



Nail It Fast Forever.  
THE "IDLE" SOLDIERS.

From the Baltimore American.  
"This country has a hundred thousand soldiers walking around in idleness."  
—W. J. Bryan.

Walking around in idleness.  
Wherever the flag's assailed;  
Meeting the foe with an idle might  
That never yet has failed.  
Lawton, and Liscum, and Logan, too—  
Capron—the list is long—  
Went to their death in "idleness,"  
And their "idleness" was wrong.  
  
Grant and Sherman and Sheridan—  
Why should we call the roll?  
They idled away in the idle fight—  
In fights that tried the soul.  
"Walking around in idleness"—  
Braving the leaden hail;  
What of the glow of a nation's pride?  
Is that but an idle tale?  
  
"Walking around in idleness,"  
Over the Pekin road;  
Scorched and worn by the galling sun,  
Lugging an idle load.  
Fighting with idle energy,  
Cheering with idle breath—  
Thinking, with idle love, of home,  
And dying an idle death.  
  
Private Smith, with an idle groan,  
Gone to a home above;  
And idle tears mark the idle woe  
And the idle mother's love.  
"Walking around in idleness"—  
Lawton and Liscum, too;  
Legions more will come idly when  
There are idle deeds to do.

SOME DEMOCRATIC TRUSTS.

(From the Chicago Inter Ocean.)  
Merely to expose the sham of Mr. Bryan's present anti-trust campaign, we cite below a few of the trusts—only those with \$10,000,000 or more capitalization—organized before Mr. McKinley's inauguration, and protected and nurtured by the Democracy between March 4, 1883, and March 4, 1897:

Company	When formed	Shares and bonds
Am. Sugar Co.	1857	\$7,839,000
Con. Ice Co.	1835	11,235,000
National Salt Co.	1889	12,000,000
Nat. Starch Co.	1880	11,605,900
Sperry Flour Co.	(Cal.)	10,000,000
Chl. Beef Combine	1885	Unknown
Am. Spirits Co.	1887	36,535,300
Cal. Winemak'g Co.	1887	10,000,000
Chl. Brew. & Malt Co.	1891	22,080,000
Mil. & Chl. Brew. Co.	1884	25,050,000
Am. Tobacco Co.	1880	51,080,000
Nat. Wall Pap. Co.	1879	25,431,500
Standard Rope Co.	1886	22,412,000
U. S. Leather Co.	1887	120,288,000
U. S. Rubber Co.	1882	52,191,000
Am. Sch'l Fur. Co.	1882	11,500,000
Central Lumber Co.	(Cal.)	70,000,000
Am. Win. Glass Co.	1880	30,000,000
Psh. Plate-Glass Co.	1881	10,000,000
Am. Cotton Oil Co.	1883	33,292,700
Am. Lin'd Oil Co.	1887	28,288,000
Agr. Chem. Co.	1880	50,000,000
Stand. Oil Co.	1872	97,250,000
Fuel & Iron Co.	(Cal.)	18,882,000
Coal, Iron & R. R. Co.	(Tenn.)	20,857,000
Lake Superior Con. Iron Mines	1883	30,000,000
Am. (Sewing) Mach. Co.	1885	10,000,000
Union Typewriter Co.	1883	16,015,000
Am. Elec. Heat. Co.	1883	10,000,000
Elec. Stor. Bat. Co.	1888	18,450,000
Gen. Electric Co.	1882	26,443,000
West. Electric Co.	1881	16,185,850
Anac. Copper Co.	1881	30,000,000
National Lead Co.	1881	29,822,000
Brookings Wharf & Warehouse Co.	1885	30,000,000
West. Elev. Assn.	1887	15,000,000
Diamond Match Co.	1889	11,000,000

Aggregate capitalization... \$1,003,581,333  
Here are thirty-seven great corporations—price-fixing combinations or trusts—with aggregate capital of more than \$1,000,000,000, all of which lived, prospered and waxed fat—unopposed and unassailed—during one to eight years of Democratic rule. Yet Mr. Bryan has the impudence to tell the American people that trusts are fostered by the Republican party and fought to the death by the Democracy.

Didn't Keep McKinley Buttons.  
Up in Wisconsin the other day a traveling salesman walked into a little newspaper store at Janesville. While getting his paper he looked around him and noticed a large number of Bryan buttons for sale, but no McKinley buttons.  
He asked the storekeeper if he did not keep McKinley buttons for sale, and was told:  
"No, I don't keep 'em. I sell 'em. They sell as soon as I get 'em. I stocked up at first with the same number of both, but have replenished my stock of McKinley buttons four times now, while all these Bryan buttons you see here are the first lot I bought. There are no Bryan folks around Janesville."

A CENTURY'S GROWTH OF THE COUNTRY.

History of National Expansion from Jefferson's Time.

The Life of the Nation, Like That of an Individual, Depends Upon Its Ability to Develop and Grow.

An intelligent youth, fifteen years old, who reads the daily papers, said to his father, who is a student of politics:  
"Father, what is the meaning of 'imperialism' as used in the Democratic platforms and by Democratic speakers, particularly Mr. Bryan; and what do you mean by expansion?"  
The father answered: "My boy, 'imperialism,' correctly defined, means 'pertaining to an empire.' The use of it, as they intend it to apply by the party you speak of, is pure demagoguery—a clap-net effort to catch votes in the coming election. These men have erected an air castle and are pelting it with words. But few of the men of brains who use this term, as applied to the conditions in this country, believe it to be true or correct. They have a mistaken idea that they can scare the American people by proclaiming against a bugaboo of their own creation. In this they are mistaken. The American voter is quick to detect humbug and is not easily scared even at the threat of real evils. It is possible that some of those men really believe what they say on this subject. If they do, they are in the unfortunate position of those of whom it is said, 'they believe a lie to be damned,' for these men will be politically damned at the election in November. Outside of these parties there are some declaring against 'imperialism' who are misled by diseased imaginations and who, while being honest, are simply foolish."  
"Well, father, what do you mean by 'expansion'?"  
"I use the word in its ordinary sense, my boy, which is the 'enlargement of surface.'"  
"Yes, I understand that, but this is a political term as used now. Does it mean the 'enlargement of the surface' of the country?"  
"Certainly, and but for expansion this country would have been very small indeed."  
"When did it begin to expand? Who was the first expansionist?"  
"Look at the map of the United States and you will see that the colonies of Great Britain which revolted in 1776 were Massachusetts, which included Maine; New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, which with New Hampshire included Vermont; New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, which included Kentucky, North Carolina, which claimed Tennessee; South Carolina and Georgia. All these colonies, with the outlying territories claimed by them, had only 482,361 square miles, with a population of about 3,000,000. Just before the Revolution George Washington, then a colonel of Virginia militia, was the first expansionist. He aided in driving the French out of Fort Duquesne, where Pittsburg now stands; helped in annexing to Virginia all the territory which now comprises the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. There were no white inhabitants save a few French on the lakes and in Illinois. These States cover 288,361 square miles, about three-fifths of the area of the colonies. At the taking of the census of 1890, ten years ago, they had a population of 13,461,846 and wealth valued at \$15,041,635,522. Washington's expansion proved to be a very valuable one."  
"Who was the next expansionist, and what did he do?"  
"Thomas Jefferson was the next. In April, 1803, he purchased the territory of Louisiana from France. Look at that large map. All the States and territories which you see west of the Mississippi river to that irregular line which extends from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian border, near the Pacific ocean, were included in this purchase. At the time the purchase was made it was deemed valueless, and Jefferson was denounced as bitterly by the opposition at that time as McKinley is now—in fact, more bitterly. In 1810, the first census after the purchase, the entire civilized population was 77,401. The area of this purchase was 974,873 square miles, more than double that of the original colonies, and comprised what is now the States of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, part of Colorado, nearly all of Wyoming, nearly all of Montana, the Indian Territory and the Territory of Oklahoma. In 1890 the population of these States was 12,053,898 and their wealth was \$11,595,352,540, eleven billion five hundred and ninety-five million three hundred and fifty-two thousand five hundred and forty dollars. These States in 1898 furnished over one-half the wheat and nearly one-half the corn crop of the country, and this year will do still better. They have nearly one-third of the total railway mileage and are great producers of cattle, sheep, hogs and horses. And yet their productive capacity is in its infancy. When irrigation is established, as it soon will be, the products of these States will be doubled or tripled. And there is one advantage of this purchase that can never be estimated in money, which is the control of the Mississippi river. Jefferson's purchase has turned out to be a good one, notwithstanding the bitter opposition to its consummation."  
(To be continued.)

Measure of Coin.  
Money is measured by troy weight, in which twenty-four grains make a pennyweight, twenty pennyweights one ounce and twelve ounces one pound. The silver dollar weighs 412½ grains, and \$1,000, as near as it can be expressed intelligently in print, weighs 71,614 pounds, or a fraction over seventy-one and one-half pounds. In avoirdupois the same would weigh 58,928, or nearly fifty-nine pounds.

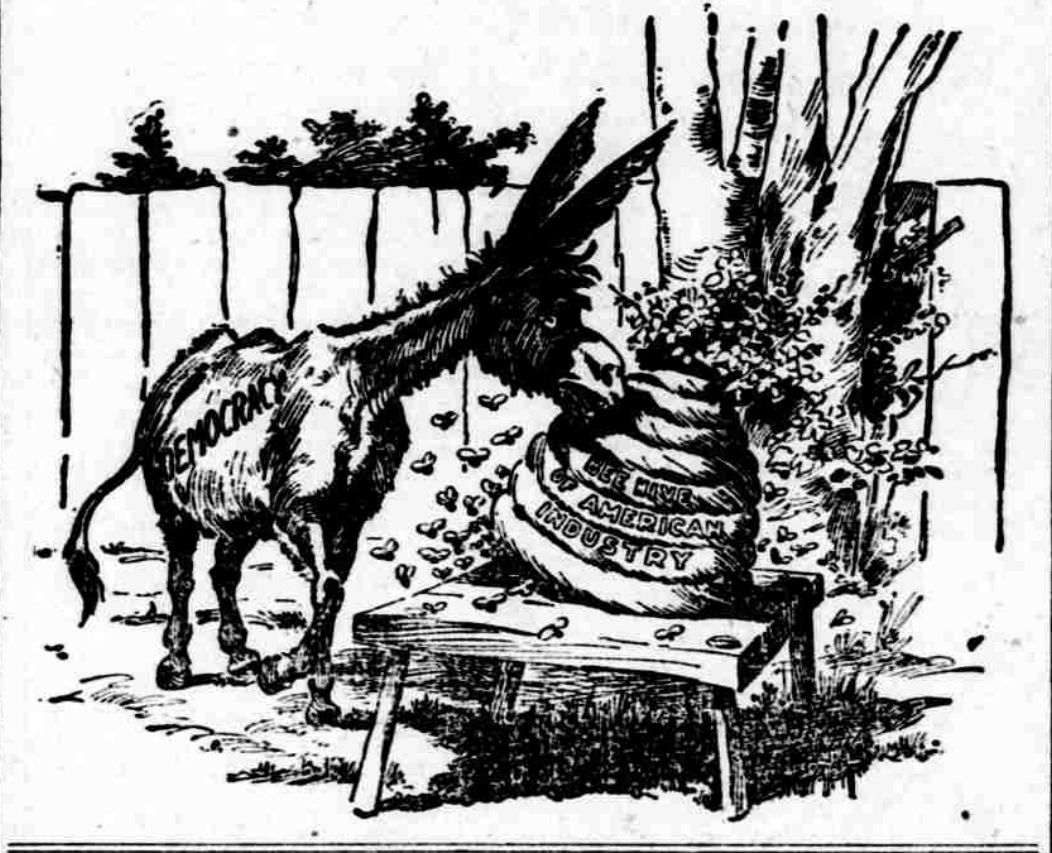
PARDON ME, BUT—

Pardon me, but—  
If you were going to rent your farm to a man, you would feel surer of getting your money if that man had had some experience in farming, wouldn't you? If you have a job, a steady job, and you know there was going to be a change of managers of the business, factory or whatever concern it is that hires you, you would feel safer if you knew that the incoming manager had had experience in managing your line of business, wouldn't you? You'd feel more certain of your money if you knew that he was hustling around for a job, you'd rather get one if you could, on a farm, in a factory or in a business that is run by an experienced manager, wouldn't you? For you'd figure it that your job would be more likely to pan out, to be a steady one, wouldn't you?  
And:  
When you take a ride on a railroad train, you wouldn't feel particularly comfortable if just before the train was to start you saw a young drier goods clerk climb up into the engine cab and begin to yank the lever. Now would you? You wouldn't want to be working at the mouth of a mine and know that a poet was running the hoisting engine, would you? You'd be afraid of your corpus, eh?  
Now, when it comes to politics, don't you think a man ought to try to show just as good sense in voting as he does in his trade or business? Bryan is long on wind, we can all agree on that; but Mack has got the engineer's license. He's been over the road. But Bryan claims he has an entirely new method, a method of his

BRYAN'S LITTLE BOY ASKS SOME QUESTIONS.

A Colloquy that Ended in Talk About the "Goblins."  
Mr. Bryan, the handsome Democratic candidate, was on the Lincoln train today. A bright little boy, his son Georgie, sat by the candidate and was asking childish questions.  
"Papa," he said, "what did the Hungarian miners out in Colorado mean when they shook flags marked 16 to 1 in Roosevelt's face?"  
"Why, my son," said Bryan, as he beamed on his boy with loving smile, "why, the miners meant that they wanted our money to be 16 to 1. That is, they wanted it so that 16 ounces of silver would be one ounce of gold."  
"But, papa, 16 ounces of our coined silver will buy one ounce of gold now, won't it?" asked Georgie, opening his eyes wide.  
"Yes, my son. Congress did pass a law making that ratio. Sixteen ounces of our coined silver will buy one ounce of coined gold now."  
"Then, papa," said Georgie thoughtfully, "if gold and silver are now 16 to 1 by act of Congress, what more do they want? What do they keep yelling for '16 to 1' for?"  
"Well, my son," said Bryan thoughtfully, "16 to 1 is all right for the farmer, mechanic and business man, but the miner wants more for his silver. He wants to sell his 16 ounces of uncoined silver, which is really worth in the mar-

A MISCHIEVOUS DONKEY.

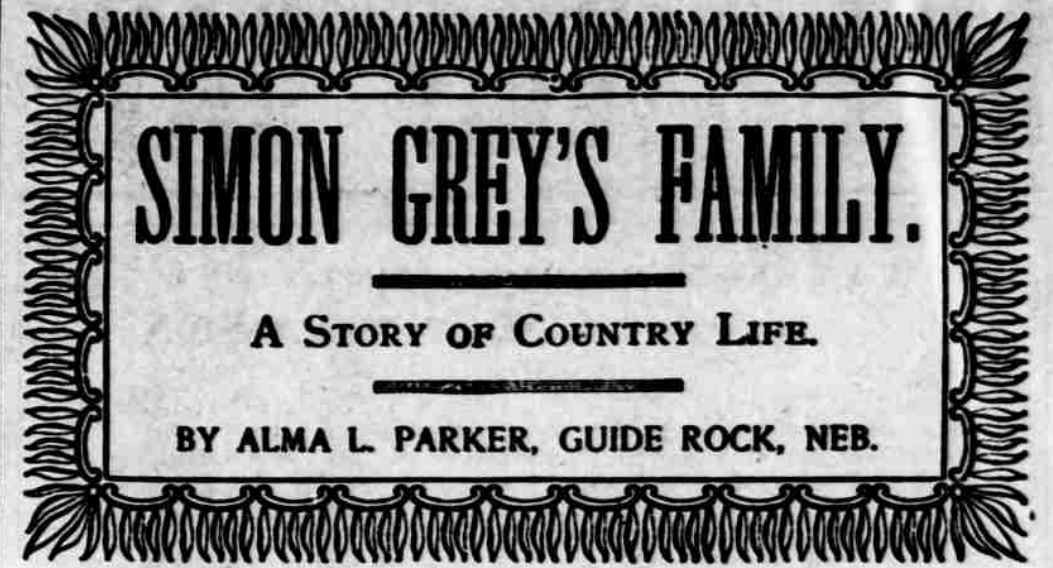


RAILROAD ACTIVITY PROVES GENERAL PROSPERITY.

MILES OF RAILROAD BUILT.		Increase of \$246,666,760 between 1894 and 1899.	
Year.	Miles.	TONS OF FREIGHT CARRIED ONE MILE.	
1892	4,441	1899	123,667,257.153
1895	1,650	1895	85,227,515.801
1899	4,500	Republican increase. 38,439,742.262	
1900	5,100	NET EARNINGS OF RAILROADS.	
* Estimated by Interstate Commerce Commission.			
NUMBER OF RAILROAD EMPLOYEES.		Increase of \$106,990,072	
1890	928,924	Gain in number of employees.	
1895	785,034	Gain of \$77,459,635 in wages.	
Republican increase..... 143,890			
THE WAGES PAID THEM.		Gain of 263,902,412 in tons.	
1899	\$522,967,896	Gain of \$238,238,656 in gross earnings.	
1895	445,508,261	Gain of \$106,990,072 in net earnings.	
Republican increase.. \$77,459,635			
GROSS RECEIPTS OF RAILROADS.		Gain of 2,750 in miles built.	
Year.	Amount.		
1892	\$1,169,636,840		
1894	1,066,943,358		
1899	1,313,610,118		
Decrease of \$102,003,482 between 1892 and 1894.			

own, for running the government steam boiler. He's crazy to try his new method—and if she busts, she can bust. Mack maintains, though, that you can't monkey with a steam engine. "Twont do to let the water get too low, and you've got to shovel something besides air into the fire-box."  
Bryan said in 1896  
That just as sure as Mack got into the cab the boiler would explode, the road would become foreclosed at auction, the right of way given over to foreign nations and the inhabitants of the territory along the route would become paupers.  
But:  
Four years have passed away and the old engine is still doing biz. They've lengthened out her boiler some and hitched on several new coaches. The eagle still sits on the cowcatcher and has both eyes peered for obstructions. There was a foreign critter got on the track once, but the eagle screeched and Mack, he turned on fifty million dollars of extra steam. They didn't hold any post-mortem because the foreigner was so cut up and scattered they couldn't find the remains. Because of the fact that the foreigner, however, did undertake to cross the track, there have been several important branches added to the road.  
JOHN LIVINGSTON WRIGHT.

Bryan's Election and Flock Owners.  
Gooding Bros. of Idaho have seen a contract for sheep which is typical of the feeling among Western wool raisers. The contract calls for the payment of \$85,000 for a band of sheep in case McKinley is elected and \$50,000 in case Bryan is successful. McKinley's election represents an immediate difference of \$35,000 to one flock owner.



CHAPTER VI.—(Continued.)  
"Cynthia, you are not the loyal Populist that you used to be, I'm sorry to say. You seem to think that everything grand and good comes from McKinley. You seem to have the impression that he was the hero of Manila, but I tell you that man's name is Dewey. Now, Dewey, no doubt, is a great man. I'd just like to know what his politics is. I'll bet he's Populist."  
"Well, I suppose that when Schley or Sampson sink that other fleet we'll have another hero."  
"Yes, if they ever do, but they haven't found them yet. They don't seem to be in any hurry about it, either. They're drawing big pay, and they're not anxious to find the fleet very quick. I haven't any faith in them or McKinley, either, but George Dewey is all right so far as I know."  
Political Simon got very impatient, and spent most of the time fault-finding.

CHAPTER VII.

Vinnie Grey's Remarkable Speech.  
Another autumn arrived. The Spanish-American war had ended. Cervera's fleet had been sunk in almost as miraculous a manner as the Asiatic fleet had been. We were now a bigger nation than ever before, for the war had extended our dominions, by Spain ceding to us Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands. Also the Cubans had been given their freedom. We also had avenged the Maine! What a blessing it had been to those islands to exchange Spanish rule for American!  
Simon was glad he had been at war, because, he said, it had made better prices for farmers' products.  
He had never accumulated money faster than since McKinley's election. The reasons he gave for good times were the scarcity of farmers' products and the late war. Instead of going to the poorhouse they enjoyed luxuries in their own remodeled home.  
Boonsville had just given Glen Harrington and the other soldier boys, just returned from Cuba, a reception.  
Vinnie's term as Superintendent of Schools was almost over and the Greys wondered if the Populist convention would renominate her. It seemed evident that they would, for she had given perfect satisfaction.

It was time for the convention, and Simon was once more a delegate. He was as enthusiastic as ever, and eager to know whether Vinnie would be renominated or not.  
Vinnie herself was interested and determined to attend the convention. It had been whispered to her that she would again receive the nomination, and for this reason she wished to be present. She had no desire to have her name printed on another Populist ticket.  
Vinnie viewed the convention of Populist delegates with keen interest. It seemed to her that they were lacking in the old-time enthusiasm. Was it possible that they, like herself, were beginning to realize that Republican times were not so bad after all, and were not anxious for a change?

The chairman called the meeting to order, and after the necessary introductory business had been attended to, they proceeded with the nomination of the several candidates. Finally the chairman announced that a nomination for County Superintendent was in order.  
"Will some one make a nomination for Superintendent?" the chairman said.  
A man from the Boonsville delegation arose. "I believe," he said, "that it is the will of this convention to give our present Superintendent the nomination again. I make a motion that we give Miss Vinnie Grey the nomination for County Superintendent." And then the crowd yelled.  
The motion soon was seconded.  
"Any one else wish to make a nomination for this office?" said the chairman; but the crowd was silent.

"Then I suppose it is the will of this convention to choose Miss Grey unanimously by acclamation. Will some one kindly make a motion to that effect?"  
Instantly Vinnie had arisen in the rear of the room and said in a clear voice:  
"Mr. Chairman."  
"Miss Grey," said the chairman.  
"The gentlemen of this convention have been very kind to me. I thank them very much, but I cannot accept the nomination."  
Vinnie's declaration was a surprise to all, and was followed by a laugh.  
"She's just gasin'," said another.  
"Wants to be coaxed," said another.  
"Nominate her anyway," said a third.  
"What's the reason you won't accept it?" said a fourth.  
"Order!" shouted the chairman, but his voice seemed to be unheard.  
To pacify them Vinnie rose again.  
"Miss Grey," said the chairman.  
"Mr. Chairman, the gentlemen of this convention seem anxious to know the reason why I will not accept the nomination. May I have the privilege of telling them?"

"Now, these men who deceived us by saying we couldn't have good times without free silver, were false prophets. Let's not believe them any longer, but change our politics. Let's treat those gentlemen right who have brought good times to our door, and who have saved our country's honor in time of war."  
"You, gentlemen, who are favored with the power to vote, I beg of you to vote sensibly. There is no one more contemptible than the hypocrite. If you believe one way and vote another you are committing a sin before God. I beg of you to reason for yourselves and then vote as you conscientiously believe to be right, no matter what others may think. Some people if they find they are wrong, won't acknowledge it, but a truly honest, upright or Christian man is glad to confess his mistake."  
"We should not be foolish like the old woman, that owned a goose which laid a golden egg every day. Her neighbors told her to kill the goose and she would find it full of golden eggs. Now the old woman was prospering, but she wasn't satisfied, so she did as they advised her. She killed the goose, but to her sorrow there were no golden eggs to be found; so she didn't even have the goose left, because of her foolish greed."  
"Let us not do as she did, but let us be satisfied with the good times we now have."  
"You all know now why I will not accept the nomination so kindly offered me. I thank you," she said as she resumed her seat.  
(To be continued.)