

Can This Republic be Perpetuated.

[Continued from 5th page.]

It is unnecessary for me to present the facts which have so often been presented and discussed by this club respecting the grasping corporations, trusts, syndicates, etc., which, as it were, have taken possession of this country during the short period covered by this paper. You have had demonstrated the multiplied power of them acting together; whether the combination be made for legislative purposes or for election purposes.

Having thus briefly presented but two counts in my indictment against the governing power of this country—mind I do not say the people—for the third and last charge which I am about to make is that the rights of the people have been for the time being usurped, stripped from them by fraud, deception and intimidation. Thus placing for the second time in the presidential chair a man, and carrying with him a party into power which has no constitutional right there. I imagine I hear some doubting goldbug call for the proof. The proof, though circumstantial, is strong enough to make a case and win a verdict of guilty.

I do not propose to tire you with a long column of figures in proof of the smooth methods by which voters were imported from states where they could be safely spared and colonized for voting purposes in doubtful states. It is known for a positive fact that hundreds of car loads of idle men were given a free ride from Pennsylvania into the state of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois—dumped into the larger cities, fed and lodged until election day, and promised permanent employment in case McKinley was elected—poor dupes it is hard to say they deserve their disappointment. But let me prove my charge.

In the United States census returns you will find one column giving the number of males of voting age in each state. These figures, of course, include many who are not voters such as unnaturalized foreigners, prisoners and insane. First I will refer to you briefly from an article by Walter Wolfman, a reliable statistician and a newspaper correspondent of a goldbug paper. Speaking of the largely increased vote returned from certain states, he says:

"It is a remarkable fact that in some of the states named in the foregoing the number of voters in 1896 exceeded the total number of males of voting age returned by the census of 1890.

"These are amazing figures. A vote of such magnitude in ratio to males of voting age was never before seen in this country. There is a suspicion that in some precincts boys of from 18 years up were permitted to vote. Increase in population since 1890 is not sufficient to account for the increased vote."

First let us examine the vote of two states whose political and geographical status was such as to render colonization unnecessary and impractical, that we may get at a fair or normal ratio where no importation of voters was attempted. We will take Missouri's and Minnesota's vote. Missouri's vote for instance lacked 31,992 of the number of males of voting age according to the census of 1890, in other words, was short about 5 per cent. Minnesota's vote was short 39,556, just about 11 per cent. But these states being of the more western and unsettled, into which a constant tide of immigration has drifted since 1890, would come much nearer casting the number of votes indicated by the census than those which I am about to name. (Votes cast heretofore have never reached nearer than 12 per cent less than the number placed in that column of the census.) But we will give the defendant the benefit of the doubt, and for convenience assume that 10 per cent less than the figures given in that column of the census report as the fair thing. Then we have in the five states whose votes exceeded the figures in that column.

STATES.	Vote Cast.	Vote Estimated.	Stuffed.
Ohio.....	1,017,741	914,818	102,923
Indiana.....	637,255	535,560	101,695
Illinois.....	1,090,177	965,397	124,780
W. Virginia.	201,928	162,360	39,568
Kentucky....	455,850	405,713	50,137

Let us for a moment glance at Ohio from another standpoint. It is a well established rule of computation that of the population one in five are voters. Ohio in the late presidential election counted up one vote for every three and a fraction of her population. Can you see any Ethiopian in the Ohio wood-pile? Oh, yes you can smell him clear out here in Nebraska! Too many of those free riding excursionists to Canton forgot to go home to their own state till after election.

The reduction in the vote of the large towns and cities of this state at their late municipal elections more than equals McKinley's plurality of last November. The hotly contested election for mayor in Chicago a week or two since, shows a decrease in the ballots cast in that city alone nearly equal to the republican plurality of the entire state of last November. What better proof do you want of a presidential election being carried by stuffing, repeating, boodle and fraud? "Purity of the ballot box" where art thou?

Had I the time, I could give many of the methods by which this smooth work was accomplished. I will briefly show you one of the methods of repeating as was carried out under the management of Marcus Aurelius Hannas.

Please glance at the maps of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, you will find a perfect grid-iron of railroads covering each, three or four trunk lines touching the larger cities and towns. Over these main lines not less than six passenger trains pass daily. These corporations will say are all interested in the success of a certain ticket. Weeks before the election the floating population of voters, hungry tramps and idlers are gathered in in squads taken to some city or large place where obscure quarters can be obtained for them; they are fed and kindly treated, on registration day they are all regularly registered. In a day or two they are taken to the next town and those same voters are registered there, and before election day these same voters are regularly registered in as many towns as there are regular trains passing over the line daily. On election day they are early voters say at one end of the line. They take the first train and stop off at the next place where they are registered, and again they exercise the high privilege of citizenship.

Since the train does not wait for them they wait for the next train and when it comes pass on to the next place where they are registered. Thus you see they

repeat as many times as there are trains passing over the line between the hours of opening and closing of the polls. Who says Marcus Aurelius didn't earn his seat in the United States senate?

Having given two thirds of my time to the dark side of the picture let us see if we can find a brighter side. But before passing to the other side, I would say that this same question of the unions perpetuity arose in the minds of the founders of this government, Washington's farewell address shows it plainly. Jefferson planned precautionary measures for its perpetuity. Salmon P. Chase a short time before his death expressed fears of great danger to the country through the national banking system which is still upheld by the government. Mr. Chase's fears are today being as you may say almost realized.

Judge Mason whom many of you remember and knew to be plain spoken and sometimes a little profane, was asked a short time before his death (I think on the occasion of Grover Cleveland's second election) "what can be done, was asked to save the country?" replied—"the old hulk is getting so damned rotten it's hardly worth saving." This, however, was an answer given under the impulse of the occasion. I think he had a better one in reserve.

I once asked John B. Finch the great temperance leader, a man possessed of a more than ordinary logical mind—"what was his opinion of the stability of this government. Said he it cannot in any sense remain stable, it must progress onward and upward or go down. If she can recover from the demoralizing effects of the war there is hope for her—but, said he sometimes when I think of her people's worship of Mammon in connection with their debauchery I think she must go as did the Roman empire, nothing but the enlightenment of the masses on governmental, moral and economic lines can save her."

In these last words my hope—yep my faith is expressed. I cannot believe that this, the greatest nation, leading all others in her schools, professions, mechanics and arts can go back to a dissolution and complete overthrow—a tearing down of the governmental foundations laid by our revolutionary fathers. Though the clouds are dark and threatening now, and many of the people's rights trampled under foot—yet I think I see a gleam of light in the immortal Lincoln's homely but truthful words, "you may fool all the people part of the time, and part of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time."

I cannot believe that the large dose of deception the American people were treated to in the last general election can ever be repeated in the eternal future. It will not take four years for the producing masses of this country to learn that to place a higher tariff on the commodities they have to buy, and lower prices on what they have to sell, cannot bring to them prosperity.

I cannot believe the small number of millionaires who are ruling this people today with a rod of gold can carry their oppression much farther. When I see the political parties rendered asunder to the extent we do today and the dissenting fragments forming around one standard for a principle which they declare to be right there is ground for hope, for it means discussion and enlightenment.

When I see the various labor unions of the entire country coming together and forming "The Federation of Labor" in that I have hope.

I see one gleam of light in the initiative and referendum method of legislation. I see another gleam of light in the government ownership and operation of railroads and telegraphs. I see another gleam of light in the issue of money by the government directly to the people. These gleams of light must come to the masses as does the electric light which lights our streets. By agitation.

Agitation and discussion in clubs like this, and similar ones where the questions of the hour are freely discussed, I believe, will yet bring this republic by evolution to a higher plane of thinking, acting and governing.

I cannot think that Byron's gloomy picture of the rise and fall of nations, referred to by your president at your last meeting are applicable to this republic.—These are Byron's words: "Here is the moral of all human tales 'Tis but the same rehearsal of the past, First freedom and then glory—when that falls, Wealth, vice, corruption, barbarism at last; And history with all her volumes vast Hath but one page."

Not this cannot be the fate, I trust of a people "whose public free school is the fountain whose streams shall make glad all the lands of liberty."

But the forum where free discussion lightens up the gloom of despairing hope and gives fresh courage to sinking hearts must be maintained. "We must educate or perish."

ALLEN SPEAKS FOR GREECE.

He prefers to be "Radically Right" Than "Radically Wrong."

In the senate, April 22, Senator Allen submitted a resolution of sympathy for Greece, and asked for its immediate consideration. The resolution was read as follows:

Resolved, That the established policy of the United States of avoiding entangling alliances with European power is in no respect violated by our sympathizing with the Christian people of Greece in their present heroic struggle against the advancement of the Ottoman Empire, and that in the judgment of the senate it would be a recognition of the wishes of all for the executive to express to the government of Greece the sympathy of the American people.

Mr. Allen—Mr. President, before the resolution is submitted to the senate for its final consideration, I desire to offer a word in its behalf. It has been the policy of the United States in the various controversies that have taken place between the Kingdom of Greece and the Ottoman Empire to extend sympathy to the Greek people from time to time as was deemed wise and proper by congress. The resolution is not without precedent. December 7, 1823, when a war was going on between Greece and Turkey, Mr. Webster of Massachusetts, then a member of the house of representatives, introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That provisions ought to be made by law for defraying the expenses incident to the appointment of an agent or commissioner to Greece whenever the

president shall deem it expedient to make such appointment.

And, quoting from the fifth volume of the works of Mr. Clay, it says:

Mr. Webster said that he did not wish to commit the house of representatives in the political contests of Europe, but the president of the United States, in his message to congress, not only expressed the belief that the Greek nation in its struggle with this barbarous nation had the good wishes of the whole civilized world, and also advanced the opinion that the Turkish domain over the country was forever lost. He thought that if such were the fact, it was important for congress to act on the subject. His main object was to obtain from the house an expression of sympathy for the sacrifices and sufferings of that heroic people. He hoped that they would show to the world that there was at least one government which itself entertained a proper view of that barbarous despotism which under the eyes of Europe had been permitted by a system of foul atrocities to attempt to crush an interesting nation.

Mr. Webster's resolution, at his request, was laid on the table for further discussion.

In speaking in the senate on the same resolution later, Mr. Clay of Kentucky, said: "Are we so humble, so low, so debased, that we dare not express our sympathy for suffering Greece; that we dare not articulate our detestation of the brutal excesses of which she has been the bleeding victim, lest we might offend some one or more of their imperial and royal majesties?"

It will not be considered improper for me to incorporate in my remarks a few salient historical facts respecting the various wars between Greece and Turkey, and at the expense of detaining the senate for a moment I will do so.

Crete is one of the largest islands in the Mediterranean. It is the most southerly portion of Europe. It forms the natural limit between the archipelago and the Mediterranean as well as one of the chief lines of natural connection between the southern shores of Europe and Asia. The island is of a very elongated form, being not less than 160 miles in length, while its breadth does not at any where exceed 35 miles. A large part of the island is mountainous, but the rest is of great fertility, and there is no doubt that under a better system of government it would become one of the richest and most productive islands of the Mediterranean.

It seems that Crete was originally inhabited by the Dorians, although settlements were later made by the Phoenicians, and a large portion of the island was subject to them. However, in the historical period they are not found there. The Cretans were always engaged in war with one another, and the history of the island was one continued series of civil wars. The Cretans, degenerate and half piratical themselves, had formed an alliance with the professional buccannars, and defeated, off Cydonia, a Roman fleet that had been sent against the latter in the year B. C. 71. They soon repented of the prostration they had offered and sent envoys to Rome to buy peace by heavy bribes; but neither the penitence nor the bribes prevailed. Three years later, (B. C. 68) Quintus Metellus appeared in Crete with his Roman troops to exact satisfaction, and two years were spent in overcoming the stubborn resistance of the islanders. In the end Crete was added to the conquered dominions of Rome.

The island was now reduced to a Roman province, and remained so until the ninth century, when it fell into the hands of the Saracens (823). It then became a formidable nest of pirates, but defied all the efforts of the Byzantine sovereigns to recover it until the year 960, when it was reconquered by the Byzantine Emperor. In the partition of the Greek Empire after the capture of Constantinople by the Latins in 1204, Crete fell to the lot of Boniface, Marquis of Monferret, but was sold by him to the Venetians, and thus passed under dominion of that great republic to which it continued subject for more than four centuries.

Under the Venetian government, Candia, a fortress originally built by the Saracens, became the seat of government, and not only rose to be the capital and chief city of the island, but actually gave name to it, so that it was called in the official language of Venice; the "Island of Candia."

The Venetian masters secured to the islanders, external tranquility, and it is singular that the Turks were contented to leave them in undisturbed possession of the opulent and important island for nearly two centuries after the fall of Constantinople. It was not until 1645 that the Turks made any serious attempt to effect its conquest; but in that year they landed with 50,000 men, and speedily reduced the important city of Candia. Retimo fell the following year and in 1648 they laid siege to the capital city of Candia. This was the longest siege on record, having been protracted for more than twenty years, but in 1667 it was pressed with renewed vigor by the Turks, and the city was at last compelled to surrender (September, 1669). It fell was followed by the submission of the whole island.

From this time the island continued subject to Ottoman rule without interruption till the outbreak of the Greek revolution. After the conquest a large part of the inhabitants embraced Mohammedanism, and thus secured to themselves the chief share in the administration of the island. But far from this having a favorable effect upon the condition of the population, the result was just the contrary, and Crete was said to be the worst governed province of the Turkish empire. The regular authorities sent from Constantinople were wholly unable to control the excesses of janizaries, who exercised without restraint every kind of violence and oppression. Hence when in 1821—and here is the important as respects its bearing on this resolution—the revolution broke out in continental Greece, the Cretans at once raised the standard of insurrection, and carried on hostilities with such success that they soon made themselves masters of the whole open country and drove the Turks and Mohammedan population to take refuge in the fortified cities.

These however, defied all efforts of the insurgents, and the contest was prolonged without decisive results, until in 1830 the allied powers (France, England and Russia), who had intervened in the contest between Greece and Turkey, transferred the island of Crete to the government of Mehemet Ali, viceroy of Egypt. This change of masters brought some relief to the unfortunate Cretans who at least exchanged the license of

local misrule for the oppression of an organized despotism.

In 1840 Crete was again taken from Mehemet Ali and replaced under the dominion of the Turks, as it has continued ever since. The strong desire of the Cretans for freedom and union with the Greek monarchy, has given rise to two successive revolts, the first of which in 1849, was speedily repressed, but the second in 1866, lasted for a considerable period and required great exertions on the part of the Porte to put it down. It was followed by concessions of additional privileges to the christian inhabitants and a kind of constitutional government which has placed the island in quite an exceptional position among Turkish provinces.

The inhabitants of Crete under the Venetians were estimated at about 250,000. After the Turkish conquest the population was for a time greatly reduced, but afterwards gradually rose again until it was supposed to have attained 260,000 at the time the Greek outbreak in 1821, of whom about one half were Mohammedans. The ravages of the war from 1821 to 1830, and the immigration that followed, produced a great diminution, and the population of the island was estimated in 1836 at about 130,000. The island, it is estimated, now contains about 200,000 inhabitants in all, of whom less than 40,000 are Mohammedans. It must be observed that very few of these are Turks, the Mussulman population being almost entirely of native Cretan origin.

Mr. President, I refer to the relations between Greece and Turkey somewhat at length, more especially for the purpose of calling attention sharply to the fact that the present war between those nations raises the old question of whether christianity or paganism or infidelity shall survive. It is a question that has been considered by these nations throughout the ages, or for at least the last six centuries, and in every great war that has arisen between them during the existence of our government we have expressed in one form or another our sympathy with the Grecian people. We expressed that sympathy in 1824 by the adoption of the resolution to which I have referred and which I have read. I believe it is time the American people should express their sympathy with the Greeks in the struggle now being waged against the invasion of Turkey. A great and powerful nation like the United States should not hesitate under circumstances such as these to voice their sentiments so loudly and so unequivocally that they will be heard over the entire civilized world.

Sir, I do not desire to detain the senate on the transactions of its regular business, but I cannot refrain from directing attention to the fact that the so-called great powers, as they are pleased to call themselves, and speaking in a parenthetical way, I understand that recently they have reached out in a tangible form in this country, have formed an alliance, not for the purpose of repressing Greek atrocities, for none have been committed, not for the purpose of staying the march of Greek invaders, but for the purpose of repressing Greece for making a resistance for her territory, for her homes and for her religion.

Mr. President, I have spoken bitter things against the Ottoman Empire and against the Spanish monarchy in this chamber, and if I live I shall speak still more bitter things about them unless they cease their atrocities; not because I have hatred or dislike for any human being who walks upon the face of the earth, but because I have an utter contempt for a government that represses the enjoyment of christian privileges and is a dead weight in the march of the civilization and progress.

In this instance we have on one hand the Turks cutting the throats of the Grecians, and Greece held in restraint by the so-called powers, not because they sympathize with Turkey, but because they desire to maintain what they are pleased to call the balance of power. To the south of us, within a hundred miles of our shores, murder, assassination, devastation by the torch and by the ax are going on without restraint, and we are absolutely quiescent and silent. I believe the time has come when all the forces of this mighty country should be mustered to protect the christians in Greece and to maintain the liberty of the Cubans.

Mr. President, I have been charged with being radical in my views of public questions, and the charge is to a certain extent correct; but I prefer to be radically right on great questions than radically wrong.

If I frequently err, as I doubtless do, I prefer to err on the side of the weak and defenseless of the human race and in favor of civilization and christianity. Of the 1,600,000,000 people who inhabit the globe, and the countless millions who sleep in the bosom of the earth, there is not one against whom I harbor an unkind feeling, or an unkind thought, and when I denounce the Ottoman Empire and the Spanish monarchy for their barbarity and cruelty, as I have done, and as I shall do again, it must be understood that I speak of their governments and policies and not of the humble beings composing those nations, and so speaking, I would rejoice if God in His infinite wisdom and righteousness would blot them all from the face of the earth.

Fanaticism, persecution, throat cutting, assassination murder, devastation, are the weapons that have been used by them throughout their histories. In the grand march of civilization they have fallen entirely to the rear, and have become plunderers and free-booters and the sooner they are overthrown the better the world will be, and America should perform her part in the great work.

I trust, Mr. President, the resolution will pass this morning without a dissenting vote.

The resolution was referred to the committee on foreign relations.

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Snow in Ohio in May. At Cincinnati and generally over the southern part of Ohio there was a considerable snow storm on May 2. There had been a continuous rain for 24 hours preceding the fall of snow. Considerable damage to crops will result. The rivers are very high and any further rain would cause great damage by overflow.

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