

INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL GOMEZ

(Continued from Page 1.)

Cuban leaders in the United States have been arrested and imprisoned because they were suspected of plotting to break certain laws. It is certain that now under arrest in New York is General Carlos Hollof, one of the chief officers of our civil government, as well as one of my most trusted lieutenants. It is certain that American cruisers are doing their utmost to cut off our supplies, and it is certain that the secretary of state of the United States has been negotiating with Spain for a settlement of the war.

"Would you say that the United States was our ally after these things, or would you say that in almost every manner possible the American government has not been the friend of those who opposed us? As for the secretary of the United States, I have every reason to regard him as an intelligent and honorable gentleman, although I know absolutely nothing of him personally and comparatively little of his life. He seems to have overlooked the fact, however, that we are possessed of a civil government of our own, and that such civil government has among its chief officers a secretary of state, or as we call it a secretary of foreign affairs.

"I have every confidence in the ability, sagacity and patriotism of Dr. Rafael Portuondo y Tamayo, and he is willing to leave in his care such negotiations with other governments as are likely from time to time arise. Secretary Portuondo has also a military assistant in the person of Dr. Eusebio Hernandez, one of the brainiest men and truest patriots that ever lived in the city of Havana.

"AMERICAN INJUSTICE. "The American government has very wrongly ignored the fact that the republic of Cuba is not merely a name, but an established and maintained institution, with all the officers necessary to the proper transaction of governmental business. We are ever ready to have our friends intercede for us in whatever way they may think will be to our greatest benefit, but we would wish them to know that we desire to be a party to whatever transaction concerns us.

"However, when those who do not incline toward Cuba in a friendly way take up matters supposedly in our interest, we have the right to say that we shall have nothing to do with it. It is not always have the right, but we shall so speak.

"What, in your opinion, General Gomez, will be the attitude of the incoming administration toward Cuba? "I have not been named as a candidate for the office of president, and I do not know him to be a broad-minded American, in no sense a toady, but a home-made statesman, who, I am sure, will carefully guard the great land which has so rightly honored him, and, at the same time, not forget that the whole of America belongs to Americans, whether they be of Saxon, Celtic or Latin blood.

"I do not believe that President McKinley will declare the independence of Cuba within a very brief time after his assumption of office, but I do believe that he will inquire into the condition of affairs in this island and be willing to accord us such rights as the laws of nations and the dictates of humanity entitle us to.

"Yes, I am pleased with the selection of Mr. Sherman as secretary of state. All of us in Cuba are pleased, for we believe him a man of sterling qualities, and one who will more than his responsibility that will his eminent chief."

"Do you think," I asked, "that the cause of Cuba has been properly represented in the United States?" "It certainly do," replied General Gomez. "We could not have had better representation in America. Mr. Palma commands the respect of the American people, and Dr. Castillo, Mr. Gutierrez, and Mr. Quesada are able and energetic men."

THE MEN IN THE FIELD.

We have at present a registered total of 41,500 men in all the provinces. There are 316 commissioned officers, and of those about 25 are in the United States and overseas. The forces are divided in round numbers about as follows: In Santiago (Orient, Gomez called it), are 9,000 men. In three distinct divisions, in Puerto Principe (Camarague), there are 11,500, of which 3,000 are overseas. Of this 11,000 more than half belong to my immediate command, and perhaps will shortly be in Las Villas (Santa Clara) province. In Las Villas are 6,500, nearly all cavalry. In Matanzas are about as many, in Havana 2,500, and in Pinar del Rio (Occidente) 5,000. The forces in Matanzas, Havana and Pinar del Rio consist mostly of infantry.

"As for arms, we have twenty-nine millions of all kinds, from the old Spanish brass gun to the best make of Hotchkiss rifle. About half these guns were secured from the enemy. The total number of rifles in our possession is not more than 25,000, perhaps several thousand less. Every soldier has a machete, and I figure that there are about 2,000 revolvers in our army."

General Gomez folded the papers and handed them back to Galvo. "When asked about the stock of ammunition on hand, he did not speak. He said that he had plenty of arms and ammunition."

"I could march into the province of Havana with 75,000 men in a month, replied General Gomez, and that would be the almost immediate freedom of Cuba, for one Cuban is as good as two Spaniards any time. More than that, I am convinced that with 50,000 men properly armed and equipped, and supported by artillery, the Spaniards would be driven from Cuba within three months."

"General Gomez was then asked for his opinion of General Weyler. "All the world knows my opinion of that man. He is not a soldier, like Campos. He is not a man, like Campos. He is not a Christian, like Campos."

"What do I think of him? What could any Cuban think of him? "What must all true lovers of right and liberty think of the man who would punish innocent ones does not spare them. He has not whipped the Cuban Army of Liberation, and what is more he cannot. But he can burn the cabins of the poor, take the flour from the mill, and strip the fields, and outrage our wives, our daughters, and our sweethearts."

"He knows that the people of Cuba are fighting this war against Spain, and he knows that the women, yea, and even the children, are suffering from the success of our cause. If Weyler was a true soldier I would respect him, though he opposed us. If his troops were true soldiers I would respect them, even at the same time, not forget that the whole of America belongs to Americans, whether they be of Saxon, Celtic or Latin blood."

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Advertisement for Gold Dust Washing Powder, featuring an illustration of a woman washing clothes and text describing its benefits for cleaning pots and pans.

rience. The telling of this story pleased Gomez, and he laughed as he ended it by saying, "and Rodriguez did not dare refuse to do it."

Following this General Gomez stood up, thereby signifying that I might discontinue the fusillade of questions. After thanking him for his great kindness I said: "I wish to ask you just one more question. How long will this war last?"

"Until Cuba is free," he answered quickly, and went into the house. To look at this Cuban general, who consented to long and tedious interviews, it is hard for one to believe that in a few months more, if he lives, he will be 75 years of age. He is as bright and brisk as most men when they are twenty-five years younger, and his eye is as sharp as those of the pretty Cuban senoritas who flock from all the near-by country to see the hero of the island. His health has been excellent during the past six months, and his spirits were most buoyant until he heard the sad news from Pinar del Rio.

MARKETS AND STOCKS. Wall Street Review. New York, Feb. 10.—In most respects the stock market was almost a continuation of that of yesterday. During the greater part of the session the railway list ruled, while the industrial group developed somewhat more actively. Notwithstanding, however, it ran down to 100% soon after the opening, but subsequently rose to 112% on short coverings. American Tobacco extremely feverish, dropping to 64% and closing at 62%. In the railway list there was generally slight gains. The Deacons, however, were almost entirely professional. Delaware and Hudson fell 1/4 and Jersey Central 1/4, but later partially recovered. Speculation closed quiet and firm in tone. The total gain was 138.79 shares. Net change shows gains of 44% per cent.

Table of stock prices for various companies including Am. Tobacco Co., Am. Sugar Ref., and others.

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New York Produce Market. New York, Feb. 10.—Flour—Dull, neglected. Wheat—ull, weaker. Corn—Dull, unchanged. Sugar—Dull, unchanged. Coffee—Dull, unchanged. Cotton—Dull, unchanged. Hides—Dull, unchanged. Wool—Dull, unchanged. Tallow—Dull, unchanged. Lard—Dull, unchanged. Butter—Dull, unchanged. Eggs—Dull, unchanged. Chickens—Dull, unchanged. Poultry—Dull, unchanged. Fish—Dull, unchanged. Fruit—Dull, unchanged. Vegetables—Dull, unchanged. Miscellaneous—Dull, unchanged.

Philadelphia Provision Market. Philadelphia, Feb. 10.—Provisions were quiet, but without material change in market. Pork—Dull, unchanged. Beef—Dull, unchanged. Mutton—Dull, unchanged. Lard—Dull, unchanged. Butter—Dull, unchanged. Eggs—Dull, unchanged. Chickens—Dull, unchanged. Poultry—Dull, unchanged. Fish—Dull, unchanged. Fruit—Dull, unchanged. Vegetables—Dull, unchanged. Miscellaneous—Dull, unchanged.

Chicago Grain and Provision Market. Chicago, Feb. 10.—The leading futures ranged as follows: Wheat—February, 75 1/2; March, 75 1/2; April, 75 1/2; May, 75 1/2; June, 75 1/2; July, 75 1/2; August, 75 1/2; September, 75 1/2; October, 75 1/2; November, 75 1/2; December, 75 1/2. Corn—February, 33 1/2; March, 33 1/2; April, 33 1/2; May, 33 1/2; June, 33 1/2; July, 33 1/2; August, 33 1/2; September, 33 1/2; October, 33 1/2; November, 33 1/2; December, 33 1/2.

Buffalo Live Stock. Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 10.—Cattle—Active and higher; mixed Canada butchers, \$13.50; mixed Canada, \$13.00; mixed Canada, \$12.50; mixed Canada, \$12.00; mixed Canada, \$11.50; mixed Canada, \$11.00; mixed Canada, \$10.50; mixed Canada, \$10.00; mixed Canada, \$9.50; mixed Canada, \$9.00; mixed Canada, \$8.50; mixed Canada, \$8.00; mixed Canada, \$7.50; mixed Canada, \$7.00; mixed Canada, \$6.50; mixed Canada, \$6.00; mixed Canada, \$5.50; mixed Canada, \$5.00; mixed Canada, \$4.50; mixed Canada, \$4.00; mixed Canada, \$3.50; mixed Canada, \$3.00; mixed Canada, \$2.50; mixed Canada, \$2.00; mixed Canada, \$1.50; mixed Canada, \$1.00; mixed Canada, \$0.50; mixed Canada, \$0.00.

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Auditor's Notice. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, auditor, appointed by the Board of Directors of the Erie and Western Railroad Company, has completed his audit of the accounts of the said company for the year ending December 31, 1896. The same are now open for inspection at the office of the auditor, at the Erie and Western Railroad Company's office, in the city of Erie, Pa.

One-Half Price Sale. Our semi-annual one-half price sale of suits and overcoats commences Monday, Feb. 11. All goods reduced one-half, for cash only. Hats and furnishings, too.

Gollins & Hackett, 220 Lackawanna Avenue. We have a large stock of suits and overcoats at one-half price. We also have a large stock of hats and furnishings. We are open every day from 10 o'clock to 6 o'clock.

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