

**EAST AND WEST COMPARED**

**Social and Political Institutions of Two Worlds Contrasted.**

**ENGLAND IN THE DECLINE OF GREATNESS**

**Slav is the Coming World Power, and Russia May Shine When American Greatness has Faded Away.**

"Westward the course of empire hath taken its way." This is certainly a palpable and most apparent fact to the careful observer.

If civilization began in Asia, its zenith of development is today half way around the world and still on its westward trend. As I had mentioned in a former article, it has crossed the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, and is about to cross the Pacific, each time adding to its splendor and greatness. What a mighty people were the Greeks, the Romans, and who knows of the prehistoric times of the Asiatics? Their past is yet to be unearthed. What a mighty people are the English and what a great people are to-day the Americans?

Greek art and Roman politics have certainly permeated the western world, and we are yet learning by their example. However, their teachings is but a foundation for modern times for we are to fight out our own destiny. The Europeans have been following closely their footsteps; but America is yet to venture out into the realms of art and science. We are yet to outstrip the splendors of the Greek and Roman world.

**America's Splendid Opportunity.**

America's natural isolation has given her opportunity for internal development, as she has had all great nations without external interference, and she is now able to embark into commercial empire.

Europe was once the western empire; America is the western empire today, and it is only a question of time when empire will migrate across the Pacific. In traveling over the two civilized sections of these continents, there is nothing that impresses one more than the similarity of the peoples with dissimilar languages, laws and customs. It is certainly true that God made all the peoples of one blood, that they might share common brotherhood. Europe is a congested territory about equal to the United States, where one-third of the world's population is struggling for an existence. It is not surprising that the governments put up a high tariff on our imports, to save their power at the hunger and suffering of their peoples. They cannot compete with the western fertility, and the walls of tariff which they put up must some day crumble; for those countries are no longer self-supporting. Wheat is the staff of life, and they have not even enough of it. Expansion by colonization is the sole solution of this grave question which the powers are attempting.

**Europe Faces Starvation.**

Europe's cry is "Land," and there is but one country that has it, viz: Russia. When a great famine comes, the conditions in Europe will be appalling. Adversity is very pronounced, and stringent times are very trying. In America adversity is not yet known. Where is there hunger in America today? Although our poor houses are becoming filled there is still plenty to eat. In Europe the alms houses are so congested that it takes influence of an influential friend to get the poor into the poor houses. The streets are crowded with beggars, and the most pitiful sight that a man can see today is somebody's old mother—your mother's old god-mother—with wrinkled face and trembling hand begging for alms. If there is anything that will touch the hardest heart that ever beat, it is the sight of those old people, who have struggled through the long battle of life, and still are fighting the battle of existence as they are nearing home. Why is it that this world is so unjust, and why is it that the West is more just than the East? Nature has ever been bountiful, and where it was untouched it is producing today, and there is plenty; where its forces have been wasted there is want.

**Lesson to Americans.**

Should not America heed the experience of all the poverty-stricken countries, and be more judicious in her demands on nature? Why have we killed off the buffalo, and thus starved out the Indian? We must amend or we will repent. Poverty will come to us with wealth, for highly unproportionate distribution of wealth is an incident to prosperity. We have no poverty question, as compared with that of Europe today, but increased and continued prosperity threaten to make it the most serious question of future time.

Our laborers today live much better and enjoy more comforts than those of Europe, and are better workers, but the American laborer is poorer than the European, as compared with his employer, for this reason that the unequal distribution of wealth in Europe today is not so marked as in America. Today we certainly have a labor question in a more systematic form than Europe. Our labor question in the beginning of the defense of the poor against the rich, for labor and capital is composed of the elements. In Europe they have no such capital and labor wars because the labor recognizes his status (by reason of tradition) as a servant and an independent factor. Equality is the cornerstone to democratic institutions, and the American has been taught to fight to the last ditch for these rights. All questions in the future will be swept into oblivion by reason of the development of these two facts, the rich and poor, in a government where equality is an inheritance.

One can certainly say that the West is the land of thirst, and the East the land of laggardness. The most marked example of this is in England where laziness is at its flood tide. To board a train in England, is like going back a century to take a ride on the first rail-coach. It is true that they have the best of steel and equipment and that there is less danger of accident, than in America, but their caution makes them the slowest people in the world. This is repugnant to an American, but the European knows that he lives and who he is while the American does not.

**England's Hour Has Struck.**  
England is declining and on the last crutch of her commercial empire; she has played her part in commerce well, but her days are numbered, while the hand of fate points her out. She has built up the most wonderful empire in modern times, she has always been a godmother to her colonies, has treated them judiciously, and brought civilization and happiness to many lands, only to find out their infidelity as they grew strong and independent. She may depend for support upon her children, but

she cannot dictate to them, for without their support she would be a forlorn beggar.

England, in her last struggle to maintain her prestige among the powers, indeed forms a sorrowful spectacle. Once she need not mourn for death, but the coming of all the trials she has had with her children, and particularly of one prodigal, yet much loved daughter, "The American Republic." Little England was the greatest colonizer in the world's history; she has developed an empire that encircles the world, covering about one-third its area, and governing about one-third its population. Who can say that she has failed if she has started the United States, fostered the Dominion of Canada, created a civilized Australia, and uplifted a starving India and enlightened a dark Africa?

**Germany Busy at Home.**

Expansion by colonization is certainly the key to greatness. Spain had once a colonial empire, but her treacherous system of bleeding her colonies would not work. France had her colonies, but she could not hold them at the point of bayonets. Her conquest was unreasonable. Germany was unfortunately severed on difference of religion and the Kaiser is today straining every nerve to create a more perfect union with the Hapsburgs.

Commerce is the common cry of all the powers, and those systems that are most expedient for the purpose of carrying on a commercial policy will become the strongest. The rules of the most successful nations of the future are to be drummers, seekers of markets. All the powers are building up great merchant marines, and a navy to protect their commerce and markets. There is no country so well developed as Germany, and she is certainly in need of land. Germany is probably the highest developed manufacturing country, with the United States at her heels, giving the hot chase. When America is one-half as well developed as Germany is today, with a merchant marine of her own, Germany will be left in the shade. However, when we look at America's progress, we must give the Germans the just share of credit.

**Due to Teutonic Blood.**

It is probably the Teuton more than any other race that is bringing America to the front. The German is only second in number of population after the Anglo-Saxons, and who were the Anglo-Saxons really but Teutons? Look where you will in this broad land of ours and wherever you see the hand of a Teuton you see success, progress and prosperity. Theodore Roosevelt is of Teuton descent. Is not the hand that is governing the destiny of this nation of Teuton blood? The German is equally successful behind the plow or at the head of the republic. The Teuton is certainly the conquering race of today.

Napoleon was not mistaken when he said: "Some day America will be humble England." And he sold the Louisiana territory with that purpose. He said: "They had asked me for territory. I gave them an empire." No one knew as well as Napoleon what this territory meant to the American republic. His real greatness of forethought is just being understood. His influence in France will never die, for the French live in his shadow. Likewise is England permeated with the love of Victoria, Germany with the stateliness of Bismarck, Austria with the pride of Maria Theresa. Napoleon's attempt to colonize by conquest was so fierce that it shocked the world, and we can truly say that he was the most successful failure the world has ever known.

The ambition of this one man created an empire for France and destroyed it again. He had dreamed of a world empire like all great men. He was ambitious for his country, and would have made it great had he not forgotten that enduring work is slow and hard.

**Teuton and Slav.**

A union of the Teutons would threaten to bring about a union of the Slav and again make Bohemia the battle-ground. The German emperor is watching every move of the Hapsburg; he knows that the power of his house is gradually sinking, and that the tie that holds this dual monarchy, composed of different races, are gradually loosening. He knows that the body of the Austro-Hungarians are Teutons. He also knows that the Slavs are to have a common enemy in the Slav. All this leads him to believe in the possibility of a Teuton union, and I dare say that it is not only possible but probable.

The incipient of the democratic principle of representative self-government was in simple Bohemian peasants, who were the teachers of the German people. Bohemia is the Slavic wedge that has kept divided this great race, and a war of extermination has been waged on him without effect. In the history of the world there are no people who have suffered like the Bohemian, nor is there a spot on the face of the earth that is so saturated with human blood. Stripped of arms, those peasants were compelled to protect their homes with fangs. They fought for a principle that was as sacred to them as their very lives; they fought for freedom of thought, for liberty.

The spirit of freedom pervades the world today, and I dare say, the time is yet to come when this spirit is universal. Then may the Slav partake of his just due, but long delayed and hardly earned share of this world's happiness. The religious

**Recent Events in the Field of Electricity****Electricity in the Household.**

MUCH as electricity has done in adding to the comforts of the home, says the New York Electrical Review, it promises yet much more—that is, if we accept the predictions of certain eminent authorities who have for years past studied, worked with and advanced, as much as they could, the application of electricity. Colonel R. E. B. Crompton, past president of the institution of electrical engineers of Great Britain, has followed every new use of the new power into every field. He is familiar with the great work that has been done, and he sees great opportunities now offering. Upon some of these he dwelt recently at a lecture given during an electrical exhibition held in London. For industrial uses, he says, the electric motor easily outstrips all rival means of supplying power. It is more economical, more convenient, and is brought under perfect control. He hopes for a greatly increased use of electric power in London, not only on the street, but in the house, where great advantages would accrue and comfort would be much promoted. By its aid spring cleaning may be banished, and houses kept ten times cleaner than they are under the present system of displacing dirt and dust. He prognosticated that before long, electric power will supersede the manual labor of the household, for there is no reason why motors should not be used to drive machinery for washing dishes, cleaning plates, roasting and grinding coffee, chopping meat, kneading dough, doing the laundry work, as well as being utilized for artistic and decorative effects. They could clean the metal work, polish the silver and the jewelry, cool the refrigerator, rock the baby, press the clothes—in fact, the number of things that might be done in this way seems unlimited.

**Telephone Competition Continues.**

New York's public wants telephone competition is at a fever pitch, but the city authorities evidently are going to make it exceedingly difficult if not impossible for any company to compete with the Bell monopoly. The setback in independent telephone operations came last week when Controller Gross presented to the Board of Estimate a special report of Engineer Harry P. Nichols of the finance department on the value of the franchise bought by the Atlantic Telephone company. Under the terms as fixed by Mr. Nichols the com-

reformers of the fifteenth century pointed to the corruption in the government of Catholicism that was eating away the heart of religion and destroying human rights. It seems peculiar that the Slav was great, but now she is humble, but she need not mourn for death, for the coming of all the trials she has had with her children, and particularly of one prodigal, yet much loved daughter, "The American Republic."

The Catholic system is the direct outgrowth of the Roman city of state, having assumed all that was good of the old system, and cast off all the evil. The papal government at the Eternal City may, indeed, be designated as the Republic of the World. It is today certainly the most judicious and just system, wherein taxation, the foundation of all government, is substituted by voluntary contributions. It was the most democratic in form yet despotic in power; a system built up by the voice of the people, yet ruled over by one man; a system that crowned kings and dethroned them with as much ease; a system that had the power of life and death over its subjects; a system that recognized the divinity of its ruler, and the consanguinity of its subjects; a system that had flourished and grown in power only to fall by internal corruption; a system which had advanced the civilization of the world and converted it to its own use; a system that, finally, substituted robbery for its cardinal principle of voluntary contribution and thereby became rotten to the core.

**Bone's Influence on World.**

Growing up from the ruins of the Roman Empire are the modern European nations and one universal system of religion, Catholicism.

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**When Freedom Was Born.**

Then the strike for civil liberty came, for what was religious freedom but civil freedom? The peoples, stripped of their wealth, became slaves of the Catholic lords. The system became the most corrupt where the lands were the richest, where the peasants worked the hardest. The priesthood volunteered to serve these lands, for the spoils were the richest. Productive, hard-working, little Bohemia was the common prey of all, and from here burst forth the cry of "Freedom." Internal corruption almost destroyed this system; the power of the pope became limited; he lost his army, but he has yet millions of followers.

**Religion and Patriotism.**

History has proven that religion is even a stronger tie than race. Can we not see that this system is playing a great part in the union of the nations by professing a brotherhood of the races? It may be true that the system is today catering to the masses, but have not the heads of governments bowed low to the will of the people? Is not today the most absolute monarchy of modern times bowing to the will of the people? "Vox populi vox dei"—the voice of the people is the voice of God—and must be heard. Had Russia listened to the voice of her people she would not have been so disgraced today. The same judgment had been pronounced against all nations where the people were not heard, and heeded.

Listen to the voice of the peoples of the world today, they all assert a common brotherhood, and cry out for universal peace. Governments may demand from their hearts their beats a love for humanity that makes the universal patriot. Build up this love and it will destroy sectional differences which cause international war. Commerce is drawing the peoples closer and closer together, and we are beginning to understand that every human conscience has the same conception of right and wrong.

**Russia's Future.**

The future diplomatic question of America is the broadening of the Monroe doctrine, the future question of Russia is internal development. She was mistaken in the notion that she wanted more undeveloped territory, and sea coast. Of what use is sea coast to an undeveloped country? In fact, it will prove one of the fortunes to Russia that she has but little coast to defend in a final reckoning. Russia is on a continent where she needs but railroads, not seaports.

Russia is not the only nation dreaming of a world empire, but the minds of all great statesmen are bent by this idea as they have been in the bygone ages.

Expansion by annexation is a common procedure of obtaining dominion, and the predestined empire is the one that will be the most successful in colonization. Colonization is certainly a matter of evolution, as all nations are the product of confederations for a common good. A common faith has been the cement that has bound these loose ties together, and made them more compact by a sense of brotherhood.

We can see that the spreading of this idea of universal brotherhood has brought not only solidity to nations, but has brought all the peoples closer and closer together; colonies merged into states, states into nations and nations are merged into one universal empire compact. The peoples of the earth are

to be henceforth represented, consulted and listened to. Liberty is not perishing on earth but is spreading throughout the world.

The Liberty of self-government is the cornerstone to all progress, for without it peoples die and nations decay. Russia is the living example of this fact. The Russian people would rather follow their plow than to follow the most fortunate general of their government. For the defense of their corrupted government they would not fight, but for the principle of liberty they will fight to the last ditch. The Slav race loves peace more than any race on the earth, but will sacrifice peace for the divine principle of equality. These are the characteristics of this mighty race, and the most sanguine mind cannot anticipate their great future. America may build up a great commercial empire and decline as England is today, before Russia attains the height of her internal development. Japan may do likewise several times, for the hot and quick blood of the Asiatic progresses rapidly and declines rapidly, while the cool and slow blood of the Slav is slowly moving toward the goal.

**Balance of Freedom.**

While self-government and freedom may be on its decline in one part of the world, it is on its ascendancy in another. Tolling and pell-mell under the yoke of political slavery the Russian peasant is yet to become the defender of democratic institutions, and civil liberty; the progenitor of the divine principle of universal brotherhood the creator of world empire.

When civilization completes its sweeping circuit around the world, the American will see the setting sun of war while the Russians behold the rising sun of peace over the mighty Pacific. Then and only then will the patriot proclaim "The world is my country, humanity my brother."

VICTOR H. DURAR.  
Washington, D. C., Nov. 1, 1905.

(Mr. Durar is a student of diplomacy at Washington, D. C., and has just returned from a trip abroad, where he has been studying the various systems of government and their peoples.)

The New York Telephone company is taxed on its real estate and on its franchises as real estate, under the franchise tax law. The independent companies, however, will be taxed likewise under the state statutes.

The Atlantic company expected advantageous rates because it offered the city 50,000 telephones free of charge, which would save the city the \$20,000 a year it pays the Bell company. The Atlantic company also offered 5-cent calls in any one borough and 10 cents for calls from one borough to another. This is half the rate charged by the Bell company. The rate for unlimited residence service was fixed at \$6 a year, and for business houses at \$10. For the franchise the company offered to pay the city a percentage of its gross receipts.

**New Cable to Europe.**

The work of laying the Commercial Cable company's fifth cable from Canos, Nova Scotia, to Waterville, Ireland, has been completed and messages are now being sent over it. This makes seven trans-Atlantic cables worked in direct connection with the lines of the Postal Telegraph company, the new cable being the most expensive ever laid and having a signaling speed 15 per cent greater than that of any other cable of equal length crossing the Atlantic.

The cable was laid by the steamer Colonial of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance company of London, the work being commenced August 1st. The ship met with an accident, and it was not until September 23 that it was finally able to lay its course from Canos. October 6 the work was completed and the main cable spliced to the shore end on the other side of the ocean.

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pany would have to pay the city \$7,750,000 in twenty-five years as a minimum for the privilege of entering the local field to compete with the New York Telephone company. These terms are regarded by the independent companies as unnecessarily onerous, being much more severe than the terms imposed upon the New York company.

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