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I know not why that wealth and pride Win not my heart nor woo my tale; I only know I know them not, I only know to cast my lot Where Love walks noiselessly with night. And patient nature; my delight The wild rose of the mountain side, The lowly lily of the vale; To live not asking; just to live; To live not begging; just to be; To breathe God's presence in the dusk That drives out loud, assertive light. To never ask, but ever give! To love my noiseless mother, Night, Her vast hair moist with smell of musk, Her breath sweet with Eternity. —Joaquin Miller.

DROPS INTO SECOND PLACE.

For the first time in the history of the United States manufacturers are exceeding agricultural products in the exportation of domestic products.

Figures are just issued by the department of commerce and labor, through its bureau of statistics, showing that in the month of July manufacturers exported amount to \$40,000,000, against \$31,000,000 of agricultural products; and in the month of June manufacturers amounted to \$42,000,000 against \$37,250,000 of agricultural products.

Even in the seven months ending with July, 1904, agricultural products exceed manufactures by nearly \$100,000,000, but in the month of May, 1904, manufactures for the first time in the history of the country exceeded agricultural products in the volume of domestic exports, and this was again the case in June and July. In the month of May, 1904, exports of manufactures exceeded agricultural products by about \$1,000,000; in June the excess of manufactures over agricultural products was nearly \$4,000,000, and in July the excess of manufactures over agricultural products was nearly \$9,000,000.

In the fiscal year just ended agricultural products formed a smaller percentage of the total exports than ever before, falling for the first time below 60 per cent.

This change in the character of the exports of the country—a movement from agricultural products toward manufactures—is due rather to an increase in the home production of manufactures than to any actual decrease in the home production of agricultural products.

LABOR ON THE ISTHMUS.

The American people everywhere are vitally interested in knowing how the labor problem on the Isthmus of Panama is to be handled, inasmuch as 50,000 lives were sacrificed by the French government in a fruitless effort to build the canal.

What seems to be the most practical plan yet proposed comes from the Washington Post, and is as follows: Labor for building the Panama Canal is going to be one of the greatest problems which the United States government will be called upon to solve in connection with that great work.

There has been a great deal of difficulty in selecting the route and in buying the canal property, getting a concession from Colombia, and afterward supporting a revolution which made the Panama strip independent; securing a treaty with the new republic, having that treaty ratified, and last of all in getting through a bill leaving the government of the canal zone to the president of the United States.

All of these things entailed a great

deal of trouble. It meant the solving of international and financial problems. But now a different phase is presented. After the engineers have decided what work shall be done, and their plans have been approved, then comes the great task of actual work.

Machinery can be used to great advantage, but hundreds of thousands of men will have to be employed if the canal is constructed within a reasonable time.

The employment of these men involves two great questions; one, whether they shall be contract coolie labor brought over from China, Mexico, the West Indian Islands, or wherever cheap labor can be obtained, or whether the rigid rule of exclusion is to be applied to the canal strip and none but American labor employed.

The labor unions have already taken the matter up, and are very anxious to prevent the employment of cheap Chinese labor, and the labor unions are very powerful in the United States.

Major Hugh C. Gallagher, a member of the general staff of the army, some time ago formulated a proposition for the care of employed labor, which has been submitted to the canal commission. His idea is to have the labor on the canal strip cared for in the same manner as United States soldiers.

Not only should the men be employed with due regard for their physical condition before being sent to the isthmus, but upon their arrival they should be fed with the army ration, and their camps and habits regulated with the same strict regard for health conditions as the troops of the United States, whether in barracks or in camp.

Of course, this might be considered expensive, but it would not be, for it has been demonstrated that United States troops can be fed at the rate of about 17 cents a day. It would cost more upon the isthmus, because of the cost of shipment of supplies and the establishment of barracks and camps.

But health is the main thing. Some people fear that as soon as the earth is dug up in large quantities there will be a great deal of sickness spread through the entire country.

It may be found that laborers from the United States cannot live on the isthmus, in which event the cheaper labor would have to be used, no matter where it could be obtained.

As a much-married woman, Grace, the daughter of Amos Snell, the Chicago millionaire who a few years ago was murdered in his own house by the burglar Tascott, now claims the palm. Here is her record: 1889, Grace Snell; 1881, married to W. S. McCrea; 1882, divorced from W. S. McCrea; 1883, married Douglas Green; 1883, divorced from Douglas Green; 1884, married Frank N. Coffin; 1884, divorced from Frank N. Coffin; 1889, remarried to Frank Nixon Coffin; 1899, divorced from Frank Nixon Coffin; 1899, married to James C. Walker; 1900, divorced from James C. Walker; 1901, married for the third time to Frank Nixon Coffin; 1901, divorced for the third time from Frank Nixon Coffin; 1903, married to Perkins A. Layman; 1904, divorced now asked from Perkins A. Layman; 1905, another marriage in sight.

Immigrants to Panama over 18 years old are required to pay a tax of \$4 if a first-class passenger and \$2 if a second-class passenger within 24 hours after landing. If this is not complied with, the agent of the vessel landing them is subject to a fine of \$4 for each foreigner landed. The laws regarding criminals, diseased persons, anarchists, etc., are very strict, and authorities violating them incur heavy penalties.

The careworn looking man who is haunting Wall street disguised as a sufferer from the slump in Steel is National Chairman Cortelyou. His palm itches frightfully and Treasurer Bliss is waiting anxiously at headquarters with a bundle of receipts in blank.

A Linguist.

A prominent senator, who claims to be rather more cultivated than some of his colleagues, prides himself on his knowledge of Italian. During a recent visit to New York he patronized a street bootblack stand, and as he got into the seat directed the bootblack, in his best Italian, to make haste, as he was trying to catch the train.

The bootblack stared at the senator for a moment in apparent perplexity, then answered briefly: "Me no speak English."

A newsboy standing on the corner had witnessed the incident with interest.

"He ain't no Frenchman," he observed, confidentially, as the senator got down from the stand; "he's a bloomin' Dago. Talk Italian!"—Harper's Weekly.

Jerry Simpson was defeated for the nomination for delegate to congress from New Mexico, by a vote of 117 to 25. George P. Money was nominated.

The Roman Ban on Secret Societies

"I would like to ask," a correspondent writes to the Catholic Union and Times, "what societies Catholics are not allowed to join. Is it only secret societies, and what secrets are they?"

As the question is one which Catholics in other places frequently ask, the answer given by the Jesuit Father in charge of our contemporary's "question box" may profitably be reproduced here:

There are two kinds of societies forbidden by the church:

- 1. Secret societies, nominally condemned by the church. 2. Societies, secret or otherwise, whose principles, tendencies or actions are known to be antagonistic to sound faith and the authority of the church. The secret societies nominally forbidden by the church are: 1. The Masonic society of Freemasonry in all its forms, branches and degrees. 2. The Order of Good Templars. 3. The Odd Fellows. 4. Knights of Pythias. 5. Sons of Temperance.

With regard to Freemasonry, the first warning of danger was given by Clement XII, in the year 1738, and his constitution was confirmed and renewed by Benedict XVI. Pius VII followed the same path, and Leo XII, by his apostolic constitution, "quo graviora," put together the acts and decrees of former pontiffs on this subject and ratified and confirmed them forever.

In the same sense spoke Gregory XVI, in his renowned encyclical letter, "Humanum Genus," issued April 30, 1854.

When the Odd Fellows and Good Templars established lodges in the United States the question was raised whether those orders were included in the above condemnation by Leo XII. To settle the controversy, the archbishop of Philadelphia, Most Rev. T. P. Kendrick, under date of February 26, 1845, asked the prefect of the propaganda for a decision.

After a lengthy correspondence, from different sides, and the Roman authority having obtained all available information, Cardinal J. Ph. Fransoni, under the date of September 7, 1850, replied that those societies were included in the letter of Leo XII, and consequently no Catholic could join them or remain a member.

When in 1894 the Roman authorities pronounced sentence against the societies of the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Good Templars and Sons of Temperance, and all similar societies, most strenuous efforts were made to have the decree changed, but to no avail.

Baby Costs Too Much

When the price paid is the mother's health and happiness. The father doesn't realize as he romps with the child what years of wifely suffering must be set against the baby's laughter.

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