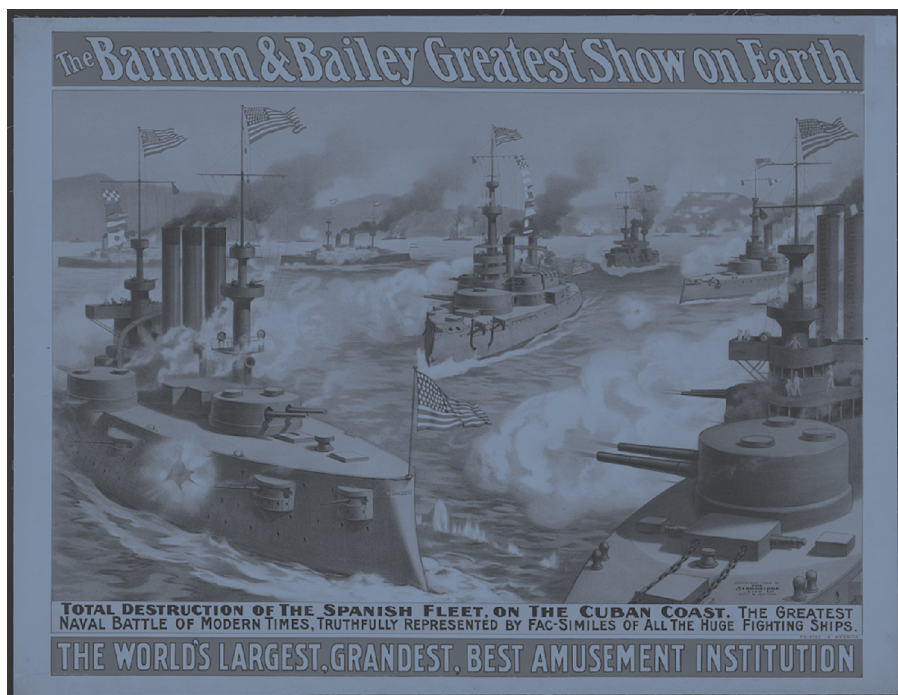




# THE JOURNAL OF THE GILDED AGE AND PROGRESSIVE ERA

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**On the cover:** Circus poster, 1898, sensationalizing the Spanish-American War: “The Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth – The World’s Largest, Grandest, Best Amusement Institution. Total Destruction of the Spanish Fleet on the Cuban Coast. The Greatest Naval Battle of Modern Times, Truthfully Represented by Fac-similes of All the Huge Fighting Ships.” In this issue, Shannon Bontrager shows how federal officials tried to sanitize American imperialism by disinfecting bodies returning stateside. Image from Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division (digital ID: ppmsca 54823 //hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/ppmsca.5482).