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Money Test Will Stop Immigration.

"If the money qualification be
made a part of the immigration
restriction measure now pending in
Congress the results will be start-
ling to a great many."

"Had that been a feature of the
law during the last year of my term
of office as Commissioner of Im-
migration at the Port of New York
it would have shut out 18,862 Irish
immigrants out of 19,000 who ap-
plied for admission. It would also
have shut out 28,935 Scandinavians
out of 30,000, and 28,000 Ger-
mans out of 31,000."

"These are private figures which
I compiled from January 1, 1892,
to November 1 of the same year.
They are based on the idea of \$100
being the requisite possession of
each immigrant, that amount of
money being the sum commonly
advised."

The above statement was made
by ex-Congressman John B.
Weber, of Buffalo, Commissioner
of Immigration at the Port of New
York during the Harrison Admin-
istration. He was chairman of the
commission which, in 1891, was
sent to Europe to investigate the
immigration problem.

Colonel Weber declares it as his
opinion that some of the advocates
of radical immigration restriction
are paying the way for a veritable
horde's nest about their ears
should the proposed law go into
effect.

The provisions of the bill, he
believes, will fall as heavily on the
Irish immigrant as on any class
which comes to this country, and
he doubts if the large proportion
of the men who are advocating re-
strictive provisions at this time are
really aware of that fact. As Col.
Weber puts it, the Irish, Scandi-
navians and Germans represent the
most desirable immigrants which
this country can obtain, and yet,
in the months of 1892—the last year
in which he had opportunity to pre-
pare careful data—18,862 Irish im-
migrants out of 19,000 who crossed
the Atlantic would have been
turned back for failure to possess
the stipulated \$100.

"Had the educational test been
in effect," said Colonel Weber,
"from February 1 to November 1,
1892, we would have shut out but
289 Scandinavian, out of 42,000
who applied for admission. These
289 represent those who could not
read and write, about 1 1/2 per
cent. in all. This is a better show-
ing than is made in any State of
the Union."

"And yet the money which these
immigrants had averaged only \$23
per capita for the period I have
mentioned. Out of 30,000 immi-
grants over twenty years of age
who came from the Scandinavian
countries, less than 1,300 would
have been admitted under the
money qualification of \$100."

"Had this policy been adopted
a few years ago, where would have
been our Minnesota, our Dakotas
and portions of other States where
the preponderance of Scandinavians
is not so marked, but where their
numbers are yet important? The
present Senator from Minne-
sota, and former Governor, Knute
Nelson, is a Norwegian by birth,
who would most likely still be
plodding along in Norway had the
money qualification been in force
when he landed here. He is a
strong character, who, although
a foreigner, fought under the
nation's flag for the preservation
of the interests of all, native and for-
eign."

"The stopping of immigration to
the United States would redound
to the credit of Canada. Canada's
present security is her present im-
portance; develop that country
into a power like ours, and one or
the other must go to the wall, for
there is not room on this continent
for more than one powerful nation.
Stopping immigration to the

United States and thereby driving
it to the next most favorable con-
ditions, will arrest development
here, chill Canada's sentiment and
desire to join us, and build up a
neighboring government which
may become a troublesome factor
on this continent.

"The contention that immigra-
tion reduces wages, I hold, is not
well taken. For the last thirty
years the tendency of wages has
been gradually upward, with
hardly a check. The trouble is
that labor is not distributed. The
cities are congested, while in many
parts farmers find it difficult to
obtain help.

"It is claimed that the ignorant
element controls legislation and
does our voting, and in the cities
administers public affairs gener-
ally. But the ignorant vote is
not all on one side of the political
line. The indifference and lack
of energy on the part of the natives
to actively participate is more to
the point.

"It is held that we are over-
crowded and that the population
is becoming so dense that we are
actually in need of elbow room.
The best authorities say that we
can accommodate seven times our
present numbers without over-
crowding, and even then fall be-
low the condition of Europe in
density of population. The State
of Texas alone could have taken the
entire overflow for the past ten
years with great advantage to her
interests.

"The only practicable method
whereby undesirable immigration
can be restricted is to hold the sub-
agents of the great steamship lines
responsible. We cannot reach
these men by our law, but we can
reach their pockets. There are
many thousands of these agents
scattered all over Europe, and
these men have an intimate knowl-
edge of the intending emigrants.
No one knows them better, I
would judge these agents to a fine
through the steamship offices in
this country for every undesirable
person they send to us.

"Then extend the period one
year at present specified and keep
an immigrant constantly passing
through the Immigration Bureau
until he becomes a citizen. In the
event of his becoming a pauper
or developing into criminality deport
him. Follow this up by guarding
more closely our naturalization
requirement and many of the evils
of immigration will disappear.
The Anarchist and the trouble-
some foreigner is the very one
whom the educational test permits
to pass through. The poor, sim-
ple, plodding laborer seldom gives
us trouble. He is content to dig
in a ditch and glad of a chance to
live. It is the fellow who is edu-
cated beyond his station who gen-
erally proves to be discontented."

Worst on Record.

The anxiety of the President
over Hanna's election, says the
St. Louis Republic, increases as
the day for meeting of the Ohio
Legislature approaches. For two
weeks the working force of the
Post Office Department has been
weakened by the absence in Ohio
of an army of its employees who
have been doing Hanna's spy
work. Night and day during
these two weeks they have been
dogging the footsteps of every man
of prominence suspected of un-
friendlyness to Hanna. Even their
traveling expenses will be paid by
the Government while they are
engaged in this nefarious business,
for they dare not confess that they
were not pursuing their official
duties while touring the Buckeye
State.

Still doubtful of the result of
the Legislature's action, President
McKinley has sent First Assistant
Secretary of State Day out to Ohio
to logroll and bulldoze and to bar
Federal patronage for Hanna.
Judge Day has in charge the im-
portant work of the State Depart-
ment. He has been conducting
the correspondence with the Span-
ish Foreign Office. It is not prob-
able that anyone can take up that
correspondence at the critical
juncture in the relations between
the United States and Spain, and
do justice to the tremendous and
momentous interests involved.
The impetuous and ill advised
Dons may precipitate a crisis at
any moment. If it should come
now, Judge Day would be away
from his desk and out of imme-
diate reach of his subordinates.

No such shameful disregard
of the public interests was ever be-
fore shown by a President of the
United States. No such misuse
of Federal officers and employes
was ever before countenanced by
a President.

A Plea for the Flag.
To governments as well as in-
dividuals actuated by a laudable
desire to avoid trouble there
comes sometimes the danger of
accomplishing their purpose at the
expense of their self-respect. This
seems to have been illustrated in
case of the American schooner
Wallace Ward, just arrived at New
York.

In the harbor of Barcelona,
Spain, recently, the spectacle of
the Wallace Ward lying at anchor
with the American colors floating
from her masthead appears to
have aroused the ire of the Spanish
populace, incensed at the United
States for alleged overofficialness
in Cuban affairs. The American
Consul was informed that this hos-
tile feeling had reached a point
where a mob was proposed to be
organized for the purpose of burn-
ing the Ward. There was no
reason for this contemplated
destruction of the vessel, save that
she carried the American colors.

Desirous of avoiding trouble,
the Consul sent for Captain Kel-
sey, commanding the Ward, and
advised that skipper to haul down
the Stars and Stripes. The advice
was indignantly rejected, and Cap-
tain Kelsey boldly defied the Span-
iards. The next day, however,
Spanish hatred had reached such a
pitch of intensity that the Consul
again repeated his advice, upon
which Captain Kelsey struck his
colors, stored the United States
flag below decks, where it could
not offend the eyes of the Span-
iards, and the Wallace Ward then
rocked in safety in the harbor of
Barcelona, a ship without a coun-
try, or, at least, afraid to avow its
nationality.

A flush of shame is exceedingly
apt to follow any good American's
reading of this story. Jingoism
and national bumpiness may
not fairly be charged as instigating
an insistence upon the right of an
American vessel to display the
world to which her business may
call her. It is the duty of Ameri-
can skippers to carry the flag at
the masthead of the crafts they
command, and it is the duty of
American Consuls to see, at all
hazards, that the flag of this coun-
try is respected in foreign waters.

Wheat Prices Will Hold Up.

There is a general disposition to
consider this year's high price for
wheat as something that will
wholly expire with this year's crop,
and to look for a return to low
prices next year, barring some
shortness in the European crop.

The Financial Record, of New
York, does not think this view is
correct. The present scarcity of
wheat is due, it says, to natural
causes more largely than to acci-
dent.

In our early days of wheat ex-
port, when our rich Western prairies
were being broken up and
sown to grain, it was the common
thing to get, in Ohio, Indiana,
Michigan, Illinois, and on west-
ward to Kansas, as the tide of emi-
gration flowed on, crops of fifty
and sixty bushels per acre. Our
area has spread, if the ground has
since then reduced its productiveness
to twelve or fifteen bushels per acre.
Our area has spread to make up
for loss in yield, because we had
a wonderful expansion of railroad
building all over our Western
prairies.

Now in Russia, in Southern Rus-
sia, wheat growing has been on a
soil very much like our Western
prairies. Here, too, the yield per
acre has been decreasing steadily,
but new railroads have not been
built to open up fresh land. The
same thing applies in Argentina.
In India many causes will prevent
an early return to production to
permit any large exports of wheat.
In Australia there has been done
by two years of drouth and of peri-
ods of very light temperature, a
damage it will take a good while to
get over. Canada will make some
addition to her production, but our
own wheat area is likely to be
taxed to its capacity for several
years to come to meet the world's
demand for wheat. There is a good
deal more permanency about pres-
ent prices, or, at all events prices
not much below a dollar, than is
generally thought. This means
that wheat growing will become
profitable again, and this is a dis-
tinct and a large help in turning
the general business of the country
forward to better times.

It is probable that King George
will shake the ancient dust of Greece
from his feet shortly after the marriage
of his daughter, Princess Marie, to
Grand Duke George of Russia, a few weeks
hence, and will reside in his beautiful
palace at Copenhagen, which is being
made ready for his arrival.

St. Petersburg and its People.

Of all the eccentric actions com-
mitted by Peter the Great—and
they were not a few—the founding
of St. Petersburg deserves to rank
among the foremost. He wanted,
he said, "a window looking out
into Europe," and with despotic
inconsistency he fixed upon one.
The panes of which are, to continue
the simile, frosted half the year,
and, therefore, useless for specta-
cular purposes. Stranger still, the
site he selected for his building
operations was nothing but a vast
quagmire.

As you stand in the gallery that
rings the vast golden dome of St.
Isaac's Cathedral, this capital with
so strange an origin is spread like
a map before you. As some water
logged bark it lies, wallowing in
the midst of the streams of the
many channelled Neva. The black
waters run almost level with the
granite embankments that hold the
river god in order: while a great
arm from the Baltic, stretching up
to the lower city in a broad ex-
panse of rolling waves, seems ever
to threaten a terrible inundation.
Fortunately, the Baltic, like the
Mediterranean, is a tideless sea.
But as it is, matters look black
enough when the river, swollen by
heavy rains, roars foaming through
the creaking wooden bridges and
a gale from the south raises the
short Baltic swell to check the flow
of the stream seaward. At such
times a warning gun will thunder
forth from the gloomy castle of
Peter and Paul, and another and
another in quicker succession as
the danger grows apace. The
dwellers in cellars seek shelter in
attics; the police look to the boats;
the sentries are relieved. Despite
its natural disadvantages, the fact
remains that this is the capital of
the great Russian nation—a nation
which, at the present time, holds
the peace of Europe in its hands.
Within its walls a million human
beings live and, with some fre-
quency, die. It has a ruler more
autocratic, a court more gorgeous,
a society more dissipated, a garri-
son more vast, and a populace
more ignorant than any other city
of civilization. Amusements these
people will have, *chacun a son gout*
—each to his taste.

There are two St. Petersburgs,
between the pleasures and amuse-
ments of which there is a great
gulf fixed—one is the St. Peters-
burg of summer, another is the
St. Petersburg of winter. The
very nature of the people seems to
change with the seasons. In sum-
mer they are a nation of the open
air. They drive through the
green elm avenues of the sunny
Neva islands; they throng the
pleasant parks and cluster round
the band stands in the gardens;
they dine with no other roof than
the darkening heavens; their
theatrical performances are out
of doors. They yacht, they picnic.
But with October the scene is
changed: the city is a polar region.
Vast plains of a whiteness that
dazzles and exhausts the eye
stretch to the horizon. It is an
Eastern desert, with snow for sand.
Between night and day the line
may scarcely be drawn. The peo-
ple accommodate themselves to
their environments like their own
foxes that change the color of their
coats with the seasons. The air is
shunned as a deadly foe. Their
homes are heated to a temperature
almost unendurable to a dweller
in the south. Yet it is a time of
great gaiety—a time of concerts
and operas, of balls and receptions
innumerable. If folk venture forth,
it is to whirl madly along in sleighs,
muffled to the eyes in furs. The
poor shudder in their padded cot-
ton cloaks. Is it surprising that
they try to find warmth, oblivion,
and even death in the fiery vodka,
a spirit the most poisonous in
Europe, absinthe perhaps excepted?
"Englishmen," so the proverb runs,
"take their pleasures sadly." Russians, I have no hesi-
tation in saying, take their pleas-
ures "madly." They are a nation
of extremes; it is the Tartar blood
that runs in their veins. Watch
the faces in the streets as you drive
along. From the polished nobleman
all wear a sullen, hopeless look,
as if life and its burdens were too
heavy to bear. You would as lit-
tle expect to hear one of them
break into a hearty laugh as to
hear a Spaniard, let us say, give
vent to a hearty American cheer.
Yet, send one of these melancholy
gentlemen on a sleigh ride at full
gallop, or start him whirling in the
dance, or set him down to supper
with a merry party, and in a few
short minutes he will become as
wildly excited as a schoolboy off
for his vacation. He will scream like
a madman to the plunging horses,

or spin his breathless partner round
like a humming top, or drink the
health of the British nation and
fraternize with you in the wildest,
merriest fashion. When President
Faure brought his convoy of iron-
clads to St. Petersburg, immacu-
lately dressed Russian ladies
sprang from their carriages in their
enthusiasm and embraced the
French sailors as they wandered
down the street, to the no small
surprise of the honest tars. It is
said that the servants of a certain
despot of the South Seas "lost their
heads" on the slightest provocation.
This was literally speaking; metaphor-
ically the Russians do the same.

Come with me for a tour of the city
on an afternoon in late spring, after
the snow has disappeared and before
the court and richer classes have
deserted this town of marshes. Our
first step will be to hire a cab or
droshky, an affair of no small difficul-
ty; our second step will be to drive in
a matter of considerable personal
danger. The drivers, to begin with,
are the most ignorant men it is
possible to conceive. They have
none of the London cabbies' "I
can neither read nor write. Their
uniform (for they are all dressed alike)
consists of a cloth hat, caught in at
the brim, and a long blue cotton
ulster thickly padded with wool,
which would be all the better for
a thorough soaking in some form
of sheep dip. They are drawn from
the peasant or moujik class, of
the ignorance of which so many
stories are told. One of them was
asked the other day why he cheered
so heartily for President Faure. For
some time he pondered in silence,
at last he replied, "I thought you
were wise, he seemed such a
friendly fellow." Another story
relates how a wily policeman came
upon a moujik starting up at the
crows perched on the Winter Palace.
"Ah!" said the policeman, "what
are you doing?" "Counting the
crows, sir." "How dare you
count the crows of the Czar?" said
the policeman. "Don't you know
that there is a fine of ten kopeks
for every crow you count?" The
moujik hesitated, and at last
admitted he had counted ten.
"Just hand over a rouble, then,"
said the dishonest bobby, and he
departed chuckling, while the moujik
went off to tell his trouble to a
friend. "But," he concluded his
story by saying, "I really had
counted a hundred crows, but I
only paid him for ten!"

But to return to our droshky drive.
We commence operations by naming
the place to which we wish to go and
a price equal to about two-thirds of
what we intend to pay. The first
driver will reply by fixing a price
equal to about four times what he
is ready to accept. We don't argue,
but pass down the line, receiving
tenders for the contract. Having
reached the end of the line we
return to the first driver, and mention
the lowest sum which has been
offered. At this he comes down a
little, and in the course of five
minutes, or so we may, if we are
lucky, have struck a bargain. No
tariff is fixed by the municipal
authorities; nor does there seem
to be any attempt on the part of
the drivers to combine in raising
the fares. Such a place of "all
against all" would turn the hair
of a member of our Cab Drivers'
Union grav. We mount the
quiver little vehicle and start. It
is then that a man thanks his
stars if he possesses a good nerve.
Taking a rein in either hand,
and bending forward, the driver
studies his wild little pony with
a vigilance which we do not see
at full speed. I well remember the
first occasion I drove in a droshky.
My pony, as I entered the vehicle,
put down its head and charged a
tramcar. From this it recoiled in
some confusion, and for a moment
I thought it intended to bite the
conductor. However, it relinquished
the idea—the man certainly did not
look an appetizing morsel—and, shaving
a lamppost, rushed off down the
street. My driver sat unmoved and
critical spectator throughout the
incident. Evidently it had no novelty
for him.

King George of Greece, following
the example of his brother, the
Crown Prince, has obtained leave
of absence for twelve months on
the pretext of recruiting his health.
The fact is that the Princes are
exposed to so many virulent
attacks in the press, and to such
offensive manifestations of unpopu-
larity on the part of the public in
connection with the late war as to
render their existence in their
father's dominions intolerable.
Their absence from Greece will
leave the King alone with his wife
and his two younger sons—Prince
Nicholas and Prince Andrew—the
latter a school boy and the former
a captain of artillery. Nicholas
lacks strength of character, and
in the event of trouble at Athens
King George will find himself
practically without support, moral
or other.

The King of Greece was a penni-
less Danish princeling serving in the
English navy as a midshipman when
elected to the throne of Greece, and
happened to be maddened by way
of punishment when the Greek
plenipotentiaries came on board
the British man-of-war to offer
him the crown of Greece. He has
amassed thirty or forty millions of
dollars, not as, in the case of King
Charles of Roumania, by real estate
transactions in his dominions, or as,
in the case of King Oscar of Swe-
den, by keeping hotels, brewing beer
and competing in other forms of
industrial enterprise and other
advantages against his own subjects,
but by speculating in foreign stocks.
The foundation of his enormous
fortune was laid at the time of the
Turkish-Russian war by colossal
transactions in American wheat,
in which he was supported and
aided by the then United States
Minister at Athens, the late Gen-
eral Meredith Reade. An unfor-
tunate editor of an Athens paper
published this fact but his journal
was confiscated and suspended
and he was sentenced to six months'
imprisonment.

OUR FOREIGN NEWS.

Translated and Selected from leading
European papers for the SENTINEL.

ENGLAND.

RUSSIAN OCCUPATION OF PORT ARTHUR

Standard—London, Dec. 22.

From Yokohama comes intelligence
that the Court of St. Petersburg has
notified to the Japanese Government
the "temporary occupation" of Port
Arthur. Here the fact of the formal
intimation is the really serious thing;
the qualifying adjective can be inter-
preted only as one of the conven-
tional phrases required by diplo-
matic fashion. That Russia has
taken permanent possession of a
position of supreme importance at
the entrance of the Gulf of Pechili,
and that Germany has concurrently
made provision for establishing
something in the nature of a
fortified settlement on the Shantung
Peninsula, are two dominant and
indisputable facts. They do not
involve at once a wholesale disrup-
tion, but they constitute a change
in the pre-existing status which
marks the beginning of a new
order of things. It would be pre-
mature to prescribe to the British
Cabinet the precise lines upon which
English action should proceed. To
select aright the positions which
should be occupied as an answer
to the spirited initiative of St.
Petersburg and Berlin is a mixed
question of strategy and of com-
merce. Military and naval advice
may be presumed to be already at
the disposal of our authorities, and
no nation possesses a larger store
of expert knowledge on matters
relative to trade and industry.
It must be recognized that Russia,
by securing the naval station of
Port Arthur, not only acquires the
means of carrying out, at her own
pleasure and in her own way, the
absorption of Korea and of Man-
churia, but obtains extraordinary
facilities for bringing pressure to
bear upon the Court of Peking.

Times—London, Dec. 32.

It will be plenty of time to take
material steps of a decided kind
when we see a little more clearly
exactly what it is that the Rus-
sians and the Germans propose to
do, and what the immediate
consequences of their conduct are
likely to be. But no time ought to
be lost in preparing to take a firm
course if the development of events
should show that our commercial
and political interests in the Far
East will be injuriously affected
by the new state of things in the
Gulf of Pechili. As all the world
knows, our trade interests in China
enormously outweigh those of
all other nations put together.
We cannot afford to have them
hurt by the action of any Power
or of any group of Powers, whether
that action is dictated by the
spirit of Christian chivalry or by
the *raison d'etat*. We have
repeatedly acknowledged that both
the desire of Russia for an open
port to the Pacific and the desire
of Germany for a coaling station
in the Far East are not in them-
selves unreasonable. But at the
same time we have never hesitated
to affirm that any changes in that
region by which our rivals gained
an advantage over us would be
followed by fair "compensation" to
this country. All that at the
moment we need do is to make
clear our determination not to
suffer our secular position in the
China Seas to be weakened by
the action of other European States.

Globe—London, Dec. 22.

What Port Arthur will be in
Russian hands it is easy enough to
imagine. As the southern terminus
of the Siberian Railway, it will
be a seaport of enormous strategic
and commercial possibilities. The
fortifications which already
render it so formidable will
doubtless be materially strengthened
in the near future, and the harbor
will be made absolutely secure
against torpedo attack. It is safe
to predict that the whole of the
peninsula on which Port Arthur
stands will quickly become
Muscovite territory. Russia is
not accustomed to do things by
halves, and when once her right
to remain permanently at Port
Arthur has received general
recognition, it will soon become
clear that the security of Russian
interests at that important point
demands the acquisition of all the
territory lying between it and
Siberia.

Pester Lloyd—Vienna.

Eighty per cent. of the Chinese
trade is still in English hands,
and the chief object of the Ger-
mans in settling in Kiao Chau,
and of the Russians in gaining
a foothold in the Gulf of Pechili,
and of the French, who have
sent a mysterious scientific expedi-
tion to the Yunnao, is naturally
to oust, by combined action,
the English from their political
and commercial position—in
other words, to unseat John Bull
throughout Asia. The compli-
ance of England is made use of,
or rather abused. She not only
gave Port Hamilton back to
China, but with costly forbearance,
suffers the continuance of well
known conditions in Tibet. All
this is for the sake of peace; but
a combined attack upon England's
commercial superiority must drive
her into action, and it is, per-
haps, unwise on the part of her
rivals to challenge a Power which
has still the largest fleet in
Eastern Asiatic waters. Russia
knows what she would risk in a
war which, from the Yellow Sea,
would spread to all the Conti-
nents, and it is difficult to believe
that she can mean anything
serious for the present—least of
all the division of China.

Norddeutsche Zeitung—(Berlin.)

The conjecture that the present
events are the beginning of the
partition of China is really without
basis. The occupation of Hong-
Kong by England, and that of a
considerable part of Southern
China by France, have not brought
about the disintegration of that
Empire, and it is, therefore, impos-
sible to see why the stay of German
and Russian

warships in one port or another
should have a powerfully disinte-
grating effect. Moreover, the political
situation in Eastern Asia, so far
as it can be surmised, affords no
grounds for the belief that any
European Great Power is disposed
to give its interests in China a
form that could lead to such
far-reaching consequences.

THE BRITISH SAILOR AND THE
BRITISH NAVY.

Syden.

It has ever been a favorite occu-
pation with philosophic speculators
to discuss the pros and cons of
the conditions which would or
might obtain did we become
engaged in a dispute with some
powerful maritime State. The
usual form which this mental
puzzle takes is whether or no the
British fleet would be sufficient
to protect our commerce, and
also if the vessels themselves were
adequate to the task could we
obtain the requisite number of
men to place the navy on a
thoroughly efficient war footing.
Now, such brain searching as
this is not only interesting, it is
useful, for it accustoms the public
mind to grasp hypothetical situa-
tions which some day or other
may be converted into stern
reality. The return recently issued
by the Registrar General of
Shipping throws an important
sidelight on the number and occu-
pation of the men engaged in the
British mercantile marine, and
from this data a writer in the
United Service Magazine proceeds
to discuss the extent to which
these crews would be available
in case of emergency.

From the return above mentioned
it is calculated that there would
be employed or available for
employment, in the British
Merchant Service between the
ages of 16 and 45 a total of
125,800 officers and men. In case
of a naval war, however, all
merchant shipping would not
lie up. We would still be depend-
ent upon supplies of food and raw
materials, and foreign countries
would still continue to purchase
our manufactures and coals. There-
fore, a very serious interference
with the transaction of this com-
merce, and the foreign-going sail-
ing vessel particularly, would be
compelled to lie snugly in port.
This means that two and a
quarter million tons of sail would
remain in enforced idleness until
peace was restored. With regard
to steam tonnage, too, the slow
vessels would necessarily cease
running, and thus the calculation
is made that were we engaged,
let us say, with France and
Russia, something like three million
tons of British shipping would
cease to earn freights, while France
and Russia would each reduce
their sea-going tonnage by
200,000 tons. Assuming, therefore,
that the withdrawal from the
active list would be what we have
stated, there would be available,
after the wants of the merchant
tonnage were supplied, a paper
reserve for warships of 6,000
officers and 30,000 men, but such
figures as this must be accepted
guardedly, for granted that a
section of our mercantile fleet
continued, or attempted to con-
tinue, its work, it is obvious that
more hands would be carried, and
also that the enhanced remunera-
tion offered would ensure that
the pick of the merchant sailors
would still be employed on
merchant vessels.

The next question, of course,
comes up for settlement is whether
this reserve is adequate, that is,
is it equal to the combined forces
of France and Russia? The French
navy is credited with a personnel
of 40,000, and in addition has
a reserve of 90,000 to fall back
upon, while Russia can boast
36,000 men, plus a reserve of
10,000. Great Britain, to meet
these possibly hostile forces, has
100,000 men in her navy and a
reserve force of 36,000. That total,
it is held, should be increased to
75,000. This, of course, could not
be done with the tree hands from
the mercantile marine. There
would be almost sufficient sea-
men, but the engineering and
artisan departments of the
vessels would show a great short-
age. These calculations, however
interesting they may be, and
serving the useful purpose of
approximately indicating the
probable extent to which the
royal navy might in case of an
emergency recruit itself from the
ranks of merchant seamen, are
not altogether profitable or
logical. It is one thing to reckon
in case of war a certain number
of British sailors would be avail-
able for service on war vessels,
but it is quite another thing
to guarantee that such service,
even if engaged upon, would be
worth the paying fare. The proba-
tionary period of special training
insisted upon. The average British
sailor—with sorrow be it said—not
so much of a sailor as his name
would seem to imply. Something
more than a temporary sojourn
in the forecastle is needed to
warrant the bestowal of the title.

COSMO DE MEDICI, AS STATESMAN.

Consular Journal.

There must have been some
strange force in the family of
the Medici, which enabled them
for three centuries to make their
name famous in the history of
Florence. Cosmo was one of the
first who left his stamp on his
country, and handled the men of
his time to his own glory and
the people's gain. Cosmo's
natural gifts were backed by
immense wealth, and he exercised
over Europe the influence that
money gives. The Medici were
essentially money lenders, but
always on a magnificent scale,
they were cruel—the strong are
often cruel—but they used their
power, their genius, for the
advancement of Learning, Art,
Beauty, and well being. When
governors are great there is often
a parallel outburst of genius in
the governed which seems to do
honor to the rulers, and it was
so in the Republic of Florence.
Cosmo de Medici held no
official position as Ruler of
Florence. He was simply the
first citizen of the town. There
was a tacit admission on the
part of the people that they
must follow his counsels.

ier, or Standard Bearer. The part
opposition to the Medici was the
Albizi, and in 1433 Bernardo Guadagni,
who was elected Cosmo's successor,
was elected Cosmo's successor,
and in 1433 Bernardo Guadagni
who was leader of the Albizi, was
elected Gonfalonier, and Cosmo
was arrested. All expected his
speedy death, but his gaoler saved
him from assassination, and
Cosmo's wealth enabled him to
purchase enough energy from
Guadagni to permit of his
living anywhere in Italy within
170 miles of Florence. The Florentines
found it awkward to be without
the Government, and he was
recalled. From the time of his
return to Florence Cosmo's career
was successful. Like all the Medici,
he had his power on the support
of the lower classes. He always
upheld the laws, and opposed
heavy taxation. He thus became
the idol of the people. His father,
Giovanni de Medici, had founded
banks in Italy, and in many
places abroad, and in the hands
of his successors financial