

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

THE COUNTRY OF THE FUTURE.

For The Public.

Somewhere in time remote and far
The boundaries of that country reach
From Southern seas to Polar star,
To all who are of human speech.
What matter medleys strange of tongue
Where smiles are language—where they tell
Their story to a world grown young
Of Love at last made audible.

How gloriously bounded then
The Land that craves not War's renown—
Eastward by love of yellow men,
And northward by the love of brown.
Bounded by love of all men East,
And by the love of all men West,
The arms of highest and the least
Are shields about their breast.

No Hun or Vandal horde prevails
O'er land where serfs are not, nor lords,
Though here are playgrounds that were jails,
And plowshares that were swords.
Nor eye their boundary descries
Who flung from them all vulgar fears,
Nor are the slopes of Paradise
Wider than their frontiers!

God waits upon that people—they
Who find their soul what time they choose,
And gain this glory on the day
They their dominions lose.
God waits them—from His templed cloud
He seeks them with His patient eye—
The people who, no longer proud,
Build empires in the sky!

JOSEPH DANA MILLER.

* * *

THE INVALID.

For The Public.

Overwhelming Majority lay by the roadside, evidently in great distress.

The passers-by stopped to sympathize and comment.

"Too bad," said Reformer; "he needs a change. He ought to be sent up Salt River for his health."

"O pshaw, all he needs is a stimulant," said Anti-Sumptuary, producing a flask.

"He's drunk now, you fool," thundered Prohibition, brandishing a hatchet; "put on his lid."

"He's overworked and underpaid," said Unionist. "Raise his wages and shorten his hours and he will soon be all right."

"That would be unwarranted interference with his personal liberty," said Capitalist, "and——"

"Unconstitutional," said the Judge.

"He's the victim of too much competition," said Monopollist.

"O fudge!" said Individualist, "he hasn't had enough competition to furnish the required incentive to activity."

"If he'd taken my advice," said the Editor, "he

would have been well and strong to-day. I wanted to infuse some new blood into his veins."

"He's had too much tinkering already," retorted Conservative. "They tried that skin-grafting game, and it made him worse."

"It isn't his skin or his blood," said the Socialist. "It's his system. He needs a thorough renovation."

"But that would kill him," put in the Editor.

"I hope so," said the Anarchist.

ELLIS O. JONES.

* * *

HAVE YOU YOUR SHARE?

Editorial from the Pittsburg Leader of Nov. 20, 1906.

In a recent statement issued by the census bureau the wealth of the United States is estimated at \$115,000,000,000, or \$1,353 for every man, woman and child in the country.

The census of 1870 placed the wealth of the country at \$30,068,518,000, and the per capita wealth then was \$779.83. In 30 years the total wealth was almost trebled and in 1900 was \$88,528,348,000, or \$1,160.22 per capita. Four years later the total was placed at \$106,881,415,000, with a per capita about \$50 lower than at present.

These figures are amazing. They tell the story of the wonderful development of the resources of this land since 1870. It has outstripped every nation on the face of the globe in this respect.

But while the country now has four times the wealth it had in 1870 is the mass of the people any better off now than then? They had prosperity, or good times as it was then called, in 1870. Then came the Jay Cooke smash and the panic.

The world has improved greatly since then and the condition of the people is vastly better on that account, but so far as material possessions go they are no better off today with four times the wealth than they were in 1870. Men who are fond of the good old days will probably contend that they are not as well off, but they are merely looking back to the time when life was brighter because they were younger.

In 1870 a millionaire was a rarity. The man with \$50,000 or \$100,000 was regarded as a wealthy man then. Little was known of high finance. Corporations were not in fashion, that is, the corporations that we know today with their millions of inflated stock.

The per capita wealth was about half it is now, but more of the people had \$779 then than have \$1,353 now. None of them had a billion, nor even \$100,000,000. It is doubtful if any of them had \$10,000,000. But we have at least one billionaire now, have many with \$100,000,000 and more men have \$10,000,000 today than had \$100,000 in 1870.

These figures mean that the few have been allowed to abstract more than a fair share of the wealth from the common storehouse, even making liberal allowance for the reward of private enterprise and genius. They have been enabled to do this under the reign of privilege.

In 1870 when the resources of the country were being developed by individuals, co-partnerships and the old-fashioned companies that were capitalized at the value of the property they possessed and no higher, there was no monopoly and the special privileges

that one man had were available to any other who could meet the obligations entailed by the grant.

This preserved a more equitable balance in the distribution of wealth. Competition-throttling trusts were unknown and the companies that controlled the highways of the country were seeking business wherever they could get it. One man's money was as good to them as another's. The railroads were operated for the profit of all the stockholders. Graft was practically unknown in the transportation business.

Then came the era of the big corporations and the trusts. The old relations between man and man in business disappeared and the impersonal corporation came forward minus the principle of common honesty that was once deemed essential to success in business.

The reign of privilege began and as men came to know the value of it they bought it by resorting to bribery of public officers and law-makers in one way or another, at times with cash, but oftener by other means.

With the development of privilege through bribery and other dishonesty the wealth of the country began to flow in one direction, into the coffers of the few. Through their exploitation of the resources of the country its total wealth has grown to astonishing figures, but they have taken the most of it and with the increased power that it brought to them have been reaching for even a larger share.

If this great wealth were fairly distributed this would be a country today of prosperity unequaled in the history of the world. But a great accumulation of wealth does not make a nation either great or prosperous. Without an equitable distribution of it great wealth is a curse to a nation, since it becomes an instrument of oppression.

How to stop this flow of wealth in one direction is the all-important question before the country today. Men may be momentarily dazzled by the statement that the total wealth of the nation is 115 billions and that that amounts to \$1,353 for every person in the land, but they will not become enthusiastic over the figures when they begin to ask themselves if they have their share of it.

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BEAUTY OF HEART.

For The Public.

Were I as a child to choose my part,
Beauty of face or beauty of heart,
Beauty of face that fades away,
Or beauty of heart that lasts for aye,
I'd choose the true brave heart that bears
Not only its own but others' cares.

JESSIE KEYS CUMMING.

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