

0. A POPULAR PRESIDENT - Story Preface

1. A POPULAR PRESIDENT

2. A SHOOTING IN BUFFALO

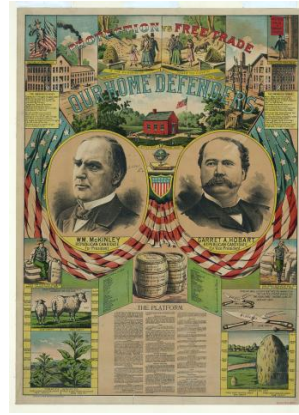
3. TOO LATE

4. IF ONLY...

5. IT IS OVER

6. A PRESIDENTIAL FUNERAL

7. TRIAL AND EXECUTION



This 1896 presidential campaign poster—created by Gillespie, Metzgar & Kelley for William McKinley and Garret Hobart—has a main theme: “Our Home Defenders.” When Hobart’s death left a Vice-Presidential vacancy on the Republican Presidential ticket for the 1900 election, McKinley’s new running mate became Theodore Roosevelt. [Image detail online](#), courtesy Library of Congress. Click on the image for a closer look.

William McKinley, “Attorney at Law,” defeated William Jennings Bryant in the 1896 election. The new President came to Washington with tremendous popular support.

He also came to Washington with a wife—Ida Saxton McKinley—who had been in poor health for years.

Deeply in love, McKinley and Ida supported each other. Even while running for President, the candidate stayed close to Ida’s side. He received political delegations on the front porch of their home in Canton, Ohio. People liked that about him.

After he was elected, McKinley consistently broke White House protocol to remain near Ida. They even sat together at State Dinners.

The President was known for his exemplary character, quick intelligence and endearing personality. According to “Uncle Joe” Cannon, future Speaker of the House, McKinley kept his ear so close to the ground it was full of grasshoppers.

People loved McKinley. The first President of the 20th century was reelected to a second term in 1900.

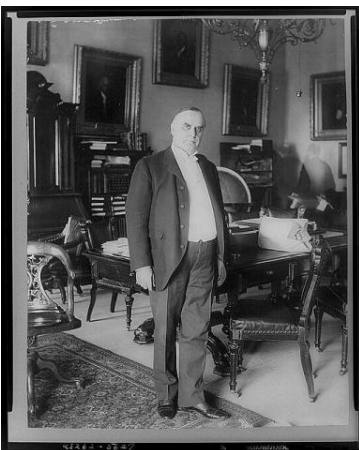
[See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/A-POPULAR-PRESIDENT-President-McKinley-Assassination>

[See Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/A-POPULAR-PRESIDENT-President-McKinley-Assassination>

Media Stream



McKinley in his Office

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress. LC-USZ62-5627.

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View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/McKinley-in-his-Office>



Photo - President McKinley

Image online, courtesy the [U.S. Library of Congress](#).

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McKinley in Washington, D.C.

Image online, courtesy the [U.S. Library of Congress](#).

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President McKinley's Wife - Ida Saxton

Public-domain image online, courtesy the williammckinley.org website.

Information about Mrs. McKinley, appearing at the White House's official website, includes the source for this biographical excerpt: "The biographies of the First Ladies on WhiteHouse.gov are from 'The First Ladies of the United States of America,' by Allida Black. Copyright 2009 by the White House Historical Association."

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Ida Saxton McKinley

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

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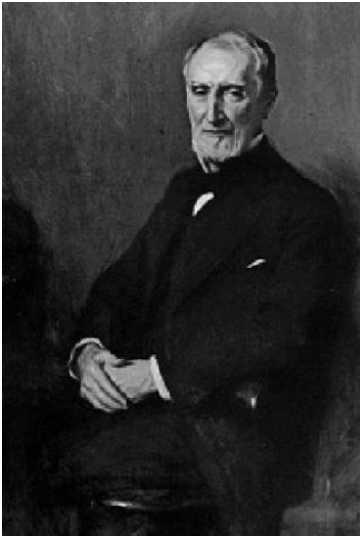


President and Mrs. McKinley

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress.

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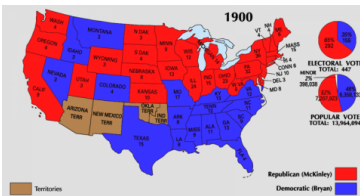


Uncle Joe Cannon

Image online, courtesy the U.S. House of Representatives, History, Art and Archives website.

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Graph - 1900 Red and Blue State Election Results

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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A POPULAR PRESIDENT

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