

Senator Jones' Letter.

Chicago, Aug. 21, 1901.—Hon. A. A. Lesueur, Kansas City, Mo.—My Dear Sir: In compliance with your request, I will endeavor to state briefly the facts about the American Cotton company and my connection with it.

1st. It is charged, as I understand that I am connected with trusts, and the charge is attempted to be sustained by the assertion that I am a stockholder in the American Cotton company.

2d. That this company is a trust because in its original organization four other companies were merged in it, the implication being that these were competing companies and that they were merged to avoid competition.

3d. It is suggested, though I believe I have not seen it directly charged, that stock in excess of the actual value of the cash and property of the company has been issued.

4th. That it does not sell its presses, but leases them.

5th. That it buys the cotton packed by its presses and intends by this means to monopolize the cotton market.

6th. That it has a monopoly of the round-line method of packing cotton.

A plain statement of the facts will, I think, show how easily in all this, ignorance and persistent malice may pervert the truth. I am a stockholder in the American Cotton company, a company organized to operate a new cotton press, believed by us to be infinitely superior to any other press ever invented. This company is in no sense a trust, has not a single feature or characteristic of a trust in its entire history or organization. The press operated by the American Cotton company is the invention, as I believe, of J. W. Graves, and for a number of years I and several other gentlemen were engaged in trying to perfect it. After much labor, care and expense we had it in satisfactory condition. During this time it appears that three other companies or associations of persons were engaged in trying to develop and perfect the same process. I and my associates believed, and I firmly believe now, as I suppose they all do, that Mr. Graves was the original inventor of the press, and that we were the rightful and sole owners of it. The others seemed to be just as firmly convinced that they were each the inventor and rightful owner. Some one was evidently mistaken. There was one press, one invention, but who the first inventor and owner might be was a matter of controversy. There were two ways of determining the question—a law suit, which would involve years of litigation and great expense, or a compromise. After long delay and

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Let one meal in the day consist of an abundance of good meat, potato and one other vegetable.

This method will quickly prove the value of the selection of the right kind of food to rebuild the body and replace the lost tissue which is destroyed every day and must be made up, or disease of some sort enters in. This is an age of specialists, and the above suggestions are given by a specialist in food values, dietetics and hygiene. much discussion the parties reluctantly

agreed that it would be better to divide the invention fairly amongst us all, each having a share, rather than spend years in a law suit to determine which company of the four should own the entire patent. None of the claimants of the patents had the capital necessary to the introduction of the new press, and men with means had to be interested to procure the necessary capital for this purpose. The necessary capital and only the necessary capital, for its successful operation, was provided by certain gentlemen living in New York, and the company organized, stock issued dollar for dollar for the money paid in and for our patents at an agreed value, and this stock issued for the patents was divided among the four companies instead of all being issued to one, as would have been the case if either one had established its sole right to the ownership of the patent. The effect of this was simply to have a larger number of people owning the patent than would have been the case otherwise. There was not one dollar of watered stock issued; every dollar of stock represented actual value—either in money, dollar for dollar, or in stock at a value agreed upon between the holders of the patents and those who furnished the money for the company.

The constitution and laws of the country have given the owners of patents for a century exclusive rights to use their inventions for a limited number of years. We believe that our press saves from three to four dollars on every bale of cotton, and we charge for the use of our press and patent in proportion to the work actually done by it, and receiving for such use about one-fourth of what we believe to be the actual saving by its use.

An ordinary plantation bale weighs about 12½ pounds to the cubic foot. What is known in commerce as a compressed bale, that is, a plantation bale which has been subjected to a pressure of 2,400 tons to reduce its size, weighs about 22½ pounds to the cubic foot, whereas, our bales, made at the gin and by a single process with a pressure of ten (10) tons, weigh 35 pounds to the cubic foot, and instead of being packed in a mixed mass full of compressed air through and through as in the old style (and exceedingly inflammable) they contain no compressed air, and are thereby absolutely fire-proof and are made by forming the cotton into a smooth, regular bat and rolling it upon a cylinder.

The cotton buyers, up to this time, have refused to buy our bales, hence when we place a press in a gin we are compelled to guarantee to the ginner a market for the bales put up by the press. We obligate ourselves therefore to buy from each ginner, if he desires it, every bale of cotton packed by him on our press at the actual market price of cotton of the same grade packed in any other way. We do not and never have asked or required any ginner to sell us any cotton. He is at liberty to sell to anybody he chooses and anywhere; we only agree that in case he prefers to sell to us we will take his cotton. We do not desire to buy the cotton; would prefer that other buyers should do so, but we do not propose to have our invention destroyed by being boycotted, hence we provide a market for its product.

Ours is not the only round-bale press. The Lowery press is in open and sharp competition with us in almost every locality where our presses are, and is a round-bale press. There is not and never has been any co-operation or understanding between us, but as I said above, we are in open and sharp competition with them all the time. I believe there are some other companies claiming to have round-bale presses also, but I know little about these. There has been no effort on the part of our company to absorb any other company for the purpose of suppressing competition or to make any combination with any other company, or to get any other company

out of business, except for infringements of our patents. Having faith in our process, believing that our press puts up cotton better than any other, we believe that, when the public understands this, our method will be generally adopted on account of its own merits.

We use no bagging and no ties. Our bales are smooth, clean and regular in form. They are handled with greater ease both in wagons and cars than any other bale. They can be packed more compactly in ships and cars than any other bales, and we trust to these advantages, and not to the suppression of competition for the general introduction of the new method. The old method of packing cotton, which has been in use for years, is open to all mankind. Anybody can erect these presses anywhere and operate them, and no one will use our press unless he believes he gets advantages over the old system thereby. The charge then that we are undertaking to monopolize the packing of cotton is absurd. Very sincerely yours,

JAMES K. JONES.

They Hate Americans.

A dispatch from Washington, dated July 3, tells the true story of the Filipino's attitude toward the Americans:

Civil government will tomorrow supersede military control throughout all of the Philippine islands not in actual rebellion against the United States. Rear Admiral Rogers in command of the naval forces in the Philippines, reports to the navy department that the insurrection has been practically put down in every part of the archipelago, but there has just been laid before Secretary Root information of an entirely different character.

It is a review of the situation by an officer who has devoted especial attention to the attitude of the Filipinos towards the Americans and it indicates a belief on his part that civil government for a long time at least will be a mockery. This officer finds that in many cases the officers who have been in command of the posts and districts have lacked tact in dealing with the natives and that despite orders from headquarters that the treatment to which the Filipinos have been subjected has been cruel and harsh. He goes so far as to assert that in some cases the villages have been burned on slight provocation and that some officers have even resorted to torture in trying to extract information from natives.

He is not specific in these statements though he says that in many cases the officers who improperly treated the natives were young volunteers without experience.

This officer says that while large numbers of the natives have taken the oath of allegiance it is not because they are reconciled to the rule of the United States. They hate the Americans, he says, more than they ever did the Spaniards, and they would rise tomorrow if they thought they could drive the Americans out, but they see that resistance is hopeless and submit, many of them believing that they will soon have a complete local self-government as communities in the United States and as full individual civil rights as citizens of the United States. He does not believe that there is much probability of these hopes being realized, though he considers the Filipinos are as well fitted for self-government as the inhabitants of the South American countries. He says they will always hate the Americans worse than they hated the Spaniards, for the reason that under the Americans the feeling of race exclusiveness will be more constantly and offensively emphasized than it was under the Spaniards.

Of course they hate the Americans. It is natural that they should. God hates a liar, hypocrite and tyrant, and why should not man? The treatment to which the Filipinos have been subjected by the Americans is enough to

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embitter and make resentful the soul of infinite forgiveness and love. They have been robbed of their country, plundered, humiliated and otherwise harshly used. The colonist hated the Englishman for the same treatment of them, only not quite so bad, as their sons are now inflicting upon the impotent Filipinos. I can't understand who will undertake to defend such a policy. It violates every precept and principle of the Sermon on the Mount, repeats the chief commandment given by the Man of Gallilee, outrages every preconceived idea of man's duty to man, and holds the Declaration of Independence up to the world as an outworn and obsolete document. Yes, they hate us worse than they did the Spaniards, and will continue to hate us. The Americans have treated them worse than the Spaniards ever treated them. Not alone by the infliction of physical punishment, the destruction of property and taking human life, but by wounding their pride, and the base deception which the Americans have been guilty of. A proud, brave man may suffer the loss of property, be reduced from affluence to penury, and forgive the author of his misfortune; but when you humiliate him, bruise his pride, in a word, insult his manhood, he will hate you to the end. Ages may obliterate, or rather eradicate, that feeling, but not until many generations shall have passed away. I have no other feeling than the most profound sympathy and commiseration for the Filipino.—The Commonwealth.

Books Received.

Ellen, or the Whisperings of an Old Pipe, by Joseph Battell; published by American Publishing Co., Middlebury, Vt.

The Road to Ridgeby's, by Frank Burlingame Harris; published by Small, Maynard & Co., Boston.

The City for the People, or the Municipalization of the City Government and of Local Franchises, by Frank Parsons; published by C. F. Taylor, 1520 Chestnut st., Philadelphia.

The Laborer and His Hire, by I. M. Shanklin; published by the Neale Co., 431 11th st., Washington.

The Philosophy of History, by S. S. Hebbard; published by the author, La Crosse, Wis.

Poems, by Chas. McCubbin; published by the author, Nevada, Mo.

Death: the Meaning and Result, by John K. Wilson; published by the Sunflower Publishing Co., Lily Dale, N. Y.

Interludes, Verses, by Belle Willey Gue; published by the Household Realm Press, Chicago.

Sonnets to a Wife, by Earnest McGaffey; published by Wm. Marion Reedy, St. Louis.

American Supremacy, a Compilation of Facts and Statistics Regarding Foreign Commerce, by Chas. Austin Bates; published by the author, New York City.

The Captain of an Ocean Liner.

Nowadays the captain is the host of the ship. He is no longer the gruff, rough sea-dog in a pea-jacket of years gone by. He must observe some of the social amenities. He must talk to the passengers now and then, when the weather is fine. He must take his seat at table when he may. He must be a kind of diplomat also, and possess wit and tact and a patience sublime. He must see that no jealousies develop among the passengers. I have been told of the very obliging captain, who, to please the lady who asked to be shown the equator while the