ABLY OUTLINES THE SITUATION

SENATOR NELSON ADDRESSES THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

Summarizes in a Telling Manner Records of Republican and Democratic Parties—Shows How and Why People Placed Confidence in the Candidacy of William McKinley

AND THEY WILL BE FOR McKINLEY AND ROOSEVELT—LIGHT ON PHILLIPINE AND TRUST PROBLEMS.

Senator Knute Nelson of Minnesota addressed the opening session of the national convention of Republican league clubs. He gave a masterly review of the events since the last presidential campaign and presented a clear and concise comparison of the records and aims of the Republican and Democratic parties during those troublous times. He said:

"In 1892 the American people, in the midst of prosperity and good times, under the promise and with the expectation of still greater prosperity and still better times, saw fit to take the administration of national affairs from the hands of the Republican party and place it in the hands of the Democratic party.

"On March 4, 1893, the Democratic party had, for the first time since 1861, full control of the government, both through the executive and the legislative departments. The reforms and measures of relief promised by the Democratic party in 1892 were, in performance, confined chiefly to two schemes: The enactment of the Wilson-Gorman tariff law and replacing all Republican officials with Democrats and fastening the latter on the public service permanently by an extended application of the civil service law.

"In the wake of the Democratic administration—speeded, aggravated and swollen by it—came the industrial and financial panic and stagnation of 1893 and the three following years. Neither the change of officeholders nor the Wilson-Gorman law furnished relief nor proved a palliative. The law, instead of relieving, measurably intensified and prolonged the industrial stagnation, and by failing to furnish a sufficiency of revenue was largely instrumental in bringing about the great gold withdrawals from the treasury in 1893-4-5, which led to the great financial panic and congestion during that period and forced President Cleveland, for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of our currency and of securing the necessary revenue for the wants of the government, to increase our bonded indebtedness to the extent of $262,000,000. The only legislative palliative afforded to stay the panic and uphold the credit of the government was the law repealing the silver purchasing clause of the act of 1890, and the passage of this law was accomplished through the efforts of a united Republican party and a few Democrats, who arose to the occasion and were greater than the main body of their party. With this law and abundant revenue there would, in all likelihood, have been no occasion to make such extensive loans, but with a deficiency of revenue loans were inevitable and a necessity for the vitality of our currency. And it was only because of the existence of the refunding and resumption acts on the statute books, passed by the Republican party in congress, that these loans could be made. The Republican party can claim the credit for these acts and for the act of 1893, repealing the provision for the purchase of silver, and it was with these Republican weapons that Cleveland was enabled to partially stay the financial panic, to maintain our currency on a parity with gold, and to prevent the country from falling into a state of silver monometallism. But in all his efforts in this direction he neither had the support nor sympathy of his party or its leaders in congress.

"Four years ago, though then slightly convalescent, we were still suffering from the effects of

The Hard Times

which had come upon us and had been with us since 1893. There was still industrial and financial stagnation; factories and furnaces, mills and shops, were still closed or on reduced time. Laborers and employes were still idle or working at reduced wages and reduced hours. Money was still scarce in active use, and was in hiding, partly for lack of profitable investment, but chiefly because of the dread of threatened silver monometallism and consequent financial ruin.

"It was at this juncture and under these conditions that the Democratic party again offered its services to the country, and it offered as the cure-all for the industrial and financial distress then prevailing the remedy of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without regard to what any other country might do in the premises.

"On this subject, as well as on the tariff question, the Republican party took issue, and maintained that the only way in which the financial and industrial distress could be relieved and prosperity restored was by a tariff law affording adequate protection and adequate revenue, and by financial legislation settling once for all that our currency should, under all conditions and at all times, be maintained on a parity with gold—the money standard of all the commercial and enlightened nations of the world.

"On these issues the American people found emphatically in favor of the Republican party four years ago, and they have had no occasion to regret their action since that time. The financial and tariff legislation which was promised by the Republican party and which was so necessary to restore confidence and prosperity to this country has been duly enacted, and the favorable results predicted to flow therefrom have been attained in even a greater measure than we could, after such a nightmare of distress, hope for. Even before any legislation was passed, the very fact that McKinley had been elected and that the Republican party was again in power, restored confidence, brought money into active use, and revived business throughout the country. Since 1896 all mills, furnaces, factories and shops, which had remained idle or been operated on reduced time during Cleveland's administration, have been opened and operated at full time and to their full capacity, with no lack of funds at lower rate of interest than ever before. And ample markets at good prices have been found for the enormous output, at home and abroad. The American manufacturer has not only more than held his ground at home, but he has extended the field of his operations and has acquired a foothold and markets abroad as never before.

Foreign Trade.

"The increase in our foreign commerce has been marvelous and beyond all precedent in our history, as appears from the following table of our exports and imports for the following fiscal years:

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Expenditure.
1894.....	$654,994,622	$892,140,572	$237,145,950
1895.....	731,969,965	807,538,165	75,568,200
1896.....	779,724,674	882,606,938	102,882,264
1897.....	764,730,412	1,050,993,556	286,263,144
1898.....	616,049,654	1,231,482,330	615,432,676
1899.....	697,148,489	1,227,023,302	529,874,913
*1900....	717,241,466	1,172,749,430	455,507,964

*Ten months.

"Our railroads and other carriers have never been so busy nor had their carrying capacity so taxed nor had better earnings than within the last three years. Our manufacturers have found ampler and better markets and paid better wages than ever before. The mechanics and laboring men are no longer idle or working at reduced wages and reduced hours, as under Cleveland's administration. Every person anxious to work has found ample employment at fair wages, and in many instances and callings at a higher rate of wages than ever before. There have been times and places in some classes of employment within the last two years when the demand for help was greater than the supply, and this assuredly tokens good wages. And our farmers have found better markets for their products, and at higher prices in the aggregate than during the years 1893, '94, '95 and '96.

"It is unfortunate that, owing to a prolonged and severe drouth prevailing in certain portions of our state, the farmers in these localities cannot this year, as in former years, participate in that prosperity which is the lot of their brethren in other parts of the country, and which would have been theirs, too, with a bountiful harvest. But there is at least one comfort for our unfortunate farmers and that is this, that their lot is not as bad as it would have been if such misfortune had occurred during the hard times of Cleveland's administration, when money was scarcer and interest higher than now. They are now in better condition to endure the calamity than they were then.

"In the financial world a complete revolution has been effected in our country. Four years ago, owing to the fear of a Democratic administration, with free silver in its wake, money was scarce, interest high, and we were a debtor nation, struggling for the surplus gold of Europe to maintain our credit. To-day money is abundant, interest lower than ever before, and we have become a creditor nation, investing some of our surplus money in the securities of the old world, and our exports have brought a steady flow of gold to our shores, so that our national treasury is supplied with an abundance of the precious metal for the maintenance of the integrity of our currency.

Recent Financial Legislation,

by establishing in law—as it had long been in fact—the gold standard has placed our currency on a Rock of Gibraltar, and placed our nation at the head of the front rank among the great commercial nations of the world. Whatever else may be said of our national banks, their bills have never failed us, as was often the case with our paper money in ante-bellum days; and under the recent act, by permitting the establishment of small banks in the smaller towns, a safe avenue for increased paper circulation was provided and in providing it we have demonstrated that the credit of our country is so good that it can dispose of its 2 per cent bonds at par—a rate of interest which no other country can show in its entire history—and these bonds are now at a premium of 3 per cent.

"Our currency now so ample, so safe and so sound, the Democracy are still striving to destroy by the heresy of free silver; as they sought to do in 1896. Nothing more clearly established the utter perverseness of the Democratic party and its total unfitness for government than the fact that in spite of present conditions, which I have briefly described, and in spite of our experience since 1896, they still threaten the country with free silver; still, in effect, threaten to reduce us to a state of silver monometallism. This is of itself not only sufficient ground for the Republicans, but for all other friends of good government, to inflict a defeat upon the Democratic party even more complete than in 1896. The ghost of free silver should be buried beyond all hope of resurrection.

"All that the Republican party promised to accomplish for the country in 1896, it has been instrumental in bringing about and accomplishing. The languishing industries have been revived, money has become abundant at low rates of interest and its quality can not now be questioned. Prosperity in all directions and in all channels has come, and remains with us in as full a measure as we hoped and predicted and prayed for in 1896. The current of our economic and industrial life is moving steadily and safely onward and upward on a safe, sound basis and at a rate and volume the wonder and envy of the other nations of the world. What other country on the face of the earth is blessed with so good a government and such a high degree of progress and prosperity as ours?

"In addition to the important duties and vast responsibilities foreseen and assumed by the Republican party in 1896, duties and responsibilities of an unforeseen, grave, new and far-reaching character have been entailed upon the administration of President McKinley. No president, save Washington and Lincoln, has had a greater task or graver duties than President McKinley. In 1896 a civil

War Was Pending in Cuba.

The Cubans were then, and had been for years, struggling for independence from the wretched and tyrannical government of Spain. The Republican party sympathized with the Cubans and was disposed to second their efforts by peaceable means, and hence our platform of 1896 declared that,

"'We believe that the government of the United States should actively use its influence and good offices to restore peace and give independence to the island.'

"In pursuance of this policy, President McKinley, as soon as he was settled in the White House, proceeded, through diplomatic channels, to energetically intervene in behalf of Cuba, with good results. And I have no doubt would in due time have succeeded, backed by the great moral and material momentum of our country, in securing the independence of Cuba by peaceful means. But while diplomacy was making its slow and steady progress a catastrophe occurred which at once put an end to peaceful methods. On the night of Feb. 15, 1898, the battleship Maine, on a peaceful mission and lying at anchor in Havana harbor, was sunk and destroyed by an explosion from the outside, resulting in the death of 260 of our gallant seamen. This made the nation eager for war, so eager that Democrats, Populists and Republicans alike were all equally swift in rushing us into a war with Spain. I remember very well how Populists and Democrats in congress chided and criticised the president and the Republican party for being less eager for war than they themselves were. Congressman Champ Clark from Missouri, one of the leading Democrats of the house, in a debate, among other things said:

"'You talk like you brought on this war. This is not a Republican war, but an American war. My Republican friends, we took you by the scruff of the neck and dragged you into it, and that will be the verdict of history. We started the fire among the people, and they heated you so hot that at last you had to go into it or go out of business.'

"Yes, it is true that it was a war of

SENATOR KNUTE NELSON.

the American people, but it was carried on and conducted gloriously and to a most successful issue under the direction of President McKinley and his administration. Though a strong and wealthy nation, we were wholly unprepared for war. Our navy was neither fully manned nor fully equipped, and our small regular army, less than 25,000 and scattered in small detachments over the country, was a mere skeleton. In a few days after it became evident that war would come, our fleet, thanks to the great energy of our secretary of the navy and his first assistant, our noble guest and unanimous nominee for the vice presidency, was fully manned and equipped and ready for action. On April 21, 1898, Sampson sailed for Cuba; on the 1st of May

Dewey Entered Manila Bay,

destroyed the Spanish fleet and avenged the destruction of the Maine, and on the 3d day of July Sampson and Schley destroyed the great fleet of Cervera near the shores of Santiago. In the space of sixty-four days the American navy and its efficiency became the marvel of an astonished Old World.

"On the twenty-third of April the president issued a call for 125,000 volunteers; this was supplemented by a call for 75,000 on the twenty-fifth of May, and in the meantime our regular army was increased to 60,000. All this vast number had to be organized, drilled, fed, clothed, equipped, armed and molded into an effective army. Considering the fact that we were wholly unprepared for war, the task of creating this army and putting it on a war footing in so brief a space of time as was done, was a manifestation of resource, energy and skill highly creditable to the administration and to the American people. No other nation with so scant a preparation could have accomplished this task so well and in so short a space of time.

"On the fourteenth of June our army of invasion—a scant 17,000—sailed for Cuba under Gen. Shafter. On the twenty-second it landed; on the twenty-fourth it fought its first battle, and on the first and second of July it stormed and captured the hills and works of El Caney and San Juan in the suburbs of Santiago, and the city and Spanish army were at its mercy. The eager valor of our troops, lead by such heroes as Shafter, Lawton, Roosevelt and others, made short work of the war. A war, begun at Manila on the first of May, was finished at Santiago on the third day of July. There are rapid firing nations as well as rapid firing guns, and the United States stands chief among the former. On the twelfth day of August, the protocol of peace was signed. On the tenth of December, 1898, the treaty of peace was signed, and on the sixth of February, 1899, it was duly ratified by the senate. In less than a year from the time of the destruction of the Maine, we had acquired Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippine islands, and had forced Spain to relinquish her hold upon Cuba. Such great results from a war so brief and entailing comparatively so small a loss of life, were never known before. This war and this result have infused into the nations of the Old World a regard for the wishes, views and policy of the United States that they never possessed before. It has demonstrated to them that we can no more be lightly reckoned with in war than in peace. We are no longer to them an isolated and far distant star in the political firmament. Our lack of a large standing army and our moderate sized navy will no longer militate against us abroad.

We Are To-day as Safe

from inroads from abroad as though we had the army of Russia and the navy of England. Is there an American citizen, unbiased by party spirit, who is not gratified with and thankful for this record and standing of our country? If such there be, his range of vision, his judgment and his patriotism are exceedingly narrow and limited.

"Up to this point it does not lie in the mouths of our adversaries to criticise and object. They were at least as eager for the war as we were. Bryan himself advised the ratification of the treaty of peace, and it was the vote of fifteen anti-Republican senators, now the followers of Bryan, that made its ratification possible. Senator Morgan of Alabama in a speech in the United States senate last May said:

"'I am proud that our distinguished party leader, Mr. Bryan, came to Washington to urge the Democrats of the senate to ratify the treaty of Paris.'

"By thus helping to ratify the treaty, they joined us and justified us in acquiring Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippine islands. Recent events at Kansas City, however, give us good grounds for believing that it was not altogether patriotic motives that induced them to thus counsel and aid in acquiring these possessions. It seems now that they desired these possessions for the purpose of securing an issue in this campaign. Aguinaldo is now their hero and the Tagal rebellion, of which he is at the head, furnished the basis for their cry of "imperialism" and "militarism." What they would do with Porto Rico and the Philippines they fail to state, but that we have blundered and jeopardized the welfare of our country at home and abroad, in our management of these islands, is now their great grievance and battle cry.

"But what are the facts and what is the law in the case? For two years prior to 1898 the Tagals in Luzon, under the leadership of Aguinaldo and his chiefs, had been in open rebellion against the Spanish government. During the last half of 1897, and long before the arrival of Dewey, the rebellion had terminated by an arrangement between the Spanish government on the one part and Aguinaldo and his chiefs on the other part, pursuant to which the Tagals were to suomit and to lay down and surrender their arms and Aguinaldo and his chiefs were to leave the country. In consideration of this there was to be a general amnesty and certain reforms were promised, and Aguinaldo and his chiefs were to receive the sum of $800,000, of which $400,000 was actually paid to them, and the balance was to be paid when certain conditions were complied with. When Dewey entered Manila bay Aguinaldo and his chiefs were at Singapore, living on and quarreling over the proceeds of the price they had obtained from the Spanish government for abandoning the rebellion. There was then no Tagal government nor even a Tagal insurrection, and Aguinaldo had by contract and for a price expatriated himself.

The Title of Spain

was as perfect as it could be. That title our country acquired by conquest, through Dewey at that time, and this title, thus acquired, was afterwards duly confirmed by the treaty of Paris. At the request of Aguinaldo and by the permission of Dewey, Aguinaldo returned to Luzon and organized an army of his followers to aid in expelling the Spaniards. And when Manila finally surrendered he became angry and took umbrage because he and his army were not permitted to enter and loot the city. It was at this time he no doubt became possessed with the idea of setting up a government hostile to the United States. The United States acquired by conquest and treaty a perfect title to Luzon and the other islands, and the people therein became subject to the authority of our government, and had no more right to set up a government hostile to the United States than the people of New Mexico, Arizona or Alaska. We have never yet, in all our history, permitted the people of any of our territorial possessions to set up a government hostile to the United States. Nor have we ever permitted them to set up any government at all without the express permission of congress. And denying to the Tagals what we have denied in all other cases can never afford a valid ground for complaint.

"Does Mr. Bryan and his party mean or contend that we should have relinquished our possession and right in the islands to Aguinaldo and the Tagals as soon as the treaty of Paris was ratified? Had we done so absolutely the islands would at once have been seized by some of the great powers of Europe, or, if not so seized, would have fallen into disintegration, anarchy and chaos, for even if the Tagals could, after a fashion, govern themselves, they would be wholly unequal to the task of governing all the islands, with so many savage and semi-civilized tribes as are there found.

"But it is said we should allow the Tagals to set up a government of their own, and then exercise a protectorate over them. To exercise a proper protectorate we would have to be responsible for their peace and good behavior, both at home and abroad, and this would require an army and navy of ours in that country, and we would find our task more difficult by reason of the character of the self-constituted Tagal government. We can much more easily exercise a protectorate and perform the function of a guardian by retaining them under our direct jurisdiction and by giving them such a government

Under Our Auspices,

as they are capable of digesting and fit to use and enjoy. There can be but three courses to pursue: Total abandonment, which would lead to foreign seizure or suicide, and would be dishonorable before God and man; a protectorate, which, because of the interest and desires of other nations and the peculiar character and status of the people of the islands and their environment, would be more burdensome and a more difficult task than having direct charge of the people and providing them a suitable government; and third, pacification and the establishment of a suitable government, under the direct auspices and supervision of the United States. The latter is the plan and purpose of the Republican party. One or the other of the two other plans—abandonment or a protectorate—must be the Democratic plan, if they have any plan, and this is the gist of their anti-imperialism.

"The Democracy will find it difficult to make a hero of Aguinaldo. They can hardly be serious when they compare him with George Washington and Simon Bolivar. He stands before the world as a double traitor. He was a traitor to the Spaniards when, after having abandoned his people and voluntarily expatriated himself for a pecuniary consideration, he again returned to Manila to join in a war on the Spaniards. He was a traitor to the United States when, after having returned to Manila by the permission of Dewey to aid in the expulsion of the Spaniards, he organized an insurrection against the authority of the United States. It was the presence of Dewey and our forces at Manila that made it possible for him to return and to organize his army. He came there under the protection of the American flag. He was not invited by Dewey to foment an insurrection or set up a hostile government. And what was there of his so-called Philippine republic? It was a mere military oligarchy, organized by Aguinaldo and a few of his Tagal chiefs, and such as it was it has already been scattered to the four winds. The insurrection has, in the main, spent its force and subsided into a petty guerrilla warfare by small isolated bands in remote hills, swamps and forests, who live by plunder, find protection in the rainy season, and fondly hope for Democratic success.

"In the meantime our authorities are maintaining peace and order, protecting life and property, and establishing local civil governments under the auspices and direction of the able commission recently appointed by the president. And by the time the ides of November roll around, the insurrection will be only a saga—a mere relic of history, and law and order will prevail in Luzon, and the Tagals will awake to the fact—which they have been slow to realize—that there is an immense difference between the administration of Spain and of the United States, and that our people will give them a far better and more liberal government than the Spaniards, or than they themselves could have secured through their

So-called Philippine Republic.

"To-day we can see—as we could never see before—how the Philippine islands not only give us vast commercial advantages in the East, together with the control of the open door, but also place us within easier reach than any other power save Japan to stretch out a protecting hand to our diplomatic and consular representatives and to our missionaries and other American citizens in China. Long before Germany can have an army and navy on hand to avenge the death of her minister, American men-of-war and American soldiers from nearby Manila are on hand to safeguard and protect the lives of American citizens.

"What a progress and what a history we have made since the Maine was sunk in the harbor of Havana. And all this grand progress and grand history the Democratic party calls 'imperialism.'

"The Revolutionary war, the Civil war, and the Spanish war are the three great epochs in our history. The first gave birth to the republic, the second established its vitality, and the third extended its blessings to distant climes and distant peoples. The Revolutionary war had its George Washington, the Civil war its Lincoln, and the Spanish war its McKinley. The task of our president has been Herculean, but he has acquitted himself of the same as a giant among the foremost statesmen of the world. He has acquitted himself of the same in the spirit of our great republic and as became its foremost citizen. There were men that were blind and could not see in the days of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, as there are to-day, but the record made will stand, for the present as for the past, an imperishable monument to the American people and their great statesmen.

"Next to their love for free silver and their dread of 'imperialism,' the Democrats claim is their hostility to trusts, monopolies and unlawful combinations. They not only assume to be the great anti-trust party, but they charge us with undue friendship for the trusts. Unfortunately for the Democratic party, the facts fail to support their contention. There are but three acts in our federal statutes that relate in any way to trusts, monopolies and unlawful combinations. The first of these is the so-called interstate commerce law of 1887—passed by a Democratic house and a Republican senate. In the nature of the case, its anti-trust provisions are limited to common carriers engaged in interstate commerce. Then there is the provision in the Democratic tariff act of 1894 prohibiting combinations between importers and others in respect to imports, or prices of the same; and this was the limit of Democratic legislation, though they had control of all departments of the government. But the principal and only general and

Comprehensive Anti-Trust Law.

is the act of 1890, commonly called the Sherman law, passed by a Republican congress. As interpreted by the supreme court of the United States, through a Democratic chief justice and other judges of the court, this law is good and valid and covers pretty nearly the entire field of federal jurisdiction. In its interpretation of this act the supreme court holds that, under the Constitution of the United States, federal authority is limited to commerce and traffic, between the several states, with foreign nations and with Indian tribes, and with the territories of the United States; and that commerce or traffic wholly within a state and beginning and ending there, and mere manufacture and production divested of interstate traffic are not within the scope of federal legislative power. (U. S. vs. Knight, 156 U. S.) Ours is a dual government—state and federal—and the federal government is one of limited powers, prescribed in the Constitution. The chief legislative power for controlling and regulating trusts rests with the several states. And there is only one of two ways open to secure complete legislative relief—so far as such relief is possible—and that is by getting every state in the Union to pass a strong and perfect anti-trust law, supplemental to federal legislation, which, owing to the varied and diversified industries and interests of the several states, is difficult to accomplish; or else by conferring upon the federal government, by constitutional amendment, greater power and authority in the premises. This last plan was attempted by the Republicans in the house of representatives in the last congress. A bill for a constitutional amendment giving the federal government greater power to regulate and control trusts, monopolies and unlawful combinations, was introduced by a Republican member and put to a vote, but failed to get the required two-thirds vote, although the Republicans voted for it in a body, because nearly the entire Democratic vote was solidly against it. On this occasion their old-time idol of state rights stood between the Democratic party and their assumed hostility to trusts. The house of representatives also passed at the last session of congress, under the auspices of the Republican party, a bill to enlarge, improve and strengthen the remedial features of the Sherman law. It came to the senate too late to be acted upon at that session, but I have no doubt it will be taken up and duly considered and acted on at the next session of congress. Here, then, is the federal legislative

Record of the Two Parties.

"The Republicans passed the Sherman law, passed a bill through the house to strengthen this law and made a thorough effort to pass a constitutional amendment to confer greater and much needed power upon the federal government for the control and regulation of trusts. The Democrats, on the other hand, passed the tariff act of 1894, embracing the anti-trust provision as to importers and imports, and opposed en masse the passage of the constitutional amendment which I have referred to. And both parties joined in passing the interstate commerce law. From this statement it is plain that, in the matter of anti-trust legislation, the balance is largely in favor of the Republican party, and that outside of their platform the Democrats make the poorest kind of a showing, and that, whatever may be their attitude on trusts in general, there is one trust they have a warm side for, and that is the silver trust.

"But I must pause. I have made these brief and perfunctory remarks to brush away some of the Democratic cobwebs that lie in the pathway of our honored guests—the National Republican league. The league and its work are not strangers to the Republicans of Minnesota. They will look to the efforts and co-operation of the league for assistance in the great mission of Republicanism, in the present campaign, as in the past, and they know that such assistance will be freely given and will be most effective. The league gathers up and focuses at the proper points all the ardor and enthusiasm of the younger members of our party, and in this work and on this line lies its great value. Our state is young, and though it has made great strides in its economic and industrial development it is still in its infancy, but in its ardor and love for the Republican party and its grand principles and great men it has attained full manhood and is second to none.

"On behalf of our state and on behalf of the Republicans of Minnesota and its Republican league I extend to all of you a most hearty and sincere welcome, and beg leave to assure you that Minnesota, which has never yet given an electoral vote for other than a Republican candidate will be true to her record next fall with greater zeal and greater volume than ever before."

GUESTS AND SERVANTS.

The Former Prone to Make Unjust Accusations.

"In disputes where the honesty of a house servant is involved, the guest is nearly always wrong," said an old hotel man, to whom the question was put in a slightly different form. "You see, when people are traveling, the customary routine of their lives has been temporarily upset and they are surrounded by all sorts of distractions. Under the circumstances it is only natural that they should be careless and forgetful, and that fact is at the bottom of nine-tenths of the alleged losses at hotels. Actual pilfering by house servants is so rare as to be almost unknown, and, in a lifelong experience in the hotel business, I have encountered only two or three proven cases. Some of the complaints we receive would make curious stories. Last Mardi Gras week, for instance, a lady guest came to my office the morning of her arrival and said she had been robbed of a pearl bracelet and a pocketbook containing $120, which she had left in a small valise while her room was being cleaned up. She was perfectly calm and told an extremely straightforward story. 'Just before I stepped out,' she said, 'I opened the valise and saw the purse and bracelet inside. When I returned they were gone. I shall look to you to recover them.'

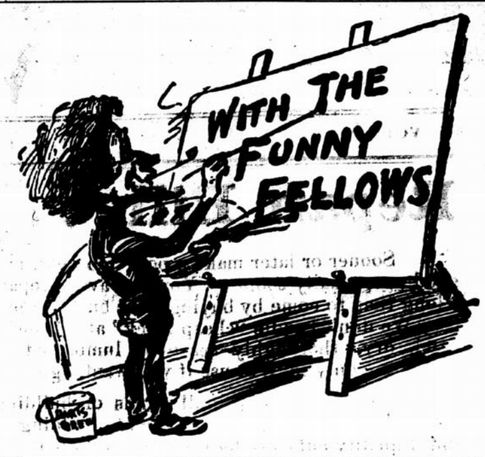
"We made a most exhaustive search without results. Two maids had been in the apartment at the time, but somehow I couldn't believe them guilty and wouldn't allow them to be molested. Meanwhile the lady was quiet but firm, and after several days elapsed told me she must have a settlement at once. I promised her a check that night, and less than an hour later I received a telegram from the proprietor of a hotel at Chattanooga, requesting me to tell Mrs. —— that she had left a purse and bracelet there, while en route to New Orleans. I was overjoyed and couldn't resist taking a little revenge. So I said nothing until the madame called for the check. Then I told her politely that I had become satisfied, upon reflection, that she had not left the articles in her room. 'Sir!' she exclaimed, turning scarlet, 'do you question my word?' 'Not in the least,' I replied; 'I merely question your memory.' 'But I tell you I saw the things,' she cried—opened the valise, looked at them—not ten minutes before I was robbed! I demand immediate payment and the arrest of these servants!' For answer I handed her the telegram, and spared her feelings by walking away. How do I account for such a case? Oh! merely self-deception. The lady was perfectly honest; she thought she saw the articles, but all the same she came very near ruining two entirely innocent and humble working people. By the way, she called me aside at her departure and told me she was grieved that she had placed the maids under suspicion. 'Just to show them I feel kindly,' she said, 'let them divide that between them.' She pressed a silver quarter into my hand."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Curiosities of Suicide.

At the conclusion of a recent inquest on John Brooks, an engineer of Upton Park Manor, who flung himself off the Royal Sovereign while the vessel was nearing Southend on her return journey from Margate, Mr. Wood, the deputy coroner, made some remarks calculated to surprise the uninitiated—but only the uninitiated. He said that apparently the case was one of those which made up the terrible epidemic of suicide in and near London recently. This is what students of psychology call "suicide through imitation," or, as Mr. Wood correctly termed it, "epidemical suicide." As a rule, though, civil communities are less prone to it than military ones. It has happened several times before now that a soldier having hanged himself in a barrack room, or having put a bullet through his brain in a sentry box, the drama was repeated for many days under similar conditions without the authorities being able to put a stop to the recurrence otherwise than by changing the regiment's quarters. The most notable case on record occurred in 1805, in the camp at Boulogne, when Napoleon was preparing, or pretending to prepare a descent upon England. The regiment was sent inland, and it was on that occasion the emperor enunciated the famous axiom in a general order, "the soldier who kills himself is practically a deserter." More than a quarter of a century later a dozen veterans hanged themselves in as many days from a nail in one of the corridors of the Hotel des Invalides, in Paris. The nail was removed and the epidemic ceased.—London Telegraph.

Bryan and Gold.

Bryan should not and ponder the statement of the director of the mint, which points out that the world's gold production for the calendar year 1899 will probably not fall short of $315,000,000. While Mr. Roberts is not yet able to furnish an authoritative statement of the output of the yellow metal for 1900, he asserts that all the indications go to show that, in spite of the stoppage of the flow from the South African mines, it is not likely to be less than last year's production, and he predicts that the total annual yield will soon reach $400,000,000. This does not seem unreasonable in view of the tremendous increase which the last few years have witnessed. The soil of the United States and Alaska alone turned out $71,000,000 in gold in 1899, which is more than half the amount which came from the mines of the whole globe in 1891. In 1896, when Bryan ran for the presidency, the world's yield of gold was $202,000,000. It has already increased over 50 per cent, and if Director Roberts is right in his forecast the increase will soon reach 100 per cent. The chief basis for the demand for the unlimited coinage of silver was the theory that the supply of gold was inadequate to afford a solid foundation for our currency. That argument has been conclusively refuted by events. It is no wonder that intelligent Democrats in all the great centers of trade and industry are beseeching their party leaders to drop the hopelessly defunct issue of 16 to 1.—Philadelphia Bulletin.



An Object of Consideration.

"Yassir,' said Erastus Pinkley, "when I made my appearance in dat convention, I was de object of mo' attention dan anybody else in de place. Dey riz up in dar seats when dey saw me comin' down de aisle."

"Did you make a speech?"

"No'ndeed; I had a bucket of ice water an' a glass."—Washington Star.

The Fever of Love.

They say that love is a fever,
Consuming night and day;
That from its sweet contagion
No mortal gets away!—
Yes, love's a fever every
Man soon or late endures—
A fever absent treatment
Invariably cures!
—Chicago Times-Herald.

A HAPPY COMPARISON.

Fatty Walker—Ever drink any uv this Pollynarris water?

Slimmy Rhodes—Yep.

Fatty Walker—How did it taste?

Slimmy Rhodes—Jist like yer foot wuz asleep.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

The Mystery Solved.

She never smiles. Has frowning grief
With bonds of iron bound her?
Has care a long, lean finger raised,
To cast some spell around her?
Has one so young the lesson learned,
That true love is oft betrayed?
Ah, no! She never smiles because—
Her front teeth are decayed.
—Chicago Daily News.

In French.

Kendrick (who for two months has been studying French)—Say, Sutton, I can write a good letter in French now.

Sutton—H'm! Is that so? Well, you may be able to write a good letter in French, but I don't believe you can write a letter in good French.—Boston Transcript.

Proof.

"Did you say that trusts were the means of raising wages?"

"Certainly," answered Senator Sorghum. "I know the president of a combination who has raised his salary four times in the last two years."—Washington Star.

A Great Saving.

Aunt Dinah—Whatfoah you weahs brack, Deacon Ebony? You am not a widower.

Deacon Ebony—I is economcial, honey. One brush do me foah a hat brush, ha'r brush, clothes brush, shoe brush and flesh brush.—N. Y. Weekly.

A Discrepancy.

This thing they call money's a mystery stern.
The study—there's no way of ending it.
It's something that takes days of toiling to earn,
But a minute's sufficient for spending it.
—Washington Star.

Next to His Worst Habit

"Your husband, I presume, like many other men, is addicted to the coffee habit?"

"Yes, but I don't mind that as much as I do his clove habit."—Chicago Tribune.

BREAKING IT GENTLY.

"Mummy, is that indelible ink that daddy's got in his studio?"

"No. Why?"

"Because I've spilt it all over the carpet!"—Ally Sloper.

Even There.

And so, alas! she died, and when
She'd passed the pearly gate,
She asked a sister-angel there:
"Say! are my wings on straight?"
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Sympathetic.

Proud Mother (discussing her daughter, who is singing in the next room)—Such enormous sums as we have spent on Clara's voice!

Sympathetic Neighbor—And can you really do nothing for it?—N. Y. World.

A Test.

Jagway—Did you have a good time at that stag dinner the other night?

Toperly—The greatest time I ever had! Why, I can't remember a thing that happened.—Brooklyn Life.

Too Much Tinkering.

Mrs. Winks—I see the question of omitting the word "obey" from the marriage service is up again.

Mrs. Minks—Yes, it's perfectly abominable the way they are tinkering at the marriage service. They'll be leaving out "love and honor" next, and bring the beautiful sacrament down to a commonplace civil contract. Well, I must be going. I want to take this bundle to the tailor's before his place is shut up. It is some of my husband's duds, which he told me to mend, but I think I see myself. Good-by, dear.—N. Y. Weekly.

The Acorn and the Oak.

"When I heard your son reading his graduation essay I could not help thinking of the mighty oak and the little acorn.

"Why? He didn't mention them anywhere in his paper.

"No. But the grandeur of his style and the way he held himself kept reminding me of the mighty oak."

"And where did the acorn come in?"

"You were there, you know."—Chicago Times-Herald.

A Life of Excitement.

City Cousin—But don't you find it dreadfully dull?

Country Cousin—Dull? The idea! Why, there's the Epworth league one evening; and class meeting, another; and prayer meeting always on Wednesdays; and the Dorcas meeting, and the other means of grace. There's almost always something exciting going on after supper.—Brooklyn Life.

Her Comparison.

Mrs. Meeks—I'm afraid that young man who is courting our daughter doesn't amount to much.

Mr. Meeks—Why do you think that, my dear?

Mrs. Meeks—I really don't know why—unless it's because he reminds me so much of you.—Chicago Daily News.

Life Is Sweet.

"This world is but a fleeting show,"
And yet there's not a man
But wants to see as much of the
Performance as he can.
—Philadelphia Press.

TRUTH DEARER THAN GLORY.

"Ah, so youah name is Gawge; named after Gawge Washington, I suppose."

"Yes, a long time after."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

A Disquieting Thought.

The bird sits moping on the bough,
And takes it rather ill
That he, forsooth, is killed to dress
The girl that dressed to kill.
—Detroit Journal.

Hardly to Be Expected.

Mrs. McGorry—Harrity, who was killed by bein' blown two hoondred feet in the air by an explosion, left a woife an' noine children, didn't he?

McGorry—He did thot. He hod no toime to make provisions for takin' 'em wid him.—Judge.

Why He Was Proud.

Magistrate (to prisoner)—You are charged with beating your wife.

Prisoner—Yes, yer honor, an' I'm proud of it.

Magistrate—Proud of it?

Prisoner—Because, yer honor, she weighs 20 pound more'n me.—Tit-Bits.

Unnecessary.

Mrs. Hiram Offen—Dinah, I hope you didn't forget to wash the fish before you put it in to bake.

New Servant—Mah Lan'! Whut fur Ah gwine wash a fish, dat's a-libin' in de wahtah all hits life? — Catholic Standard and Times.

Wilfully Misunderstood.

Mrs. Strongmind—Women would not be the blind slaves of a party. They would be quite ready to scratch candidates.

Prof. Sneers—Shouldn't wonder. I suppose they would even use hat pins.—Brooklyn Life.

A Clash at Arms.

Marie—How d'ye do, Isabel? I would have spoken sooner, but I didn't know you.

Young Woman Who Resembles Isabel—Beg pardon; my name's not Isabel, so you don't know me yet.—Chicago Record.

Not Just What He Meant.

"Her face," he said, desiring to voice his admiration of her frankness and honesty, "is like an open book."

"Yes," replied her dearest friend, "she does talk a good deal."—Chicago Post.

Defective Page