

THE AMERICAN.

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

"AMERICA FOR AMERICANS."—We hold that all men are Americans who swear allegiance to the United States without a mental reservation in favor of the Pope.

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AMERICA IN DANGER!

Imperilled by the Influx of Romanized Foreigners.

Rev. Dr. Scott F. Hershey States Some Facts Which Startle—Evils of Illiteracy, Crime, Pauperism and Insanity.

People's Temple is a Mecca for patriotic Americans in our time, and is likely to be esteemed by our children's children as Faneuil Hall is by us today—the central rallying point of genuine Americans, the birthplace of loyal aspirations and noble endeavors for God, home and country.

The audience gathered yesterday was unexpectedly large, of excellent spirit, and listened with intense interest to Dr. Hershey's thrilling utterances on "Shut the Gates."

After the customary song service, in which the great congregation heartily joined, Rev. Mr. Emory, of Portland, Me., was introduced, and read the Scriptures. Rev. Dr. Dick offered prayer.

Miss Grace Bradbury sang "Ave Maria," after which, as an encore, she sang a new patriotic song in praise of Old Glory, which was received with rounds of applause.

Deacon Bradbury said: "I think we ought to be very grateful to the Boston branch of the W. C. T. U. I do not think any temperance man has not blushed at the position in which we have been placed in this country by Miss Frances E. Willard and other leading spirits of the temperance organizations. The action of the Boston branch the other day was most admirable. They protest against the position they were put in in the great meeting in Baltimore a few weeks ago, and they have taken a sensible, healthy position with regard to the Roman Catholic Church on the temperance question. I hope the question is settled for all time. What a consummate farce it is to talk of uniting with Rome on the temperance question, when it is well known that they run the saloon." (Applause.)

The notice was given that next Sabbath Rev. Dr. Fifield will speak on "Popery vs. Progress;" the Sabbath following, Professor J. A. Lansing, recently returned from a Pacific Coast visitation; the Sabbath following, Rev. Dr. J. D. Fulton will give an oration on Dr. S. F. Smith, author of "America."

By vote of the audience, a patriotic Thanksgiving day public service was decided to be held at People's Temple at 3 p. m., with such speakers as Dr. J. A. Lansing, Dr. G. C. Lorimer, Dr. J. D. Fulton, and Dr. Scott F. Hershey. Each person attending was invited to bring some visible contribution for the poor of the city of Boston, in the shape of vegetables, meats, etc., which would be received (as a Thanksgiving contribution to the poor by the patriotic congregation) by (George F. Washburn, Mr. Howard and Mr. O. C. Emerson.

Miss Grace Bradbury sang, "Do You Hear the Charge of Battle?" Mrs. E. Trank Hill was introduced, and spoke briefly concerning the plans and needs of the independent women voters, and asked for a financial contribution in aid of their work, which was taken, amounting to over \$50.

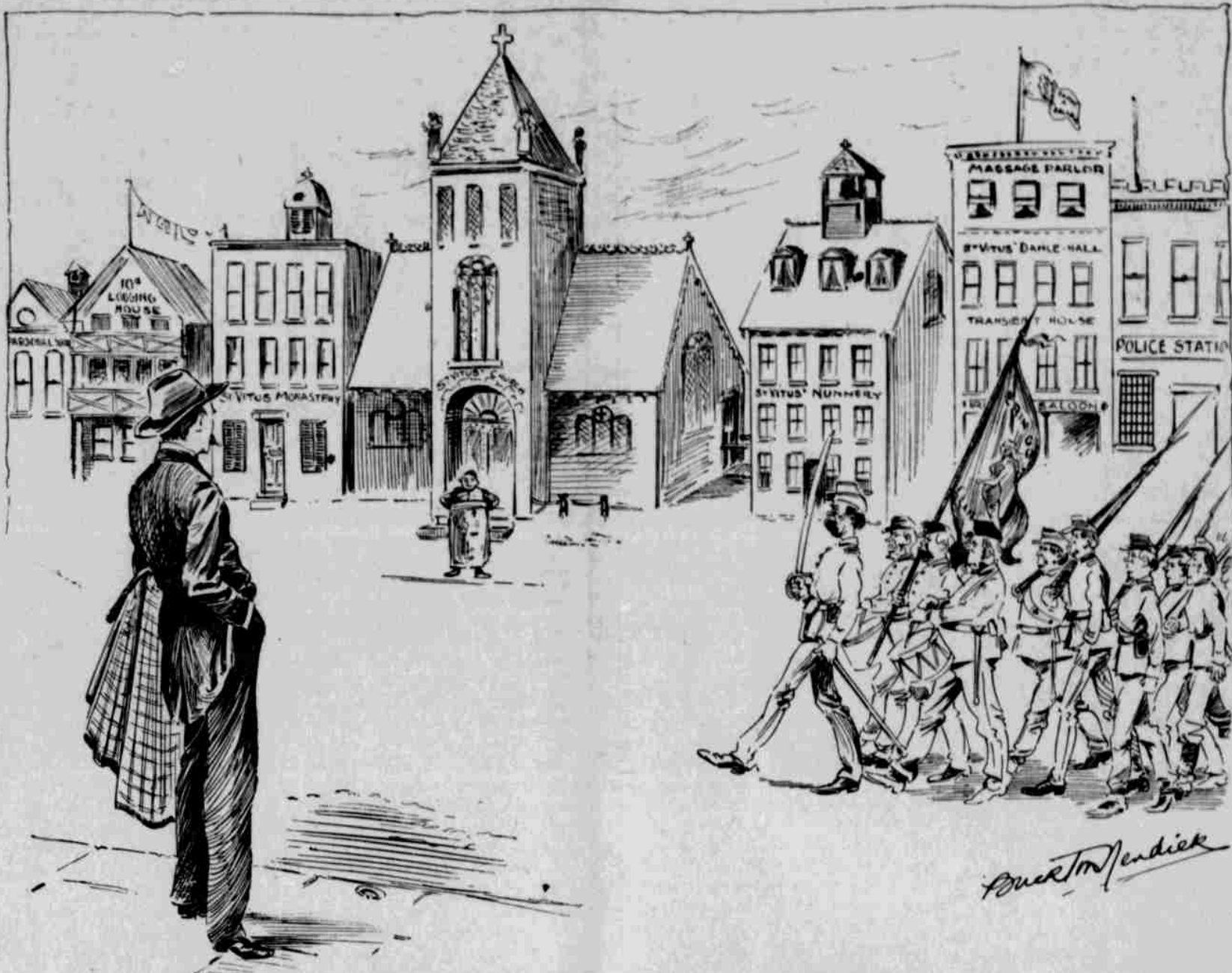
The lecturer of the afternoon, Dr. Scott F. Hershey, came forward, and was received with intense applause. He said:

"I feel that the crisis that is on in this city is of such importance that we might appropriately devote this entire hour to the consideration of the question, but I shall endeavor to be brief in the discussion of the theme before me.

"Some thirty years ago, Henry Ward Beecher was wont to say: 'Let immigration come. America can assimilate all of its un-American elements. As the elephant lifts his proboscis to eat of the oak, the elephant does not become oak; the oak becomes elephant.'

"Yes, but we have added to our knowledge and experience an entire generation. Now we demand that before the American elephant lifts his proboscis to eat of the foliage from the great oak of foreign immigration, we shall first have the worms swept away, hanging in such ugly festoons and nests from the branches, else we shall take into our body politic a blood-poison that shall prove fatal to us. [Applause.]

"When Robert Hall heard of the result of the Battle of Waterloo, he exclaimed: 'Now is the clock of the world's progress turned back twenty centuries.' If immigration continues to pour in upon our shores the bigotries, and vices, and criminal tendencies, and characteristics of certain countries of Europe until we shall have in this country a balance of power resting in the control of undesirable, irrepressible criminal classes, then we shall be com-



American Citizen: I'd be much obliged to any one who can point out the American Flag in this scene.

pelled to say that 'Immigration has turned back the clock of American progress at least 300 years.' The questions and the problems which have agitated the countries of the Old World are confronting us in this land to-day, and we shall have to fight over again the battles which shook the nations of Europe in the Sixteenth century. No nation can long maintain the spirit of its institutions, the unity of its laws and the native inspiration of its patriotism with the invasion of a foreign, diverse and antagonistic people pouring into the country in such numbers as to threaten in its population to outnumber the population of native parentage.

"Recent statistics have shown us that we have not one, but two, very significant race problems in this country: The one is that of the colored race—the colored belt south of Mason and Dixon's line, which is 6,700,000 strong; the other is that of the foreign born north of Mason and Dixon's line, 8,700,000 strong. And at least one-half of this foreign belt is in colors so dark that as I confront the blackness I stand appalled at the murmuring storm that I hear coming up from over the horizon.

"We have in this country to-day twenty-two native white-born of our American-born parentage, to which we have nineteen foreign-born, or of foreign-born parentage. This statement presents a condition that ought to be considered alarming. I understand more and more that this platform ought to have presented from it expert studies and most reliable authorities. I do not consider it has come to be very helpful to us to have from this platform statements of conditions which are twenty or thirty or fifty years old, or facts gathered from newspapers of a quarter of a century ago. What we want is such authority as, I trust, I present for my proof of the questions that I raise this afternoon, viz.: The census of 1890, the report of the special commission appointed by the Fiftieth Congress of the United States, and the report of the Government's Bureau of Education. These [authorities] I hold to be incontrovertible. That of the special Congressional Committee is a report, the testimony it contains being sworn to as testimony, and I do not believe it contains a statement that can be overthrown.

"I ask you to consider the fact that we have been adding to our population by foreign immigration almost one-half a million a year for several years. And for the last fifteen years we have added each year by foreign immigration a number of people sufficient to populate with their present population either one of such states as New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming or Oregon.

"In New England during the last ten years—1885-1895—we have had a growth of foreign population of 44 per cent. We have had a growth in our native population of 10 1/2 per cent. In other words, in the New England States our

foreign population has grown more than four times as fast as our native population.

"In Boston we have one native voter—American voter—to every 2 1/2 of foreign voters, or whose parents were foreign-born. And if you would allow me the privilege of selecting these foreign-born voters, or designate the countries from which we would desire them to come, then I would make no objection to that proportion whatever; but when it happens that the most undesirable sections of the world contribute the largest proportion of this balance of power, the question of our native and foreign-born population becomes a very serious question.

"In New York City they have 134,457 native voters and 314,481 foreign voters. "In thirty-five out of the fifty largest cities of this country the foreign-born voting population exceeds the native voting population. Are the municipalities of the United States American in their control, or foreign?

"Since 1860 we have received every year more and more an undesirable population from abroad. I believe that we can stand squarely upon this statement, that each year the character of our immigration has been growing lower and lower. And let me say in passing that until the last year the immigration statistics have not included those coming from Canada or from Mexico, or from the countries of the Old World by way of Canada. Hundreds of thousands have landed at Canadian ports and directly crossed the border, coming into the United States; and until the last two years they have not been included in the immigration statistics. The Commissioner of Statistics of Immigration for Canada estimated that for seven years 500,000 of their foreign-born immigrants left Canada and came to the United States. Where have they come from?

"Here is a sample year: In 1892 we received 623,084 immigrants. There came from Ireland, 55,467; from Russia and Poland, 117,692; from Austria and Hungary—two of the most bigoted populations of the world—180,136; from Italy, 62,137; from France, 65,000; from Spain and Portugal, 10,347, and other countries making a total of 332,347, or over 50 per cent. of all who came to us that year came to us from the most undesirable sections of the world. Let me read you as quickly as I can a statement made in the report of one of the United States Consuls, who by the special Congressional Committee was asked to present a brief opinion as to the conditions and character of the people who came from the Old World. One of these consuls says: 'I have formed the opinion since being in the service of the United States as consul, and it is a very decided one, that the evils attending the immigration to the United States from the country which I am in, arises from the character of the persons who emigrate. Their mode of life and habits

of thought and moral characteristics far outweigh any good resulting from the additions they may make to the producing power of our country.'

"Another consul says: 'A few days ago, I saw at a railway junction two common freight-cars filled with emigrants for the United States—forlorn-looking creatures, half-starved and not decently clad. In these cars, men, women and children, with all the worldly goods they possessed, were packed like sardines in a box, to the number of sixty. There was not a seat in the cars, not so much as a board for any of the poor mothers, with infants, to rest themselves upon. In changing cars, this pitiful, motley crowd were roughly handled, and herded together in the railroad yard like so many cattle. Long train-loads, among them car-loads of just such miserable creatures, arrive at Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and other seaports on every sailing day. Most of them are too poor to get beyond New York.'

"There is a report as to a large number of our immigrants and their character.

"There are two serious charges I make. The first is: That almost all of the crime in this country, most of our illiteracy, most of our pauperism and most of our insanity in this country—each of these four evils—is mostly produced by our foreign population. That is a serious charge. And secondly: I say that most of this illiteracy, crime, pauperism and insanity produced by our foreign population, is produced by those who come to us from particular sections of the Old World. And this second charge is one which I shall ask you to consider very seriously in a few minutes.

"Look at these charges: That illiteracy is mostly a foreign product in our country. This audience will agree with me that an educated citizenship is the only sure safeguard that we have for the continuance of our American institutions. We have in this country 17,000,000 voters, nearly; we shall have that number by the next Presidential election. We have in the United States to-day 5,500,000 of people over 10 years of age who are totally illiterate. By total illiteracy I mean a condition of ignorance in which a person can neither read nor write to the extent of writing his own name in his own language. Is this true? I hold in my hand the statistics from the Government. Our illiteracy has been growing in this country. The proportion of growth in the illiteracy of our country is greater than our growth of population. But we have 5,500,000 totally illiterate.

"In 1880 we had a native white population in the United States of 19,250,000; that is, 19,250,000 native Americans had in their entire population 650,960 illiterates, or one out of thirty—about three to 100. I stand on this platform, believing that the condition of the world to-day and of the past will bear me out in the statement that there is

no country in the world to-day, or ever has been in the past, of any considerable population, which can give the splendid showing of ninety-seven out of 100 educated to that degree; yet that is the fact in regard to our native white population in this country.

"During that same year we had a foreign-born population of 6,394,711, which produced 763,620 illiterates, or one to over eight of its population—three times as much as that of our native population—and when the foreign-born population was less than a third as great as our native-born population.

"In Massachusetts, in 1885, we had a total of illiterates over 10 years of age in our native population of 13,800, and in our foreign population in the same state of 122,263. Now, is this illiteracy of this country a native product or a foreign one? And these illiterates who have come to our country from the nations of the Old World, have they not come to us from particular countries? They have not come to us from the Protestant Provinces of Canada, or from the North of Ireland, or from Scotland or England, or to any great extent from Germany, except the Bavarian districts. They have come to us from the other sections of the Old World, almost exclusively. I might remind you that less than thirty years ago, when Victor Emmanuel undertook to establish state schools in Italy, he prepared careful statistics of the condition of his country in education, and these showed that out of a population of 26,000,000, over 17,000,000 could neither read nor write. According to the statement of the Italian Consul in New York City, with which the United States report does not entirely agree, there were 80,000 Italians in that city, and just 5 per cent. of them could read in the English language. The Italian population of that city has 20,000 voters, and we are confronted with the fact that in 1884, 1,200 additional voters would have changed the Presidency of the United States. I know that there are some people who do not like to have us state such facts. I have noticed that there are some people who like to hear me talk, to some extent at least, if I do not uncover the ugliness of some facts which ought to be looked at in this country.

"I have here a paper which came to me yesterday, which actually gives within four inches of two columns of its editorial page to me. It expresses itself about me [Applause and laughter.] It is in language very interesting. For instance, it says that 'This Dr. Hershey of Boston ought to have a trouncing so severe that he would not forget it through the remainder of his absurd days.' That is almost comical. What is the matter with the editorial in that paper? It is simply because I have told some things to which I stand committed upon undeniable facts that have been produced under oath, and the editor of this paper does not know them to

be facts, but he ought to. I may say that this paper is the organ of one of the Roman Catholic bishops of this country. And on the same editorial page I find this: 'When geometry and the catechism alternate in our schools, then, and not till then, can we hope to enjoy the blessing of a true education.' Well, I don't know about geometry being alternated with anything in the schools of Italy; but I do know that there was considerable of the catechism taught in the schools of Italy before the days of Victor Emmanuel and Garibaldi. The Roman Catholic Church to-day must be charged by the intelligence of the world with having produced in Europe teeming populations, millions and tens of millions, who are totally and absolutely illiterate, and I protest against having them come in overwhelming numbers to this country. [Great applause.]

"How is it in regard to crime? Our foreign population has given us most of our crime—more than 50 per cent. of it. Immigration for a long while has been a sewer for the overflow of European crime. Before this special commission of the Fiftieth Congress the commissioners of immigration of New York city testified, and the superintendent of Castle Garden testified, that they frequently found on Italian immigrants to the United States—first, a government passport showing that they came to this country with the knowledge of the Government of Italy; second, that on their clothing marks were found showing that they had come out of the prisons of Italy.

"Do you know there are several governments of Europe that for a number of years have been taking government money and by official act taking their criminals out of their jails and prisons and sending them to the United States? It is a fact that one of the European governments in one year appropriated \$1,000,000 to send criminals to America. It is a fact that for a number of years from 20 to 30 have come every year from the prisons of a particular country of the Old World. A woman now, or two years ago, in a prison of this country, testifying under oath, declared that she had been in a prison in her own country for the murder of her own child; that her term of imprisonment was five years, and that before she had served one year she was given her liberty and a free passage to America on condition that she would come to this country at once.

"A lawyer in this city, called to a client, a foreigner, said: 'How long have you been in this country?' 'Eight or ten weeks.' 'How many crimes are you charged with now?' 'Two.' 'How many crimes have you committed since you have been in this country?' 'I don't remember.' 'What is your business?' 'I am a criminal by profession.' 'How did you come to this country?' 'I was given my freedom on condition that I at once should come to America.' 'Two men were arrested in one day in Cincinnati—one charged with one crime and the other with three. Both of them had been just two weeks from the immigrant ship at Castle Garden. Both of them confessed to having been in the prisons of Europe.

"Hundreds of thousands of dollars every two or three years by a few governments of Europe which I could specify have been used for the purpose of sending the inmates of their jails and prisons and their chronic criminals to this country.

"What are the statistics with regard to crime in this country? In 1850 we had one criminal to every 3,500 of population. I am not ashamed of that. I question if there are any countries in the world of equal population that can make such a showing as that. But how is it to-day? or how was it in 1890, five years ago? We had in that year one criminal for every 784 of our entire population. In other words, our criminal population has grown more than five times as fast as the general population of the country.

"In the nine North Atlantic states in 1890 the native population was 8,891,000, and the foreign population was 8,230,576. Now the first, or native, population, had in 1890 a criminal population of 3,960. The foreign population of these nine states had in the same year in the jails and prisons 8,564. In other words, the foreign population in 1890 of these nine states, North Atlantic states, contributed 66 per cent. of our crime.

"We had in the jails of Massachusetts in 1890 of native population 169; of our foreign population, 760. The nineteen millions foreign population of our country (and in that population I include both the foreign population and those born of foreign parentage) north of Mason and Dixon's line in 1890 gave more criminals than the 34,000,000 natives of all the states and territories of the Union combined.

To be continued next week.