

FIFTY YEARS OF MATERIAL AND

RELIGIOUS PROGRESS.

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The discovery of America by Christopher Columbus in 1492 was one of the most important events in the history of the human race.

The settlement of the New World constitutes one of the most interesting narratives to be found in all the exploits of mankind.

The birth of this Republic was an event destined to erect a far-reaching influence upon the character of all human governments and to contribute largely to the up-lift, the advancement, the enlightenment, and the freedom of the entire human race.

And in all the annals of the world there is no more attractive story than the growth of this Republic from its infancy to the proud position it now occupies among the nations of the world.

One hundred and twenty-three years have passed since Washington was inaugurated President of the United States.

The growth of this country from 1789 to 1860, was rapid, continuous and remarkable.

The achievements of our forefathers during the first seventy years of our history excites our ^{just} pride, wins our ^{he only} applause, and commands our ^{highest} admiration.

My purpose is not to detract from what was accomplished during the early period of our history, but to emphasize what has been wrought during the last fifty years of our history.

The most gifted orator, the most eloquent tongue can not adequately portray the marvelous material growth of this country since 1860.

POPULATION.

Fifty years ago our population was 31 millions.

Our population to-day is 92,000,000.

WEALTH.

Fifty years ago our wealth was sixteen billions of dollars.

Our wealth now exceeds one hundred and thirty two billions of dollars.

Fifty years ago our per capita wealth was five hundred dollars.

The per capita wealth in the United States to-day is fourteen hundred dollars.

We are the richest nation on earth. The wealth of this country alone approximates the combined wealth of England, Germany and France.

FARM PRODUCTS.

Fifty years ago all the farm products of this country were worth only one billion and five hundred millions of dollars. The Farm products of the United States in 1910 were in round numbers worth nine billions of dollars.

In 1909 our corn crop was worth more than all our agricultural products in 1860. Fifty years ago all our farm property - the land and improvements - were worth eight billions of dollars.

In 1910 our farm property was worth thirty four billions of dollars.

One annual crop now is worth practically as much as an annual crop, and the land and improvements combined in 1860.

Our farm property alone in 1910 was worth double what our entire national wealth was in 1860.

MINERALS.

Look at our mineral products.

Fifty years ago, the total value of our annual mineral products were two hundred millions of dollars.

The products of our mines in 1910 were valued at sixteen hundred millions of dollars.

THROUGH INDUSTRY.

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Through industry the people of the United States have cleared the forest, subdued the wilderness, conquered the desert, and made the American continent blossom as the rose.

Through industry they have broken the sod, tilled the soil, constructed highways, built bridges, erected houses, and dotted this nation with homes, and schools, and churches.

Through industry our people have linked every section and portion of our country together with bands of iron and steel, equipped our great railway systems with powerful engines, and elegant coaches, that carries a commerce - not equaled in any other country on earth.

Through industry we have founded and built great cities - and established therein our great commercial, financial and industrial establishments.

That same industry that enabled our people to do these things in the material, financial and industrial world is necessary to enable us to secure satisfactory results in the spiritual world.

In a daily paper this week publishes a dispatch stating that a minister in Pittsburg had had a man arrested for going to sleep in church. We may not many of us while asleep during services disturb others with our snoring as did the Pittsburg man, but too many of us Church-members are really asleep.

Christian workers, the harvest is plenteous,
but the laborers are few.

There are forests of doubt, infidelity, and indifference that need to be cleared to let in the sun light of the gospel.

There are highways to open that will lead the people to the Kingdom of God.

Take a single mineral - coal.

Fifty years ago we took from our mines only thirteen millions of tons of coal.

Last year we hoisted from our coal mines four hundred millions tons of coal.

MANUFACTURES.

What about our manufactured products?

Fifty years ago the total value of our manufactured products was two billions of dollars.

Last Year the products of factories and manufacturing establishments were worth twenty billions of dollars.

Think of it!

In two hundred and fifty years we accumulated in this country but sixteen billions of dollars in wealth.

In one year now our factories and manufacturing establishments turn out products worth twenty billions of dollars, exceeding by four billions of dollars the total wealth of the country in 1860.

TRANSPORTATION:

In 1860 we had 31,000 miles of railway. In 1910 we had 242,000 miles of railway. Nearly one half of all the railways mileage of the world is in the United States.

In the work of constructing railways we have performed as much labor as all the rest of the human race, though we constitute but one-twentieth of the population.

COMMERCE.

Our imports in 1860 were 353 millions of dollars.

In 1910 our imports were \$1,500,000,000. In 1860 our exports were 333 millions. In 1910 our exports were \$1,750,000,000.

Per capita imports in 1860 were \$9. Per capita imports in 1910 were \$17.

Per capita exports in 1860 were \$10.00. The per capita exports in 1910 were \$20.

There is work for all - and the Church can not go forward, unless all are at work.

We have found it necessary in this country to limit by law the number of hours that a man may work.

So far as known no church organization has found it necessary to limit the number of hours per day a member might devote to Church work.

THROUGH IMPROVED MACHINERY.

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Through the ability of the American people to invent, construct, and use improved machinery, tools and implements, we owe much of our material progress.

We have lead the world as inventors.

We have had the geniuses of construction.

We have had the mechanical skill in the use of machinery, tools and implements.

It is not sufficient to invent and construct, we must use the instrument.

We can win battles by inventing and constructing great battle ships.

In the supreme hour of conflict all depends upon the skill of the man behind the gun.

To succeed the Church must,

First - be equipped with the latest machinery, tools, implements, and instruments available in Christian warfare.

Second - the Church must use these instruments effectively.

The Church should be equipped with the best there is in house, in furniture, in apparatus, in appliances, in literature, in helps of every kind.

But the one great instrument in the hands of

RELIGIOUS GROWTH NOT COMMENSURATE WITH
MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT.

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After all we have accomplished, we must admit that our religious growth has not kept pace with our material development.

Let us see what causes have contributed most to our material development and learn a lesson that will aid us in our religious work.

Many factors have contributed to our material progress, but the most important are these:

1. The industry of our people.
2. Improvement in machinery, tools and implements.
3. The use of better methods and systems.
4. The utilization of new forces and agencies.
4. Increase in our population.
6. The golden opportunities of the new world - valuable prizes-the rich rewards offered for industry and effort.