

Englishman's money, the law-makers won't let us do it without fining us. The Payne-Aldrich combination believes in keepin' our crops an' our money to home so we can swap things with ourselves, mainly. Of course there's drawbacks to most things, an' the fellows that's on confidential terms with the Payne-Aldrich combine can send some sugar an' sewin' machines an' hardware an' steel rails over to Europe, an' sell 'em to the cheap labor over there 25 to 50 per cent cheaper than they do to us, an' then recoup themselves in the way of drawbacks an' other fancy frills that they find left in the law for those that know how to take advantage of 'em.

"But I was goin' to tell you about Tomkins. He gits a little time to rest between checkin' baggage an' sellin' tickets an' reportin' trains an' unloadin' freight an' tellin' the people that the Express is four hours late, so he listens to what is goin' over the wires while he's restin'. He came over here the other day just as I was drivin' the drill on the last round in that patch of oats, an' he was most as pleased an' excited as he would be if his uncle had died prematurely an' left him a farm.

"He went on to tell me that Roosevelt, havin' come up out of the rhinoceros country somewhat tired o' shootin' at things that can't shoot back, had taken the Egyptians by surprise an' captured the whole shootin' match. An' havin' captured 'em bag an' baggage he took the opportunity to lay down the law to 'em, an' tell 'em the way to go at it to git liberty—the kind o' liberty we serve up over here most o' the time; the kind o' liberty that we are servin' out to the Philippines an' Cuba an' Porto Rico. Seems to me that's the kind that Tom Reed labelled 'canned liberty.' But anyway, it seems from what Tomkins said about it that Roosevelt told 'em to be good an' they'd git all the liberty they was fit for, an' git it as fast as they was fit for it, an' as soon as the Englishmen thought they was fit for it, an' what on earth would anybody want any more liberty than that for? The Englishmen would keep a lot o' police troops there, an' see that the interest on those wicked old bonds was paid, an' preserve order even if they had to kill off everybody to do it. An' the Egyptians, why they could work an' earn money to pay the interest, and the expenses of the troops an' the other fellers that was there to see that the Egyptians had liberty—to work, and that nobody stole their earnings but the bondholders.

"No, I don't mean that Roosevelt told the Egyptians all this, but it came to me while I was listening to Tomkins, that some o' the Egyptians might be thinkin' along that line. It came to me as Tomkins was praisin' the Roosevelt philosophy, that some day perhaps the British might not be as strong as they are today. That some day another nation would take a notion that British civilization was not just the thing, an' that Britain ought to

be taught self-government at the point of the bayonet and the mouth of the cannon. How would Britons like the process? We might think of this ourselves when we are voting more warships an' sendin' more troops to the Philippines.

"What do I think o' Cannon? Why, he's been bankin' s~ much on lookin' like Lincoln that he's forgot entirely to be anything like him."

GEORGE V. WELLS.

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## FRANKLIN PIERCE ON "KEEPING STILL."

A Letter from Franklin Pierce of New York to Henry Watterson, Editor of the Louisville Courier Journal.

I have read with interest your talk before the National Press club at Washington. So sturdy a fighter as you are will surely not take unkindly honest difference of opinion as to the true policies of the Democratic party. You say, "Keep still and profit by the enemies' mistakes." I say, go at the Republican party hell-bent on the question of protective tariffs, imperialism, ship subsidies, extravagant government and costly navy, corruption and all the other abuses which they have been imposing upon this American people. The Democratic party has been keeping still altogether too long. Free government can not exist without agitation, and the Democratic party ought to be a party of agitation. The alleged safe and sane part of this party naturally belongs to the Republican party, and there it will finally bring up. When the leaders of the Democratic party are quiet, notwithstanding hundreds of tariff-bred monopolies are selling their products to the American consumer for twice the price which they would exact if the tariff was removed; when these special interests sit at the hearth of the poor, charging them extra prices for coal, extorting from 50 to 250 per cent more for every thread of clothing which they wear than the natural price, and robbing them day and night, year in and year out, by enhanced prices for all the necessaries of life, and we Democrats sit around smiling as serenely as two summer mornings—when such a condition of affairs as this exists, I say, away, away with you, faithless ones. You are recreant to your trust and are recreant to the memory of the Democratic leaders of the past, and from the very heavens their voices condemn you.

Slavery was the curse of the South before the war, but our modern materialism, our tariff-made monopolies and the rule of corrupt special interests is laying much heavier burdens upon your people than did slavery in those days, and you Southern men have bowed your heads to this sin and seem to be returning to your old doctrines: that society exists for the benefit of the few instead of the many;

that the millions may be enslaved to increase the riches of a few thousand planters and manufacturers. God save you and bring you back to true Democratic principles, or send you over to the Republican party, where you belong if you do not reform.

Again, you tell us that if the scheme to cause a breach between President Taft and Roosevelt comes to a head, we Democrats may get into power. Is not this the cry of weakness? We can get into power because of a breach between our adversaries? Why not get into power because you are entitled to get into power on your willingness to do the right thing to the whole body of the people? I have no great admiration for ex-President Roosevelt. I have spent not a little time examining his usurpations of power, but Theodore Roosevelt at his worst is the superior of President Taft. No president in our country has ever started in the very beginning of his term by making such a humiliating exhibit of himself as has President Taft. The progressive element in his party ought to desert him, and I trust that they will desert him. Government with President Taft seems to be something of a joke. He seems to be bent upon having a good time at the people's expense. He is hardly serious upon any public question, and is on altogether too good terms with the corrupt elements of this country to please the vigilant and patriotic citizen. His attitude on the tariff and his attack upon the progressive Republicans of the west, his swinging around the circle at the cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars of the people's money, his easy neglect of public duties, his good-natured lack of indignation at wrong, these all may mark him as a good fellow, but not as a faithful and a great President.

The hope of the Democratic party is in getting back to the first principles of justice and government, throwing aside the superficial men who have been directing its councils, and resolving at once to do justice to the consumers of tariff-burdened goods and to those who are bearing the terrible burdens of our extravagant national government. If the Democratic party twenty years ago had cleared its decks and fought valiantly for democratic principles, instead of talking about keeping still and profiting by the enemies' mistakes; if it had sought not only to please the people by honeyed words and demagogic cries, but had actually created and championed real reforms affecting all the people's welfare, it would not be sighing for power today. It is out of power because it is unworthy of power; it is out of power because it lacks leaders who believe in the people and who believe in justice toward all the people. It is out of power because hundreds of its leaders are actually in league with the tariff-made trusts and are voting the Republican ticket three-fourths of the time and are real Republicans and ought to be in the Republican party and stay there. These leaders have simply betrayed the

people, and among them are your United States Senators from the South, who have been steadily taking care of your large land owners and manufacturers, instead of taking care of the great body of your poor people. Our millionaires are expending hundreds of millions of dollars yearly for charities of all kinds. Let us Democrats advocate justice, which will make charity almost unnecessary. Let us urge the people to fight for little things when those little things involve a principle of liberty and justice. Our forefathers fought a seven years' war from Lexington to Yorktown for relief from taxation not a millionth part as burdensome as congress has just imposed upon ninety millions of consumers.

In short, my dear Mr. Watterson, let us believe in liberty and justice and in their final triumph, and hate from our boots up, oppression, and gird ourselves anew to fight for the old democratic ideals, and then there will be no use of "keeping still and profiting by the enemies' mistakes."

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## JAPHET IN SEARCH OF HIS CITIZENSHIP.

For The Public.

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*Japhet goes Forth to Register as a Voter, and Discovers that Although he will be Permitted to Vote, his Citizenship has Slipped away from him; Whereupon he Sets out upon a Momentous Search, which may Possibly be Enlivened with Instructive and Exciting Adventure.*

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On a clear, cold day in October, as he rose from the breakfast table and prepared to leave his home for the store in which he worked, Japhet said to himself that he would stop on the way down town and register. By this he meant that he would give his name and residence and the particulars of his citizenship to the election officers of his neighborhood, so that they would allow him to vote at the approaching Presidential election.

Japhet seldom voted at elections.

He didn't think it good form, except when business interests were at stake. The voting habit, he thought, might be a harmless diversion for workmen—street laborers, mechanics and the like,—and also for farmers. As to politicians it was part of their business, and Japhet commended business methods whether he respected the business or not. Lawyers, too, might cultivate the voting habit without exciting his contempt, for the legal profession seemed to him to be connected in some intimate manner with politics in a business way. But for a salaried man like himself, albeit his salary was small—not much larger than the wages of some very inferior men whom he knew con-