directions—directions requiring great mental energy, vast intelligence and high moral character.

Our workingmen and the sons of our workingmen have been found among our renowned inventors, our big railway magnates, our rich merchant princes, our lords of finance and our money kings.

They have reveled in the fine arts and been numerous among our painters, sculptors, singers, musicians and actors upon the "mimic stage."

They have been found among our most noted in oratory, poetry, fiction-writing, political economy, scientific study, historical researches and in all other branches of literature generally.

They have found their way into our professions and won enviable places in the ranks of our teachers, preachers, journalists, doctors, lawyers and the like. They have reached the highest offices in our public life, both state and national. They have risen to eminence as law-makers in our municipal councils in our state legislatures, in the lower house of congress and in the United States senate. They have displayed rare administrative ability while performing such important duties as fell to the lot of those who serve their fellow-citizens in such positions as those of mayor, governor, Vice-President and President.

They have always been numerous in our army and navy, and in times of war have exhibited a courage and a heroism never surpassed in ancient or in modern times. In many instances they have become illustrious as military commanders, establishing for themselves, by the brilliancy of their victories, a justly earned and a world-wide fame.

In short, in the several ways pointed out, they have done much—much more than they have ever been given credit for—toward promoting our national greatness and glory—a greatness

and a glory that have made us a lordly sun, so to speak, proudly stationed at the very zenith of the world's political sky, there to remain, let us hope, forever, a splendid luminary of the first magnitude from which all other governments will receive heat, light and vitality and around which they will revolve in their respective orbits as but twinkling stars. And as a result of what our workingmen have done in the past and of what they may be relied upon to do in the future, if they themselves shall be treated with justice and equity, let us further hope that our country will ever be able to maintain her rightful place as queen of all the nations of the earth, the best, the noblest, the grandest, the most glorious republic the world has ever seen.

J. T. MORGAN.

### THE MONGOLIAN INVASION.

A thousand Japs marched from the water front up Jackson street, Seattle, a week ago last Sunday. Their business is to displace white men, to deprive white women and children of the means of making a living.

In commenting on the subject and calling the attention of the workingmen to it, the Union Record says:

"Every time one of these Japs leaves Seattle with a pack on his back, it is an assured fact that within a few days some white workingman whom he has displaced will tote his blankets into town. Separately, in squads and droves, this process of displacement is going on; in the mills, around the mines and upon the railroads and farms of the state the Japs are finding employment and white men are leaving it. Slowly, but surely, Jap labor is being scattered throughout the state where no combined effort can be made to prevent it, and just as surely white labor is becoming congested in the cities. These white men must live, and as their necessities increase they will prey upon the workingmen now employed. The law of supply and demand can no more be violated than the law of gravitation. The more men there are out of employment the cheaper will those employed have to work. Workingmen of Seattle, it is you who will in the end suffer from the importation of coolie labor. Seattle is being made the gateway to the field of labor in Washington. You should be keepers of that gate and shut it against coolie labor. It is a serious problem how you are going to get in that position, but the sooner it is grappled with the sooner it will be solved. Get a move on before you are so effectually tied that you cannot move."

### FIRST LABOR PLATFORM.

This is the first American labor platform ever formulated. It was adopted in 1830:

1. The right of man to the soil.
2. Down with monopolies.
3. Freedom of public lands.
4. Homesteads made inalienable.
5. Abolition of all laws for the collection of debts.
6. A general bankrupt law.
7. A lien of the laborer upon his own work for wages.
8. Abolition of imprisonment for debt.
9. Equal rights for women with men in all respects.
10. Abolition of chattel slavery and of wage slavery.
11. Limitation to 160 acres; no person, after the passage of this law, to become possessed of more than that amount of land. But when a land monopolist dies, his heirs are to receive each his legal number of acres and be compelled to sell the overplus, using the proceeds as they please.
12. Mails of the United States to run on Sunday.—Labor Signal.

### CHINESE IN AFRICA.

The special correspondent of the Chicago Record from Cape Town, Mr. Albert Cartwright, has written the following comprehensive letter to his paper, which covers a whole lot of things that may be entirely new to our readers:

It is reported that many American settlers will come to South Africa when the war is over. It is hoped, in their own interests and in those of this country, that they will come determined to oppose the importation of Asiatic slave labor. A powerful section of the mining capitalists, headed by Mr. Rhodes, is already at work attempting to inflict the curse of servile indentured labor upon this luckless country. Those who have followed the trend of African affairs since the Jameson raid expected some development of this sort, because they saw that the moving impulse of the mining men was the desire to cheapen labor and increase dividends through war, but surprise is felt that the capitalists have shown their hand so soon, while yet the Boers are unsubdued and the political support of the European artisans seems to be indispensable to the mining magnates. But one of the puzzling features about organized capital in many cases is its extreme and impolitic insistence.

The movement owes its inception to the home of lost-share capital—Rhodesia. The British investor has put two hundred and fifty million dollars into Rhodesia. The American and continental investor has preferred Rand mining stocks. He has self-denyingly left Rhodesia to his friend "John Bull." Thus far the British investor has not received a penny-piece in return, and as the country is over ten years old, he is beginning to become clamorous. The chartered company's revenue is not meeting half its expenditures, and the deficit shows no sign of disappearing.

Mr. Rhodes, who once in the Cape parliament made the remark that he contemplated bringing in Soudanese labor at two-pence per day, has therefore proposed the introduction of Asiatic labor in order to make another desperate attempt to make Rhodesia pay. The matter was formally brought forward at a meeting of the Mashonaland agency in London by C. Wilson Fox, son of a former physician to Queen Victoria, a young man, who, a few years ago, was earning a living at Rand editing a mining sheet run by the Eckstein house there, who is now director and manager of the chartered company. Wilson-Fox said that Rhodes has turned his attention to Asiatic labor, and that an ordinance was being framed which would permit the introduction of such labor.

It need scarcely be said that if Chinese labor is introduced into Rhodesia its use will spread into the Rand and Kimberley. Then the farmers will take to it with the result that we shall become a slave-holding race. As colonists, we should take up the position that we have enough hay on our fork as it is, with seven or eight black men in settled South Africa for each white. We should at all costs resist the introduction of inferior peoples, whose lives would be grewsome, indeed, in the mining compounds of Rhodesia, with no humanizing nexus with their masters. It is to be hoped that Americans coming to live in South Africa will take up this attitude.

The payment of a dividend of 75 per cent by a Fall River manufacturing corporation is remarkable.—Boston Transcript.

And these Fall River mills only a few weeks ago announced a cut of 10 per cent in wages because they asserted that they could not pay more and do business. The cut fell through because some of the mills refused to go into the skinning business before election.

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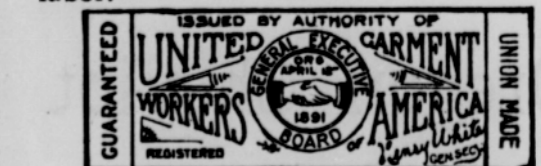
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Orders were recently posted in all departments of the locomotive shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Altoona and Juniata for a 13-hour day. There are orders on for new engines. They are sufficient to keep the 5,000 men employed in these departments busy until January.

Look for the union label whenever you make a purchase.