

PATRIOTISM OR COMMERCIALISM?

Shall the United States Be Europeanized?

THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.

We Have Reached That Point and Must Choose Our Road.

Commerce and "Society" Are Pulling Us Away From Our Traditional Democracy. The Bourgeoisie Has No Native Country, No Flag Except the Oriflamme of Security and Gain—Socially the Prince of Wales Outweighs Fifty Million Citizens of the United States—Hardly a Trace of Jeffersonian Philosophy Left in This Republic But the People, Though Passive, Are Still True—Then Awake, All Ye Who Love and Would Preserve Freedom!—A Crisis Is at Hand.

[John Clark Ridpath in Arena for December.] At the close of the year let us reflect on what is before. As a nation we have come to the parting of the ways. The American republic has reached a point in its destiny from which it must diverge in the one direction or the other. The people of the United States can no longer pursue the straight line on which they have traveled for more than a century. There is literally a dividing road with two diverging courses before our feet.

The promontory against which we have come in the midway of our career is the portent of becoming Europeanized. Shall we or shall we not be made again into the likeness of Europe? This rock of menace and interrogation looms up in the middle of the way, and we have to pass it by taking the one route or the other. The time has come when the United States must gravitate rapidly toward Europe or else diverge from Europe as far and as fast as possible.

This is the overwhelming alternative which forces itself on the American people at the close of the nineteenth century. In the twentieth we shall be either Europeanized or democratized—the one or the other. There is no place of stable equilibrium between the two. This is true for the reason that there can be no such thing as a democratic monarchy; no such thing as a monarchical republic; no such thing as a popular aristocracy; no such thing as a democracy of nobles. The twentieth century will bring us either to democracy unequivocal or to empire absolute. All hybrid combinations of the two are unstable. They break and pass away. Either the one type or the other must be established in our western hemisphere. The democratic republic which we thought we had and which we so greatly prized and fought for must now sheer off from Europe altogether or else sail quietly back to Europe and come to anchor. Shall we or shall we not go thither?

Note the circumstances which have brought us to this alternative. One of these is commerce. We have an international commerce; that is, a trans-oceanic trade intercourse; that is, what the Romans called a commercium, with Europe and the world. Commerce, while it civilizes and enriches, tends to make alike. Commerce seeks to integrate mankind, but never to individualize or make free. Wherever it touches it infects with its spirit. That part of a people who are engaged in commerce become equalized in conditions and sentiments with those who are of other nations.

There is a tendency of all people to forget their country in their pursuit. A man's pursuit stands between him and his flag, between him and his country. This tendency is emphasized in international trade. Commerce may be good, but it has its drawbacks and its dangers. Commerce does not desire liberty, but it desires stability. It does not want change and progress, but fixity and conservatism. When the people of two nations trade, the people of the free nation, the progressive nation, the changing nation, get in love with the nation that is not free, that does not progress, that does not change.

For this reason the seaboard interests of America have become interwoven in a plexus of foreign relations. That which we hoped to avoid politically has come to pass commercially. The commercial parts of the United States are already bound in a great web to the corresponding interests of Europe. So far as the threads of this web extend in America, to that limit the preference for Europe and the tolerance of European conditions have extended. Since the rise of the great commercial epoch the sea bordering empires of the United States have been each year bound more and more to the European marts. To this extent interest has supplanted patriotism. As between the ship on the one hand and the republic on the other—well, the republic may take care of itself. That is, democracy is good enough, but trade is better.

The influences of accumulated wealth are of precisely the same kind. It is literally true that wealth has no country—and never had. There is not a great estate in the new world that is devoted to the free institutions under which it was accumulated. The stock exchanges and the banks of the world constitute an empire. They are literally imperium in imperio. They have no native land. They know no other kingdom but their own. The bourgeoisie has no flag except the oriflamme of security and gain. The bourgeoisie is not of France, not of Germany, not of England, not of America, not of any nation, not of all nations, not of the world, but of itself. It is for itself. The political and civil institutions under which it exists are, to the bourgeoisie, only a means unto an end. The bourgeoisie considers government as an instrument, not for the enlarge-

ment of human liberty, not for the promotion of man, not for the extension of civilization, not for invention and letters and art, but for the protection of the bourse.

The bourse in all nations is common; it is a unit. It is founded on thrones and dynasties, on kingdoms and empires and republics, and on man. The bourse says that the United States is a part of the European system—or must be; that our institutions in the old democratical form are too weak for safety; that the American republic must be conformed with all expedient haste to the gainful standard and substantial methods of Europe; that our democratic ship must be drawn up to the harbor and anchored under the guns of the old fort, where the dangerous rights of man may be carefully regulated by the triumphant rights of property.

Another circumstance that tends strongly to Europeanize America is society. Society, that is the sham of society, is getting interlocked across the Atlantic. More and more with each year the threads are carried back and forth and fastened on each side to the unbreakable rings of the social anchors. Society in this respect is much like wealth. Society, as soon as it emancipates itself from the conditions of production and finds the means of independent support in revenues drawn from funds, takes refuge not under the flag of the nation, but under the flag of power. Wherever power flourishes there "society"—in the fictitious sense—flourishes also. Society knows the sunshine of the boulevard, but not the sunshine of the fields. Society likes the rattle of swords, but not the rattle of tools. Society loves the prince and avoids the democrat. Society considers the opera house and the arsenal more attractive than the schoolhouse and the fair.

American society on its eastern salvage strives to get itself interwoven more and more with those aristocratic forms and fictions which are the peculiar social products of Europe. On both sides of the sea society tends to a common form and substance. The intervention of the Atlantic, shrunken to a pond, is no longer an obstacle to social intercourse. Along a great part of the American seaboard the motive of a foreign connection is today stronger than any remaining motive of native liberty. The social influence of the whole United States west of the Alleghenies is not as strong in New York city as the single influence of the Prince of Wales. Under such conditions the notion of Europeanizing America is not only entertained, but is regarded with complacency and undisguised favor.

The great fact called government, as well as commerce and wealth and society, drifts strongly toward the European side. It is a tendency in all government to make itself great and glorious. Government is never modest, never humble. It always encroaches and enlarges itself at the expense of those interests which it is designed to conserve. Government does not look affectionately toward man, but always affectionately toward the organic form and splendor of things.

The American republic is under this law. As a result it has drifted toward the very condition which was renounced by our fathers. This republic is not any longer Jeffersonian. There is hardly a trace of the Jeffersonian philosophy and intent left in it. The name of Jefferson is still used to conjure with, but it is used by those who are innocent of Jeffersonian principles. Each succeeding administration approximates the European style. Strange paradox this, but true, that the Republican Lincoln was the last Jeffersonian to occupy the presidential chair. He who recently claimed to wear the panoply of Jefferson was furthest of all from the type which he falsified.

The fact is that the democratical moorings in our national life are sprung, and the ship sails east. The very nomenclature of government has come into conformity with that of monarchy. In the political jargon our secretary of state is a "premier," the office of our attorney general is the "department of justice," a resolution to end debate in the house of representatives is a "cloture," our representatives at foreign courts are no longer ministers—that is, plain spokesmen of the republic, but ambassadors—"ambassadors" signifying in the language of diplomacy the representative of a crowned head. To this extreme has the aping stretched itself. Nothing is any longer American that can find the garb of a European phrase.

Meanwhile the prerogatives of the president have become greater than those of any king west of the Vistula, and the power of the speaker of the house of representatives, circling like a whip and falling sharp on the backs of the representatives of the people, exceeds the authority of any like officer in the world. As to the arrogance involved in its exercise ask the czar. Let no one think that the government of the republic does not bear off easily and gayly, with wealth and commerce and power and organization, to be anchored fast on the European side.

Not all the forces of American life, however, drift in this direction. There is one great fact that holds back and does not willingly follow in the wake. This fact is the people. It is the great majority constituting the body and life of the American nation. Probably four citizens out of five in this republic are at heart still sincerely devoted to free institutions. Four out of five believe with might and soul in the righteousness of our colonial rebellion against Great Britain and the goodness of absolute independence. Four out of five think human liberty something, and not nothing. Four out of five consider our democratic institutions to be as they are—the most advanced and satisfactory forms of civil society ever created by man. Four out of five regard the government of the United States as a simple agent for the expression of the will and hope of the people. Four out of five share not at all in the rising dis-

trust which wealth and commerce and society and power cherish against the masses in their plan of governing themselves by the freely expressed will of the majority.

The great preponderating body of American life is still sound on the fundamental question. It is still moved by the very same impulses and passions which stirred our fathers of the seventeenth century in breaking away from Europe and our later fathers of the eighteenth in declaring independence and sealing it with their blood. This great body of Americanism, spread broadly over the continent, clings to it as its cover of life and hope. It does not constitute it he directive force, but it does constitute the substance and soul of the American republic and of the nation. While the directive forces are steering straight for Europe the great body of the common people of the United States hold heartily and strongly to independence, to liberty, both civil and individual, to democratic institutions, to government of man by man and for him.

While the powers that be in America incline to unite with the European system and to become a part of it the American people, great and strong, will have none of it—unless they can be beaten in the tremendous game that is now on in the world. Left to the directive forces that have present control of our destinies, we shall within a comparatively short period of time be securely Europeanized—firmly re-anchored to the ancient political order; but left to the direction of the unallied instincts and sound heart of America throbbing in the breast of the people we shall be democratized more than we are, kept independent, pressed forward in the direction of larger liberties for society and firmer safeguards for the individual rights of man. Shall we go to Europe or shall we not?

This question is the essence of the current commotion in our country. On the one hand wealth, organization, commerce, "society," all the prevailing forces in our public life, are on the alert, buzzing like Athenians about "the foreign affairs of the United States;" this when we should have no foreign affairs, or only a few. Our political powers are as deep as their elbows in every complication of the world. American newspapers are at a white heat—over what? Over nothing—unless we are to become a part of Europe. In that event we are already in the swiftest swim. In that event we have not far to go until we shall be even as the rest. But if, on the other hand, America suffices for herself—as she does—and for the future of mankind; if our republic is to continue as the one singular example of public liberty under law, showing forth the freedom of man in its highest and best civil and social manifestations, then shall we be not Europeanized, but democratized more than ever. And that is the one desideratum that now presents itself as a supreme motive in our destiny.

Away with the aping of Europe in any matter whatsoever! Away with the purpose of those who would carry us back to the condition from which we broke away in the glorious days of the Revolution! Away with the substitution of trade for liberty! Away with the gloss and delusion of an artificial, un-republican society! Away with the base subservience which after 123 years of independence would bend again the stalwart knees of the American democracy before the sham thrones and detested scepters of the old world's puppets and idols! The belief of many and the hope of not a few that we shall be restored to the European fold are mere rot and reaction. Up with the banner of independence! Down with the ill disguised purpose of a half foreign minority to Europeanize the United States! America is sufficient for America, and the American people—if they have the courage to stand upon their feet and play out the magnificent game of civilization—are sufficient for themselves and for posterity.

Mr. Gary's Proposition.

Postmaster General Gary is receiving many letters regarding the postal savings bank proposition urged by him in his annual report, says a Washington correspondent. As a whole the letters commend the plan. In an interview Mr. Gary replied to some of the comments that have been made on the subject.

"Only two objections have been seriously urged. The first is the old contention that the government ought not to 'go into the business' of collecting and taking care of the savings of the people. I think this is an objection which may properly be left to congress.

"The other objection is based upon the generally admitted difficulty of finding safe and proper methods of putting the money to profitable use. I am convinced that the national debt offers a temporary solution of this difficulty. In the meantime a safe and satisfactory plan will doubtless be developed.

"It is agreed on all sides that if practicable a postal savings system would be most desirable. This means a great deal toward the success of the project."

The Need at Home.

It is all right to extend warm and cordial greetings to the young Cuban girl who escaped from a Spanish prison in Havana. She has been freed, received, banqueted and entertained most lavishly. Several wealthy men, both old and young, have offered to marry her, and at least one wealthy woman has offered to adopt her.

But what we want to say is: There are 100,000 poor girls in the United States who are just as handsome, just as good, just as brave, just as patriotic as she is, and every one of them is suffering as much from the hardships of poverty and want as she was suffering from imprisonment.

Why do not some of these good people who are so much interested in Miss Cisneros of Cuba do something for their American sisters right here at home?—B. F. Norton.

WOMAN'S WORLD.

A JERSEY CITY WOMAN WHO IS NOTED AS AN EGYPTOLOGIST.

New Occupations For Women—The Buffalo Women's Union—Madcliffe College Girls—Latest in Waists and Blouses. Even in the Klondike.

Mrs. Eunice L. W. Rowbottom of Jersey City is the probable Amelia B. Edwards, or American Egyptologist, of the future. She has studied diligently in different cities and will devote her time in future to the platform and to translating papyri and exhaustive travel and exploration in Egypt.

Mrs. Rowbottom is a young and attractive woman, a devoted mother and an accomplished housewife. Her father was a professor of Greek, and through his influence and association she became, early in life, an oriental scholar.

Ten years ago, when recovering from an illness, some friend sent her a copy of "Ten Thousand Miles Up the Nile." This she read with avidity, and while still confined to her bed she taught herself hieroglyphics and Egyptian mythology, after which she read Egyptian history, literature, fiction, poetry, essays and Egyptian commonplaces—in short, everything that has any bearing whatever on the subject. The Jersey City library, proud of her researches, has sent abroad and procured works for her special use. "The Egyptian Ritual of Life and Death," which is known as "The Book of the Dead," Mrs. Rowbottom found it almost impossible to get at the Astor library in New York, where, because the book is so rare, an attendant was detailed to watch at her elbow while she read it. In Brooklyn the li-



MRS. ROWBOTTOM.

brary authorities charged her for its perusal. So the Jersey City library sent abroad for a copy of this original literary treasure.

Mrs. Rowbottom is now translating a papyrus which is the story of Queen Hatshepsut's voyage to the land of Punt. Queen Hatshepsut introduced sailing vessels and was altogether progressive. She was the "new woman" of her time. Envoys came to her from all over the world, and the queen, clever woman that she was, always went out to meet such personages dressed in the national costume of her visitor. Moreover, she invariably assumed at such times the peculiar dialect of her guest, a combination of dress and language which never failed to make her popular.

Queen Hatshepsut reigned 50 years, Mrs. Rowbottom says, and she it was undoubtedly who originated the Suez canal, because when De Lesseps made his excavations he found her cartouches on the stones. She sent an expedition to the land of Punt for myrrh, in addition to which her ships brought back pygmies and green monkeys. This queen was even more advanced than Elizabeth of England, for her reign was all for peace and progress in the arts, particularly in architecture. She was a Pharos, and as such her rank obliged her to learn architecture.

In this good queen's old age her adopted son, who was her nephew, found some way of getting rid of her, whether by assassination or seclusion no one knows.

"Women," says Mrs. Rowbottom, "were highly enlightened and very scholarly in Queen Hatshepsut's day. They were, too, supreme in their own households. If they desired their husbands not to enter, all they had to do was to put their little shoes outside the door. When on the throne, Queen Hatshepsut always wore a sort of bloomers, the dress of the male pharaohs, which was in reality an accordion plaited divided skirt, worn under a short toga. This was when Egypt was in its prime. The women were finely educated, the children were never irreverent.

"Men with ten times as much money on their mothers as upon any other member of their families, and the following words are from the court poet, Ptahhotep: 'Remember thy mother. Did she not suffer for thee, and shouldst thou not gladly care for her now?'"—Dennie Hopkins Seibold in Chicago Record.

New Occupations For Women.

It is a rare thing nowadays to hear a woman say, "I can't find anything to do." English women contend that American women are never at a loss to find employment. In view of some of the odd industries that give a livelihood to women here this seems more than half true.

Mrs. Barotti, in Chicago, makes a good income by conducting a nut cracking establishment. This is an innovation and one that pays well. Nuts are cracked at other places in Chicago, but Mrs. Barotti's establishment is the one best known to confectioners, street vendors and the best known society people. At this season Mrs. Barotti's business has a boom and will continue to increase until after the Christmas holidays. Her place of business is a long, narrow room opening on the street. Down the center extends a long table surrounded by men.

I HAVE FOR SALE
A LOT OF
POLAND-CHINA
PIGS
of both sexes, of Free Trade, Wilkes and U.S. strains that I will sell very cheap. Foundation stock for herds especially. Will sell sows bred to sons of Klever's Model, the \$2,000 sow, and Chief Tuscumbah, the best Poland-China hog on earth.
ADDRESS
L. H. SUTER, Neligh, Neb.

Felt Boots and good warm Overshoes
Should be in every man's Thanksgiving wardrobe.
They keep cold away and warmth inside.
We have plenty of them at economical prices.

The Wells Shoe Store
208 North Tenth Street.

THE NEW WEEKLY
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS
DENVER, COLO.
THE BEST WEEKLY PUBLISHED
\$1.00 Per Year in Advance.
LEADS the Silver Forces of America.
LEADS in Mining and Mining Stock Reports.
LEADS in Special Departments.
LEADS in developing Colorado's wonderful resources.
LEADS in Newsiness, Brightness, Comprehensiveness.
LEADS in Commissions to Agents.
(Write for Terms.)

The Great Silver Daily
The News publishes the representative paper (daily and Sunday) west of St. Louis; cartoon with every issue. 85c a month—\$1.00 for 2 months—in advance.
For sample copy of any issue, address,
THE NEWS PRINTING CO., Denver, Colorado.

The New Job Printing Department

Of this office has lately added a complete assortment of the most effective styles of type and borders to be found in the market.

Our Facilities

For doing **FIRST CLASS WORK** is the best, and those who want work done in an artistic and up-to-date manner will not be disappointed if they leave their order at this office.

Our Work and Prices

Will please you. Send in your orders. "The Independent Publishing Co., 1120 M Street. Phone 538."

NO JOB TOO BIG FOR US

Dr. Stretton,

137 South Eleventh St., Lincoln, Neb.

Compound Oxygen

FOR DISORDERS OF THE BLOOD AND DIGESTIVE TROUBLES

Special Attention Given to Chronic Diseases

HAY **NEBRASKA HAY CO.,**
WHOLESALE
Hay, Grain and Mill Feeds, Bale-Ties
14th and Nicholas Sts., OMAHA, NEB

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA,
"The March King."
Says: "The Kimball Piano is first-class in every respect."
Send for complimentary collection of photographs of the world's celebrated musicians.
A. ROSPE,
General Agt., Omaha, Neb.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
PATENTS
TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS
COPYRIGHTS &c.
Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the
Scientific American.
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year, four months \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.
MUNN & Co., 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 635 F St., Washington, D. C.

DR. McCREW
IS THE ONLY
SPECIALIST
WHO TREATS ALL
Private Diseases
Weakness and Disorders of
MEN ONLY
30 Years Experience.
10 Years in Omaha.
Book Free. Consultation
Free. Box 706, or
14th and Farnam Sts.
OMAHA, NEB.

Greatest Newspaper in Nebraska.

The Omaha Daily World-Herald
has been reduced to
\$4 per year in advance
Subscriptions will be received at the Independent office, or they may be sent to the publishers direct.