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## CAN WE STAY?

It is time some one stood up for his country: some Ameri cap, we mean. Not for its present prosperity and immediate prospects, there are plenty to do that: but for its distant past and distant future. We are tired of hearing the Conti nent called a graveyard of nations, the tomb of antecedent races, the one spot on earth which man cannot permanently inhabit!

It is bad enough to be told, by would be wise ethnologists, that our climate is hostile to the Aryan type, that an irre sistible Indianizing influence pervades the air and is rapidly converting us all into lean, high-cheeked, bilious-looking copies of Mr. Lo; and that our great grandchildren will be no better than so many Sioux. But that is not half so bad as to be told that it is a question whether their descendants will be able to stay here at all, except underground. Any existence is better than extinction : and it is possible to hope good things of our race even if it should assume the physical characteristics of the so-called American type.

The latest advocate of the extinction hypothesis is the somewhat prominent author of "Sex in Education." His essay, read before the National Teachers' Association the other day, set out with the discouraging announcement that no race of human kind has yet obtained a permanent foothold on this continent; and the lesson he sought to enforce was that, unless something extraordinary is done, we are doomed as a race to untimely extermination. The Asiatics he said, trace their life to beginnings immensely remote. The descendents of the Ptolemys still linger in the valley of the Nile. The race which peopled Northern Europe, when Greece and Rome were young, more than maintains its ancient place and power. But the ancient races of Americawhere are they? "We only know that they are gone."

When Dr. Clarke talks of "Brain Building" and the Goosequills are round: consequently penholders are round. nitude. Dr. Richardson also points out, with reference to "Education of the Sexes," he says much that is sensible and Professor Syllogism might dispute the logic of this observathe last objection, that, all the blood disks likely to be mistrue: but when he infers our early destruction by climatic tion: it is correct. nevertheless. Evolution-the clearest taken for those of man being normally smaller, instead of influences from the fact that other American races have vanexpression of the Great Artificer's will in Nature-is the one contracting they would have to expand to become conformed ished, our confidence in his judgment is seriously shaken. unbreakable law which determines the products of human to those of human blood. This expansion does not occur, Grant that vestiges of two or more departed races are to be invention. Solomon's assertion that there is no new thing so that the only possible mistake in diagnosis would be to found within our borders, and that when the Mayflower disunder the sun was therefore true in a wider sense than the suppose that ox blood were present when man's blood had charged her marvelous cargo of cottage furniture to furnish kingly preacher imagined. In Nature and in Art alike, every. actually been shed; so that at the worst we might contribute heirlooms for all New England, the native race were hastenthing is the offspring of something gone before; and how to a criminal's escape, but never to the punishment of an ining to the happy hunting grounds at a rate which whisky ever unique it may seem at first sight, it will prove on exnocent person. and gunpowder have but slightly accelerated : does that amination to be only a more or less modified copy of some-In order to afford a positive demonstration of the facts, Dr. prove American races to be short lived? Rather let us call it thing else. Richardson obtained, from each of two friends, three specievidence of exceedinglong life. Where else on earth will you Downward from the first metal worker, whose weapons mens of blood clots, from the veins of a man, an ox, and a find so few races bridging over so vast an interval of time? and implements of bronze were exact copies of those his sheep respectively, selected without his knowledge. By When the pioneers of Italy and Greece, wild as Mohawks, neighbors were toilsomely chipping from stone-thus almicroscopical examination slone, he was able to determine, fought their way into Europe, a peaceful and populous lowing the necessities of one substance to determine the with perfect accuracy, the origin of each sample. The cornation-whose unhappy remnant has lately given a Presifashion of objects made of another of entirely different charpuscles of human blood averaged  $\frac{1}{3430}$ , with a maximum dent to Mexico-was cultivating maize in the valley of the acter, by entirely different processes-one may trace the of  $\frac{1}{3636}$  of an inch; those of the Mississippi, mining copper at Lake Superior, and building tendency of men to perpetuate form, even at the cost of sacrifi ox blood gave a mean measurement of  $\frac{1}{4662}$ , with a maxitemples in the South. The man of the Florida corals antecing substance and usefulness. The material may change, mum of  $\frac{1}{4347}$  and a minimum of  $\frac{1}{4674}$ ; while those of the dates not merely the Ptolemys-men of yesterday-but the and the mode of working, to correspond; but the figure resheep's blood afforded a mean of  $\frac{1}{5952}$ , with a maximum of Pharoabs, the shepherd kings, it may be the very land they mains, as though to justify Goethe's assertion that form  $\frac{1}{5405}$  and a minimum of  $\frac{1}{6451}$  of an inch. owned and ruled. What wonder that his lineage is lost? alone is real. From these and other experiments, Dr. Richardson con-We know from recent exploration that the desert regions of The original maker of metallic pens could do no other cludes that, since the red blood globules of the pig, ox, red North Africa were under water in later tertiary times. Since than imitate the time-honored goosequill, thrusting a round deer, cat, horse, sheep and goat "are all so much smaller then the sea has dried away, and across its sandy bottom the stick into the end of the barrel for a holder. Subsequently than even the ordinary minimum size of the human red

that, when the first mud layer was put down, a broad fresh West. There is similar evidence that men dwelt on its shores and fished from its headlands.

Since the pioneers of Western Europe sought shelter in the caves of France and Belgium, the Somme has sunk its bed through a hundred feet of gravel. Since a settled population flourished on the then fertile, now arid, plains of the Colorado, that stream has cut its mighty cañons deep in earth through two, four, perhaps six, thousand feet of solid rock! When the upper strata of the Himalayas were in process of deposition, and before our Aryan fatherland began its upward made them otherwise. It by no means follows that a change course in civilization and altitude, human beings were fishing among the islands of our Pacific coast, since lifted up to Gate had been opened and California drained of the sea which had filled the valleys of the Sacramento and San Josquin, but before the gold gravels were ground into existence or buried beneath lava floods, other men came in and ble fit. occupied the land, leaving their remains, with those of animals long extinct.

Yet because we cannot trace these nations historically a number of distinct successive races, shall we olame the climate and call the land inimical to humanity?

#### PREPARE FOR THE CENTENNIAL.

The short time intervening between the present date and the opening of the Centennial Exhibition renders it impera tive that intending exhibitors should begin their preparations at once. We need not urge the fact that, owing to the magnitude of the affair and the large interests involved, the delays, so common in our yearly fairs, caused by not transmitting objects for exhibition until the last moment, will not here be possible. The Centennial commission has announced its readiness to receive applications for space, so that this important matter can now be definitely settled, leaving nothing to be done but to get the articles ready in conformity with the area of surface secured. Applications should be made immediately, in order that the commission may be allowed time to decide on the amount of room to be assigned to foreign nations. Lack of promptitude, therefore, on the part of intending exhibitors will probably result in their finding the space desired already occupied by less tardy applicants or set apart for foreign contributors.

Those most directly interested at the present moment are manufacturers who propose making large entries which will take time to construct or arrange, and the people who contemplate collective exhibitions of the natural resources or raw materials of different sections of the country, which cannot well be made by individual exhibitors.

It is especially desirable that provision for these aggregate contributions should be speedily made. The importance of the plan, as an incentive to immigration and to the investment of foreign capital, is very great: and liberal arrangements for the prompt and thorough performance of the work will amply repay those States or communities which undertake it.

The advertisement of the Director General of the Centennial will be found in another column, and from it may be learned how applications should be made. It is high time that the public should realize the fact that, leaving out all debatable questions as to its expediency as a national enterprize, our Exposition of 1876 is not an abstraction, as seems to be the prevalent idea, but something upon which work, now commenced, is briskly progressing. Ground has been broken, and the foundations of the great buildings are beginning to appear. Foreign commissioners have already established offices among us, and foreign governments have set apart liberal sums of money to ensure the representation of their industries. If we propose to make the fair a fit celebration for the anniversary which it commemorates and worthy of the high industrial and intellectual standard of our people, we must begin work for it at once-not at some vague, future period in next week, next month, or next year, but, earnestly and emphatically, now.

# PENHOLDERS.

Nile has laid its annual layers of mud for the creation of the the barrel was taken from the pen and made a part of the ancient granary of the world. There is geological evidence holder, which has since been modified in numberless ways, without departing essentially, however, from the cylindrical water sea covered the now barren Bad Lands of our great form. Accustomed to this shape, we can with difficulty think of any other. Indeed, so strong is the natural feeling that whatever is is right, it is more than likely that, if our readers were individually asked why a penholder is round, the majority would reply: "Because that is the proper shape."

> But the argument from universal assent, so convincing to the theologian, is practically as little worth in matter of fact as in matters of faith. At best it only proves the matter not intolerable. Penholders are round because no one has ever would not be beneficial.

Place your thumb and forefinger against the second finger form the Coast Range. Ages afterward, when the Golden as in the act of grasping a pen, and notice the shape of the space between them. It is triangular. It is easy to put a round stick into a three cornered hole; but it needs no mechanical genius to see that it will not make the closest possi-

To write steadily and with a uniform slope, the pen needs to be firmly held in a fixed position. To write easily the pen mustlie in the hand naturally, so as to maintain its posithrough intervening ages, because they seem to represent tion with the lesst effort. With a rolling penholder, these conditions are but poorly met. The contrary obtains with a three-sided holder, which presents a broad surface to each side of the finger's triangular grip, and gives a steady hold, without apparent pressure and without appreciably separating the fingers. The advantage of a triangular holder over a round one in the last particular is very great; and we are confident that holders so made would rapidly supersede the present style if once placed in market.

There is reason to make the change, and pen stick makers will do well to consider it. Should it be made, would the logic of our first observation be impaired? Would the new form have any other reason for being than the fact that it is the best form? No, and yes. It is the best form unquestionably; yet it owes its existence not to that, but to the apparently irrelevant fact that horsefoot crabs have three-cornered tails!

Visiting the seashore, we chanced to find the empty shell of one of these singular creatures. While holding it up by its spiky tail, a friend, of the sex that is said to have no inventive genius, remarked that the tail would make an odd penholder. The suggestion was carried out, and the product was odd enough. But it was something more. It was a revelation of a needed reform in penholders. We have used it for weeks, with a daily increasing conviction that the goosequill was an unfortunate model. The perfect penholder is three-sided.

## THE MICROSCOPE AS A CRIMINAL DETECTIVE.

The annals of criminal jutisprudence furnish an abundance of cases in which the microscope, in the hands of an expert has been the means of eliciting missing links in the circumstantial evidence pointing to the guilt of the accused. Instances are cited where the instrument has shown hairs, clinging to the edge of an ax, to be those of a human being, in direct contradiction of the statement of the prisoner, ascribing them to some animal; and similar scrutiny of fresh blood upon clothing has proved the origin of the stain beyond a reasonable doubt.

When blood, however, has once become dry, several authorities assert that it is impossible to distinguish it from that of the ox, pig, sheep, horse, or goat. It is urged that the differences between the average sizes of their corpuscles are too irregular to measure accurately, and that a man's life should not be put in question on the uncertain calculation of a blood corpuscle's ratio of contraction in drying. In opposition to these views are some recent experiments, made by Dr. Joseph G. Richardson, of Philadelphia. This investigation disposes of the first objection above mentioned by pointing out that, while it may be valid as regards feebly magnified blood disks, it becomes void when these bodies are amplified 3,700 times. Regarding the second, Le stamps it as incorrect, and cites a case in which seven human blood disks, whose mean diameter had been accurately determined at  $\frac{1}{3236}$  of an inch, were subsequently computed to average  $\frac{1}{3266}$ , or only  $\frac{1}{352292}$  of an inch less than their actual mag-