

ple of Panama and indirectly the people of the United States in connection with these timber land frauds.

"It will be interesting to know who the gentlemen are who are attempting in this way to impoverish the republic of Panama," he said, and he mentioned William Nelson Cromwell, Roger L. Farnham, W. S. Harvey and Charles P. Taft.

"Since the election of last November," he continued, "under the shadow of the dome of the capitol a bread line appears daily, constantly increasing in length. If we permit the scheme of William Nelson Cromwell, Roger L. Farnham, Charles P. Taft and others to go through on the isthmus of Panama, this government will have there a bread line containing 400,000 people. If we permit the men who are attempting to steal and appropriate to their use the revenues of this republic, we place upon the United States the burden of caring for these people," he said.

"I don't charge that the gentleman who will be inaugurated president of the United States on the fourth day of March is a party to this infamous scheme for robbing this little country. His friendship for Cromwell, Farnham and E. A. Drake as members of the board of directors of the Panama railroad, his continued endorsement of both Cromwell and Farnham, his interference on the isthmus of Panama, which compelled the election of a corrupt statesman, absolutely under the control of Cromwell as president of that republic—all these things and other things for which the present administration is responsible—made possible the signing of a contract by Obaldia which may bring to the gentlemen interested therein riches beyond the dreams of avarice. It will not be long, if this scheme goes through, before the campaign contributions made by some of the gentlemen interested in this enterprise, will be returned a hundred fold."

Mr. Rainey charged that Mr. Cromwell and Mr. Farnham have been actively engaged here for two or three weeks promoting treaties affecting Colombia and Panama, pending before the senate. He said that if the plans of Mr. Cromwell and his associates go through and if these treaties are confirmed, there will be no revenues in Panama out of which to pay the million dollars or more indemnity to Colombia, payment of which is guaranteed by this treasury."

"The United States government will be called upon to pay it all," he predicted, "and if these plans for the spoliation of Panama proceed to a successful conclusion, it will not be long until immense burdens of a different character connected with Panama will be imposed upon our treasury."

"These patriotic gentlemen," said Mr. Rainey in conclusion, "therefore are being permitted not only to rob the republic of Panama, but indirectly to rob the treasury of the United States and in their efforts in this direction they have had so far the complete co-operation and the active assistance of the present administration and of the next president of the United States."

From the very outset of his remarks Mr. Rainey claimed the absolute attention of the house and he was frequently applauded.

Incensed at the remarks of the Illinois member, Mr. Stevens of Minnesota, declared it to be "extremely regrettable that any member of this house feels called upon to rise in his place and slander the ruler of a friendly republic and defame the administration of his own government."

He had proceeded that far when he

was called to order by Mr. Shackelford of Missouri, who objected to the use of the word "slander." The chair admonished Mr. Stevens to keep within the rules.

He urged that it was no business of the American government what any other government did with its persons or its property, "provided it does not affect our interests."

"It is our business," he said, "to look after our own citizens and our own administration." He declared there was no foundation in fact for the statements that there was any interference by Secretary Taft or any officials of the United States with the Panama elections any more than was involved in the keeping of order there. He also attempted to refute the statements of Mr. Rainey regarding President Obaldia and declared that he was not without a political party. The steamships referred to by Mr. Rainey, said Mr. Stevens, were a legitimate purchase and were doing valuable service in preventing trans-continental lines from robbing the government. He knew of no work, he said, which was being prosecuted as efficiently and as honestly as that of excavating the canal. He scouted the talk about graft and declared that those having the undertaking in charge were proceeding without self-interest, and in spite of the detractions at home in newspapers, by public men and by others who have other ends to serve.

Mr. Kustermann of Wisconsin, expressed disapproval of what he called the slighting remarks against the president, made by Mr. Rainey. He paid a tribute to the president and said that while the chief executive had his faults he would be recorded as one of the greatest presidents the country ever had.

Later, Mr. Rainey read on the floor of the house the following telegram:

"Havana, January 27.—I assume you have been misled into uttering the sheer and absolute falsehood concerning me you are reported to have spoken. I have never had any business association of any kind or description, past, present or prospective, with William Nelson Cromwell nor any interest of any kind or with anybody present, past or prospective, on the isthmus of Panama, and I confidently rely upon your loyalty to the truth to retract what you said about me in the same high place where you made yourself responsible for those misstatements."

"CHARLES P. TAFT."

**WITHDREW THE REMARK**

Champ Clark loves to tell of how in the heat of a debate Congressman Johnson of Indiana called an Illinois representative a jackass. The expression was unparliamentary, and in retraction Johnson said:

"While I withdraw the unfortunate word, Mr. Speaker, I must insist that the gentleman from Illinois is out of order."

"How am I out of order?" yelled the man from Illinois.

"Probably a veterinary surgeon could tell you," answered Johnson, and that was parliamentary enough to stay on the record.—Success Magazine.

**LITERALLY**

"Well, yes," said Old Uncle Lazenberry, who was intimately acquainted with most of the happenstances of the village. "Almira Stang has broken off her engagement with Charles Henry Tootwiler. They'd be goin' together for about eight years, durin' which time she had been inculcatin' into him, as you might call it, the beauties of economy; but when she dis-

covered, just lately, that he had learnt his lesson so well that he had saved up two hundred and seventeen pairs of socks for her to darn

immediately after the wedding, she 'peared to conclude that he had taken her advice a little too literally, and broke off the match."—Puck.

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