

# WHO OWNS THE COUNTRY

## Uncle Sam or John D. Rockefeller.

A Few More Years and We Will all be "Flowers of Wood and Drawers of Water."

[By Frederick Upham Adams.]

"I have been making a rough calculation," said Col. Monroe, studying a slip of paper covered with figures, "and it looks to me as if Mr. Rockefeller were worth more in wealth than our old friend Uncle Sam."

"That cannot be possible," declared Judge Sawyer. "Do you mean to say that the assets of the National Government do not foot up to more than a billion of dollars?"

"That's the way I figure it," answered the Colonel, "but it is possible that I am in error. The various departments do not make an annual inventory or issue statements giving the money value of the property under their control, so it is impossible to say just what Uncle Sam is actually worth in dollars and cents, but I am satisfied that it is less than a billion. In other words, we have lived to see the day when one private citizen can list more property than the Government of what claims to be the most powerful nation on the face of the globe."

"I thought that our navy alone cost more than a billion," said Postmaster Jenkins.

"Well, it didn't," said Col. Monroe. "In this instance we have the figures, and they show that the cost of the 163 vessels which constitute our navy was about \$178,000,000. If we add the various navy yards and other property, the total may be placed at \$200,000,000. Mr. Rockefeller could duplicate our navy five times and have plenty of money left. There are 143 custom-houses, but they certainly did not cost more than \$60,000,000. I don't believe that all the post offices in the country cost more than \$100,000,000, but to be on the safe side we will call the item \$150,000,000."

"There are 75,000 post-offices in this country," declared Jenkins, proud to display his knowledge.

And at least 70,000 of them, including this one here in Lincolnville, are located in buildings rented by the Government," returned Col. Monroe. "This amount I have named would rebuild all of the post office structures owned by the Government. If the army has \$100,000,000 worth of property I do not know where it is. Suppose we put the forts in at the same figure, and add an extra hundred million for the lighthouses and life-saving Bureau. What else is there?"

"The public buildings in Washington," suggested Judge Sawyer. "They constitute quite an item."

"Not when you are dealing in billions," said the Colonel. "I would like to take a contract to duplicate the National Capitol and all of the department buildings, including the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum, for the sum of \$75,000,000, but in order to be on the safe side, we will call it \$100,000,000. What else is there?"

"The public school buildings," suggested Postmaster Jenkins, after a pause.

"There is the biggest item of all. Why, the school buildings alone must have cost more than \$1,000,000,000!"

"In the first place, place the National Government does not own the public school buildings and in the second place their value is far less than \$1,000,000,000," asserted Col. Monroe. "I cannot state, off hand, the number of these buildings, but I do recall that there are about 430,000 teachers. Let us assume that there are more than 800,000 school buildings and then see how many of them we can build with \$1,000,000,000. First we will erect fifty, each costing \$1,000,000. Then we will build fifty more, each costing \$500,000. Then we will contract for 200 buildings at an average price of \$250,000; 1,000 school buildings at an average price of \$100,000, and 10,000 school buildings at an average cost price of \$25,000. This is a great country, Jenkins, and we are properly proud of our public school system and of the lavish way in which we have expended money on them; but do you think that there are many fine school buildings on earth?"

"There are not 100 cities in the United States which can show a school edifice costing \$100,000, and there are not 1,000 which can boast of \$25,000 school structures."

"But we will let the figures stand as I had them, I wish to show you what Mr. Rockefeller could do with his \$1,000,000,000. Now, we will put up 23,000 school buildings at a cost of \$45,000 each; 100,000 buildings, each costing \$1,000, and 200,000 at an average expense of \$500. That would be enough to house all of the children in the United States."

"I'll bet you are way over your \$1,000,000,000!" exclaimed Jenkins looking over the Colonel's shoulder as he tabulated his estimates.

"Perhaps so, but I have been very liberal," said Col. Monroe, jutting down the figures. "Of course the school property of the United States is not so extensive as that for which I have allowed, but \$1,000,000,000 is an awful sum of money, and I think I am inside of it."

### ONIONS

#### The Way They Are Grown in Clackamas County.

One of the biggest and the best industries in Clackamas county and in fact in the Willamette valley in the onion industry. It pays more for the labor put into it and for the capital invested than almost any other industry in which a man can engage in this part of the world.

Onion land is very high priced land and is usually what is known in local parlance as Beaver Dam land. That means as the merest tyro ought to know that it is land built up by beavers in their great industry in the construction of homes for themselves. While out hunting on last Thursday the attention of the editor of the Courier was called to a five acre tract of Beaver Dam Land just out from Barlow, this county, at the rise of the hill on ones way to Mackburg or more properly speaking on ones way to Polk Gribble's or S. M. Marks.

The Colonel figured for a minute in silence and then handed a slip of paper to Judge Sawyer. On it was the following tabulation:

#### A NATIONAL SYSTEM OF SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS ERECTED AT AN EXPENSE OF LESS THAN A BILLION OF DOLLARS.

50 buildings at \$1,000,000 each.....	\$50,000,000
50 " " " 500,000 each.....	25,000,000
200 " " " 250,000 each.....	50,000,000
1,000 " " " 100,000 each.....	100,000,000
10,000 " " " 25,000 each.....	250,000,000
25,000 " " " 8,000 each.....	200,000,000
100,000 " " " 2,500 each.....	250,000,000
200,000 " " " 500 each.....	100,000,000
330,300 school buildings.....	\$600,000,000

"You will observe that I have a margin which would be sufficient to duplicate all of the great universities and colleges in the country," said Col. Monroe. "This gives one an idea of what a billion of dollars means. If we allow each of these buildings a plot of ground with a frontage of 100 feet—the average width of a school lot—we would have a row of them 6,370 miles long. It would form a street lined on both sides with school buildings extending from New York to San Francisco. This is one thing that Mr. Rockefeller could do with the money he has earned since he evolved the trust theory of industry."

"That is the most astounding illustration of the significance of a billion of dollars that I ever heard given," declared Judge Sawyer. "It seems almost incredible! Are you sure there is not some mistake in your figures, Colonel?"

"You can verify or disprove them at your leisure, but I think you will find them accurate," replied Col. Monroe.

"It enables one to understand Mr. Carnegie, who has only a paltry quarter of a billion at his disposal, is able to give away hundreds and thousands of library buildings and hardly impair his original holdings. We know that Mr. Carnegie is worth from \$250,000,000 to \$400,000,000. He not only admits it, but is proving it. Compared with Mr. Rockefeller he is a man in modest circumstances. I very doubt much if Mr. Carnegie could buy out Uncle Sam. I was attempting to show that Mr. Rockefeller could do this when our friend Jenkins interrupted with his school proposition. You still think, do you not, Jenkins, that a man is entitled to all that he can get?"

"I don't know what to think," said Jenkins, gazing hopelessly at the figures. "My head is all in a whirl! Your figures must all be wrong, Colonel. No man can be worth so much money as that."

"Mr. Rockefeller received known dividends in an amount exceeding \$40,000,000 during the last year," stated Col. Monroe. "That is at the rate of 4 per cent on a billion of dollars, and in these days that is a fair rate of interest. There is no more doubt that Mr. Rockefeller possesses more than a billion dollars' worth of paying property than there is that I own this postoffice building, and get rent from the government. But we are attempting to find out about how much Uncle Sam is worth. His principal assets are in the navy, the custom houses, postoffice buildings, army supplies, etc., forts, lighthouses and public buildings in Washington. Let's see how much they all figure up to on a rough estimate."

Col. Monroe was busy for several minutes, finally handing to Judge Sawyer the following table:

ESTIMATED ASSETS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.	
Navy.....	\$200,000,000
Customhouses.....	50,000,000
Post-office buildings.....	150,000,000
Army supplies and stations.....	100,000,000
Ports and arsenals.....	100,000,000
Lighthouses and life-saving service.....	100,000,000
National Capitol and public buildings in Washington.....	100,000,000
Total.....	\$800,000,000

"You see that there is a balance sufficient to cover many scattered items," said Col. Monroe. "I very much doubt if an expert appraiser could discover assets in excess of the amount I have named. We, therefore, are the living witnesses to something never before experienced since the development of civilization, viz: a private citizen secure in the possession of more property than collectively owned by the nation of which he is a member. One man has legal and valid title to more property than is required to protect and conserve the better, liberty, safety and orderly administration of the affairs of 80,000,000 of people."

"Perhaps Mr. Rockefeller will buy the Government," suggested Postmaster Jenkins.

"Possibly," assented Col. Monroe. "Again, it is possible that the Government will buy Mr. Rockefeller. It is inevitable that one or the other buys or sells."

This little farm was fenced off to itself and is owned by a man by the name of W. H. Seward. This year he cultivated just two and one half acres of land in onions and harvested 2,340 bushels of as fine onions as every grew out of the ground. He bought this land from Cass Barlow off of the old Barlow place and paid for it at the rate of \$200 per acre. It is doubtful if he would now take twice that much per acre for his portion. He raised everything else in proportion to his onions, pease, cabbage, tomatoes and potatoes and all did equally well on this remarkably fine soil. Mr. Seward has a large family and lived in a small and unpretentious residence but in a few years if the onion crop continues to grow in such enormous quantities he will live in a mansion and own a fine farm of 100 acres or more.

A joker on an Iowa paper tells of a man that kicked over a hive of bees for spite and is now suffering with the stings of remorse.

# YOUR KIDNEYS ARE THEY WELL?

**Unless they are, good health is impossible.**

Every drop of blood in the body passes through and is filtered by healthy kidneys every three minutes. Sound kidneys strain out the impurities from the blood, diseased kidneys do not, hence you are sick. FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE makes the kidneys well so they will eliminate the poisons from the blood. It removes the cause of the many diseases resulting from disordered kidneys which have allowed your whole system to become poisoned.

Rheumatism, Bad Blood, Gout, Gravel, Dropsy, Inflammation of the Bladder, Diabetes and Bright's Disease, and many others, are all due to disordered kidneys. A simple test for kidney disease is to set aside your urine in a bottle or glass for twenty-four hours. If there is a sediment or a cloudy appearance, it indicates that your kidneys are diseased, and unless something is done they become more and more affected until Bright's Disease or Diabetes develops.

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE is the only preparation which will positively cure all forms of Kidney and Bladder troubles, and cure you permanently. It is a safe remedy and certain in results.

**If You are a sufferer, take FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE at once. It will make you well.**

**Some Pronounced Incurable**

Mr. G. A. Stillson, a merchant of Tampico, Ill., writes: "FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE is meeting with wonderful success. It has cured some cases here that physicians pronounced incurable. I myself am able to testify to its merits. My face today is a living picture of health and FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE has made it such."

**Had Lumbago and Kidney Trouble**

Edward Huss, a well known business man of Salisbury, Mo., writes: "I wish to say for the benefit of others, that I was a sufferer from lumbago and kidney trouble, and all the remedies I took gave me no relief. I began to take FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE, and after the use of three bottles I am cured."

**Two Sizes, 50 Cents and \$1.00.**

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CHARMAN & CO., Oregon City, Ore.

### Around Hubbard

ONE OF THE FINEST COUNTRIES IN OREGON IS FOUND.

The People Are Prosperous, the Crops Abundant, the Improvements Substantial.

One day last week it was the privilege of the editor of the Courier with dog and gun to visit the village of Hubbard, seventeen miles south of Oregon City on the Southern Pacific Railroad. While the primary object of the trip was to bag a few China pheasants and other game that might come in the way, we also desired to visit once again the village in which we had the pleasure of "teaching the young ideas how to shoot" now nineteen years ago. We were the guests of Mayor Grant B. Dimick, whose old home is within two miles of the peaceful village of Hubbard on the Pudding river and Milton Kester, a prominent farmer of the village with whom we roomed in the days now long gone by.

With Mr. Kester and his good dog we tramped the fertile wheat stubbles and potato fields and gardens of the Pudding river valley for more than half a day with fairly good luck, four China pheasants, a mallard duck and some smaller game being the part that fell to the scribe. An excellent dinner prepared by Mrs. Dimick added to the pleasures of the outing.

One who tramps on foot through this part of the valley can not but be impressed with the fertility of the soil and the abundance of the crops in the vicinity of Hubbard and the general thriftiness of the people who happen to have their homes in that locality. New and well painted homes, large and fruitful orchards, broad grain fields, and potatoes without end or limit. In the town of Hubbard a half dozen new houses have been erected this year including three new store houses and several residences. In addition the school district is just bringing to completion a fine graded school building which will have four school rooms and will employ for the present three teachers. Hubbard has three churches and an Odd Fellows lodge and a lodge of Knights of Pythias. The big crops of this locality are hops, potatoes, wheat, oats, barley, onions and onion sets, prunes, hay, clover seed, apples and other fruits. Down in the lower Pudding river bottom there are many hundreds of acres of what is known as muck land or baver dam land. This land overflows in the winter season but grows the most abundant crops to be found any where. It is practically inexhaustible. This year John Dimick, who has recently been admitted to the bar and who has now located in Salem, grew 50,000 pounds of onions and onion sets all of which he will market at a fine price. Mr. Chapman on whose farm we had the pleasure of hunting, harvested a large field of oats that run eight bushels to the acre. The oats were as high as a horse's back. Everything else grows in the proportion.

We passed through the apple orchard of Mr. George Dimick. All young trees and all full of the finest of apples. He markets all of the sound nice specimens and cans and makes cider out of the defective ones that would not keep.

The land in the neighborhood of Hubbard is worth from fifty to \$100 per acre and much of the beaver dam land along the Pudding river bottom is worth quite a good deal more and much of it can not be bought at all as it will pay for itself in a single season with a fair onion crop.

The people in the neighborhood of Hubbard are of nearly all races and from many different states. Some old timers who hold donation land claims such as the Dimick farms are yet living here. During recent years many Swedes and Germans and Scandinavians have come into this fertile valley and they are not only making good citizens but are materially building up the country.

To Mr. Kester and his wife as well as to the Dimick family we are under many obligations for courtesies extended.

Gained Forty Pounds in Thirty Days

For several months our younger brother had been troubled with indigestion. He tried several remedies but got no benefit from them. We purchased some of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and he commenced taking them. Inside of thirty days he had gained forty pounds in flesh. He is now fully recovered. We have good trade on the Tablets—Holly Bros., Merchants, Long Branch, Mo. For sale by G. A. Harding.

### A Typical South African Store.

O. R. Larson, of Bay Villa, Sunda River, Cape Colony, conducts a store typical of South Africa, at which can be purchased anything from the proverbial "needle to an anchor." This store is situated in a valley nine miles from the nearest railway station and about twenty five miles from the nearest town. Mr. Larson says: "I am favored with the custom of farmers within a radius of thirty miles, to many of whom I have supplied Chamberlain's remedies. All testify to their value in a household where a doctor's advice is almost out of the question. Within one mile of my store the population is perhaps sixty. Of these, within the past twelve months no less than fourteen have been absolutely cured by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. This must surely be a record." For sale by G. A. Harding.

"Thank the good Lord!" exclaims a Georgia philosopher, "the railroad's done cut off dad's left leg, an' the mortgage is took off the mule!" Atlanta Constitution.

For the latest novelties in all kinds of laces and dress trimmings there is no store in Oregon City like the Fair. They sell men's underwear at the Fair at Rediculously low prices considering the values. An investigation will prove the truth of both the above statements.

**The Fair Store**  
M. ROBINSON, Prop'r.

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**Sweet Spirits of Eden**

Remedies that will positively cure any case of Rheumatism, no matter how severe or how long standing. In case anyone is not cured, the California Co-Operative Medical Company, of Oakland, will refund the purchase price.

Call at Huntley Bros. for free booklet.

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Food doesn't digest well? Appetite poor? Bowels distipated? Tongue coated? your liver! Ayer's Pills for liver pills; they cure dyspepsia, biliousness.

25c. All druggists.

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**Whiskies, and Cigars**  
All goods bought in bond. Purity and quality guaranteed.  
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We carry the only complete line of Caskets, Coffins, Robes and Linings in Clackamas County. We have the only First-Class Hearse in the County, which we will furnish for less than can be had elsewhere. Embalming a Specialty. Our prices always reasonable. Satisfaction guaranteed.  
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has stood the test 25 years. Average Annual Sales over One and a Half Million bottles. Does this record of merit appeal to you? No Cure, No Pay. 50c. Enclosed with every bottle is a Free Little Package of Grove's Back Root, Liver Pills.