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"Whom little boy is 'oot'?"  
"Ta's little boy!"—New York Evening Journal.

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## CHAMP CLARK'S LETTER

Judge Terry Put Republicans In a Panic.

WITH A LITTLE AMENDMENT

A Complete Victory For the Democrats.

LITTLEFIELD'S ANTITRUST BILL

In Effect It Would Have Placed Labor Unions at the Mercy of the Federal Courts—Republican Hypocrisy Exposed—Mark Hanna's Reign of Terror in Congress—An Able Trio in the House—The Cuban Scandal.

[Special Washington Letter.] "Come up and lick salt!" was the command of the Democratic minority in the house to the Republican majority on the trust question. And the majority came, all except eight, amid the jeers and laughter of the Democrats. The eight who stood by their guns were Amos L. Allen of Maine, Bailey of Kansas, Butler, Calderhead, Cannon, Hitt, Littlefield and Long. It was a great historic scene—the hurrying and scurrying and crowding of the Republican friends of the trusts to get into the Democratic band wagon. Babcock of Wisconsin, chairman of the committee on the District of Columbia and chairman of the Republican congressional campaign committee, led the break to the Democrats. Babcock has a large labor vote in his district and knows, or thinks he knows, on which side his bread is buttered; hence he vaulted at one leap from the low level of the Republican trust quagmire into the Democratic triumphal car. The rest, except the eight aforementioned, followed Bellwether Babcock like little Bopeep's sheep, dragging their tails behind them. It was as complete a victory for the Democrats and as wild a panic among Republicans as this generation has seen. The thing that demoralized the Republican trust created and trust serving majority was this small amendment offered by Judge Terry of Arkansas to Littlefield's anti-trust bill: "Nothing in this act shall be so construed as to apply to trade unions or other labor organizations organized for the purpose of regulating wages, hours of labor or other conditions under which labor is to be performed." "That fotch 'em!"

Now let's have a clear historic understanding as to the exact situation. The criminal features of the much vaunted Sherman antitrust law have never been used by the federal courts for any purpose except to punish, fine and imprison some members of a labor organization for striving to earn a subsistence for themselves, their wives and little children. The chief feature of the Littlefield bill was to so amend the aforesaid Sherman law as to increase the penalties. Consequently its inevitable effect, if administered by the federal judiciary as hitherto, would be to sock it to laboring men worse than ever, to rivet their chains upon them more thoroughly than ever and to let everybody else go scot free. All this was to be done in the name of the great body of the people. It was a piece of shameless hypocrisy, well calculated to deceive, but it did not work. Hence the haste of Bellwether Babcock and his flock to jump the fence.

**Bogus Trust Smashers.** The minority offered amendment after amendment to better, widen and improve the Littlefield bill as a trust smasher, but as the Republicans are only bogus, make believe trust smashers they voted down these amendments with a grim and monotonous regularity, because they believed there was a chance of doing enough abled-bodied lying about their meaning to humbug the people once more. But when the little amendment above set forth was offered Babcock and his gang couldn't stand the pressure and rushed to cover pell-mell, helter skelter. They realized that they were up against it hard. Now, having been whipped into voting for it—except the eight above named—they will swell up like toads and swear that they were for it. It's a lie!

Let's examine the facts. The representatives of organized labor begged the judiciary committee to incorporate that amendment into the Littlefield bill, which the Republican majority of that committee superciliously and insultingly refused to do, thereby publishing to the world that Republican servants of the trusts believe that a laboring man has no right which Republican congressmen are bound to respect. The Republican majority of the judiciary committee having refused to incorporate the labor amendment in the bill, the Democratic minority of that committee brought it into the house, offered it as an amendment to the bill, secured a roll call on it and drove the Republican double dealers into supporting it—all except eight. "Twas a famous victory for labor and for Democrats under the leadership of Judge Terry of Arkansas.

When Judge Terry offered that amendment, the following brief but pregnant colloquy took place: George W. Ray of New York, Republican chairman of the judiciary committee, said: "Against that provision I raise the point of order that it is not in order, not being germane to this section." In that historic sentence Mr. Ray showed the cloven foot of the trusts. To Ray's objection Speaker Henderson replied, "The chair overrules the point of order because, although the chair would have held the provision out of order as an original proposition, the order adopted by the house makes it in order."

**A Trust Agent.** No doubt Mark Hanna would pay a big pile of money if the Ray-Henderson colloquy above set out verbatim et literatim could be expunged from The Congressional Record and from human memory, as it will perhaps cost the Republicans half a million votes. And after all—after raising the point of order against the labor amendment, thereby giving the Republican snap away—poor Ray was forced to vote for the amendment and, for the Littlefield bill as amended.

Only one Republican, Mann of Chicago, dared vote against the amended bill. As Ray figures a good deal in this matter, it is proper to record here the description given of him by Hon. William Sulzer of New York on the floor of the house, which words are found on page 6928 of The Congressional Record. Ray having made an attack on Sulzer, Mr. Sulzer said: "He (Ray) knows I did not do it, and he knows that when he said that he told an untruth, and when he makes that mean, contemptible, insinuating charge I repel it and characterize it as it ought to be characterized. I say that no one on the floor of the house, except a trust agent such as he is, a tool, a machine man, an automaton, would make that kind of a statement."

Back of the Littlefield bill and preceding it in order of business was the famous hypocritical, bunko amendment to the constitution taking away from the United States the power to regulate, control or kill trusts. It was a grand stand play pure and simple. As it takes two-thirds of each house to submit an amendment, the authors and promoters of this precious piece of demagoguery knew beforehand that it would never be submitted. They never expected it to be submitted.

Two self respecting Republicans could not be dragged into voting for such a transparent fraud—Lord of California and McCall of Massachusetts. To show what a reign of terror is exercised by Republican leaders over the rank and file of Republican members and how they muzzle free speech I here record the astounding fact that the Republican managers would not give McCall, the representative of the Harvard district, even five minutes in which to express his dissent from that reckless and brazen piece of demagoguery. He had to apply to Judge Terry, Democrat, for time. He got it, and this is the vigorous and classic way in which McCall stated his views: "I intend to vote against this proposed amendment to the constitution, which at the most will keep the word of promise to the ear, but break it to the hope. In my judgment, it confers upon congress the power to strike a most deadly blow at individual liberty."

**A Dangerous Measure.** In that last sentence Mr. McCall hit the bullseye and no mistake. Republicans—the majority of them—on this occasion, led by the aforesaid Ray, were doing their best to serve the trusts and to place the laborers of the land absolutely in their power. Mr. McCall continued in this vigorous fashion: "So that this amendment involves practical control of all the capital of the country; it involves control of all the labor organizations of the country and of any copartnership or union of two or more men for any business purpose whatever. "Now, the wealth of this country today is nearly \$90,000,000,000, most of it in some form of combination or other. And then there is that far more magical and potent capital which is found in the brains and bodies of our people, and we propose—and it seems to me it is an amazing proposition—to confer upon the congress of the United States full and complete jurisdiction over all these productive energies. Even with these enormous interests dealt with in 45 different capitals and dissipated and scattered throughout the country they are yet strong enough to often to break down the resistance of human nature and produce corruption. And what will be the effect if we concentrate upon one body of men more than one-third of all the capital of the world and these other tremendous influences?"

"Why, Mr. Speaker, is there a gentleman here who does not believe in his heart that if this power is conferred upon congress the most corrupt, the rottenest place in the universe, will be found right here in the 'city of Washington'? Mr. Speaker, it will be time enough to talk about constitutional amendments when we shall have employed all those weapons against trusts that now exist in our constitutional armory. I think we are bound to use our best judgment in a matter of this importance. I think that we who begin the process of amending the constitution are just as much charged with responsibility as they who end it, and even more, because, having cast our votes for it, there goes with our votes the influence of our example. I find myself, therefore, unable to consent to put in our organic law this proposed amendment, which, if finally adopted, would, it seems to me, have the effect of ultimately overturning free institutions in this country."

**Short, but Good.** In my judgment, the best one minute speech ever delivered in congress was that by Amos J. Cummings, the prince of Tammany Democrats, who followed McCall and who in discussing the constitutional amendment said: "Mr. Speaker, I trust I am old enough in political life to know a wolf in sheep's clothing. There is one here

more ravenous than the one that attacked the child of Llewellyn. Under the guise of an effort to destroy the trusts this is really a measure drawn in their interests. It is being used to tide over a presidential election. The house will pass it, and the senate lay it away until after the election. I know that William J. Bryan is alleged to have advocated a constitutional amendment to down the trusts, but this in its terms no more resembles his than a deck of cards resembles a Bible. I would as soon drink a cocktail made out of nitric acid under the guise of a soda cocktail as to vote for this resolution. No man in his right senses, it appears to me, can eat asafetida and fancy it molasses candy. I stand by the action of the Democratic caucus."

That is an oratorical gun worth whole reams of ordinary speeches. Amos Cummings is a Dandy, spelled with a big, big D.

**The Williams Trio.** Shakespeare asks, "What's in a name?" and answers his own question as follows: "A rose by another name would smell as sweet." Whether that is true I shall not now undertake to say. However it may be, the name of Williams is popular among house Democrats. Three young men on our side bear the name of Williams. They are all strong, capable, faithful, rising—John S. Williams of Mississippi, serving his fourth term; J. R. Williams of Carmi, Ill., serving his third term, and William Elza Williams of Pittsfield, Ill., serving his first term. John S. of Mississippi is frequently and favorably mentioned as a Democratic candidate for the speakership; J. R.—Bob, as he is popularly called—is frequently and favorably mentioned for vice president, and William Elza, though a new hand, is rapidly surging to the front in the house. John S. and Bob are universally recognized as two of the ablest debaters on the Democratic side, and William Elza is admitted to have made one of the very best campaign speeches delivered in this congress by any sort of a member.

The man who can manage to make an interesting speech and win the applause of seasoned veterans on a subject dry as a powder house is a rare avis. That's precisely what William Elza did to the surprise and delight of his audience. "The Alaskan code and territorial government" bill was up, and William Elza got the floor.

For about ten minutes in a modest sort of way he spoke on the bill. The bill was a bore, the house was drowsy and a lazy sort of attention was given to that part of his speech. All of a sudden he hopped on to the Republicans about their capers in Cuba, and everybody pricked up his ears and listened. Reading the Republican platform pledge as to Cuba, he turned to the Republicans and said: "What have you done to redeem that pledge? Goaded on by the Democratic minority in this house, you were forced to declare war against Spain, as the people supposed when they gave it their support, for the freedom of the people of the island of Cuba. A glorious victory was won, decisive battles were fought and a treaty of peace signed. Have you redeemed your pledge and promise? Tell me why it is that Cuba is festering under the corruption lately developed in the officials appointed by this government, equaling the looting conducted by the officials sent over from Spain to govern them prior to the treaty of peace?"

Mr. Clark of Missouri—Under a carpetbag government. "Yes, carpetbag government, and that is what the Democratic party opposes. We oppose sending these men to govern Alaska, to govern the people of Cuba. You say, my friends, in your platform declaration, that these people are entitled to their independence, and yet you refuse and deny it to them. You send postal officials there. For what purpose? To govern these people against their consent and against their will. You have sent army officials there and given them double salaries. In addition to the regular salaries provided by the laws of this country and without authority of congress, they have put into their pockets an equal amount received from the revenues of Cuba, paid by the people of that island."

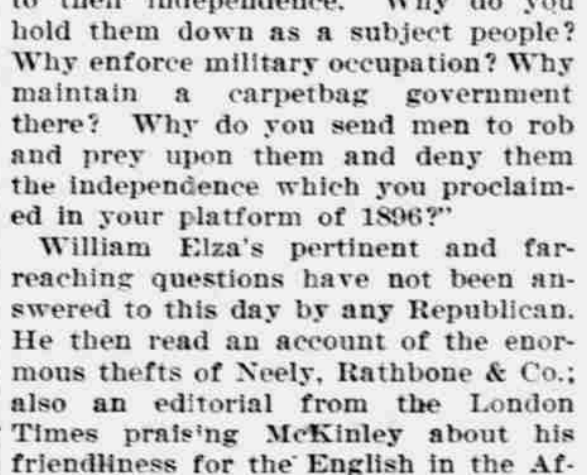
**Pertinent Questions.** "Your officials go there to conduct the postoffice department, and today not less than half a dozen of them are under arrest, charged with spoliation, with looting, with stealing, with theft as bad as was ever perpetrated by the officials sent there by Spain to govern these people. Answer me, gentlemen, why is it that you have not redeemed your platform pledges? The promise you gave to those people was that they should be free; that they were entitled to their independence. Why do you hold them down as a subject people? Why enforce military occupation? Why maintain a carpetbag government there? Why do you send men to rob and prey upon them and deny them the independence which you proclaimed in your platform of 1896?"

William Elza's pertinent and far-reaching questions have not been answered to this day by any Republican. He then read an account of the enormous thefts of Neely, Rathbone & Co.; also an editorial from the London Times praising McKinley about his friendliness for the English in the African war. With these texts he proceeded to flay the Republicans alive or, as Governor David A. Ball of Missouri would say, "to limb, skin and jayhawk them." It was a fetching speech for Democracy, and his remarks were received by his Democratic brethren with cordial and uproarious applause.

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Mark Hanna: "I am afraid that testimonial will be a boomerang."—Chicago Record.

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