

**THE REGENERATION OF  
THE UNITED STATES:  
A FORECAST OF ITS  
INDUSTRIAL EVOLUTION**

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The Regeneration of the United States: A Forecast of Its Industrial Evolution by William Morton Grinnell

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EVOLUTION

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BY

WILLIAM MORTON GRINNELL

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## PREFACE

*Reel 255, 9-19-29 M.V.P.*

**A** NOBLE pride in the heroic achievements of their forefathers in the creation of the greatest nation in the history of the world is common to all Americans. A diffidence of the present is equally so with those who reflect on the dangers, faults, and tendencies of the times, while hope and confidence in the future rise and fall with the prosperity of the people and the optimism of the individual.

It is not uninteresting, nor is it unprofitable, to dwell upon the problems of the present, the tendencies of the age. During the past six decades the world has undergone more momentous changes than in hundreds, nay thousands, of centuries previous, changes which in the main are vast improvements in the moral and mental development of mankind, and, of course, in all that relates to material welfare.

Is the tendency to consolidate, universal

in all phases of life, being carried too far? Its advantages are immense and far-reaching, but many disadvantages are apparent. Life is a compromise, and we must be satisfied with the greatest good to the greatest number, and lessen the hardships as best we may. The transition stage is naturally the most productive of suffering, which is unavoidable in the present, and for some time to come.

The greatest danger, and it is a very great one, appears to be the suppression of individualism. By this our country was founded; by this it has become the foremost nation in the world. If, however, the maintenance of this is compatible with concentration, consolidation,—all that makes for economy, precision, and perfection in work,—social and economic life will approach complete and harmonious adjustment. This I have endeavored to indicate in broad outline, and rough analysis.

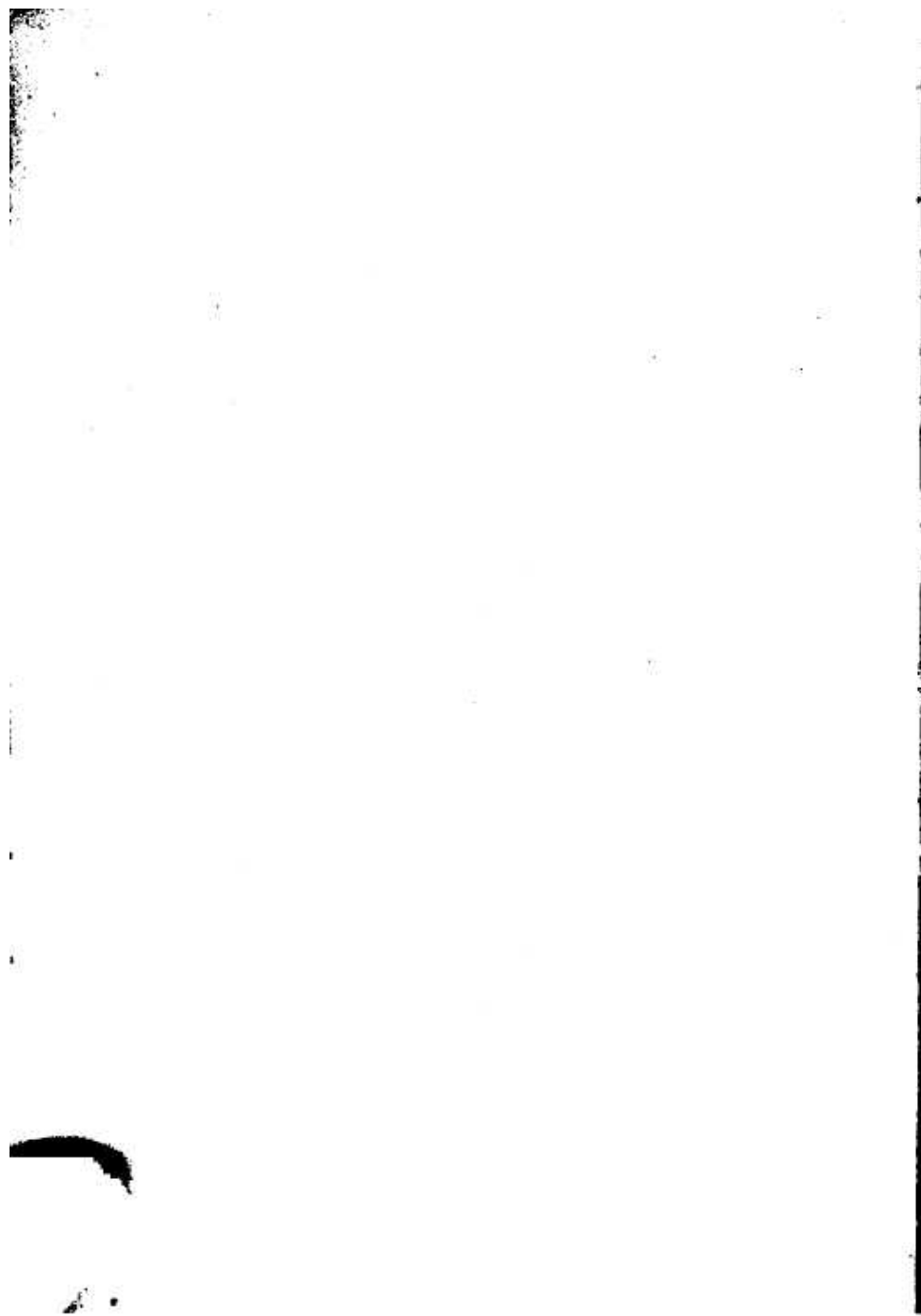
W. M. G.

*October, 1899.*

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# THE REGENERATION OF THE UNITED STATES

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## CHAPTER I

### EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE COLONIES

THE early history of the colonies, in the main founded by Great Britain, scattered along the Atlantic seaboard, was one of incessant hardship, struggle, and death. The immigrants left their own country, not from lust of gain, but to seek the political and religious freedom which were denied them at home. They came not alone from England, but from Holland, from France, and from Sweden. They sought not treasure, but independence; they found not ease but hardship, privation instead of comfort, with danger and death on every hand.

## 2 *The Regeneration of the United States*

They left their comfortable homes, their genial firesides, oftentimes an easy and cultivated life. They bade adieu to the ties and associations of many generations, to all that renders life happy, and boldly sought, in defence of a principle and an idea, new homes in the wilderness, unknown, unexplored, tenanted only by savage beasts and more savage men, where even nature was stern, and where their new existence was to be one of incessant toil and ever-present danger.

This they did voluntarily, with nothing to anticipate but the liberty and freedom they prized so much and for which they were sacrificing everything; in labor struggling onward, oftentimes through the valley of the shadow of death.

They formed the *élite* of the race. The idle and the shiftless would never make such sacrifices, but only those whose principles raised them above material considerations, above suffering, hardship, and peril.

During the seventeenth century they came, animated for the most part with the