#### BARTLEY IS FREE

Were Patriotic Acts and Should Have Received the Applause of

the People

peared in the Blair Pilot and was copied on the editoria' page of the

is one of the greatest outrages that can be conceived. For more than four years, Joseph Bartley, ex-state treasurer, has languished behind prison bars for a crime he never committed tice should be satisfied, but that political capital might be made out of his alleged misdeeds. If the true history of the Bartley case were written it would give Mr. Bartley a much different standing in public esteem than he now enjoys It is no secret that he made use of the funds to arrest the ploy of C. O. Whedon, the gold-bug progress of a blighting panic which at lawyer, who believed so much in "honthat time threatened the life savings est money." Their "honest money" of hundreds of citizens and bid fair to was of the same character in this drive many banks and business houses transaction. to the wall. Had he been successful in tiding over and have been the means | der the law for three purposes. Punof preventing commercial failures too ishment, reformation of the criminal much praise could not have been given. and a deterent to others against the Everybody would have praised him. commission of crime. This issue of a But, like many other well meaning pardon to a defiant criminal, releases men who suffered bitter sacrifices and him from punishment, confirms him in reverses, he miscalculated the length his criminal ways and is an invitation and I readth of the financial disturb- to others to commit like crimes. If ance, which, as everyone will remem- that is not instituting anarchy in this ber, imperiled fortunes and properties state, it at least goes a long ways toeverywhere, and, in a commendable ward it. Every honest man in the effort to relieve home conditions, he state should rise in revolt against it. was carried down in the wreck of the With one of the parties involved in storm Had he triumphed he would the stealing of the school fund of the have been the idol of the state-he state sent to the United States senate failed and became a convict. Mr. and the other released from prison, Biartley never took a dollar with the the republican party comes before the intention of wrongfully appropriating voters of this state for indorsement. it to his own use. His object was to Will it be given? The republican party afford relief to citizens and institutions will be beaten in this state this fall by of Nebraska. Not dishonesty, but un- 20,000 majority, or we may look for a defiled friendship and state pride act- saturnalia of theft to follow such as storm and facing conditions that have civilized people. driven strong men to seek relief in flight, suicide or have sent them with planched and hazzard faces to the mad house, he courageously undertook to repair the damage and make good the Those Who Rob by the Million are at the loss. He covered tens of thousands of dollars back into the treasury with good prospects of returning every dol-

the anxiety of the fusionists to make ments: political capital resulted in his arrest every penny. There never was, therefore, any occasion or just cause of Joseph Hartley's arrest, and his incar- supposed to be bound by laws of honceration for four years in the peniten- or. This particular bank took the other decade of the century. Our civil tiary as a convict is one of the most money of men who trusted it and lent shameful outrages ever committed in that money without security to friends the name of justice. It is high time willing to profit by its dishonesty. that the wrong done him be corrected. The Pilot believes it speaks the sentiment of a very large majority of the people of this state when it says that lions of dollars intrusted to it and this almost tragic scene should close without compunction stole from those and Joseph Bartley be given a free and | who trusted it. unconditional pardon. No governor P. Savage, can afford to countenance eventually. a continuation of this embargo on justice. Even in the days of kings some attention was paid to human rights and it is hoped that the steps of organized society in this respect have him to prison. been forward instead of backward."

had puld in a considerable amount and

That article shows the immoral animus of the republican party. The fu- is lacking. sion government is condemned for prosecuting and convicting a republican embezzier. Embezziement is not a crime, but a patriotic deed. It was to tide over a bank crisis that \$200,000 erty today, presumably at the seaside, was deposited in Millard's bank and receiving the sympathy of other rethen disappeared. Was the Omaha National snatched from a receiver's hands | come next. by stealing \$200,000 of the school money? Was that a patriotic act and not principle, of property rights, of vested

The publication of such an article as the above in regular republican organs | ticnal banking that it is well to call shows conclusively that the party is attention to the fact emphatically rotten to the core, and should never be when this respectability reveals itself only 3,155,673,600 seconds in a centrusted with a dollar of public funds. Crime is not condemned, but praised. thieving. Embezriers are patriots. Every man | Moral lecturers one day telling votwho votes the republican ticket here- ers of their duty to property, and comafter votes to uphold and sustain such | mon thieves the next day, stealing doctrines. The meaning of the whole money intrusted to them-such are thing is that Bartley is to be pardoned | many eminent respectabilities that ask and the pardon defended by reasoning the people to reverent attention. like that in the above article.

The above article was written some days ago, soon after the last edition of The Independent went to press. The They Have Cost the Tax Payer Out There populists have no daily in this state or they would have been informed of Bartley's pardon some days before it for the populists of the state to do a just what Seward county has lost, trying to conceive what a different them?

his release. This is what he said:

my future conduct will speak for it- last fall.—Seward Independent-Demo- question, says: self. You may say that I expect to re- crat.

main in Nebraska and make my home

These are the words of the defiant It is Now Declared That His Defalcations criminal. He never ran up the white flag and he never did anything of which he was ashamed. Those are the words of the man who stole nearly a million dollars, much of it school funds The following article recently ap- belonging to the children of the state and who has been pardoned by a republican governor. Now we may look for another saturnalia of crime in the state. If such crimes as this are to be The imprisonment of a person who condoned when the criminal is unrehas committed no intentional wrong, pentent, what may we look for? If Bartley had confessed his crime, told what he did with the money and who got it, there would be no objection among populists to a mitigation of his | no account of indirect cost or the cost | that the least disarrangement at any sentence, but to pardon a defiant crim- of an army or navy in times of peace. point may clog or stop the whole inal who declares he has never shown and for the sole reason, not that jus- the white flag is to invite anarchy and give a stimulus to crime. At such actions as these on the part of the par- mated direct cost of the principal con- organizations, in my opinion, have a ty in power, every honest man in the

> democrat, must revolt. Bartley's pardon came in the way of a parole. He is nominally in the em-

Penalties for crime are inflicted un-

Seaside Resorts While the Man Who

Homer Davenport cartoons the lar. "Give me a year's time to realize on my arrangements," said Bartley, under the question: "How does throw-"and I will pay up every dollar." He ing away depositors' money differ from no doubt would have paid in full, but | nal finally makes the following com-

Perhaps the rascality of the Seventh and Bartley was made a defaulter- National bank failure in New York when his intentions were to make good is not generally known. It ought to

A bank and those who conduct it are

order to help on gambling operations in which it is interested, took mil-

All the swindlers ought to be in jail. certainly not so good and kind as Ezra It is barely possible that they will be They are not in jail now because

> they stole a great deal. For the man who steals to live very competent machinery is ready to take But for the respectable thief, who lives to steal, correctional machinery

> The thief who stole a trifle two weeks ago is in jail today. The thieves who robbed the bank of millions two weeks ago are at iib-

> spectable thieves whose turn may There is so much talk of high moral rights, of "keeping down the masses,"

> etc., in the respectable circles of na-

# REDEEMERS IN SEWARD

\$975.00 for the First Six Months of Their Reign

It might be interesting to some of was given to the public. It is well now the taxpayers of this county to know little thinking. Every man who was financially, during the first six months acquainted with the animus of the that the "redeemers" have had control men who run the republican party in of the state. Seward county's share of this state knew that if they carried the | the June apportionment of state school state that Bartley would be pardoned, funds this year was \$5,749.64. Last just as they knew that Clem Deaver year, when the fusionists made the kind. was in the employ of Mark Hanna. apportionment, it amounted to \$6,-Now that the republicans have set 570.18. Thus from that source we have Ba. ley free and sent his partner in lost \$830.54. The average amount this infamy to the United States senate, county received in June during the they will come before the people and four years the fusionists had control ask that they be retained in control of of the state was \$6,152.75. By reducing the state. Do the people of Nebraska the assessment of the railroad property want that kind of men to rule over in the county \$2,856 their taxes will be reduced about \$145, which makes a All the dailies of the state agree in total of \$975 that the county has lost who were foremost in the organiza- he is elderly. He can hardly hope to giving the statements of Bartley upon in cold cash during only six months tion of the great trusts fancied that live more than twenty years longer. What I have suffered the past four their cwn pockets. The savings of \$145 it did not turn out that way. The lead- 000,000 a year besides the interest. 1 phasis that I never did anything that transportation to persons who "came advantages which they did not before the principal annually. made me ashamed to face any one, and home" to vote the republican ticket have. Mr. Gompers, in discussing the It is a dismal prospect for one who daily. This is what is said:

# THE COST OF WAR

Amounts to Nearly Eighteen Bil-

lion Dollars Robert Gordon Butler in the Home Magazine gives the figures showing the cost of wars during the last century. The figures are so large that it is past conceive as far as one is able this human butcher's bill. Only an esti-Leaving out these important and expensive items, Mr. Butler presents the following table, showing the estiflicts of the last century: state, be he populist, republican or

E	Algerian war	130,000,000
-	Civil wars, Spain and	
5	Portugal	250,000,000
	Canadian rebellion	11,000,000
,	Seminole war	57,000,000
5	Rev. wars in Europe	50,000,000
,	Chinese wars	44,000,000
	Kaffir war	10,000,000
	Crimean war	1,520,000,000
l	Italian war	253,000,000
9	American civil war	5,000,000,000
ı	Abyssinian war	43,000,000
3	Schleswig-Holstein war.	75,000,000
1	Franco-Mexican war	75,000,000
1	Austro-Prussian war	330,000,000
f	Brazil-Paraguayan war	240,000,000
3	Franco-German war	2,500,000,000
	Ashantee war	4,500,000
9	Central Asian wars	225,000,000
	Turco-Russian war	1,210,000,000
1	Afghan and S. Af. wars.	85,000,000
9	Soudan war	21,500,000
9	Madagascar war	85,000,000
,	Italy-Abyssinian war	115,000,000
9	SpanAmFilip. war	1,000,000,000
	Boer war	800,000,000
r	Soudan war	12,000,000
7	Chinese-Jap. war	300,000,000
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But the third ten years saw a war be- as never before. tween Russia and Turkey which cost a cost of \$27,000,000 and Great Britain suppress at a cost of \$11,000,000. Fully \$478,000,000 was spent in that decade.

The ten years from 1861 to 1870 saw more money spent in war than any war was responsible for a larger direct expenditure than any other contest, not excepting the Napoleonic wars, A swindling bank management, in which lasted four times as long. The direct cost of the war was about \$5,-000,000,000. The indirect cost, which is not considered in these statistic. amounts now to at least \$3,000,000,000. making a total cost of the war of secession about \$8,000,000,000. Between 1870 and 1880 came the Franco-German war and the Turco-Russian wars. For the first the French paid the entire direct expense, amounting to \$2,500,-000,000, and the latter cost about \$1,-210,000,000. Between 1881 and 1890 there were no very large wars, but the of justice. In a strike crisis the suggestion can fail to realize the man- corporations working through party an arid barren. This, it will be seen last decade of the century saw a brisk revival. The Spanish-American con- sive at other times, are stirred to crime through the sensational adver- to the fore as an indispensable ad- the matter by a general horse race and flict, short and decisive as it was, has cost the United States certainly not less than \$500,000,000 and Spain at least as much; Japan and China spent \$300,000,000 on their war six years ago and Great Britain, before the close of the century, had run up a bill in its war with the South African republics

of at least \$800,000,000. At the least Mr. Butler figures that war in the 19th century cost in direct expenditure fully \$20,000,000,000. And, he asks, just how much is a billion? It is one thousand millions, but this fact is not expressive. There are as shameless knavery and common tury-that is, \$6 has been spent on war for every second of the last century. But as if this illustration were not

enough he gives the following: "If a man counted 200 a minute for ten hours a day, six days a week, he would have counted 1,000,000 in 8 days 3 hours and 20 minutes. At the same rate, he would need 8,333 days 3 hours and 20 minutes to count 1,000,000,000 or 26 years 195 days 3 hours and 20 minutes, not counting Sundays. To count 20,000,000,000 would take 532 years 150

days 6 hours and 40 minutes." After employing the imagination in trying to comprehend those figures it condition the world would have been in if that money had been devoted to building houses, parks, making good roads and in other ways for the benefit, instead of the destruction of man-

# LABOR AND TRUSTS

The Magnates Find That They Will Have to Meet a Foe That is Not to be

Despised There is no doubt that promoters

"The industrial conditions requiring disgraced.

pect through the recent great combin-The Century's Human Butchery Bill ations of mills and factories. Of especial significance is the control of a group of these by one organization, which plans to devote the respective

the attention and consideration of or-

ganized labor have assumed a new as-

plants to special work, and to that work only, so that this mill is set to producing one small part or division of the general product, that mill to another branch, and so on. Probably the power of any mind to conceive there is greater economy in this prothem. In this case it will be well to cess of specialization, and the end. exercise the imagination and try to therefore, justifies the means. But with this division and subdivision a huge and complicated machine is promate can be made and this can take duced, so interdependent in its parts

"If this be so, then, in a machine so

cumbersome and complex, the labor

mechanism.

new strength. Labor tends to special-Napoleonic wars......\$ 3,289,000,000 ize under the trusts, and thus its Turco-Russian war..... 100,000,000 productive power may be increased. 190,000,000 It also acquires another power. The withdrawal of any specialist's mill would reduce the trust to a mass of silent and inert machinery, one part being so dependent on another. Of course, this new power of labor in its own behalf is predicated upon one thing-namely, organization. Unless the workmen in the various departunder discipline, their specialization as productive units will mean their weakening as working men, for the man who works in one branch of industry has far less independence than the old-fashioned workingman, who could with equal facility apply himself to a number of different jobs.

"I believe thoughtful workmen appreciate this fact as well as their leaders, and they will see the benefit of organization more than ever before. Fortunately the era of prosperity and the consequent demand for labor in all munity which regards with indifferfields of industry is helping this. The ence official misconduct, which conworkingmen individually are doing dones and apologizes for such an outwell, and, as is generally the case, rage as the burning of the negro Porprosperity breeds aspirations. They desire to do better. Their thoughts magnify, as the Denver papers do, the Total ......\$17,922,000,000 turn to the trade unions. Those who gruesome details of every criminal The second decade of the century have been delinquent pay up and those outrage, whose police department is had no great war; the nations were too | who have been outside come into mem- | the sport and plaything or the tool of | worse than tell it to be damned. They weary with the Napoleonic contests to bership. For these and perhaps other opposing political parties, whose court

"In this era of trusts it may be said \$100,000,000, divided unevenly be- that labor represents organized numtween the combatants, Russia paying | bers opposed to concerted power. Lookthree-quarters of the amount. During | ing merely on the surface of things it the '30s there was a recrudescence of might appear to many that the trusts are ridiculed and belittled in and out thieves of the Seventh National bank war. Spain and Portugal fought for are so strongly intrenched in power of the press for their strenuous en- functions. Every populist devoutely honest industry of the "sooner" to ten years at home, with expenses as to be able to crush literally the life deavors to promote the better enforceamounting to \$250,000,000; France be- out of organized labor, but the inter- ment of existing laws-such a city robbery on the highway?" The Jour- gan her war with Algeria, which end- dependence of the different parts of may be so blind and so indifferent to ed in 1847, after she had spent \$190.- their organization already alluded to the responsibilities of its position as 000,000; we had our Seminole war at shows really where their great weak- to require a series of awful outrages to stop?" No answer satisfactory to the had a little rebellion in Canada to might aim at labor on account of the provoke them to proper remedial ac- cratic oracles while the big fish fur- ground. Out of the irresistible con changed conditions. As a matter of tion and assure protection for the fufact the concentration of productive ture. and monopoly powers has been accomwere frequently separate plants and crime? Of course, primarily, it is the misleads a court to smother opposition tion of settlers as could be devised. separate industries had come under

bodies so as to make united movement for offense and defense. "In any contest with capital we must consider the value of a favorable bility of committing crimes, but who tariff teaches the doctrine of free man on the ground in season will be public opinion and to secure this labor are either unconscious of their evil trade. Every discrimination in the given a ticket numbered in accordance must be right in its demands. It must possess might to enforce the right, but it must be right in order to appeal successfully to public sentiment. with impunity. No one who has given government ownership of railroads. will hold a lottery drawing and each This can be done only on ethical the slightest study to criminology or Every legislature or city council or man will learn whether he has drawn grounds; we must seek the broad basis who knows anything about the law of board of commissioners controlled by a fertile, level homestead, a swamp or masses of the people, apparently pas- ner in which this class is prompted to machinery brings the primary election abolishes the immorality of settling thought and give judgment on ques- tisements which our newspapers give junct of the Australian ballot. Every the turbulence and disorder attaching tions that are complacently ignored to crimes which have been already occasion on which the United States to the methods heretofore in vogue. in normal periods.

"The suggestion is made that the yesterday morning had nearly three pectations of the voters is a treatise improve the morals of the distributmonopoly trust should be met with a pages given over to the most grue- in favor of electing senators by a di- ing process it does not tend to secure labor trust. The implication is that some details of the most recent trage- rect vote of the people. some new kind of an organization of dies. Of course this is called journal- Every land-grabber who piles up it prevent the successful ones from workmen should be formed. I desire ism, but it is a sorry kind of journal- farm upon farm or city lot upon city selling out their claims to some land to say that whatever action the work- ism. In my opinion the managers of lot and grows rich out of values creaters want to take to protect or promote the paper in question would have done ed by population, but appropriated by "opening." their interests can best be taken the community a service if they had himself, helps along the propaganda through the American federation of made a bonfire of the whole edition for restricted ownership of land. labor. This, it seems to me, is better after it was printed. When I saw the years of experience in building up the terview and go to Elitch's to see the is their move.-Edwin Taylor. American federation of labor is .too play, in which, as I am told, there are valuable to be thrust aside by the for- three people killed in every act." mation of a new organization. If such a new body is to be formed on the old lines, then it will be an attempt to the sarcasm in the last sentence. Nevform anew what we already have. If, ertheless there is a world of truth in on the other hand, the proposal be to strike out on new lines, that can with least effort be done by the existing or-

## Carnegie's Burden

Poor Andrew Carnegie! He has \$280,000,000 still left to give away, and does not know what to do with it.

The bulk of Mr. Carnegie's fortune is known to be invested at 5 per cent. If all of it returns the same rate his annual income must be \$14,000,000. He only thing that will result favorably. has to give away that much, therefore, Inhuman and brutal punishments will merely to avoid growing richer. That only increase it. is about all he has succeeded in accomplishing so far. Last year he gave away just about his annual income. The awful burden of the principal still rests upon him as heavily as ever.

Mr. Carnegie is a robust man, but dungeons of hades. Their foulness is of republican control of the state's af- they would have a great advantage He may not live more than five. If he ments on the degeneracy that is so Thave never yet run up the white fairs, and which the taxpayers of the over the labor organizations when is to dispose of his fortune in twenty prominent. The Nebraska peniten- produced since history began? flag and I am not going to do so now. county will have to make up out of they had their plans completed. But years he will have to get rid of \$14,- tiary and Omaha are held up as a years is past and no good can come in taxes to the railroads will partly re- ers of the labor organizations say that he is to do the work in five years he Independent published the comments of speaking of it. But I say with em- imburse them for furnishing free result has been to give away \$56,000,000 of of a great Chicago daily. This week have ruined and bankrupted the men for me to safely invest under the pres-

### PSYCHOLOGICAL SOLUTION

The State of Terror That Exists in Denver on Account of the Assaults Made on Women Causes Investigations

The women of Denver have been appealing to the ministers, the judges and the police for protection against the beasts and murderers who infest that town. The police are too few in numbers, the ministers got hauled up for contempt of court and a judge went court and all over to the side of lawiessness. Then the business men were called upon and they have filled the papers with columns of protests and advice. At last they appealed to the professors - and a psychologist gave them his views as follows:

"Horrible crimes are liable to happen in any community, and the best regulated neighborhoods of the country are not free from them, but when such a series of crimes are committed city's reputation or their own. with impunity as have taken place in Denver in the past year without the sive performance that blunted or perpetrators being discovered, and with everyone left in dread as to where and how near home the next tragedy may occur, it is time to give serious thought to the subject, and there is reason to be exercised about it. I am, therefore, glad to respond ments of a trust get together, to act and give expression of opinion upon the subject. The emergency is one and helpless animal is nagged and tics, announces very impressively that which justifies very plain speaking.

"The crimes which have horrified Denver are only what might be expected under the conditions which prevail, and with such a criminal element as Denver, like most large cities, themselves. contains. These crimes in a large measure are the result on the one hand of inefficient police and court administration, and on the other of the low moral tone and general disregard for the law which are prevalent. A comter, whose newspapers multiply and reasons the unions are now recruiting can allow the law to be so perverted that it plays into the hands of that common consent is responsible for most of the lawlessness which does occur, whose ministers of the gospel

> "But there is another phase of the committed. The first paper I took up senate disappoints the hopes and ex- | However much this "reform" may

That psychologist was evidently a very disgusted man which accounts for what he says. The Independent has been impressing that sort of truth upon its readers for a long time. Denver is only reaping what it has sown. e the same environment to a population anywhere and the result will be the same. When a man is burned at the stake the whole community becomes excited, the crime becomes the common thought with all its disgusting details. A psychological impulse is created concerning the crime and the weak minds give way to it. Then another crime of the same sort follows. The calm enforcement of law is the

# Dark Spots in Nebraska

The spots in Nebraska that are under republican rule are darker than the attracting the attention of the whole world and the dailies are full of comwarning to the world. Last week The

Omaha and the acquiescence of the the railroads,

people of that city in such a brutal and disgusting entertainment, seem to us among the most amazing things of the year.

For generations Anglo-Saxons have been accustomed to point out with artless vanity, that the conclusive evidence of the superiority of their race was in the absence of cruelty and brutality from their amusements. They did not tolerate the bull fights of the Spaniards nor the heartless diversions

of other nations. We have been accustomed to read of the bull fights of Spain and Mexico with horror and the offering of thanks that such things are impossible in this

country. We discover now that they are not

impossible-in Omaha at least. We think that the respectable people of Omaha should hardly relish this distinction and are totally unable to understand why they tolerate it. Unless they have ceased to care for their It is urged in palliation of the offen-

wooden weapons were used and the bull was merely irritated and annoyed, but not actually tortured. We do not see how this alters the

real significance of the case. It seems that Omaha is willing to permit and its citizens ready to sup- the despoiled redmen fall on deaf ears, port an exhibition in which a dumb driven and punched into fury.

grave reproach upon the city and of tributed to bona fide settlers on some that reproach the people of Omaha should take instant steps to relieve

### THEY ARE ALL ALIKE

From Maine to California Public Service Corporations Defy the Laws, Fix Juries, Dodge Taxes, Control Courts and Corrupt

Legislatures Public service corporations are alike treatment of the public. They do buy or defy law-makers, they fix juries, they dodge taxes, they control conspiracy against society. In selfdefense, society must assume their lowing of little fish by big ones to essary and enter them by fraud.

nish their inspiration. administration, but in every commun- ster is a menace to popular govern-

Upon these and similar questions land to be distributed among the peosuited to their purposes than any oth- character of the contents of my paper one wing of the democracy is largely ple. Over there the nation doesn't er form of organization. There is no vesterday morning I threw it aside in in accord with us. Whenever that steal its land from an Indian tribe limit to its freedom of action. Its disgust, but its demoralizing effect moiety gets ready to cast adrift from but buys it under condemnation from members merely have to determine has been so great upon me that I the foes of its own household, it can some millionaire holder who seems their course and then act. The twenty shall now have to terminate this in- have a more perfect union with us. It to be holding too much. This land is

# Railroad Hogishness

The Buffalo dailies have let loose on the railroads. They declare in the most approved populist style that the all the money he has may go to its immanagers are the most selfish, greedy, provement. He may sell his lease if he grabbing, and altogether extortionate will, but the purchaser must pass the set of men the world ever saw. As a specimen of what they are saying, the following is clipped from the Times, which, after giving a description of the beauties of the exhibition, says: "The only question remaining then

'How am I to get to Buffalo?' This is a question which must be answered by the railroad companies. Upon their shoulders now lies the responsibility for the success, from a financial standpoint, of the pan-American exposition. All others have done late to read a lesson from over seas. them well. The house is swent and clean from parquet to gallery, the doors are open, the curtain is raised, pers say, some distinguished gentlethe orchestra in its seats. Shall the man called on Russell Sage and asked pan-American exposition play to an empty house, or will the railroads make, without delay, such rates as will charity. Mr. Sage replied that if the enable the people at large to see the gentleman knew what financial straits greatest, the grandest, the most in- he was in that they would not ask structive exposition that has ever been him to contribute. "Why," said Mr.

"Gentlemen of the railroad companies, it is up to you." it gives the opinion of a New York who got up the exposition that some ent circumstances." There are two of them will find time to look into the morals to that tale which are so obbelieves that a man who dies rich dies The appearance of the bull fight at question of the public ownership of vious that they need not be pointed

McKinley Establishes a Great Big Land Lottery Down in the Indian Territory

THE LAND HUNGRY

What is called the "opening up Indian reservations for settlement" is being gone through with again down in Oklahoma. The land-hungry have been camped by the thousand around the reservations for more than a year. There are said to be thirteen applicants for every quarter section. A lottery was substituted for the usual race. The enormous number of people who are there trying to get land and the suffering they have endured has attracted attention all over the country. The Chicago American comments upon

it as follows: In Oklahoma a drama is progressing that has in it too much of the ridiculous to be wholly tragic; too much of the tragic to be entirely farcical.

It is the regular periodical spoliation of the Indian of his lands, and the subsequent distribution of them among settlers in the order of their unfitness for building up a new commonwealth. We do this every two or three years. Some tribe of Indians is coaxed, cajoled or coerced into surrendering its reservation, and, while the plaints of the administration, whatever its poliit has added a new empire to the pub-We think that is enough to cast a lic domain and that land will be dis-

> specified date. Among a certain sort of people in this country there is a comfortable theory that there is and always will be in so wide a domain land enough for all. The periodical opening of Indian reservations gives the lie to this

Land hunger never had such picturesque manifestations. Long before the day of opening men gather along the border line, many accompanied by their families. In the case of the reservations of the Kiowas, Comanches and Wichitas, now about to be opened, from Maine to California, in their it is reported that more than 50,000 boomers' are on the lines

The "boomer" is not the most docile of citizens, he is not always that bona fide settler whom the government professes to encourage, but rather seeks element in our community which by courts, are the fountain head of polit- land at government prices to sell at ical corruptions-they are in effect a an advance. But he is wholly admirable in comparison to the "sooner," who precedes him and who is the outcome of the same conditions. It is the wishes for that consummation. All sneak into the reservation ahead of men are asking: "Where is the swal- the legal day, pre-empt the choicest lots, defend them with murder if nec-

Several thousand of wese seekers ness lies. I fear no blow that trusts arouse the conscience of the people and little fish need be expected from demo- for government bounty are now on the flict between "boomer" and "sooner" Events afford the unanswerable log- and out of the whole stupid governic. Every time a corporation buys ment system come turbulence, outlawpanied by a movement among the question which deserves to be strongly up an assessor to make false and di- ry, crime and as perfectly unsatisfacworkers, who, realizing that what emphasized. What is it that causes minutive returns upon its property, or tory a distribution of lands and selec-

evil instincts of wicked men and wom- to its abuses under injunctions, or Even our government, which usualone management, quickly saw the de- en. It is true that overt acts of these hires a legislature to give the people by prefers to do an old thing wrong sirability and necessity of uniting the evil-disposed persons might be largely the worst of it, it becomes increasing- rather than a new one right, has seen separate unions into large federated restrained by active and efficient police ly apparent that the corporation mon- the folly of it and is going to try something new-but the wrong thing. ity there are a large number of per- ment. Every trust that fattens on a It is going to dispose of these coveted sons who have within them the possi- monopoly created and protected by the lands by a species of lottery. Every instincts or who would be restrained carriage of persons or property by with a plan of numbering homestead from yielding to them were it not sug- rail, in favor of the rich against the acres in the district. On a certain gested to them that they can do so poor, is a burning leaflet in favor of date the department of the interior

any better class of settlers, nor does monopolist and moving on to the next

New Zealand is continually coming into possession of desirable pieces of offered to tenants on 999 year leases. The valuations are made low and the rents are fixed at 5 per cent. The prospective tenant must satisfy the authorities that he has the qualifications necessary for success. As he has to pay nothing down for the farm, same tests as he, and at all times he must faithfully comply with the requirements of his lease.

Thus land monopoly is being de stroyed in New Zealand. The system has been tested in two general elections and warmly approved by the people. Meanwhile we have dissipated our public domain among railroad corporations, speculators, boomers, sooners and common thieves of all sorts from eminent politicians to Michigan millionaires. Perhaps it is not too

The other day, so the New York pahim to make a contribution to a local Sage, "I have \$700,000 lying in the Chemical bank not drawing a cent of out.