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After much heralding of President Roosevelt's proposed policy of tariff revision, the President himself offers no tariff policy when his message reaches the delivery stage. He treads softly, very softly, and carries no club wherewith to whack tariff robbery.

The dominant note of the Presidential message is paternalism. Weaker nations are to be bossed by us, to make them safe and sane and good according to our standards as interpreted by our rulers; and our own inferior classes are to be bossed, benevolently, according to the ideals which the better classes set up for the lower in order to do them good and regulate their lives. The message looks like a chunk of the political philosophy of Alexander Hamilton, dressed in khaki and showing its teeth.

So frank a challenge of paternalism to democracy might be welcomed, on the theory that a drowsy democracy will awaken when paternalism gets upon a prancing horse and proclaims itself. But there are touches in the message which indicate that this paternalism is not unmixed with plutocracy. A paternalism that clings to institutional privilege and offers benevolence to the wretched victims of that privilege, may be understood as an honest social philosophy; but paternalism undiluted with plutocracy, wouldn't brazenly propose to exploit with plundering railroad and mining corporations a people who had just come under its tutelage,

as Mr. Roosevelt proposes regarding the Filipinos. We can understand a Hamilton who distrusts the people; we cannot understand one who calmly proposes spoliation, such as railroad and mining monopoly in the Philippines would be. It is to be feared that Mr. Roosevelt's Hamiltonism is charged with a strong infusion of Hannaism.

The Philippine "grafters" in Congress are preparing to civilize the Filipinos by forcing on them a public debt for a private railroad enterprise. Why is it so good a thing for governments to build private railroads with public money, yet so bad a thing to build public railroads with public money? If there were no "graft" in the former, would there really be much objection to the latter?

Never before were so many wars launched by this or any other nation in one year, as by the United States last year. This is the official boast of Mr. Roosevelt's secretary of the navy. Apart from the "graft" in this wholesale creation of civilization destroyers, is the fact that they are civilization destroyers, and that our own country, whose mission and glory it has been to set an example of justice, liberty and peace to the world, assumes the lead in setting an example of international swashbuckling. It is part of the McKinley-Hanna-Roosevelt policy of changing our republic from a civilization builder to a world power.

Men who have not only read history, but have digested it, foresaw that the subjugation of foreign peoples, and the abandonment of our democratic traditions in order to do it, must sooner or later react upon our own liberties. In many respects this prophecy has

been verified; but in none has the verification been so marked as in President Roosevelt's imperial punishment of the Boston Herald, by denying it public rights by way of penalty for a private offense.

One of its reporters had misrepresented, so Mr. Roosevelt asserts, the behavior of some of his children. According to the reporter they had proved that they were no molly-coddles, by robustly hunting down a doomed Thanksgiving turkey. Somewhere hereabouts Mr. Roosevelt drew the line between manliness and cruelty, and denied the story of cruelty as slanderous. Had he then forbidden the reporter access to the family apartments of the White House, he would have been entirely within his rights. The President's privacy, and that of his family, is as sacred as that of any other citizen. But he was not content with asserting his private rights; he appealed to his own official powers. Instead of punishing this purely private offense, if there was an offense, by personal penalties, Mr. Roosevelt resorted to his authority as President to punish both the paper and its reporter by locking against them the official doors of all executive departments—doors that remained open to other papers.

One of the Washington correspondents, writing on the Boston Herald episode, evidently by inspiration, endeavors to assure the public that the President's imperial order was directed only "against the class of malicious writers who need to be taught the lesson that the President of the United States in his official capacity is one thing and that the President of the United States in his home life is quite another personage." But the lesson Mr. Roose-