

tionist standpoint, and said that on the steel rail question he pinned his faith to the laird of Skibo.

The Speaker's Good Nature

Mr. Clark good naturedly remarked that the democrats had scared Mr. Payne at the last session into admitting that there would be tariff revision. But at the bottom of the movement for tariff revision, he said, was President Roosevelt. "I never had any delusions about that man," he said, amid shouts of laughter. "He is gone," he said in mock tones of sorrow. Addressing the republicans, he said:

"Some of you hope he will never come back. But my regret is that he left at all, because if he had stayed here you would have been in such a row within ninety days that you would not know whether you were republicans or democrats."

Some further observations regarding Mr. Payne moved the house to a storm of laughter. Mr. Clark, said he sat in the house yesterday and heard Mr. Payne say he had been in the house twenty years preparing tariff bills. "My God," he exclaimed, "What a set of lies he must have heard in that time." If, he said, Mr. Payne would make up an Ananias club from the witnesses he heard on the tariff, no building in the United States would hold them.

Calling attention to the colloquy yesterday between Mr. Payne and Mr. Garrett of Tennessee, which grew out of an inquiry by the latter whether the Payne bill was not revision upward, Mr. Clark read some comparisons showing that the average rate of the Dingley bill was 44.16 per cent, while under the Payne bill they were 45.72 per cent, "showing 1.56 per cent worse than the Dingley bill." He declared that no man of bad temper or bluster could conceal that fact from the American people. Many of the reductions in the bill, he maintained, were more apparent than real.

Discussing the reduction on refined sugar, Mr. Clark said it was held out as a great boon to the consumer.

"When the sugar trust received that tremendous blow between the eyes," he said, "instead of seeing stars it saw a stream of gold flowing into its coffers every year of the continuance of the Payne tariff bill."

He could not understand, he said, why such tenderness was shown the sugar trust, which he characterized as a criminal.

As to petroleum, Mr. Clark said the bill contains "the same old joker." While ostensibly on the free list, he insisted that petroleum was given protection of from 150 to 250 per cent.

If, Mr. Clark said, the Standard Oil company was not, as he believed, the sole beneficiary under the bill he would not object to the crude oil producers getting a revenue tariff.

Asked by Mr. Scott of Kansas, to give his reasons for believing as he did regarding the Standard Oil company, Mr. Clark asserted that the Standard compels the crude oil producer to take its price and the consumer of oil to pay its price. "I assert without any fear whatever," he exclaimed, "that the Standard Oil company is the greatest aurora that the sun ever looked down on during its 6,000 years of journeying through the heavens."

"Would that condition be changed by eliminating this countervailing duty?" inquired Mr. Scott.

Mr. Clark replied in the affirmative, explaining that if the Standard put up the price of refined oil too high somebody else would ship refined oil to the United States.

Answering Mr. Simms of Tennessee, the minority leader declared that as a choice between the evils it would be infinitely better to repeal the countervailing duty on petroleum and put a straight ad valorem duty on crude oil even of 20 or 25 per cent.

Speaking generally Mr. Clark said he would not object to a good stiff revenue tariff on anything except salt.

Will Not Assist in Oppression

"I want in this connection to announce a general principle," he said. "And that is that I will not help any living human being to oppress the great masses of the people in this country." All plunderers, he said, looked alike to him. On account of the attitude he was taking, he asserted, he might be retired to private life. He would prefer, he said, not to retire, "but let the time come sooner or later, whenever I do go out, I intend to depart with my mental integrity and my self-respect intact."

Mr. Clark next devoted his attention to Speaker Cannon, who occupied a conspicuous place on the floor, and was paying marked attention to what the minority leader was saying. He spoke of the speeches made by Mr. Cannon at Joplin and other places in Missouri during the campaign regarding zinc and other Missouri products. He declared that while in Missouri he had been told by members of both parties that the deep zinc mining had gone out of business, that the rich ore only was being mined, and that deep mining was giving them smokeless chimneys and idle workmen. He also had been told that the coming into

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the United States of free zinc from Mexico affected their industry. He declared that he saw the smokeless chimneys and the idle men, and that former Representative Hackney, a democrat, had been represented to him as saying that while he stood for the Denver platform, zinc should be protected. "I said to my audiences," the speaker remarked, "that they know in the Joplin district and elsewhere whether a duty on zinc that came in competition with their product was necessary. I said also that action was louder than words, and that should I be re-elected, they being experts, their action would control my vote."

Morgan Successor to Hackney

Replying Mr. Clark insisted that his position was that the people of the United States were paying a very high price "that we might have the society of my friend Charlie Morgan in this house." Mr. Morgan is the republican successor to Mr. Hackney.

A statement by Mr. Clark that certain persons in Joplin tried to deceive the committee with regard to the necessity for a duty on zinc, brought a denial from Mr. Morgan.

The speaker again took the floor to make an explanation when Mr. Clark said that the speaker had gone to the White House to discuss the tariff question with President Taft before the bill was reported. Mr. Cannon admitted that he went there at the invitation of the president and said that he had found Senator Aldrich and Secretary MacVeagh there. He denied that the tariff was discussed, or if it was he did not know it. What was discussed, he said, was the general condition of the treasury and the desirability of a good administration "and so far as possible, an organization and an administration of that great department that would tend to bring the expenditures of the government within the revenues." Mr. Cannon remarked that he rarely corrected misrepresentation. In former years he declared he had sat in the chair and on the floor and heard misrepresentations "abounding in absolute falsehood that have been taken for truth by the muck-raking newspapers and even

written in the democratic platform."

Mr. Clark protested that he was not trying to misrepresent the speaker. Resuming his argument, Mr. Clark announced that if given the opportunity he would vote to put boots and shoes on the free list. "and," he said, "they can belabor about free traders as much as they please." "Never," he said, "would the tariff be taken off boots and shoes until it was done when it was taken off hides." Much attention was given by Mr. Clark to the subject of wool and woollens. "The woolen schedule," he said, "is the most monstrous thing in this bill. It is the most complicated of all the schedules. It is a monstrous oppression of the poor."

Mr. Clark Makes Prediction

Mr. Clark predicted that when the senate got through with cutting and carving the Payne bill, Mr. Payne would not recognize his old child when he met it in the road. "The seniors over there," he said, "are engaged right now in making a tariff bill of their own." He maintained that the senate would strike out all after the enacting clause. When the bill reached conference it would be dog days and the weather would be so disagreeable in Washington that "fellows will vote for any kind of a bill to get out of town."

In reviewing the testimony of William Whitman of Boston on the wool schedule, Mr. Clark gave his estimate of some of the men who figured in the hearing.

"I hate no man," said Mr. Clark in speaking of Mr. Whitman, "but I have more contempt for him than for any other man I ever clapped my eyes on."

He declared that Mr. Whitman had great influence with the committee on finance in the senate when the Dingley bill was being considered in that body. The oil schedule was adverted then when Mr. Burke of Pennsylvania said he had received information that removing the countervailing duty would not affect the Standard Oil company, but that it would be absolutely fatal to the independent producers for the reason as was stated that 85 per cent of the oil produced in the United

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States was produced by the independents.

Mr. Clark declared himself in favor of free lumber.

A roar of laughter went up when Mr. Cushman of Washington, coincident with a statement by Mr. Clark that had it not been for the tariff on