

"Search Me!"

The people by thousands were crowded about
And the president spoke, with intent
to give out
His position on trusts—and the things
that he said
Caused every old codger to doddle
his head

And remark:
"Well, whar does he stand? D'ye see?"
And I said
"Search me!"

The newspaper fellows were writing
like smoke,
Shorthand every darn'd word that
he spoke,
But when all the pothooks and curves
were unspun
I heard each asking the next other
one

This remark:
"Where did he land? Could you see?"
And he said:
"Search me!"

The folks read the papers, all anxious
to see
How dead right on trusts our Teddy
must be,
But when they had scanned all thor-
ough and clean
Each turned to his neighbor with
questioning mien

And remarked:
"Well, whar in this d—d trust busi-
ness is he?"
But t'other un said:
"Search me!"
—Atlanta Constitution.

Slumbering in Ignorance.

Philippine affairs are forgotten. Ex-
cept attention is attracted by the hor-
rid mark of Cain there is nothing to
invest our interest. We know our isl-
and possessions as centers of discon-
tent or not at all.

A punitive expedition is spreading
fire and sword through Mindanao to
teach the Moros to be good, otherwise
we should hear nothing of our Mo-
hammedan wards, any more than we
do of Porto Rico.

For we have fared fortunately in
Porto Rico. Not one American in a
thousand has the faintest idea what
is the form of government there or
what we are doing or what we have
assumed the dictation of their destiny.

When it is raining it is no time to
repair the leak and when it is fair no-
body thinks of it. In time of insurrec-
tion we are forbidden by the rulers to
discuss Philippine questions and at
other times nobody cares.

And there is the vital point. We
have assumed the mastery over these
seven or eleven million people about
whom nobody cares. We are govern-
ing them and we don't know the first
thing about them.

The sooner we get out of that mis-
erable business the happier it will be
for America.—Red Wing (Minn.) Ar-
gus.

A Field for Ingenuity.

The inventive genius of the country
should not fail to produce an economi-
cal substitute for hard coal in the
heating of modern dwellings. The
present crisis has opened every house-
holder's mind to the desirability of a
new kind of fuel which would be with-
out the ashes nuisance and the great
heat waste that always accompanies
coal-burning in furnaces.—Springfield
Republican.

While We Are Speaking of Anthracite

Milwaukee News: Maybe that
duty of 67 cents a ton was placed on
anthracite coal merely to afford the
foreigner another opportunity to pay
the tax.

Milwaukee Sentinel: That Boston
petition for a receiver may at least
serve as a straw to show the coal
men the way the wind of public opin-
ion is blowing.

Indianapolis Sentinel: President
Baer has sent 500 tons of coal to Wash-
ington to prevent complaint of a coal
famine there. The trustee of the Al-
mighty believes in keeping officials in
a good humor.

Trenton True American: If Sec-
retary Shaw has any difficulty about
getting his thirty million issue into
Wall street he might well back them
into the empty coal scuttles and trans-
port them in the empty coal cars.

Boston Traveler: Every day that
the coal strike continues means thou-
sands of dollars' loss to the nation.
What nation on earth, save the United
States, would put up with the indig-
nity forced upon it by the coal oper-
ators?

Chicago Chronicle: The spectacle
of the divinely inspired Mr. Baer gra-
ciously according an interview to Mr.
Roosevelt is one to excite the wonder
and admiration of mankind. It is an
echo of the days when the gods came
down from high Olympus and played
ping pong with the sons of men.

Memphis Scimitar: Whatever the
original merits of the strike may have
been, the operators have now put
themselves beyond the pale of public
sympathy, even of public patience.
There is a limit to what any man may
do with his own, and they passed that
limit when they refused to listen to
the president's appeal.

Chicago Inter-Ocean: The attitude
of the hard coal proprietors in their
controversy with their employes inevi-
tably raises the question whether the
private ownership of their property
carries with it the right to use their
property exactly as they please. In
other words, is their right the right
to abuse as well as to use?

Houston Post: Of course, as one
of the officers of the coal roads said,

the strikers are entirely to blame for
the scarcity of anthracite and the con-
sequent suffering entailed. If they
were content to work for a bare pit-
tance and spend that pittance at the
company stores the present state of
affairs need never have arisen.

Chicago American: It is so easy
for a man accustomed to years of suc-
cessful trust managing to think that
the people are just so many good-na-
tured, patient souls born to be led and
bled and bamboozled; it is so easy for
a man in Baer's position to think that
he has a divine appointment to saddle
and ride the less fortunate and they a
divine command never to protest.

Chicago American: It may puzzle
some persons to say why the attorney
general found it possible to proceed
under the law against the beef trust
and impossible to proceed under the
the same law against the coal trust,
but Mr. Knox no doubt has found suf-
ficient reason. Perhaps it is because
you eat meat and burn coal, or be-
cause beef begins with b and coal
with c, or something like that. Some
good reason, of course, moves the at-
torney general to his course.

Joplin Globe: The conference of the
coal barons, the workers in the mines
and the president came to naught be-
cause of the autocratic attitude of the
coal barons. The miners, through
President Mitchell, offered to submit
the difficulty to arbitration, agreeing
to let the president choose the arbit-
rators, but the coal barons would not
agree to that nor would they suggest
anything else to relieve the situa-
tion. The coal barons operate in de-
fiance of law. The laws of Pennsyl-
vania provide that no one having stock
in a railroad shall have interests in a
coal mine. This law is openly and
flagrantly violated. Why does not
the republic administration of Penn-
sylvania enforce the law against these
coal barons? They are very free in
calling out troops to enforce the law
against the poor man. Why not en-
force it against these autocratic rich?

Shaw's Surrender to Wall Street.

The secretary of the treasury appears
to have yielded to "Wall street"

at last. A horror bred in the
land of bearded wheat that he
might aid stock gambling seemed to
govern his acts prior to the recent
money crisis. So far did this preju-
dice go that he issued a statement
in which he intimated that there were
funds in abundance for commercial
purposes. "Official" utterances were
sent throughout the country from
Washington strenuously denying that
the secretary was "experimenting,"
and attributing various rumors to "ir-
responsible men of the street."

But a breath of the air of old Trin-
ity's neighborhood has changed the
man. Today Wall street resounds with
the praises of financiers for the able
secretary who has overleaped all bar-
riers and outdone all his predecessors
in "saving the market." Mr. Shaw
suddenly branched out with a proposi-
tion relieving the banks from retain-
ing as a precautionary reserve in cash
one-fourth of the amount deposited
with them by the government, as they
must do for other depositors, and of-
fering to accept bonds as security for
the people's deposits of a class sug-
gested by "irresponsible men of the
street." Verily a day in Wall street
worketh wonders!

On Monday the stock world was in
a state of panic. Thirty-five per cent
was demanded for call loans, and brok-
ers threw the stocks of margined cus-
tomers on the market in big blocks.
A large number of men of moderate
means were "wiped out," losing their
all in the slump. Meantime the rich
and powerful were buying the fearfully
sacrificed securities, for no others
could buy. But not a word from Mr.
Shaw to stay the panic. Late at night
the secretary of the treasury an-
nounced his plan to throw \$30,000,000
to the banks. The rich men were
jubilant; in the morning stocks open-
ed "wide" \$4 to \$5 higher than they
closed. The powerful purchasers of
the day before reaped enormous gains
to which they had not contributed one
iota.

Sad indeed that when Mr. Shaw suc-
cumbed to Wall street it should have
been after the "lamb" had been
fleeced and the rich laden; especially
so when the precise announcement
made at 2 o'clock p. m. the day before
would have saved millions of dollars
to those who perhaps could ill af-
ford to lose. The newer methods, how-
ever, appear to be better "experiments"
than was the offer to redeem bonds at
105 which brought 105 1/4 in the mar-
ket.—Philadelphia North American.