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ATHENA, MAY 8, 1904

The Manila Times, a newspaper which is certified to as hitherto having been in favor with authorities in that quarter, gives a discouraging view of present Philippine feeling toward this country. It says that the natives in the island are only a little less hostile to the United States than they were when the insurrection began, between three and four years ago, and is even inclined to believe that a large part of the \$8,000,000 which congress appropriated for their relief from the lack of food and other comforts will be used to buy arms with which to attack Americans. It looks very much as though we were far from reaching a stage in which it will be appropriate to consider if the Filipinos can be Americanized; the difficulty is in assimilating them enough to counteract their native tendency to be in warfare against our dominion over them.

An undeniable truth was uttered by Grover Cleveland when he said the other night: "I believe that among the nearly 9,000,000 negroes who have been intermixed with our citizenship there is still a grievous amount of ignorance, a sad amount of viciousness and a tremendous amount of laziness and thriftlessness. I believe that these conditions inexorably present to the white people of the United States, to each in his environment and under the mandate of good citizenship a problem which neither enlightened self interest nor the higher motive of human sympathy will permit them to put aside."

In no particular does the organization of labor promise to be so useful as in preventing disastrous friction. Strikes are shown to be enormously costly, and the curious part of it is that in dollars and cents they are more costly to the laborer than they are to the capitalist. Both sides of the controversy are likely to study the facts and figures in the case and to recognize strikes as a kind of war, remembering that even in this guise "war is hell."

For years the state of New Jersey has been the mecca of corporation, the laws of that state being peculiarly in their favor and only a nominal fee being charged by the state for incorporation papers, etc. But now comes the intelligence that the big concerns are rapidly leaving the state and making their legal domicile in South Dakota, where expenses are much lighter.

The anthracite coal commission cost the government the modest sum of \$35,000, or \$12,000 less than was appropriated by congress for that purpose. The record of the coal commission in this regard is in favorable contrast to the expense accounts of the usual government commissions and congressional junketing committees.

There appears to be a realization upon the part of the people that the decision of the United States court of appeals means something. A fearless enforcement of the Sherman law a few years ago would have been a wholesome thing and would have prevented such conditions as now confront the people of the country.

If the big guns on our warships are going to prove failures we might put a charge of dynamite in J. Pierpont Morgan and give it a jolt. The explosion would undoubtedly create a panic among the nations of the earth.

Former President Cleveland says the settlement of the race question should be left to the southern people, who are most concerned in the matter. Governor Chamberlain, of Oregon, is of the same opinion.

Down in Kentucky they are trying another Goebel murderer. This thing seems destined to become one of Kentucky specialties.—Marion (Ohio) Star.

The army and navy need instruction in talking. Expressions of opinion by officers in time of peace are sometimes more destructive to the service than the deadly chances of war.

It is now in order for that Burdick case to be dramatized and put on the stage—in a milder form.


A MIGHTY HUMAN TIDE.

The present year promises to be a record-breaker in adding to the foreign-born population of the United States. There is a marked increase thus far in the number of immigrants that have been disembarked at all the principal ports of the Atlantic Coast, while into the port of New York they are pouring literally by the tens of thousands.

At this end of the line no great degree of disquiet is felt on account of this enormous increase. It is strange that this is true, in view of the restlessness that pervades the labor world and the strenuous efforts that are being made to keep the workingman's wages up to the standard of New World ideas of comfort. It may be that labor leaders are too busy in the matter of wages and hours as applied to the men now in hand to take note of danger from an oversupply in the labor market that, following the law of supply and demand, will inevitably in due time force wages down.

Be this as it may, the monthly increase of our foreign-born population is enormous, and the outward flow is beginning to excite disquiet among European governments. Both in Norway and Austria-Hungary the outflow of sturdy workers is exciting some alarm, and the authorities are seriously considering methods to check its volume. Norway is not heavily populated at best, and what with a food scarcity in some of its provinces that has bordered closely upon famine, the unsatisfactory condition of the governmental partnership which makes Sweden and Norway one, and that one Sweden, and the enticing letters telling of liberty and plenty and a chance to accumulate that find their way back to the old country from the new, the desire to emigrate has taken a great hold upon the Norwegian people. The same is true of the Hungarian branch of the dual monarchy over which Francis Joseph rules. Hungarians have for several years been crossing the ocean in great and constantly increasing numbers, thereby diminishing the productive force of their own land and reducing the number of men available for military service. Finland is also sending her dissatisfied and oppressed people over the sea by thousands, though the Czar will easily find means to stop this drain when in the view of his advisers it becomes serious.

As to the others, it seems improbable that any measures can be taken that will effectually stop the outflow of the human tide from their shores. The toilers of the continent have come to look to the United States as a land where dreams of a humble competence can be realized. Beyond the surety that this gives our free institutions are perhaps not specially attractive to them, since at best their ideas concerning them are vague and little understood. But in the face of the settled conviction that they can acquire what in their poverty seems wealth by the labor of their hands in this country, it will be difficult for any of the more tolerant governments so prevent its subjects from quitting its borders with the purpose of becoming American citizens. This mighty human tide is in itself a strong testimonial of our prosperity, and incidentally to the fact that to us still affords an enormous market for unskilled labor. There is yet a vast amount of drudgery in this country which our skilled American mechanics do not have to do because he can do something better.—Oregonian.



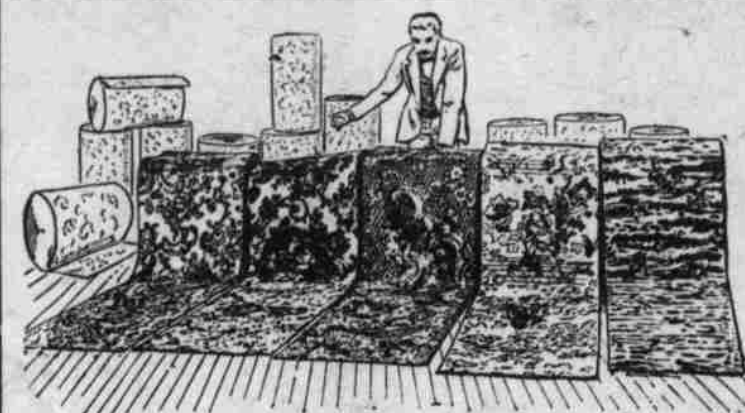
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