

Another unpopular act was the issuing of U. S. bonds to maintain intact the gold reserve. It was the first time the nation had ever issued bonds in time of peace. Then followed his action in crushing the railroad strike in Chicago in doing which he antagonized Governor Altgeld, of Illinois, but gained the approval of the nation at large.

Cleveland's last act was the most popular of his administration, altho at the time it might have meant war with England. He defended the rights of Venezuela under the Monroe Doctrine, and thereby added greatly to the standing of the United States as a world power.

With the election of McKinley prosperity again returned after a long absence. Forced into war by the clamor of the public before the nation was prepared for it, it resulted in acquiring the Philippines, Porto, ^{Rico} and Guam. Order was also effected in Cuba largely thru the ability and wisdom of Judge William Howard Taft.

Having given fifty years to newspaper work in Lawrence, it has been of interest to me to turn back the pages to see what was going on in the days gone before. ~~the eighteen forties~~

The beginning of the fifty years just preceding my experience, the eighteen forties, finds the nation concerned with the establishment of the republic of Texas. Undoubtedly the desire to extend the borders of slavery, and to keep northern states from controlling the nation, was the primary political cause back of the whole matter, however a standard authority says:- "It was the result of outrages upon American citizens, giving rise to claims of the United States citizens on the government of Mexico."

Texas came into the Union in 1845 and seceded sixteen years later to join the Southern Confederacy. In March 1870 it was