

THE TRUE STORY

What Actually Happened When the Trolley Car Ran Into the President's Carriage

The accident which happened to the president at Pittsfield, Mass., just as The Independent was going to press last week and which startled the whole country, is most graphically described by the Springfield Republican:

The death of one man saved three lives in the deplorable and indefensible disaster that overtook the presidential party at Pittsfield, Wednesday—the one dominant and universally discussed happening of the past week in this region. It has not been appreciated that William Craig of the government secret service, the man whose duty it was to guard the president of the United States, in the end and in the line of service, though through an involuntary happening, saved the lives of Theodore Roosevelt, Governor Crane and Secretary Cortelyou. Such is Governor Crane's conclusion, as expressed in private conversation. Let us review the facts in demonstration of this central and hitherto overlooked fact that poor Craig's life was not sacrificed in vain. His manhandling really saved the head of the federal government and of the state of Massachusetts. Not its brakes, but the body of the guard, checked the speed of that car sufficiently so that the men in the body of the carriage escaped as fortunately as they did. Horrible, but fortunate to all save Craig it was, and he was in the end, in a high and tragic sense, the guard of the president. Fate made him faithful in death as in life to the trust reposed in him. Like a soldier he fell, and his memory deserves all a hero's honors.

The governor of Massachusetts, sitting beside the president of the United States, heard the gong of the car approaching the carriage. On the instant Governor Crane rose to his feet, and looking back, saw the car approaching at a very rapid rate of speed. He raised both hands and waved them frantically in an effort to make the motorman stop. The car was under such headway, however, that it proved impossible to stop it. When the governor waved his hands, the car is estimated to have been 150 feet away from the carriage. The governor saw the driver, J. P. Felt, Craig and Secretary Cortelyou go leaving the president and himself the last occupants of the carriage. The president was then thrown out, and the governor supposes that he went, too, but does not know. For all of them there was a period of oblivion, momentary or longer. In the opinion of the governor, all that saved the lives of the president, the secretary and himself was the fact that Craig was thrown first and hurled immediately in front of the car. The car passed entirely over Craig's body, and this obstacle broke the force of the shock. But for that intervention it is fair to suppose that all in the carriage would surely have been killed. This understanding and analysis of the situation will deepen the popular sense of the narrowness of the escape at Pittsfield. Only this human sacrifice, precipitated by the narrowest chance at the exact point where it could be made to accomplish the salvation of the others, intervened to avert a national calamity and tragedy and sorrow of which even the thought is best avoided.

News of the Week

The other day all the plutocratic dailies took particular pains to let the people know that a "new high water mark" had been reached in the amount of gold in the treasury. There were \$76,622,324 of gold in the treasury. Then they exploited their ignorance of financial questions to all the length their space would allow. They cast new slurs at populism and concluded by trying to impress upon their readers what great financiers and universally wise men they were. The truth was that only \$37,000,000 of that gold belonged to the government. It being piled up there was a demonstration of the populist claim that paper money was more convenient and more desired by the people than any sort of metallic money. Most of that gold was held for the redemption of gold certificates. Gold certificates being paper money are much more convenient than the gold coin. As the bankers can store the gold without cost in the treasury and the shipment to and from of paper money costs much less than when metallic money, they put their gold in the treasury and use paper. A populist can see no reason why paper money, limited in quantity, should not be used exclusively.

If it is "the destiny" of the United States to go about setting up "stable governments" as the republicans told us in the last presidential campaign, there is a large field for operations just at present. Haiti, Columbia, Venezuela and several other countries need immediate attention. Teddy must be neglecting his duty and running contrary to the "direction of divine providence." The wars in Haiti and Columbia are raging with more bloodshed and slaughter than ever before. Just think of it! How silly some of the republican propositions have been.

The steel trust took a twist on some of the smaller concerns last week that made them howl. In combination with the railroads it ran the price of coke up to \$13 a ton. The small pig iron manufacturers say that they will have to quit.

Teddy is employing the secretary of the treasury as a campaign spell-binder and rushing him from state to state with great celerity. It used to be thought that the duty of the secretary of the treasury was to attend to financial affairs of the United States, but we have outgrown all that. His duty is to make party speeches and let the finances take care of themselves.

General Booth, the head of the Salvation army, has had better success in governing the vast numbers of that organization than he has in ruling his own family. One of his sons, Herbert Booth, has recently left the army as five previous have done. Ballington Booth not only left the army, but or-

ganized a rival force, the Volunteers. Six of General Booth's sons are now in open rebellion.

Senator Scott of West Virginia, a stalwart republican, says that a strike may cost his party three congressmen in his state and several in Pennsylvania. With the drift, as it is, against the republicans for other causes, the outlook for the dominant party is far from being rosy. The coal miners' lockout may register itself in politics in November with a decisiveness that may surprise the country and confound the republican party.

The editor and the proprietor of the Manila Freedom are both languishing in jail after having been denied a trial by jury on the right to appeal. After confining for a few months in their loathsome cells, they may both come to the conclusion that the title of their paper is a misnomer.

They ought to be happy out in Colorado and have "an era of good feeling" such as was announced in Iowa. The democratic state convention and the republican convention of Arapahoe county, in which Denver is situated, tried out each other in proclaiming populist principles.

Roosevelt has made the round trip to the southern states and back without once mentioning reciprocity with Cuba or any other nation. It seems that the tariff league and the trusts are too much even for Teddy. Perhaps he has heard what happened to the witnesses and prosecutors of the Northern Pacific merger and does not want to go to jail.

The republicans are determined to have "more money." The coinage of silver, the increase of gold and bank notes has not satisfied them. Secretary Shaw has therefore determined to buy more national bank circulation. He will increase the government deposits in those banks only that put out more circulation. The cry for "more money" that the republicans are raising is louder and more persistent than any that was ever heard before. Think what they said about populists in 1897 when they demanded "more money!" And in 1893 there was not half the money in the country that there is now. Republicans are "queer critters."

Those Faneuil hall (Boston) resolutions demanding government ownership of the coal mines rather than the New York Times, which reflects that "the incident is instructive and may well set the student of the tendencies of thought in this country to studying the nature of the forces at work in New England to shape public opinion." Well, it can at least be said that the growth of the public ownership idea in Boston is not due to the Boston newspapers. They would as soon yell for anarchy.

Every year several men are killed in the Adirondacks by the dudes who go out there to hunt deer. Two were killed last week. The state of New York should appoint a board to examine every dude who wants to go hunting in the Adirondacks and if he does not show intelligence enough to distinguish a man from a deer he should not be permitted to carry firearms.

The New York Post says that Saratoga, favored by special legislation, has become the Monte Carlo of the United States. The season closed last week and one special train carried away among its passengers 300 hundred women and 2,000 pieces of baggage. The Post further remarks: "Our modern restoration is more raw than that of 1660, more crude, lacking grace; but altogether this old mineral spa, with its dignified history and ante-bellum tone, has been turned into a close American variation of the Turnbridge Wells of the reign of Charles II., when the leaders of the mode, the wealthy merchants, the gentry, and the 'frail and jilting beauties' brought to it all the luxuries and vices of London."

Roosevelt grows fiercer when he denounces the critics of the army in the Philippines. When the officers over there take him at his word and acquit other officers charged with cruelty, Teddy writes on the findings: "The proceedings and findings in the foregoing case of Capt. James A. Ryan, 15th regiment of cavalry, are disapproved."

Another editor has been found guilty of libeling a native member of the Philippine commission, fined \$2,000 and sent to jail for six months without trial by jury. This time it was the editor of a Spanish weekly and his name was Vincente Valdes. It seems that the native members of the Philippine commission suffer a great deal from libels.

There is a probability of 70,000 trainmen striking for an increase in pay. The men say that they are doing double the work they used to do for the same pay, which is a fact that The Independent has often commented upon. The building of big engines, the improvement of road beds, the elimination of many curves and heavy grades have enabled the managers to double the size of trains which are handled by the same number of men as before.

The three Boer generals, De Wet, Botha and Delarey, were in Holland last week. In answer to an address General De Wet said: "We have lost our independence and have endeavored to obtain compensation from the new government for our burned farms. We have every reason to believe no compensation will be forthcoming. Help is absolutely necessary to prevent the ruin of thousands."

The anti-Bryan fellows in Iowa have inaugurated a new deal in politics. They got together and nominated ex-Governor Boies as candidate for congress in Speaker Henderson's district without any mention of a platform at all. The telegraphic report of the affair says: "A feature of the convention was the fact that no mention was made of a platform or resolutions. A conference of friends of Boies and supporters of the silver wing of the party was held this morning, and platforms

prepared by both factions presented. No agreement could be reached as to the form of the resolutions and as a compromise it was decided to make no reference to resolutions in the convention." When the men who got up the farce announced that Boies would be nominated they expected a big crowd, but more than one-third of the delegates refused to come. Wonderful fellows are these Iowa gold bug democrats! The crowd was very small.

A dispatch from Newport says that the grand duke Boris arose and hastily left the table where he had been invited to dine because the waiter helped the lady who was hostess first. His royal nibs didn't like that, so he left.

The international salt company, known as the salt trust, is in difficulties. The other day a judgment was rendered against it in the amount of \$238,098. It made no defense. Preferred stock, common stock, water. Then comes the receiver. The trusts have been falling pretty fast lately, but just wait a few months more and see what will happen.

We have an international parcels post in this country. It is run by the British government on one side and the American express companies on the other. A parcels post has been one of the demands of the populist party ever since its organization. But Mr. Loud, the agent of the American express companies, is chairman of the house committee on postoffices and won't let us have it.

MENDACITY CONE MAD

Professor Vincent of the Central Farmer Pays His Respects to The State Journal

It is not often, even in the heat of a political campaign, that newspapers or party organs will stoop to flagrant falsehoods. The tactics generally adopted to cover a party crime are indirect, and it is rare indeed that a state organ so far loses its self-respect as to stoop to falsify facts that are easily shown, thus laying itself open not only to the attacks of opponents, but to distrust of all associates. When such paper does this it exposes its weakness and becomes an object of pity and scorn. But when it brazenly persists in the lie (as it probably will, for party reasons), it becomes a public enemy and all good citizens of all parties should exclude the vile thing from their homes and other editors should cease to advertise it in clubbing rates with their own. This foul thing the Nebraska State Journal has done, as follows. In its issue of Sunday, September 7, 1902, on page 12, second column (editorial), occurs the following:

"SAME OLD BILL." "The Omaha World-Herald has 'em again. Every year about this time when the summer is ended and people begin to think about their winter coal, the World-Herald gets into a panic about the Fowler bill. The Fowler bill it seems was a measure introduced by a gold bug some years ago in the lower house of congress to do something to the currency. The World-Herald itself, like the rest of us, seems to have forgotten what the Fowler bill was a. about, and does not brush up its memory by reading its old files. However, it calls upon Burkett and McCarthy and Hinshaw and Norris and Kinkaid to come out immediately and tell the people 'yes' or 'no' whether they will vote for the Fowler bill. But the Fowler bill is dead. It expired by limitation with the congress that didn't consider it. It is quite probable that Burkett and McCarthy and Hinshaw and Norris and Kinkaid have forgotten like the World-Herald what the Fowler bill was."

"Bills to the number of nearly ten thousand were on the calendar in the last house when it last adjourned and they all went up the flume with the adjournment. The candidates for the next congress do not know really how they stand on those ten thousand bills, as they never heard of most of them and never read many of the others. But supposing the World-Herald is really concerned about the Fowler bill, ought it not to tell us just what is the matter with it? Perhaps it wasn't a good bill. Who knows? Was it intended to crush freedom to earth and dismember that divine ratio of sixteen-to-one?"

Note in this editorial of the Journal the bold falsehood: "But the Fowler bill is dead. It expired with the congress that didn't consider it." The bill is NOT dead. It is not only alive, but is in position to do its mischievous work instantly on the re-assembling of congress in December. The Fowler bill was not introduced in 1890 or in the "last" congress, but in the first session of the PRESENT congress. Mr. Fowler is NOW the chairman of the committee, in a republican congress, of the "committee on banking and currency." Mr. Fowler introduced a bill on March 10, 1902, entitled:

"A bill to maintain the gold standard, provide an elastic currency, equalize the rates of interest throughout the country, and further amend the national banking law." (See Congressional Record, page 2757.) On April 3 he introduced another bill under the SAME TITLE. (See page 3865.) On April 4 he introduced still a third bill under the SAME title. (See page 3918.) All of these bills were referred to the committee of which he himself was chairman. The third of these bills (No. 13,383) was reported without amendment and with recommendation that it do pass on April 5 (Cong. Record, page 3959) the day following its introduction. The bill now stands on the calendar of the house ready for action. It is NOT DEAD. It cannot die by limitation until the close of this congress, at midnight of March 3, 1903. All bills that were introduced at the late session of the present congress are in the same condition now and will be in the same condition when congress meets in December, as they were just before congress took its summer recess.

It is very evident that the Journal is scared nearly to suicide by the fact that fusionists are disposed to compel all candidates for congress to go on record on this infamous measure. The

Journal dare not attempt a defense of the mischievous bill and so it resorts to cowardly falsehood and asserts that the bill is dead and therefore not an issue.

The republicans in congress DID NOT DARE pass the measure before election. Therefore they had it prepared and reported favorably and neatly hidden (as they—ostrich-like—supposed) on the calendar. But some patriots had watched it pass to its hiding place and it is pointed out at the spot where it lies in wait to spring on a surprised public "after election." It has been the policy of the republicans for years to "tinker" with the finance question "after elections"—and all the while loudly protesting that no tinkering would be allowed. It meant that the "other fellow" should do no tinkering, but there are few sessions of congress for many years when the republicans have not "tinkered" the finances while loudly proclaiming that no changes were needed and that none would be tolerated.

The present bill was exposed by the Central Farmer on July 31, and since then scores of papers all over the state are demanding that congressional candidates go on record touching that measure. That is what scares them. We caution our friends not to be bluffed. Push the fight! Elsewhere in this paper are two questions that every congressional candidate of every party should be required to answer in every speech made during this campaign.

The Fowler bill represents all the objectionable monopoly and branch bank features that were possessed by the old United States bank that Jackson crushed, and with those iniquitous features it combines all the iniquities of the old "wild-cat" and "red-dog" currency of the fifties. The attempt to smuggle such a bill through in such a disreputable manner should damn any party or any paper or any person who has a hand in the dirty job.

If the Journal does not promptly disavow the above editorial and plead ignorance or incapacity as a reason for its appearance last Sunday, every one will want to see the mendacity of the sheet and will accept the article as fresh proof of the low character of that paper. It is told that some years ago there lived in Lincoln a person whose office was unusually dirty. The scales of filth lay about on floors and walls. Finally it got so bad that even the owner decided to clean house. He moved the office furniture into the back yard and prepared for a scrubbing. When ready, he sent the janitor for a quantity of concentrated lye. He soon returned with a copy of the Nebraska Journal, saying it was the "strongest lye on the market." That observation will be proven true when the Journal fails to disavow the editorial quoted above.

COLORADO POPULISTS

A Peculiar Situation but They Will Stand by the Organization and Keep It Intact

The situation in Colorado is different from any other state. The populists have nominated a full ticket, but several of the candidates are the same as those on the democratic ticket. They will work for the election of Senator Teller and support Congressmen Bell and Shafroth. The fact is that Teller and Shafroth never were democrats and Bell was one of the original populists and is now running for his sixth term in congress. The nomination of Mrs. Grenfell for superintendent of public instruction by the democrats did not prevent the populists from nominating her also. She has always been a populist.

The democratic platform is a populist document from start to finish. Among other planks in the platform are the following:

"The republican party, since its restoration to power, has swept the nation from its constitutional moorings; it has pursued a policy of conquest; it has abandoned the principles of our Declaration of Independence; it imposed a government of force upon an unwilling people and to that end vast sums of money and thousands of lives and made the flag an emblem of tyranny and injustice to foreign lands."

"We condemn the policy of the republican party in creating a national banking trust and demand that the national government shall at all times retain and exercise sovereign and sole control of our coinage and currency. We demand government ownership."

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