

will be the masters of their own government, and will make the government the agent of the people to advance the welfare of the people. This is the direction in which events are going in matters of government.

"I present you therefore these three evidences of progress; the advance of the world in intelligence; the advance of the world in morals; and the advance of the world in popular government. And why do I present this evidence? It is that I may impress upon the minds of those who honor me with their attention, the responsibility of American citizenship.

"Our nation is leading the world in all of these departments of activity, along all these lines of progress. Go into the Orient and you will find that they are watching what our nation does; and I believe that the action of the president the other day in the utterance on the Chinese loan means a long step in advance toward winning the confidence of the people of the Orient. (Applause.) They have been looking to our nation as their only friend and when our nation stands out and insists that the aid we render shall be rendered without the destruction of their political independence, we speak not only for this nation but for the world, for we have now reached a point where the influence of America's example will have a moulding influence on public opinion everywhere.

"Go into South America and you will find that they watch us even more than they do in Asia. Visiting South America three years ago I think I did not visit a capital but what I was told that they had read a dispatch that at the close of the campaign I had sent a telegram of congratulation to my successful opponent. I told them that was not strange; nothing remarkable about it. I might have told them that I had sent three telegrams like that. (Laughter.) I told them that if I had been successful that my opponent would have sent me a telegram; it would have been the first one received. I told them that in this country we did not think a man fit for president unless he thought so much more of his country than he did of himself that he could sincerely wish well to the man who was preferred above him. They said they had not reached that point yet but that they hoped they would.

"But, if they would notice a little thing like that, how much more would they notice important things in this country? I found that everywhere they were acquainted with the doings of our country. Not only acquainted with our constitution but they followed our laws and they were glad to acknowledge their indebtedness to us.

"I shall not forget an experience I had at San Palos, Brazil. It is the second city of that republic. There is a great normal school there that was built and is conducted on the plans taken by an American woman from the state of New York. They showed me through the various rooms. They were proud that the idea had come from the United States, and after they had shown me

through the rooms they conducted me to the assembly hall where the students of the higher classes had gathered. Every seat was occupied, the aisles were full, and young men stood back in the door and out in the hallway. Over the windows of that room were draped two flags, the flag of Brazil and ours. A professor spoke for the school, and spoke in English. He said their constitution had been modeled after ours, and that even their flag, like ours, had a star for every state. After he was through a young man spoke for the students. He was twenty or twenty-one, and he spoke in English. His voice trembled with emotion as he told how our nation had been an inspiration to Brazil and how it was their ambition to make Brazil like the United States. And then a young lady recited a poem in English; and then to my amazement that entire school rose and sang in English, 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty, of Thee I Sing.'

"And then it was my time to speak. I told them that I had seen fulfilled there that day the dreams of our forefathers. I told them that those who laid the foundation of our nation were anxious that our nation should conquer the world, not with its arms but with its ideas. And I told them that our people would be happier to know that they sang our songs and were grateful for our example, happier far than they would be to have them sullen subjects under a flag that they did not love.

"What a glorious mission God has reserved for our nation; to be the pathfinder among the nations. The torchbearer for mankind. What a responsibility comes with American citizenship.

"And this is the question that I would burn into your minds and hearts, and would carry with me ever; the world is moving forward, our nation leading the way. It is advancing in intelligence. Have we done all that we might have done to advance the world's intelligence? It is moving forward in morals. Have we done all that we might have done to lift the moral standard of our communities, our states, our nation and the world? It is moving forward in the application of the principles of popular government to governments. Have we done all that we might have done to make this government each day more nearly a government of the people, by the people and for the people?

"And if we have not lived up to our great opportunity, and if we have not fully met our great responsibility, will we listen tonight to the pleading voice that comes to us from the battlefield of Gettysburg? In that wonderful oration on that memorable occasion Lincoln spoke of the unfinished task, and appealed to them to consecrate themselves to that task. And our coming together tonight will not result in the good that ought to follow from this meeting unless each one here, each one of us here highly resolves that as far as we have power and that whatever opportunity comes, we shall so use our influence in the deciding of every question as to maintain our nation's primacy among the nations, and help it to build each generation unto higher ground. I thank you." (Applause and cheering.)

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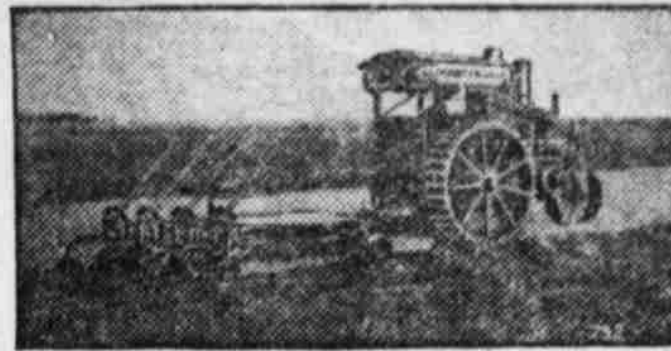
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—Ex.

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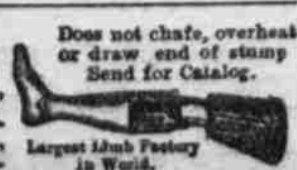
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