

THE FEVER IN CUBA.

NOW AMERICANS WILL ROOT OUT THE DISEASE.

Don Weyler's Calculation That the "Yellow Jack" Would Fight Wholly on the Side of Spain is Not Without Points of Interest.

When the Spanish butcher, General Weyler heard that the United States were concentrating troops for the invasion of Cuba, he coolly remarked—"The yellow fever will kill half of them and we shall dispose of the other half." Weyler in threatening our armies with this scourge seems to forget that he really furnishes this government with an excellent and most cogent reason for ridding ourselves once for all of the proximity of a pest house on our borders, and the bringing of Cuba under the same sanitary conditions that have practically extirpated the yellow fever from the Southern ports.

The United States will not neglect cleanliness, vaccination, and the procuring of wholesome drinking water for the Cubans, and least of all need there be any apprehensions that our people will encourage the Spanish idea, that epidemics are specially sent by God, and that only in his own good time will they disappear. The benevolent butcher-general need not rely too much either on the declamation of our troops by yellow fever which will eventually be driven out with the pious despotism of Spain at the point of the lance. For meantime we shall burn enough of sulphur to not only kill all those murderous microbes through which Weyler with characteristic cowardice hopes to overcome the valor of our army, but to keep the name and prowess of the great republic ringing around the ears of the dying dynasty of Spain for the balance of Mr. Weyler's natural life.

Don Weyler's calculation was that the "Yellow Jack" would fight wholly on the side of Spain. This is not without interest. Upon what is this hope based? Is it upon the belief that the microbes love the Spaniards and hate the Yankees? It is difficult to see how Americans would be more amenable to the disease than have been these soldiers which Spain has already sent to Cuba. That the Spanish, however, rely as much on yellow fever as upon the boasted tenacity of their aims to play havoc with the troops of the United States seems plain enough; and the dread of the epidemic may have some influence in causing the country to give such attention to yellow fever as it never previously considered necessary.

About ten years ago a movement was before Congress to establish a commission to check the ravages of yellow fever by inoculation. The proposed bill which was backed by the Louisiana State Board of Health was reported favorably to the Senate but no proper action was taken on the subject then, though the investigations had the effect of increasing information on the nature of this disease that is far ahead of any in the possession of Spanish doctors.

Yellow fever is a heritage of the era of slavery. Had we never imported Africans we might never have known what yellow fever was. The virus of yellow fever comes originally in the last resort from the discharge of the sick negro and from the scourgings of slave ships that had been thrown out at the ports of debarkation and which carried back and forward with the flow and ebb of the tide fermented under the heat of a tropical sun and so tainted the shores of the surrounding atmosphere.

The poison first generated in quarters where the negro lived from which it spread along the shores of the Gulf of Mexico and fructified particularly in the mangrove swamps of Cuba and the West Indies. For twenty years after the termination of the Civil War—slavery being continued in Cuba—it raged in Memphis, Mobile and other Southern cities. With us, however, it has long since yielded to science and sanitation though occasionally the taint has periodically reached us from Havana,—where the virus has fermented and multiplied; being carried into harbors in trading ships through various vapors on infected crews. When extirpated from Havana it will be finally eradicated from its favorite habitat in the breeding nest provided for it by Spain and from which repeated quarantines, fumigations and disinfections have been powerless to abate its virulence, principally on account of the difficulty of divorcing the Spaniard from his filthy environments.

Yellow fever like typhoid requires certain conditions for its development. It arises from noxious exhalations or miasmata, and flourishes in stagnant water or under a hot sun. Badly aired vessels, impregnated with a fetid humidity, generate it, and these conditions can be mitigated if it takes an entire regiment of doctors to accompany our sailors. With competent medical officers, good nursing, proper ventilation of ships and of tents while on bivouac, with the atmospheric disturbance due to the discharge of cannon and the consequent burning of gun powder, the American troops will suffer much less from yellow fever than is generally supposed while engaged in reducing Havana. It is the

universal testimony of all sanitarians that yellow fever has its starting point in the lowest and filthiest quarters of seaport towns, and that when proper conditions are observed it has ceased to be the devastating pestilence which it used to be in other years. It is also allowed that the worst possible condition in which to meet the disease is one of "funk" and it is probably either in order to inspire our troops with fear or to make voluntary enlistment difficult, that Spain's ex-Captain-General dwells on the terrors of this much talked of disease.

A good deal, too, depends on the habits and condition of health as in typhoid fever at the time of attack; and as the disease is rapid much depends upon prompt treatment and accurate diagnosis. The symptoms are usually an instantaneous shock at the base of the brain, followed by unconsciousness and a state of fever. In most cases the stomach is effected and in some cases the gums and nostrils bleed. The immediate cause as stated by a specialist is that termed the bacillus icteroides which collect in great force in the spleen from which after six or seven days they pass into the circulation. Here they begin to reproduce and kill by poisoning the blood causing rapid fatty degeneration with other anatomical injuries which give rise to the icterus or yellow color from which the disease takes its name. This special fever has many other points in common with typhoid fever. The liver loses all functional activity and the patient during the most dangerous period kidneys are inflamed. Unlike typhoid fever, however, temperance is no safeguard against attack nor is intemperance except in so far as it lowers the chances of recovery are sometimes in favor of the bibulist rather than the prohibitionist.

An officer who has served in the West Indies relates that in one case the food following the first stage of the fever, violated every prescription and order of the attending physician, but was cured. One peculiarity of this disease to which the old saw "prevention is better than cure applies" is that it never attacks a pure-blooded negro. If the yellow fever should ravage our troops to the extent hoped for by Spain the United States have fortunately still in its 8,000,000 citizens of Afro-American origin, enough of fighting valor to subdue the dons in Cuba.

To Cure Human Diseases.

The French have a system of curing human diseases by encasing the body in a freshly-slaughtered bullock's skin. The system—known as zootherapeutics—has been in use in France for many years with great success, and is gradually spreading throughout Europe. Your own doctor may even order you such a bath one of these days. This is how the operation is performed.

The patient is put into a freshly-killed bullock-skin, and the hide is quickly sewn up, so as not to allow the heat of the blood to escape. The head of the patient is the only part of the body which is not encased in the skin. After remaining a variable length of time in this unique bath, according to the state of health of each individual, the patient is taken out and plunged into hot water.

These baths are most expensive luxuries, for a skin can be used but once, as artificial heating of the blood does not suffice for the natural life-giving warmth of the freshly-killed animal. Only the rich can afford to indulge in them, and the Paris physician numbers among his patients some of the wealthiest and most distinguished persons in France.

Very Hard to Kill.

To shoot a human being in the head causes instant death; but this is not the case with animals. A headless fowl will run about for some twenty minutes, and a bear with a bullet in his brain has still life enough to kill its murderer if it can reach him within a few minutes. The only vulnerable point in many reptiles is the spine, and a snake with half an ounce of lead in its cranium will live for many years. The star-fish, jelly-fish and other creatures of the protoplasmic genus, if chopped into many small pieces, do not die, but each separate particle becomes a living star-fish, etc.

But the most peculiar instance is that of the common English "death-moth," as it is called. If you cut its head, legs and wings off it still lays its eggs before dying. If you throw it into scalding water, crush it under a hammer until it is a mere pulp, it does not breathe its last before it has produced some twenty eggs, which are invariably fertile.

A Critical Moment.

"Miss Laura," began the youth, with a flushed face and a tremor in his voice, "I came this evening to ask you—"

"One moment, please, Mr. Hankison. Willie, you are making too much noise with those toys. You'd better take them into the other room."

"To ask you," resumed the young man, mopping his brow with a trembling hand, "if you—"

"Willie, take those toys instantly and go."

"If you have tried that new headache remedy you said the other evening you were going to take, and if it did you any good. I am nearly wild with a headache to-night."

"I have forgotten the circumstance to which you allude, Mr. Hankison," said Miss Kajones, coldly. "Willie, you may remain if you wish."

It is said that in London there are no fewer than 20,000 professional musicians of various grades, and that more

BARCELONA HARBOR.

ONE OF THE MOST ACCESSIBLE AND BEAUTIFUL IN EUROPE.

The City is Old, Very Old—Its History Goes Back into Tradition, Which Declares Hercules to Have Been Its Founder.

One of the most accessible and beautiful harbors of all Europe is that of Barcelona, the chief seaport of Spain. Its magnificent port has long made it the principal embarking center of the kingdom for troops destined to serve in distant waters and lands. From this point were shipped the thousands of youths, who found death, not glory, in Cuba; and here she is now gathering her soldiers and manning her warships preparatory to sending them forth to defend her trans-Atlantic possessions. Barcelona, the quiet, the beautiful, is being quickly transformed into a noisy, bustling military center, haunted by sad-eyed women.

The city is old, very old. Its history goes back into tradition, which declares Hercules to have been its founder. In the time of the Carthaginians it first became of importance. The Romans conquered it and made it great. In the ninth century the city was ruled by a Christian chief, with the title of Count of Barcelona, which was afterwards merged into that of Kirg of Argon. During the year 985 it was captured by the Moors; but reconquered not long after. The city now became very powerful. It divided with Italy the commerce of the world. It ruled the Mediterranean. Barcelona became a name powerful in Europe. The great of the world sought its gates; and wealth, learning and luxury made their homes within its walls. Ferdinand and Isabella loved the city; and here, in 1493, they received Columbus after his famous voyage.

For a time Barcelona was the capital of an independent kingdom; but, during the reign of Louis XIV and Philip V it was captured by the allied forces of France and Spain, sacked, burned and robbed of its independence. In the War of Succession, in 1795, the city was taken by Lord Peterborough, one of the famous sieges and captures of history; but on the return of peace was again restored to Spain. Napoleon, in 1808, sent Duhesme, with 11,000 men as a pretended ally, who entered the city and took possession of its citadel. When Napoleon fell Barcelona once more came under Spanish rule, where it still remains.

Barcelona is the least Spanish of all the cities of Spain; and the most cosmopolitan. Spain, Catalonia and France have each stamped a portion of its character on the city. The resultant is not the highest type of humanity. The people are noisy, turbulent and riotous. They are proud, selfish and fickle, becoming easily discontented and always ready, at slight provocation, for a riotous demonstration against the government. Should a revolution occur in Spain Barcelona would be among the first to fly the red flag. It is distinctly a commercial city, the most enterprising and flourishing in Spain. It possesses immense shipbuilding yards, iron works and hosts of other manufacturers. It is the Pittsburg of Spain; yet its blue skies are unclouded and the purity of its air untainted by black smoke and vile fumes. Its people are on the hunt for the "almighty dollar," and, apparently, they find it, for while Spain has been growing poorer Barcelona has become rich. The typical Spaniard is too proud to be a trader; but the citizens of Barcelona have none of this false pride. They will do anything to make money; and the result is they hold the purse strings of Spain.

Barcelona is beautifully located on the shores of the blue Mediterranean. On one side is the magnificent harbor, filled with shipping from all parts of the world; and on the other gently undulating hills and back of them the wild ruggedness and grandeur of the mountains. The air is ever clear and pure. The sunrises are dazzling in their brightness; but hot, sometimes very hot. The vegetation is of luxuriant growth, and fruits and flowers beautify the scene and make fragrant the air. To live a month in Barcelona is apt to give birth to the wish to dwell there always.

The streets are often narrow and dirty, but always interesting. The Rambla is the most famous of the thoroughfares of the city. It is to Barcelona what Fifth Avenue and the Boulevard is to New York. Here are the most important public places. It is the pet promenade of the people, the gathering place of whatever is most pleasant, polite or picturesque in the life of the city. The Rambla runs from the sea in a northwesterly direction; and, unlike our streets, the middle part is given up to foot-passengers, with a carriage way on each side. Along its entire length grow two rows of stately trees, making its cool walk even on a hot day. On feast-days a flood of people flow up and down the Rambla. Another beautiful promenade is the Muralla del Mar or sea wall. This gives a delightful view of the harbor and the Mediterranean. The streets of Barcelona are fast becoming modernized and losing much of their picturesque quality.

To the traveler the most interesting part of Barcelona is its churches; and of its churches the cathedral is by far the most notable. Indeed, some writers place the Cathedral of Barcelona above St. Peter's at Rome, above the churches of all other countries, in its uplifting influence. The beauty and refinement of its architecture, the softness and perfection of its coloring and details—the harmony of the whole, appeal to the soul as no other church does. The building was begun six hundred years ago, and to-day it is not completely finished.

TO FACE CANNONS.

American Horses That Are Best Scaled for Purposes of War.

In the midst of the attention we are giving to the personnel of our armies there is a feature not less important than the feeding and the physical condition of the men, and which we are apt to overlook. It is the condition and training of the army horse. Horses are almost as necessary an adjunct to a successful war as are men.

With the exception of carriage horses for use on the boulevards of large cities, and of race horses—of which class we probably breed the fastest in the world—we have run behind other nations in the production of good and serviceable horses. This was because having such splendid railroad and electric facilities, we have had less need for horses than other people. One of the results of our new expansive policy will be to enlist public interest in the cavalry horse; for while we may have soldiers and a navy that can beat the world, without strong and speedy horses capable of covering a march and capturing a position by a dash, we cannot be fully equipped as a nation.

The effect of quick-firing guns will be to reduce the relative efficiency of cavalry, and of infantry from those of the olden time, but nevertheless the horses will still be a powerful factor in war. The style of horse needed in the army is that known in the older countries as the hunting horse, an animal with enormous chest, clean limbs, heavy loins, deep quarters and free moving action. Such a horse when well-groomed and bred will carry a mount of 150 pounds across country at an excellent riding pace for the space of five or six hours, and will be comparatively fit and fresh for a prolonged march at the close.

Hunters thus trained in the field to rough work, make excellent army horses. Not being much accustomed to the delights of the chase in this busy country, we have not developed the European type of hunting horse; but he is coming.

The best type of the American horse for use in the army, now comes from Kentucky, and from the neighboring mountainous states. It is claimed by some that the small, "chunky" horse is far better fitted for transporting cannon than horses of finer proportions and of greater weight and frame.

It was the need of horses of such endurance and powers which more than anything else defeated Napoleon's campaign upon Moscow.

The Russians were convinced of this, and when some of them saw a French gun at the base of an ice-covered mole with the horses that drew it, lying with broken limbs beside it, because Napoleon had omitted to bring horse-nails, they exclaimed with joy: "God made Napoleon forget that there is a winter in this country."

The great purposes of horses in war are to transport guns, to carry the soldiers, to protect them in case of a charge and to furnish food to the army in case of famine. Many a soldier has protected his own life fighting an enemy from behind the dead body of his horse, and when a retreating force was cut off from its base of supplies, an army was often provisioned by the sutler's forces returning to the scene of defeat and cooking the horses that were killed in battle.

And in the Sioux campaign of 1876 General Crook was so hard pressed for food that he had to kill some of the horses, the command subsisting on the meat for several days.

The well-trained cavalry horse fights some upon his own account. He rears upon his hind legs and strikes venomously with his forelegs at the sight of an enemy whose colors he knows nearly as well as those of his master. In a charge of infantry the horse being so much larger, offers a greater target than the rider whose chest is protected by the erect neck and head of his gallant steed. Horses thus save the lives of the men, and few phases of war are better calculated to inspire terror in unmounted troops than a desperate advancing charge of cavalry at close quarters, with dust flying and hoofs clanging, and the discharge of carbines keeping music to the war-like neighing of stallions on full gallop. The skirmishes during the Peninsular war were mostly of this character, and the Duke of Wellington used to say that a man and his horse thus equipped, were equivalent to five infantry soldiers, though since the introduction of repeating rifles the proportions of Wellington's time are sadly altered now.

It is somewhat sad to state that despite all the uses of horses in war, and notwithstanding the great exposure of this noble animal to danger in case of battle, statistics show the death of a greater proportion of horses from disease, neglect or starvation than from actual slaughter in action. Want of food, want of water and want of rest, the common misfortune of every campaign, kills over fifty per cent. of the horses; and overwork, disease and exposure destroy a far larger proportion than are actually killed in war. If these good people who spend their nights dreaming about the parliament of Man and the federation of the world, would devote some of their spare energy to enforcing the plainest dictates of humanity in the cases of dishonest army contractors the peace societies would do much to mitigate the horrid treatment of horses in war, and accomplish some real good. Even in times of peace the mortality amongst horses for cavalry and artillery purposes is very large. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, Uncle Sam lost 1,061 cavalry and artillery horses out of a total of 6,531; and this percentage which is very large would be much greater in war times, as owing to the excitement which occurs the horse sometimes suffers incredible tortures from want of food, rest and water.

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The Fall Trade. There is every indication that there will be a rushing fall trade. It is also probable that it will commence about the first part of September. The spring trade this year commenced early in March, a full month ahead of the regular time. The pleasant spring may have had something to do with this, but the business men expect the fall trade to be going by the middle of September with a rush. The wise business man is therefore buying his goods and getting ready his advertisements.

Appetite and Ambition. "I was tired and had no appetite or ambition. I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla and it gave me permanent relief. I attribute my present good health to the fact that Hood's Sarsaparilla has purified and enriched my blood, and I earnestly recommend it for a debilitated system." MISS MARY HONECKER, St. Clair, Pa. Hood's Pills cure nausea, sick headache, biliousness, indigestion. Price 25 cents.

A despatch from San Francisco says: "The men of almost every one of the volunteer regiments in camp at the Preside are circulating petitions to the Secretary of War requesting they be mustered out of the service. There are very few of the officers with whom this movement has any countenance and efforts are being made to suppress it." The men have the tough times and receive \$16 a month. The officers receive from \$1,400 to \$6,000 a year, and would probably like to have a steady thing of it.

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OMAHA EXPOSITION. Eight-Day Personally-Conducted Tour via Pennsylvania Railroad. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has arranged for a special eight-day personally-conducted tour to the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition at Omaha on October 1, allowing four full days at the Exposition. Round-trip tickets, including transportation and Pullman berth in each direction, meals in dining car going and returning, hotel accommodations and meals at Omaha, admissions to the Fair, and carriage drive and hotel accommodations at Chicago will be sold at rate of \$100 from New York; \$96 from Philadelphia; \$95 from Washington and Baltimore; \$91 from Williamsport and Harrisburg; \$80 from Pittsburg; and proportionate rates from other points. The party will be accompanied by a Tourist Agent and Chaperon, and will travel in special Pullman sleeping cars. For the benefit of those who may desire to remain longer in Omaha, tickets will be made good to return on regular trains until November 15, inclusive. Such tickets include only railway transportation returning, with reduction of \$15 from above rates from all points. For further information apply to ticket agents, Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York, or Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Philadelphia. Lithographed bonds, stock certificates, and checks are furnished at THE COLUMBIAN office. Should she live until September 30, Mrs. DePew, of Landrus, Tioga County, will be 100 years old. Mrs. DePew is in full possession of her faculties and when a friend called to see her the other day she was shelling peas for dinner.