Issues for Campaign Discussion included in the Word.

GOVERNOR GEER AT ASHLAND

Sound American and Highly Inter esting Speech Delivered Before a Large Audience.

ASHILAND, Or., Oct. 1.-Governor Geer opened the Republican campaign in this city last Saturday. He was favored by one of the largest audiences that ever gathered in this section on a like occa-The speaker was at his best, and delivered a sound American and highly interesting address, which commanded close attention throughout. Governor

Geer's remarks were as follows: The few questions worthy of discussion in this campaign are fully included in the one word, "Bryanism." "Bryanism" is the paramount issue. A few years ago was a Populist party, that had welldefined ideas on some public questions, and was chamoring loudly for their adop-tion. The land was filled with the cries of that organization for the issuance of paper money by the general Government "direct to the people," and material out of which it was made was wholly immaterial. All that was required was "the stamp of the Government," and an amount equal to \$50 per capita, and the financial millennium was at hand. Back in those halcyon days there was a convention held in Omaha by the National Populist party, and for years thereafter no political discussion was possible with out an extended consideration of the demands of the "Omaha platform." has become of the Omaha platform, my Populist brother? Why, just at the time when your party began to be a positive factor in National politics, to control sev-eral states, and to cause some very good "view with alarm" its steady growth, Mr. Bryan appeared on the scene, fused with, or, rather absorbed the Populist party, discarded the Omaha platform, and today all there is of the Populist party is embodied in the person of Mr. Bryan, and is described by the word Bryanism. That distinguished gentleman has squeiched the Populist party, destroyed the Omaha platform, and since his ascendancy, not a word has been uttered in the United States by anybody, anywhere, in favor of "paper money the rmount of \$50 per capita."

And so completely is Bryanism the paramount issue that not even does the lay member of the Populist party venture to talk about that cardinal, but discard-ed "paramountcy" of his old-time plat-

But what of Democracy as it was once known in this country? It has been so completely absorbed within the last four years by Bryanism that not a Democrat in the entire country dares express an idea until he has consulted Mr. Bryan and ascertained what he thinks about it. The Kansas City convention strongly desired to leave the platform uncommitted to the free-sliver heresy, and would have done so, but for the flerce protestations of Mr. Bryan, who, at his home in Nebraska, nly warned the convention that in that event they would have to look else re for a candidate. More than that, he did not propose to allow another didate nominated, but by telegraph informed the convention of trembling sub-jects that, unless his imperial decree should be recognized, he would appear on the scene in person and force it into the This seemed to bring the otherwise unwilling convention to realiza-tion of its subserviency to the dictates of the one man, and the free-silver idea was indorsed, but not until ex-Benator Hill had declared that he thought "imrialism as objectionable in a man as

Bryan an Imperial Dictator. Even then it would have falled but for the vote of Hawaii, one of our "colonial adopted running dependencies" in the Pacific, where the flag has gone without the Constitution. ism—alone made it possible for Mr. Bryan in order that we could the better treat to succeed in his role as imperial dicta with the Filipinos, for if they had alter to 6,000,000 American freemen. So ready vanquished Spain they did not need Bryanism was triumphant, and Mr. Hill any one to treat with them. and his 46 per cent of dissenters from the had already acquired their independence sliver heresy went home and are being why did Mr. Bryan want to "deal with silver heresy went home and are being governed without their consent, on the money question, by an imperial decree from Nebraska. Nothing like this has perhaps before occurred in American his-tory. Men supposed to be free in thought and action fall down before his commands like abject vassals. During the Philip-pine War the Cincinnati Enquirer, the leading Democratic paper in the West, said: "Aguinaldo will have to behave himself. The country will take no step backwards. The Spaniards have hinted that we are dealing with a people that will have to be exterminated to keep them from making trouble. Well, we cannot stop now even at extermination

But Bryanism now says that the issue of imperialism will probable carry more votes than any other that could be named, and the Enquirer changes base and ilkens Aguinalde to George Wash-

"Aguinaldo's men are now attempting to carry out a programme of savagery. They are making war by incendiarism and assarsination, and if they could gain ssion of Manila, a carnival of ra-slaughter and conflagration would horrify the world. We must crush this assassins once for all. Aguinaldo and his followers are simply bands of Indians, and must be dealt with as we would deal with a tribe of renegate

But since Bryanism has said that it will be necessary to erect a scarecrow of imperialism in order to have any chance whatever to elect its chief to the Presidency, young Mr. Hearst hastens to com-

pare the cause of Aguinaldo to that of the Revolutionists of '76. As the campaign proceeds, however, the absurdity of the cry of "imperialism" be-comes more apparent, and is already los ing its interest to the general public. Mr. Bryan himself is drifting away from its discussion and essays to talk more and more about trusts, as his record in the matter of securing the ratification of the treaty with Spain is being presented to the people. His excuse for indorsing the ratification of the treaty by the terms of which we secured the absolute title to the Philippines is that we would be in better condition to deal with the Fillpinos. But many of the followers of Bryan are now claiming that when the treaty was ratified the Filipinos had already gained the possession of the islands, and that Spain had nothing to sell. But what Mr. Bryan was doing in Washington, securing all the Democratic votes he could for a treaty paying \$30,-000,000 to a power for something that power did not own, has not yet been in-

telligently explained Portland "Anti-Imperialists."

There are a few men in Portland who term themselves "anti-imperialists," and who recently essayed to reply to President McKinley's letter of acceptance. In the course of their effort the statement is made that "when President McKinley instructed the Paris Commission to pur-chase the Philippine Islands from Spain, Spain had possession of no part of them. The Filipinos had themselves largely conquered the possession of the entire archi-pelago, save the City and Bay of Manila, and that was held by the United States."

And yet Mr. Bryan was so far led astray from the facts in the case that he urged with all his power the ratification of the treaty which furported to purchase from Spain property which she gust 22, he said: "We have no title to

ALL IN BRYANISM astray. His action was in exact accord with the deception which he always employs. In his speech at Indianapolis he said; "I believe we are now in a better condition to wage a successful war against imperialism than we would have been if the treaty had been rejected."
This sentence reveals Bryanism in all its varied characteristics. According to Bryan, if there had been no treaty with Bryan, if there had been no treaty with Spain by which we purchased the sover-eignty to the Philippines, there would have been no "imperialism" to "wage a war against." He knew we were buying the absolute title to the islands, and he knew that if we let them alone there would have been no chance for "a con-test against imperialism." Did he want, therefore a contest of that kind upon therefore, a contest of that kind upon which to make a demagogic issue for the Presidency, and did he insist on spending \$20,000,000 on a nation that had nothing to sell, for the purpose of buying an issue upon which to "fool the people" in a race for the Presidency? Is that the sort of a man the "reform forces" are trying to foist upon the people as their Chief Executive?

But further on in the same speech he gives as an additional reason for spend-ing \$20,000,000 of the "people's money" upon a nation that had no right to the thing paid for: "If the treaty had been rejected, considerable time would neces-sarily have elapsed before a new treaty could have been agreed upon, and during that time the question would have been agitating the public mind.' The annals of American politics reveal no more revolting instance of intentional duplicity than this confession. Suppose the treaty had been rejected; could not another have been proposed leaving the Philippines en-tirely out of the consideration? And if their acquisition was to mean imperial ism and the overthrow of the Republic and the destruction of our liberties, and the general destruction of liberty on this Western Hemisphere, would not a patriot who really thought all this would follow their purchase have preferred to let "considerable time clapse" in the effort to secure a treaty ignoring the islands altogether? The objectionable feature of the treaty, he said, was the acquisition of the Philippines, and but for his efforts in Washington it would have been easily defeated, but he volunteered his presence there in order to insure the payment of \$20 000 000 for "an issue of imperialism," in order that there might be an opportunity to "wage a successful contest against it"!

Bryan Ratifies the Treaty. And then his patriotic heart revolted at the idea that "the public mind would be agitated" over the rejection of a treaty that provided payment of \$20,900,000 for an island that was directly to change our form of government, wrest our liberties from us, name all our sons Absalom, destroy the principles of the Decla-ration of Independence and make slaves of us all! How careful Mr. Bryan has always been not to "agitate the public mind!" In order to prevent such a catastrophe he would journey all the way to Washington, labor diligently with his low-Democrats in the Senate to secure the ratification of a treaty that was to lead to a "colonial policy" through im-perialism and erect an emptre on the ruins of the Republic. And this was all done through a patriotic desire to avoid "agitating the public mind!"
According to Colonel Bryan, when the

treaty was presented for ratification he found himself confronted by a great re-sponsibility. Here was a treaty that disponsibility. Here was a treaty that directly proposed to change the form of our government and destroy the last vestige of liberty on this continent, for our Republic is the hope of the continent. And it proposed to pay, for the privilege of doing it, \$20,000,000 to a country that had no such privilege to sell! This was had no such privilege to sell! This was worse than anything else that could be thought of, excepting one other thing, and that was to have "the public mind agi-tated." Now, since Mr. Bryan's aversion to having the public mind agitated is so well known no one need be surprised that he chose rather to pay \$20,000,000 for a despotism than continuance of a Republic suported by a people, whose minds, on account of the rejection of such treaty, might be "agitated." This is his reason for supporting the treaty, as he explains it to the public, and is as clear as mud. It must be specially satisfactors to the public below the public of the public tory to those who enjoy being humbugged over and over again by the man who had adopted running for the Presidency as a

And no refuge from this sophistry can them according to American principles?" Why pay \$20,000,000 for an island, the peo-ple of which were free, in order to "deal with them?" unless it was accompanied with a desire to inject an issue of "im-perialsm" into American politics for partisan purposes.

Imperialism a Last Resort. Since Mr. Bryan's reason for support-

ing the treaty has been made public the demagoguery which actuated him, if he .ells the truth, stands out in bolder relief than ever. It is likely, however, that he was honest at the time and sincerely desired, as did the Cincinnati Enquirer, the New York Journal, Richard Croker and many other leading Democrats at the time, the acquisition of the Philippines. The cry of imperialism has been raised as a last resort in an otherwise hopeless campaign. It has fallen flat and And the New York Journal, which is now the chief supporters of Bryanism in the United States, said:

"Application"

"Applicati danger of imperialism in this country, nor one who thinks he believes there is. There is no semblance of it anywhere nor the shadow of a semblance. It is the sheerest nonsense ever attempted to be injected into a political campaign, and since Mr. Bryan has attempted to give the since Mr. Bryan has attempted to give the reasons for his alarm it has become absolutely ludicrous. It requires two people or parties who differ on some proposition to make an "issue," Neither one man nor one party can arbitrarily make a "paramount issue." We have a man in the asylum, at Salem, who imagines he is the President of the United States. With him it is the paramount issue, and he spends a great deal of time discussing the question. When others are not too busy with real issues he is listened to good naturedly, but the only question of importance, after all, to the management, is to see that the fellow is properly restrained.

When, for humanity's sake war was be gun against Spain, in Cuba, and the Asiatic squadron was ordered to the Philip-pine Islands and Dewey instructed to destroy the Spanish fleet, the procedure was indorsed by every man, woman and child in the United States, although it was thousands of miles from where the trouble existed we were fighting about. In the treaty of peace we paid \$20,000,000 to Spain and took an absolute title to the Islands under precisely the same circumstances as we acquired Texas and California. Mr. Bryan made a sepcial trip to Washington in order to "round up" as many Democratic Senators as pos-sible in support of the proposition, which, he now claims was a long stride towards the destruction of the Republic. That he was honest at that time in believing it a good thing for the country is probably true and that he has become absolutely insincere in assuming his present attitude is quite certain. The proof of this assertion consists in the many declarations of his chief supporters, which are a matter of record, that the acquisi-tion of the Philippines was to be highly commended and was a wise piece of di-plomacy. In a speech at Wheeling, W. Va., on September 6, he said: "You ask me who is responsible for the shedding of American blood in the Philippines, and I say that that party is responsible for the shedding of American blood that is responsible for a treaty that makes freemen of the Cubans and tried to make

the Philippine Islands according to the Declaration of Independence. In the first place, Spain had no title, and, in the second place we cannot buy people." Yet he advocated the payment of \$20,000,000 to a nation that "had no title" to convey, with no better reason than he can now give, and an opportunity to shout "im-perialism" in a Presidential campaign. In the same speech he said: "I want the American flag to come down from the Philippine Islands in order that the flag of a republic might rise in its place." It is here distinctly stated, that, in his opin-ion, the American flag is not the flag of a republic but is already the emblem of an empire. These repeated assaults on our institutions, indulged in from day to day by Mr. Bryan are largely responsible

for the continuation of the armed hostilifor the continuation of the armed nostli-ties against the American Army in the Philippines. Only the other day a couple of returned soldiers from the Philippines who were passing through the Williamette Valley on their way East stated that it was a common thing to see printed notices on the trees there giving encouragement to the rebels to hold out until "their friend, Bryan," is elected in November, when he will see that their independence is granted. These men stated that the reports of Filipino hope for Bryan's success are not made for campaign purposes, for they had seen hun-dreds of such printed notices.

Indeed, Mr. Bryan publicly announces himself a sympathizer with them in their hostility to the American flag, which he declares is not the flag af a republic, and gives all the comfort he can to those who are firing upon it and its defenders. Why any considerable portion, or any portion of the American people will vote for a man who makes such public utterances, is difficult to understand. For precisely such work as this in 1863 President Lincoln ordered Vallandigham banished from this country. There is no difference what. this country. There is no difference what-ever between the two cases. By the way, it is to be observed that no reference to this highly patroitic action of Mr. Lin-coln has been made by Mr. Bryan. Val-landigham had been denouncing the Government in similar bitter terms as those employed by Mr. Bryan, denouncing the Army, the cause for which it was fighting, as Mr. Bryan is, and discouraging the enlistment of volunteers, as Mr. Bryan is. For this unpatriotic course he was ar-rested and sentenced to confinement in some military fortress in the United States. President Lincoln commuted this sentence to banishment among his friends in the rebol states and he was sent thith-er. Horatic Seymour, who was at the time the Democratic Governor of New York, denounced the action of Mr. Lincoln as one "which has brought dishonor on our courtry," and added that "if this proceeding is approved by the Government and sanctioned by the people it is not merely a step toward revolution, it is revolution. It will not only lead to military despotism, is establishes military despotism." And to show their utter contempt for Mr. Lincoln (whom the Demo-crats now profess to worship), the Demo-crats of Ohlo nominated Mr. Vallandigham for Governor and sent a committee to Washington and demanded of the President the recall of their candidate. But he informed them that the proceedings

an injunction to stay an injury." Lincoln Accused of Despotism. The fact should not be lost sight of here that Mr. Seymour, whom the Demo-crats afterward nominated for President, accused Mr. Lincoln not only to taking a step toward despotism, but of actually "establishing" it. Indeed, it is well to recall that in those days Mr. Lincoln was accused of every crime in the calendar by the leading Democrats of the country. He was called the "Illinois Ape" and a buffoon because he was witty, a baboon because he had long arms, and a bloody tyrant because he prosecuted a war to force the Southern States to be governed without their consent.

were "for prevention, not punishment-

Mr. Bryan is no more badly frightened at the intentions of Mr. McKinley to establish a despotism than Mr. Seymour was at Mr. Lincoln's efforts in the same direction. Mr. Bryan's father called Lindirection. Mr. Bryan's father called Lin-coln worse names than the son does Mc-Kinley. These attacks are nothing new. But they entirely account for the fact that Mrs. Lease, of Kansas, is now stumping the country for McKinley, for the reason, as she says, that her father was a Union soldier, and these assaults of Bryan on the Government itself sound too much like the "copperheadism" of '63 too much like the "copperheadism" of '63 to obtain her further support.

the same policy towards Mr. Bryan that Lincoln did toward Vallandigham for the very same sort of persistent attack on the Government and its Army and the work it is doing, our good Democratic brothers would have to go to the Philippines to hear the eloquent pleas of their candidate for the lovable Aguinaldo. The Filipinos are the avowed enemies

of the United States, or they would not be shooting down our soldiers who are sent there to do a certain thing by our Government. Mr. Bryan sympathizes with these avowed enemies of the United States, and says so every day. Section 3 of article 3 of the Constitution of the United States says: "Preason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and com-

fort. Negroes' Political Rights. It is gratifying to see that, without doubt, the back of the Bryanite campaign is already broken. The condition of the negroes in the Southern States as to their political rights has conspicuously disarmed the opposition in the matter of shedding crocodile tears about the "consent of the governed" in the Philippines. In their frantic efforts to show that "the Constitution follows the flag," it has been shown that while the flag floats over snown that while the hag hoats over every city and village in the Southern States," there are parts of the Constitu-tion, once fully observed, which are now total strangers there. The Constitution has been withdrawn, but the flag remains. And this has been done through confessed fraud and violence. On the 23d of March, of this year, Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, who, by the way, read the Democratic platform to the assembled con-vention in Kansas City, said:

"I propose now to recapitulate, briefly, in the best way I can, the conditions which brought about the necessity for stuffing ballot-boxes, shooting negroes, and for using violence and fraud in taking charge of our government in South Carolina. We made up our minds that the 14th and 15th amendments to the Con-stitution were null and void, that the acts of Congress under them were null and void; that oaths required by such laws were null and void; and we resolved that the wealth, intelligence and patriotism, belonging only to the white people of the state, should seize the government," etc.

(Cong. Record, page 3218.)
On the same day he said:
"I want to ask the Senator this question in arithmetic: In my state there were 135,000 negroes of voting age, and some 95,000 white voters. Now, I want to ask you how, with a free vote and a fair count, you are going to beat 135,000 with 95,000. How are you going to do it? You had set us an impossible task." On February 28 he said, in speaking of

the time when the negroes had possession of the state government:
"We took the government away. We stuffed the ballot-boxes. We shot them."
On February 24 he said, in answer to a question of Senator Hoar:

"We have a governing class, just as you would have in Massachusetts if you had 750,000 negroes and only 500,000 whites. I do not deny and never have denied that the white people in South Carolina con-trol the state government, and intend to continue to control it. We have a God-given right to control it."

Democrats Insincere. From these confessions of one of the representative men of the South it will be seen how far the Democratic party is sincere in its professed regard for the doctrine of "the consent of the governed" and the other proposition that the Consti-tution follows the flag. Ballot-box stuffing and violence with the shotgun have been practiced and openly boasted of as an avowed means of governing the nestaying its pressing demands, which, like

groes without their consent. There are nundreds of thousands of Democrats to day in the United States who drew all their sustenance during the first months of their early infancy from the breasts of the colored "mammies" of the Southern plantations, who are supporting and justi-fying this "God-given right" to govern the governed without their consent, who grow absolutely hysterical over the mere suggestion of extending the authority of our beneficent Government over the Filipinos without also conferring upon them the privilege of the elective franchise!

This would not appear so reprehensible

but for the fact that no word of con-demnation goes up from Democratic sources, while at the same time nearly all the Democratic strength in the elec-toral college will come from the section where this suppression of the consent of the governed is practiced, supported and defended. This condition of things shows that that party only believes in the appli-cation of the Declaration of Independence in spots, and that the Constitution should only follow the flag into such portions of the country as the Democrats may

Having been compelled by the very absurdity of his position on "the consent of the governed" proposition to abandon it, Mr. Bryan for at least one week essayed to be alarmed by the specter of 'millitarism." This lasted only a week, or until Teddy Roosevelt had time to get after him and show that there was only .85 of a soldier to every other thousand of our population, and only one soldier to every 60 square miles of our territory. Incorrectly assuming that there are four soldiers to every 1000 of our population, Mr. Bryan undertook to answer Mr. Roosevelt's statement by saying at Chi-cago September 11: "It is not the four men in 1000 that can terrify the thousand; it is that the 1000 men will permit

the four men'to live as professional sol-diers were one is enough."

Now, the official figures show that our Army of today is no larger for our population than it was in a time of profound peace under President Monroe nor as large as it was when President Jackson had the Seminole War on his hands. But what effect do these figures have in a campaign against "militarism"? Nothing further than to force Mr. Bryan to shift to the trusts. The average Democrat shouts "'Rah for Bryan!" just the same. So slarmed are the Democrats as to the preservation of the Republic against the onslaughts of imperialism that an Eastern Oregon Democratic paper actually fell over itself in the throes of a genuine case of film-flams occasioned by the fact that the late Carnival in Portland was opened by a "make-believe King and Queen." It said "20,000 people shouted themselves hoarse in honor of a make-believe King and Queen, who rode in royal state, sur-mounted by guards, pages and maids-of-honor respiendent in the gorgeous paraphernalia of an imaginary court."

Bryan as a Prophet. But it doesn't take much to frighten the

average Democrat into hysterics when a Presidential year comes around. But Mr. Bryan's strong forte is in prophecy. That was his strong forte four years ago. His prophecies have all been along the line of the "lamentations of Jeremiah." Altogether, he has prophesied more hurtful things that would come to pass that haven't, and more good things that would not come to pass that haven't, and more good things that would not come to pass that haven't that would not come to pass that have, than any other man in that particular line of business that we know abything about. The fact that all his predictions fail has no disheartening effect on his buoyant and gladsome spirit. Not three weeks ago he said in one of his speeches "If the Army has been increased from 25,000 to 100,000 in four years of Republican rule, are we not bound to believe that it will be increased from 100,000 to 400,000 in another four such years?"
Why, to be sure. If it snows a foot deep

on the 19th day of December, am I not bound to believe that it will snow 30 feet deep during 30 more such days? Surely such a statement as this stamps Mr. Bryan as a statesman specially to be ad-

This quotation is made simply to show the childish twaddle of which Mr. Bry-an's later speeches are composed. Their very extravagance defeats their purpose. In July, 1897, I heard him declare before the Trans-Mississippi Congress in Salt Lake that the gold standard was causing the death of more people in the United States every year than the entire Spanish Army in Cuba. And the statement was the occasion for almost the entire audience of thousands to rise to their feet and shout themselves hoarse, while the air was filled with hats, canes and handkerchiefs. After the uproar had subsided he said: "And the gold standard lays waste more acres every year in the United States than the Spanish Army does in Cuba." And this extravagantly absurd statement was tumultuously applauded for several minutes by the crazed audience.

Bryan is shifty in resources. Having been driven from his imperialistic specter and his spook of militarism, and evidently being afraid to mention the gold standard, he essays to ridicule the "full dinner pail" situation. In a recent speech he said: "If a man says, I have ideas in my head," the Republican party says, "What do you talk about your head for if your stomach is full?" In the first place, it is a violent assumption to sup-pose that a man "with ideas in his head" would hesitate long in his determination to vote for McKinley to make such a re-mark. Mr. Bryan's other bright obser-vation on this subject is to the effect that when you remind the workingmen that they now have a full dinner pail, you in-suit him, because you imply that he is "all stomach." The fact is recalled, how ever, that Mr. Bryan's flippant indiffer-ence to the condition of the workingman's stomach is of comparatively recent origin. His unconcern in that direction only began with the full dinner pail. Four years ago the burden of his complaint was that the gold standard was multiplying tramps every day by the thousands. Now the chief murmur of the tramp is grounded in hunger. He is not "all stomach." to be sure, but what he has is as a rule empty. And it is true that during the last Democratic Administration his numbers were increasing regularly and rapidly. Mr. Bryan made repeated and feeling reference to his stomach (I mean the workingman's) as being an aching vold, whose suffering condition demanded the attention of the Nation, and that, too, at

The Full Dinner-Pail.

Suffice it to say briefly that the Republican party got control of the ma-chinery of the Government and proceeded at once to relieve Mr. Bryan's heart by filling the stomachs of the workingment.

And we have done a good job. A few weeks ago a prominent Democrat of Maweeks ago a prominent Democrat of Marion County, who four years ago was spending a lot of his time on the street corners shouting for free sliver, came to me and insisted on my detailing 10 men from the penitentiary to go to his neighborhood and assist in hauling gravel on the county road. He explained that they had money in the treasury of the road district, but could not get a man anywhere to do the work. When I asked him what had become of the trames under what had become of the tramps under the gold standard, he said he was not

talking politics this year.

The fact is that the number of convicts in the Oregon state penitentiary has decreased nearly one-half in the last four years. The number has become so small that we hardly have men enough to run the institution.

Four years ago the starvation tha stared the American people in the face was the text, the warp and the proof of Mr. Bryan's speeches, but now, if a Re-publican refers to the full dinner-pail, he exclaims, with an injured indignation "Do you want to insult our workingmen by hinting that they are all stomach?"
To the average man, whose mind is not twisted by Bryanistic prejudices, the stomach is as important a part of the workingman's anatomy as it was during the last Democratic Administration, when

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the need of the free-coinage of silver, four years ago, was "immediate." Bryan's heart is always bleeding Mr. for the welfare of his country, or, rather, for the danger it is always in. Four years ago the gold standard was the "octopus" that was gnawing at its vitals with deadly intent; but since he has seen that the country has never been in as good condition as at present, he sees our wed Republic in the merciless grasp 'empire." And during the past week of "empire." he has been in great trouble as to the fate which has overtaken the young men of the country. "What chance," he exclaims, "has your son in these days of trusts, militarism and imperialism?" Mr. Bryan's own career is a sufficient answer. Without any special opportunity or ability of any kind, he has adopted as a profession the occupation of running for the Presidency, and has done extremely well at it. Every other boy in the country has the same opportunity. He need not think for a moment that he has an option in that line. When the trusts shall have gobbled up every other avenue to financial independence, they will be compelled to stand back in the humiliation of defeat when they undertake to interfere with the blessed privilege of running for the Presidency on an alarm platform.

Young Men Are All Right.

Mr. Bryan's sympathies go out for young Absalom, and he pleads for him. But serious people know that the young Absaloms of the country are all right. When Abraham Lincoln was a goodwhen Abraham Lincoln was a good-sized boy he many times rode fifty miles to mill on a horse with the grist for a saddle. Does Mr. Bryan know of any young Absalom doing that kind of work in these degenerate days of the "empire"? You will rather find him riding a blewele on his way to school, and meeting his brother Absalom on his way engaged in the free-delivery mail service. Only a short time before Lincoln was 21 years of age he contracted with a neighbor woman to make her 400 rails for every yard of brown jeans she would weave for him, to be colored with white walnut bark. Do any of my Democratic Every blessed one of them is going to school supported by the munificence of the state, or, if too old for school, is engaging in some business that will train him for future usefulness. ally has a good buggy to ride to church But in the short space of three years peace has come to Cuba, her people are on the highway to prosperity, and the "accursed" gold standard is still killing people in the United States and laying waste their desolate acres. But Mr. tion, that was altogether beyond the reach of the Absaloms of 50 years ago, and he is branching out in many useful occupations that are helping the industrial development of the world, and the advancement of the entire race. In other words, he is taking no stock in Bryanism nor any of its repellant and

paralyzing tendencies.

The young Absaloms of this country are all right, and in the energy and intelli-gence shown on every hand are displaying an instructive object-lesson which Mr. Bryan may study with profit after he changes his present occupation, if he ever does, and studies the institutions of his

It is more than likely, however, that the Democratic candidate for the Presidency has made a mistake in his text. Men sometimes do. Being both a Populist and a Democrat, it is very probable that he intended to refer to Miss Rachel, of Scriptural fame, instead of young Mr. Absalom. It will be remembered that Ra-chel not only was uncomfortable, but actually "refused to be comforted." That is the organic trouble with the Populist and latter-day Democrat. He refuses to be comforted. He worries because the stomach of the workingman is empty. The Republicans fill it, and then he worries about the low prices prevailing everywhere as the forerunner of industrial destruction. The Republicans maintain a sound currency system, which stimulates business, high prices come, and the opposition statesmen declare that the prevailing high prices are the product of the trust octopus and means the en-slavement of the "tolling masses." He joins the Army in a spasmodic fit of pa-

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triotism, but after camping all Summe several miles nearer home than the bat-tle-field, suddenly discovers the rising specter of militarism, which threatens to engulf the American people in the on-coming cruelty of a bayonet government, so he heroically resigns and reduces the number of the standing Army by one! He rushes frantically to Washington for the purpose of securing the ratification of a treaty with Spain which was to pay \$30,000,000 to that country for a title to a certain thing, presumably for the welfare of the country, and then, in his intense desire to be uncomforted, parades himself daily before the country, declaring that Spain didn't own the thing we bought, anyway! He hugs Tillman and Aguin aldo with both arms, each and severally, and while Aguinaldo shouts heroically for the Declaration of Independence and the "consent of the governed," Tillman shrieks into the other ear, "We stuffed with a free vote and a fair count, are you going to beat 135,000 with 5,000? And Mr. Bryan supports them both and they each support him. When the price of sheep was low, it was because we had destroyed the "money of the Causitiudestroyed the "money of the Constitu-tion"; and when the price is high, it is because of the Sulu treaty. When workingmen were idle everywhere, it was be-cause of the "crime of "73"; but, now that

we should deal with 'Aguinaldo as "we would with a band of renegade Apaches," because the honor of the country demanded it, but this year it is imperial-ism for the sake of Bryanism. So there you are! In this book of lamentations it is wrong to apeal to young Absalom. Miss Rachel, who refused to be comforted, should furnish the proper text. I do not know much about her anteced-ents, but in her abrupt and fixed determination to "not be comforted" she pre-

everybody is employed, it is the result of

accident. Prosperity is accounted for and denied in the same breath. In 1893

sents the first credentials as a Demo-Pop-ulist mentioned in history. The Democratic party in its earlier and better days, when controlled by the "fathers," was always in favor of expansion to a greater degree than has ever characterized the Republican party. Its history shows it in its every page, even as Jefferson himself said, to the point of "National aggrandizement." It was al-ways in favor of "militarism" to a greater extent than that which exists now, as was shown by facts and figures open to every inquirer. Never, since the organization of the Government, has a political party undertaken to gain control of the Nation with such a flimsy and absurd collection of alleged "Issues" as characterizes the effort now being made by the parties that belong to Mr. Bryan.
The country is prosperous beyond anything ever known before in its history, and, since there is no excuse for every voter not knowing that this spurious cry of "imperialism militarism and trusts" u intended to disguise the real issue of the free coinage of silver, the election of Mr. Bryan would be a calamity well calculated to destroy one's faith in the intelligent judgment of the American people.



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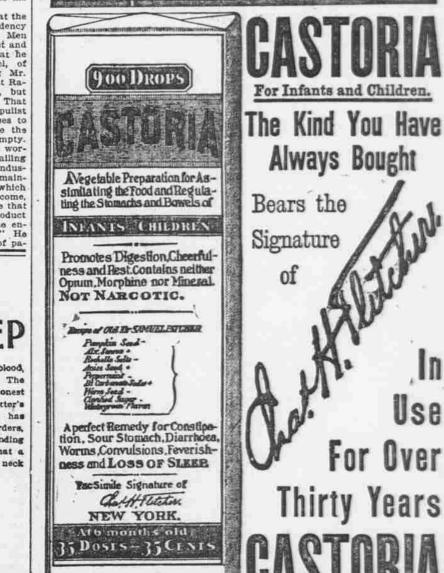
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