

IMMIGRATION LAWS.

What, if Any, Changes in the Existing Immigration Laws are Expedient?

From the prize essay written for Public Opinion by F. W. Hamilton on the above question, we take the following clipping:

This sense of danger has come from the change in the character of the stream of immigration pouring into our eastern ports. The story is very briefly told. The immigration from the British Isles, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Switzerland, France and Germany fell from 561,000 in 1882 to 336,000 in 1892, while that from Austria-Hungary, Poland, Russia and Italy increased from 82,000 in 1882 to 258,000 in 1892. These people last named for the most part bring nothing but themselves, and in themselves are neither useful nor desirable. They are of entirely different stocks from the original settlers and the earlier immigrants. They may indeed have longings for liberty, but they have no knowledge of what liberty is, how it may be secured, or how it should be used. They are mentally and morally degraded by century on century of oppression, of ignorance and of misery. Unused to any sort of self-government, they are incapable of walking the paths of citizenship without leaning heavily on the arm of some kind of paternalism. They have just enough money to get them past the gates of Castle Garden and then are dumped down, a helpless and unassimilable mass, and expected to take care of themselves and to develop by some mysterious process into intelligent wielders of the American suffrage.

We are daily witnessing the results of such a policy. These poor people herd helplessly in the cities. They crowd to suffocation those hot-beds of everything infernal, the tenement-house districts. They must work or starve, and so they work for what they can get. They have no skill and no natural aptitude for productive labor, and so they crowd the labor market with a vast mass of cheap unskilled labor, a constant menace to the intelligent workman's pay and an unfeeling resource for the capitalist who desires to screw down wages a few cents lower. Just as they may be used in masses by the unscrupulous contractor for the demoralization of the labor market, so, if they ever become citizens, they can be used in masses by the unscrupulous politician or the demoralization of citizenship. When the Californians raised their voices against the Chinese we were not greatly disturbed, because it is a far cry from New York to San Francisco, and we let the Californians have their own way without any realization of the mischiefs of an unassimilable immigration. Now we are greatly and properly exercised by the presence in our midst of a rapidly growing and almost equally unassimilable foreign element, an element that is a menace to the public health because of the life it lives, a scourge to the interests of labor because of the industrial conditions from which it cannot readily escape, and a constant anxiety to the defenders of the public peace because of the lawlessness, disorder and degradation which are the legitimate fruits of generations of serfdom.

Looking these facts fairly in the face, it seems that the time has come for a radical change of policy. The anti-Mongolian laws and the "contract labor law" are evidences that the people have felt the need of the change without realizing how far-reaching the change must be. They have attempted to meet the need by patching up the old policy with pieces of an entirely new one. That is neither wise nor sufficient. The time has come to take a new stand and to declare definitely and firmly that the United States will henceforth pursue a new policy. Experience has shown that the fundamental assumptions of the old policy are no longer tenable. Without questioning the essential value and dignity of humanity, it is plainly evident that there are wider natural differences between men than our fathers realized. These differences are not the man-made distinctions of artificial social systems, but are incidents of the development of the race. A development not by any means uniform all classes

line. Men of widely different stages of development cannot be welded into a compact and homogeneous mass simply by the operations of a free governmental system, useful and stimulating as free institutions unquestionably are. There must be points of contact other than the possession of a common manhood in order that they may coalesce. We did not realize in the old days what a superior quality of manhood we were getting, as compared with the world's average. When we said that we needed men more than anything else we did not really comprehend what we were saying. Now that we are getting men who are human beings and nothing more, we are beginning to realize that it is not men but manhood that we want. We want more than the muscles and the stomach and the power of procreation. We want the enterprise, thrift, aptitude, morality and intelligent aspiration which contain the promise and potency of good citizenship and without which good citizenship and free government are impossible. The time has come to say to all the world that no man is wanted here unless he can bring us these things. We have a right to demand that the man who comes to enjoy the opportunities and advantages of American life should, in compensation, give reasonable guarantee that he will not be a debaser of the standards of that life. Instead of our present patchwork immigration statutes, we should have a statute permitting no immigrant to land on our shores unless able to read and write his native language with fluency (excepting young children, wives coming with their husbands, and persons above sixty coming with other members of their families), and able to show possession of a sufficient sum of money to provide for immediate needs. This statute should be re-enforced by sanitary and police regulations, excluding those infected with loathsome or contagious diseases, those who had been convicted of crimes other than political, and those whose money had been provided for the return of all immigrants who should become a public charge within a year. The provision against assisted immigrants would be needed to keep out criminals who had not been convicted, but deported as an easier way of getting rid of them. The political offenses exception to the criminal clause should not be allowed to cover an anarchist. The anarchist is the sworn foe of all government. He is the enemy of humanity. He has no right to claim any protection or harborage from any government on humanitarian grounds. He is a rabid animal, and has no more right to be at large anywhere than other rabid animals have.

Elliot F. Shepperd Dead.

New York, March 25.—Elliot F. Shepperd, the eccentric and wealthy editor of the Mail and Express, is dead. He expired unexpectedly yesterday afternoon while under the influence of ether administered for an operation to detect whether he was suffering from stone in the bladder. The physicians pronounced his death the result of oedema of the lungs.

Elliot Fitch Shepperd was born in Jamestown, Chautauqua county, N. Y., July 25, 1823. He was educated at the University of the city of N. Y., admitted to the bar 1853, and for many years practiced in New York city. In 1861 and 1862 he was aide-de-camp on the staff of Governor Edwin D. Morgan, was in command of the depot of volunteers of Elmira, N. Y., and aided in organizing, equipping and forwarding to the field nearly 50,000 troops. He was instrumental in raising the Fifty-first New York regiment, which was named for him, the Shepperd Rifles. He was the founder of the New York State Bar Association in 1876. In March 1888, he purchased

PRIZE FIGHTING.

Such Brutal Sport Cannot Be Engaged in in Alabama

OPINION OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

The announcement was recently made in the Wetumpka Times-Democrat that a prize fight was to take place in that town on the 30th instant. The sheriff of the county applied to Gov. Jones to know whether he should permit the contest or not, and the Governor referred the matter to the Attorney General, who rendered the following opinion:

State of Alabama,
Office of Attorney-General,
Montgomery, Ala., March 25, '93.
Hon. Thos. G. Jones, Governor of Alabama:

Dear Sir:—In regard to the questions raised in the letter of Geo. R. Selberry, Sheriff of Elmore County, dated the 23rd instant, I have to say:

It appears that the Sheriff has reason to believe that certain persons intend engaging in a prize fight, or pugilistic encounter, on the 30th instant, and he desires to know whether he is authorized by law to summon a posse comitatus to be present on that day to aid him in preventing a violation of law. He further inquires whether a certain enclosed form of summons is sufficient.

Section 4670 of the Code of 1886 provides: "The Sheriff is the principal conservator of the peace in his county, and it is his duty to suppress all riots, unlawful assemblies and affrays; in the execution of which duty, he may summon to his aid as many of the men of his county as he thinks proper, and any military company, or companies as provided in Article 3 of this chapter."

Any person who having been summoned or commanded by the Sheriff to assist him in making an arrest, or in executing any other duty devolving upon him under the law in relation to public offenses, refuses or neglects to obey such command or summons, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to a fine of not less than fifty nor more than three hundred dollars.—Code, S. 3976. No particular form of summons is required. It need not be written, and is sufficient if it clearly informs the person summoned of the Sheriff's command.

The combatants in a prize fight or pugilistic encounter, and all who aid, abet, incite, procure or encourage the act, are indictable and punishable for assault affray, or riot, according to the circumstances of the case.—19 Am. and Eng. Enc. Law, p. 157; 2 Bishop on Criminal Law SS. 35, 652; 1 Am. and Eng. Enc. Law, p. 315. And if the facts and circumstances of the case bring it within the provisions of Section 3770 of the Code, the combatants and all who aid and abet as aforesaid are guilty of a felony and punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary.

Whether the threatened act shall amount to a felony under the statute, or to an affray, or to assault and battery, the Sheriff has, in my judgment ample authority under the law to prevent its consummation; it is his duty to do so, and to that end

WONDERS IN COTTON.

Two Recent Discoveries Which add a new Phase to The Prospects of Cotton.

Montgomery Advertiser.

Some one has discovered that in Savannah, Ga., there is a manufacturing establishment which for some time has been secretly turning out tons of rubber worth \$2,000 a ton and that this rubber is being made of crude cotton seed oil. It is difficult to give credence to this Aladdin-like story, but if it is true, what a future there is in store for the southern cotton planter. It was but recently that a stock company with a capital of \$50,000,000 was organized to manipulate the product of a rubber tree forest on the Beni Riyer in South America; but if rubber is to be made of crude cotton oil the rubber tree will soon be ancient history.

The extensive use of rubber can be judged from the fact that \$50,000,000 of American capital is to be employed in handling the crude product of one South American forest. The United States consumes more rubber than all the rest of the world, importing about \$25,000,000 worth of the crude article a year which is valued at 60 cents a pound.

If cotton oil is to be converted into rubber another \$100,000,000 will soon be added to the value of the cotton crop of the South and millions of dollars will be yearly expended among the laboring classes of the South. With one-fourth or one-third added to the value of the cotton crop raising cotton for the seed will become almost as much of an item as raising cotton for the lint.

It is to be hoped that the reported discovery is true. The more contemplation of it adds a silver lining to the future prosperity of the cotton planter and of the entire South.

Another item of special interest to the South is the announcement that a process has been discovered for manufacturing the finer qualities of writing paper from cotton seed hulls, and that an extensive plant is to be soon in operation in a Southern city. This discovery will itself prove of immense value to the South. The work of manufacturing paper employs millions of dollars and is one of the most important industries.

With the markets of the world for paper, rubber, cotton oil and cotton goods in the control of the cotton planters of the South, then, indeed, will cotton be King. To these add the control of the iron and steel rail markets, which is sure to come, the hum of machinery will be heard everywhere and the South will be the centre of the great manufacturing industries of the world.

GLADSTONE'S DAILY LIFE.

Regular Habits and Resultant Good Health of the Grand Old Man.

Westminster Gazette.

Mr. Gladstone's extraordinary regularity is even carried to the number of hours he remains in bed. Except when he is unwell, which is very rarely, he consistently slept eight hours for the past thirteen years.

Mr. Gladstone, however, did not always adhere to this rule. It was on Sir Andrew Clarke's advice, when his health broke down, in 1880, that he remained in bed so long as eight hours. The premier likes to retire about midnight, never later than

fancy dishes as in French cooking. His favorite "solid" is a cut of joint, roast beef being with him an especial favorite. The Premier does not like made up dishes, when he is certain of what they are made of. Neither is he, by any means, partial to condiments. He never uses mustard and has a perfect abhorrence of vinegar and salt and pepper, however, do come under this rule. Mr. Gladstone is not prejudiced against after dinner although he does not patronize them always. He is particularly fond of rice pudding.

The G. O. M.'s wine list is not extensive nor extravagant. He commences with a glass or two of port or champagne and winds up with a glass of port. These are his favorite wines for dinner; and in 1892 Premier consulted his own taste and would seldom indulge in any liquor. Until quite recently he was very fond of bitter beer and he still, only it has a tendency towards giving him lumbago. Mr. Gladstone's menu ever varies, not from choice, but merely a concession on his part not to disappoint his hostess. The above may be seen as more the manner in which Gladstone lives when in the home of his family than when he is a guest of a friend.

WALKING TO THE FAIR.

An Aged Pedestrian Passes Through Atlanta.

Atlanta Journal.

Last Monday about 9 o'clock a man whose apparel gave him the appearance of a tramp, but whose conversation served to contradict the impression, walked into the Journal office and made known a mission at once simple and interesting.

"I am on my way to Chicago," explained. "I'm walking it for a wager for some gentlemen, and the conditions is that I shall give an account of myself in newspaper offices of all the towns along the way."

When questioned he explained that he left St. Augustine, Fla., March 5th, and the wager is that he will reach Chicago by midnight of the day before the opening of the fair, which means the 30th day of April.

The man's name is George Brown and he is sixty-four years of age, for the past six years has made his home at Cedar Keys, Florida, his home. He announced recently that he was going to walk to the World's Fair, and some northern tourists in the line of Flowers arranged a wager that he could not walk to the Windy City time to see the fair open.

If he does he is to receive half the wager. As a sample of his perseverance as a walker Brown strolled from Cedar Keys to St. Augustine, a distance of ninety-six miles before starting on his long tramp of nearly 500 miles.

Already Brown has covered nearly half the distance. He has thirty more days in which to make a total of 860 miles, and says he will walk easily. He left about 10 o'clock on Chattahoochee, which he expects to reach next Wednesday or Thursday.

Alabama Educational Association.

TALLADEGA, ALA., March 18th, 1893. To County and City Superintendents: DEAR SIRS:—The next session of