Gilded Age Documents

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| **Author** | **Work** | **Main Idea** |
| Mark Twain | The Gilded Age |  |
| Herbert Spencer | Survival of the Fittest | Human society is like the biological world… rich are rich b/c they are “fit,” poor are poor b/c they aren’t fit. Competition & conflict. Social Darwinism. |
| Ida Tarbell | The History of the Standard Oil Company | Rockefeller’s corrupt methods to create an oil trust/monopoly/horizontal integration. “Muckraking” book. |
| Russell Conwell | Acres of Diamonds | Preaching that accumulation of wealth is not evil; Calvinist idea of Protestant (Puritan) work ethic |
| Thorstein Veblen | The Leisure Class/ Conspicuous Consumption | Fashion – how wealthy people show off their wealth  Speech – rich people use archaic, uppity language  Servants – show off wealth in home  Conspicuous consumption: showing off wealth; Leisure class: sitting around |
| Horatio Alger | Ragged Dick (and other dime novels) | Dick is a poor homeless orphan; he is honest and hardworking; he sold matches, delivery boy, newspaper boy, shoe shiner; education is important; Rags to riches… dime novel… short, cheap and printed on cheap paper |
| Jacob Riis | How the Other Half Lives | Pictures of immigrant slums… cheap housing, working on textiles in the home, homelessness  “Muckraking” book |
| Stephen Crane | Maggie, Girl of the Streets | Female orphans; prostitution; “white slavery” |
| Andrew Carnegie | The Gospel of Wealth | Wealthy men should donate to philanthropy (universities, medical research, libraries)… to help raise the level of culture and society |
| Eugene Debs | What Can We Do for Working People? | Workers should help themselves by unionizing, striking, etc. |
| Edward Bellamy | Looking Backward | Socialist “Rip Van Winkle”… set 100 years in the future & all economic problems have been solved through utopian socialism |
| Henry Woodfin Grady | The New South | Slavery and secession are gone…now there is industry and union  Urbanization, textiles & cordial race relations |
| James MacNeill Whistler | Arrangement in Grey & Black No. 1 | File:Whistlers Mother high res.jpg |
| Albert Pinkham Ryder | Death on a Pale Horse | File:Albert Pinkham Ryder 002.jpg |
| John Singer Sargent | A Dinner Table at Night | A Dinner Table At Night - John Singer Sargent - www.johnsingersargent.org |
| Mary Cassatt | Tea | File:Cassat CupOfTea.jpg |
|  | Vanderbilt House in Newport, RI | File:The Breakers Richard Morris Hunt.jpg |
| Everett Shinn | “Eviction”  (Ashcan School painting) | Eviction-EverettShin-1904 |