

**Wholesome Study in Statistics.**  
 The subject of the rapid increase of population in our country has of late received considerable attention in many quarters, both legislative and otherwise. Statistics have been prepared to show that the additions annually made to our population, both by natural increase and by the flood of immigration, are in keeping and harmony with our needs, while, on the other hand, the fear has been expressed that after a time the difficulty will be to find room for all who come to our shores—that our territory, large as it is, will become as crowded as is that of many of the nations of the old world. The purely sentimental idea that this Republic is the natural refuge of the down-trodden and the oppressed of every clime has therefore, been shown of much of the strength which it once possessed, and even the material arguments as to the gain from immigration have not found so large a place in the hearts and patriotic speeches, and have given place to arguments, equally as cogent, bearing upon our natural capacity to support the immense pressure of an unrestricted flow of millions of people.

A writer in the New York Times presents some figures upon the subject that are worthy of study. Taking as his text that passage in President Cleveland's letter of acceptance which refers to "our national domain stretching beyond the needs of a century's expansion," he asks if there may not come a time when there shall not be on the earth, under present conditions, sufficient space for the human hordes that will team thereon. Thirty-five years ago the extent of our territory was as it remains to-day, exclusive of Alaska, and it contained a population of less than 25,000,000 the vast territory west of the Mississippi containing at that time only about 2,000,000 people, while there now exist in the trans-Mississippi region, the greater part of which was as late as 1866 looked upon as an arid desert, 12 States and 9 Territories, having a population in 1880 of \$1,259,360.

During this period of thirty-five years the increase in the value of real and personal estate in the entire country has been something over 600 per cent. In the direction of agricultural development the progress made has been none the less striking, the acreage of corn having increased between 1849 and 1879 from 25,000,000 to 62,000,000, while during the same period that of wheat grew from 10,000,000 to 32,430,323. The average per cent. of increase of population in the entire country every ten years from 1790 to 1880 was 32.70, while in the seven years from 1881 to 1887 inclusive the total of immigrants exceeded by \$74,472 the arrivals during any previous decade.

Everything points to the possibility that the rate of increase in the population for the ensuing century will equal, if not excel, that of the past; and, assuming this, an equal population with Germany will have been reached before 1980, and a greater ratio than that of England by 1960. While one hundred years may be considered a long stretch of time to look forward to, its expanse lessens when we look back to our beginnings as a nation. There are men and women living to-day who have rounded a century, and, although such instances of longevity are exceptional, yet no stretch of the imagination is needed to picture the sons of the schoolboys of to-day as men of mature years living in 1990, in a country whose population is nearly 900,000,000, or 300 people to every 640 acres of ground.

What countries which are now barren may develop in fruitfulness before that time, or what changes in race, in temperament and in climate may come to shift the present centres of population, is of course, problematical; but, taking statistics as a basis, all computations of the future growth and expansion of the American people must give food for thought. Independent of the economic questions involved in the subject, there are others equally as important which belong to the social and the moral domain. How to solve the problem, how to adjust it to industrial requirements, and how to frame a policy which will harmonize with our expansion and yet preserve our intelligence and protect us from the inroad of elements that weaken and debase, is something that will call for the exercise of the highest qualities of statesmanship and for the elevation of politics into a far-reaching science.—Record.

**Terrible Dearth in Manitoba.**  
 A terrible tale of starvation and destitution among the Indians comes from the Athabasca river country. It comes in the form of a petition to the minister of the interior of Canada, and is signed by the Anglican bishop for that diocese, six clergymen and ministers, and several justices of the peace. It sets out that, owing to the great mortality of the beavers and other small game, the Indians, both last winter and this summer, have been in a continual state of starvation. They are now in a complete state of destitution and are unable to provide themselves with clothing, ammunition or food for the winter.

The petition says that on account of the starvation and consequent cannibalism a party of twenty-nine Indians was reduced to three in the winter of 1886. In the Mackenzie river district there were several cases of death by starvation and one or more

by cannibalism. During last winter among the Fort Chippewyan Indians, between twenty and thirty starved to death, and the death of others was accelerated by want of food. Many Indians—Crees, Beavers and Chippewyan—at almost all points where there are missions of trading posts, would certainly have starved to death but for the help given by the traders and missionaries at those places. Scores of families, having lost their heads by starvation, are now perfectly helpless and must starve to death or eat one another unless help comes. The people are greatly agitated over the unexpected fate of the poor people and heart-rending stories of sufferings and cannibalism continue to come in.

**A Scientific Description of Drowning.**  
 "How do persons die from drowning?" asked a Health Board doctor of a New York Telegraph reporter. "For want of air?"

"No."  
 "Give it up then, what is it?"  
 "I will tell you. After a person is below the surface long enough, he fills his lungs with water. The first stage of deep inspiration lasts about ten seconds, followed by a reaction caused by the resistance to the entrance of water into the bronchials. This is followed by arrest of respiration and loss of consciousness."

"In a few seconds more he makes four or five respiratory efforts and then dies. Immersion causes an immediate rise in the blood pressure with slowing of the heart beats. The action of the heart remains slow but strong till death ensues. The pressure gradually lessens, but rises just before death, to fall to zero immediately afterward. The heart continues to beat feebly for twenty minutes in some cases. The period of respiratory resistance is therefore due to the respiratory muscles, and not to spasms of the glottis. An interesting study you see," added the doctor, "but to appreciate fully the various symptoms caused by sudden immersion, you perhaps, had better experiment yourself."

"Thanks."

**THE SINGER'S ALMS.**

In Lyons, in the mart of that French town, Years since, a woman leading a fair child,  
 Craved a small alms of one who, walking down,  
 The thoroughfare, caught the child's glance and smiled  
 To see behind its eyes a noble soul.  
 He paused, but found he had no coin to dole.

His guardian angel warned him not to lose  
 This chance of pearl to do another good;  
 So, as he waited, sorry to refuse,  
 The asked-for penny, there aside he stood,  
 And with his hat held as by limb the nest,  
 He covered his kind face and sang his best.

The sky was blue above, and all the lane  
 Of commerce, where the singer stood,  
 Was filled,  
 And many paused, and listening, paused again  
 To hear the voice that thronged and thrilled  
 Through them thrilled.  
 I think the guardian angel helped along  
 That cry for pity woven in a song.

The singer stood between the beggars there,  
 Before a church, and overhead the spire  
 A slim, perpetual finger in the air  
 Held toward Heaven, land of the heart's desire—  
 As if an angel, pointing up, had said:  
 "Yonder a crown awaits this singer's head."

The hat of its stamped brood was emptied soon  
 Into the woman's lap, who drenched with tears  
 Her kiss upon the hand of help: 'twas noon,  
 And noon in her glad heart drove forth her fears.

The singer, pleased, passed on and softly thought:  
 "Men will not know by whom this deed was wrought."

But when at night he came upon the stage  
 Cheer after cheer went up from that wide throng,  
 And flowers rained on him; nought could assuage  
 The tumult of the welcome save the song  
 That he had sweetly sung, with covered face,  
 For the two beggars in the market place.

**Cheese Toasted with Eggs.**  
 Beat three tablespoons of crumbs soaked in cream into three eggs, then add three tablespoons of melted, but not hot, butter, mustard, salt, pepper and minced parsley to suit, and finally one-half pound good English cheese. Beat light and spread upon slices of delicate toast, and brown quickly upon the upper grating of the oven, which must be perfectly clean.

**To Tender Meat.**  
 An apple grated and stewed with meat of any sort will insure its being tender, and vinegar, if it is well known, has the same effect. Vinegar or lemon juice is also useful in removing the strong flavor from beef kidney. If sliced and soaked for a time in the acid it becomes almost as mild as a sheep's kidney.

**Misinformation.**  
 Uncle Thomas Jefferson Bunch, an aged colored man, who had been a great smoker, to the grief of the pastor of the flock to which he belonged, was understood to have completely left off the habit.

One day, however, the pastor found him suddenly thrusting a cob pipe into his pocket.  
 "What, Brother Thomas!" exclaimed the pastor. "I was told you had quit smoking."

**Trains Collide.**  
 NEWARK, N. J., October 1.—There was a collision to-day in Harrison between a passenger and freight train of the Pennsylvania railroad, which resulted in the destruction of considerable property. It is thought that one brakeman was killed, as he has not been heard of since.

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