

I indorse the article that I have had printed in the *Record*. I put it in there, as I have had said, for the purpose of having it go to the country. There is no denial to be made of that, and I do not desire any denial or excuse. Further, upon that point, let me say that this is my fourth term in Congress, and that during my service here I have seen every gentleman that I have had any acquaintance with who has been at all prominent in the discussion of public questions in this House, insert that very class of matter in the *Record*. I do not mean matter exactly like this, because gentlemen upon the other side do not insert this kind of matter [laughter]; and that is where the thing is hurting, that this matter is going out to the voters of the country. But I have seen gentlemen insert almost all sorts of matter in the *Record* under the leave to print. Why, sir, member: of the Republican party inserted the tariff articles of Mr. Blaine contained in his Twenty Years of Congress; inserted them bodily into the *Record* during the campaign of 1884.

Mr. McMILLIN. That was done by Mr. Brewer, of New Jersey, if the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Burrows] will recollect, and it was done without any complaint on the part of the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. STONE, of Kentucky. There was no complaint about it, and no complaint has been raised about any such matter hitherto. But, Mr. Speaker, the question of the revision of the tariff and of relieving the people from the burdens of taxation that are now resting upon them is before the country and is being made warm for the party that favors protection, and they object that this argument should go to the voters of the country.

I did not submit this matter as my argument; I do not claim to have made it as a speech; but I put it in the *Record* that it might go through the mails to the people of the country in order that they might have the benefit of the views of one of the strongest writers in the country upon the side of tariff reform. That is exactly why I did it. If the House desires to strike it out, of course I submit; but I ask that it also strike out all the things that have gone into the *Record* during this session of Congress that have not been spoken of by members on the floor. And when you have done that you will have rid the *Record* of a vast amount of misleading stuff that has been put into it, from newspapers and other sources, by members of the Republican party to bolster up the cause of protection. And you will leave a good many skeletons in the *Record*; you will strike out some of the best portions of speeches on the other side. The gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Dolliver] has within the last day or two inserted matter of this kind in the *Record* (I refer to page 3453); that must go out; and the poems and other things of that kind which have been inserted in the *Record* will have to go out.

Mr. Speaker, so far as I am individually concerned, I am willing that the *Record* shall be held right down to what occurs on the floor—the utterances that are made here. But if this privilege of “leave to print” is to be allowed, it can not be confined to one set of men; every man on the floor must be recognized as entitled to exercise the same privilege.

I have no excuse to offer; I have no denials to make. I did insert this matter in the *Record*; and I inserted it in order that it might go to the country under the frank of members of the House in order that their constituents might be able to read this argument without having to buy it. I am glad that attention has been called to it, for it will emphasize the fact that this matter is in the *Record*, and that the people can have it without paying for it.

Mr. BURROWS. Mr. Speaker, . . . if the House shall determine that this shall remain in the *Record*, we have untold volumes that we wish to insert in reply.

Mr. SIMPSON. It would take untold volumes to reply to it.

Mr. FITHIAN. The gentleman from Iowa had previously to publishing this letter of Mr. R. G. Horr in the *Record*, occupied the floor of the House for an hour or more, and had published in the *Congressional Record* a lengthy speech on the subject of the revision of the tariff. After he had taken up the time of the House, after he had occupied the space in the *Record* by the publication of his remarks, he now publishes a second speech which is wholly composed of this letter of R. G. Horr on the subject of farm implements in the *Record* as a contribution upon the subject of tariff, with a heading “Duties upon wool and woollen goods,” to which it bears no reference.

Now, I want to say to the House and to the Speaker that during the discussion of the tariff question I had put my name down early on the list with the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and requested that time be allotted me, to be occupied on the floor in the discussion of the pending subject. I was denied the right to be heard, because, I suppose, the time allowed for the general debate was not sufficient to accommodate all who wanted to speak upon the subject.

I had no opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to make any remarks during the discussion of this question upon the floor, and I thought and think still I had the right—I insist I had the right—in the absence of any remarks of my own, to submit remarks or writings of other gentlemen, especially the eminent gentleman from whom I copied the extract, for the purpose of expressing clearly the views that I entertain upon the question; and if it were not for the fact that the argument I inserted in that speech goes to the very vitals of this question, if it were not for the fact that the argument I inserted in the *Record* was a complete refutation of the position of gentlemen on the other side on the tariff question, the question that was under discussion at that time, no objection whatever would have been made to it even if it had occupied twenty pages of the *Record* instead of a few columns. It was not because of the space occupied in the *Record* that these gentlemen complain, but it was because of the facts, the cold facts, that are laid down for the people to read on this question, an argument which reviews and lays bare the position of gentlemen upon that side, that the complaint against these remarks being inserted in the *Record* is heard now upon this floor.

Mr. DOLLIVER. Will the gentleman allow me?

Mr. FITHIAN. Now, if it is unfair that members on this side who have not been permitted to be heard on the tariff question on the floor of the House shall insert extracts from books or newspapers as their remarks in the *Record*, it is certainly very unfair and unjust for gentlemen on the other side, who have had opportunity and have taken advantage of it, to address the House and take up the space in the *Congressional Record* with their remarks, should insert a speech on a subject, as the gentleman from Iowa has done, which is nothing but, as I have said, a letter written by a gentleman on a subject that was not under consideration.

Mr. DOLLIVER. If I could be sure that the Democratic National Committee would undertake to circulate the works of Henry George as campaign documents, I think there would be no objection on this side, but we have no assurance that the Democratic National Committee will touch it.

Mr. FITHIAN. The gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Dolliver] need not worry himself about what the National Democratic Committee will do. We will attend to the Democratic party, and he will have all he can do if he attends to the affairs of the Republican party. This Congress was elected as a rebuke to the proceedings of the Republican party in the Fifty-first Congress, with a Democratic majority of nearly one hundred and fifty.

Mr. DOLLIVER. . . . But can this House see no difference between the publication of a brief extract from a public newspaper and the concerted publication of a copyrighted volume in its *Record*?

Mr. FITHIAN. Who is making objection to the copyright being infringed upon? Is it the gentleman who had the volume copyrighted, or is it the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Dolliver]?

Mr. WASHINGTON. It seems to be the gentleman from Iowa who is struck by the copyright business.

Mr. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker. . . . I do not know that I have any reason to complain, because the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Dolliver] has inserted something in the *Record* that he did not deliver. During the hour and a half that he occupied the floor in his speech on the tariff question he propounded with a great deal of gusto a question to the other side of the House as to whether any one could name any article upon which the price had been increased since the McKinley bill had gone into operation, whereupon I tendered him, I believe, a list containing one hundred and twenty-four articles, which somehow or other has been lost entirely out of the *Record*. [Laughter.]

Mr. BURROWS. It appears from an examination of the *Record*, there seems to have been a concerted action to get this book into the *Record* and get it franked, and into the hands of the public in this manner. I wish to withdraw my motion and offer in lieu thereof the following.

Resolved, That there be referred to the Committee on Printing pages 3389, 3402, 3053, 3454, 3556 and other pages contiguous, devoted to printing of chapters from Henry George's works, for examination and report whether, in the insertion of said matter in the *Record*, the privileges of the House have been violated.

Mr. GOODNIGHT. It seems to me this resolution cannot be consistently adopted, for the reason that all members have general leave to print. Every gentleman upon this floor, by the special order already made, has the right to print as his speech whatever he pleases; the only limitation being that he must respect the personal rights of members, and the courtesies of the House, and unless he violates these there is no offense; hence this resolution ought not to be adopted.