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TUESDAY - JANUARY 18, 1908

AGAINST ANNEXATION.

Yesterday we published an article from the Inter Ocean favoring the annexation of Hawaii. Today we print one against Hawaii taken from an article in the New York Independent. In these two communications are presented the best arguments pro and con, and present sufficient facts from which a conclusion may be drawn:

"We should not annex Hawaii, in the first place, because we do not need it and should not annex any territory that we do not need. We have needed all the territory that we have acquired, except Alaska. It was really essential that we should possess the whole water front from Maine down the Atlantic coast and around the Gulf of Mexico as far as the Rio Grande, including the mouth of the Mississippi and the regions tributary to that river; it was equally essential that the republic should have a broad sweep along the Pacific coast. It is only the logical development of the country when we took in Florida and the Louisiana purchase and Texas and the Pacific slope. We had then all that was necessary. Alaska was bought, not because it was essential to us, but because Russia wanted to sell it and we were anxious to accommodate a friend. 'One of the chief motives,' wrote Simon Cameron, who was familiar with the negotiations, 'was to show our regard for Russia for the part she had taken during the war.'"

"The nation is quite large enough already. What we need is not more territory, but a more perfect union of the still inharmonious parts of what we now have. There is too little community of interest between the various sections that exist. Our first duty is to bind these more closely together. The stretch between Maine and California is quite as long as the yet lightly knit bonds will endure.

"We should not annex Hawaii, in the second place, because we should be worse off with it than we are without it. If we make it a part of the union we shall have an isolated and exposed territory over 2,000 miles away, which we must always be prepared to defend. We must build extensive and expensive fortifications, and we must maintain a much larger navy than we now require. The mere acquisition of the islands will not give us 'control of the Pacific.' Captain Mahan, the ablest champion of a 'forward policy' for the United States, admits this. He pronounces the theory that such an island or such a harbor will give control of such a body of water 'an utter, deplorable, ruinous mistake,' since it overlooks the 'other implied conditions of adequate protection and adequate navies.'

"There is no possible gain that begins to counterbalance the losses thus inflicted. We have never needed to own Hawaii in order to carry on profitable commercial relations with it. We can continue to enjoy all of the advantages that we now have without incurring any of the responsibilities that ownership would impose.

"We should not annex Hawaii, in the third place, because we have no way to govern it. The only proper conception of the union is a collection of self-governing states. We do not know today how to govern Alaska, because it lacks what should

be the first qualification of a territory—assurance that it will grow into a state that will strengthen the union.

"Hawaii has about 110,000 people, of whom nearly 40,000 are natives, about 24,000 Japanese, 21,000 Chinese, 15,000 Portuguese and only 3,000 Americans, 2,000 English and 1,500 Germans and French. Such a population, by its very constituent elements, is unfit for democratic rule. It never had such rule before the revolution of 1893, and it has not had it since then. The existing government represents but a very small fraction of the population; and it would not dare to submit its claims to a vote of all the people, as we use term people in this country.

"The great bulk of the people in Hawaii represent races which have never shown any capacity for self-government. If one of the forty-five states now composing the union had such a population as the 110,000 in these islands, we should despair of its future. We should consider nine-tenths of the people unfit to vote, and we should shrink from the idea of letting the other tenth rule this vast majority and help to decide presidential elections. The instinctive feeling of every thoughtful man about Hawaii was well expressed by the venerable Senator Morrill of Vermont when he declared that 'it would be a farce to give the natives or any others there state powers and equal representation in the union with New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio and Massachusetts.'"

Novel Pile Driving.

In a paper recently read before the American Society of Civil Engineers, Prof. W. H. Burr described some experimental pile driving through new stone filled crib work. Nineteen piles were driven. The crib was 25 feet deep, and the piles, from 32 feet to 90 feet long, were shod with chilled cast-iron points, held on by straps spiked to the pile. The hammer used in driving weighs 3,300 pounds, and the greatest number of blows was 350. There was no difficulty whatever in driving the piles, and there were no failures. In the discussion following the reading of the paper several other gentlemen gave particulars of pile driving through loose rock. The shoe used in the work of the New York department is conical, the angle of the cone being about 60 degrees. The base of the cone is flat, and it is secured to the cone by a pin cast as a part of the shoe and let into the end of the pile. This type of shoe is said to have proved very satisfactory in practice.

Fresh Massacres.

As was anticipated when the recent outbreak in Constantinople occurred, accounts of fresh massacres in Asia Minor begin to be received. Reports from Turkish sources, which are not prone to exaggeration in these matters, are that 2,000 Armenians have been put to death at Kemah, near Erzinjan. The town of Egin has been destroyed in the regions around Kharput and Kaisarieh (Cesarea) extensive massacres have occurred, and it is reported that more than 10,000 Armenians around Van have been forced to abjure their faith and become Mohammedans.

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Strayed.

Strayed from Dufur, Or., about the last of July, two bay horses, of about 1000 pounds weight, both geldings; one a light bay, branded S on right hip; the other a dark bay, branded HF (connected) on left shoulder. Information leading to the recovery of either, or both, these horses will be rewarded by the owner.
 REV. JOHN EVANS,
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