

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 has, as it were, taken possession of this country during the short period covered by this paper.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

When I see the Missouri and Minnesota 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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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?"

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.

In these last words my hope—yes 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.

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.

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.

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.

Let us see the moral of all human tales. "This 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."

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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 980, when it was reconquered by the Byzantine Emperor.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Sir, I do not desire to detain the senate in 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.

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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