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SCRANTON, JUNE 4, 1897.

President McKinley as a speaker... does not talk for the mere pleasure of exercising his tongue...

The Wintersteen Trial. By far the worst point scored by the prosecution against Lawyer Wintersteen...

Words of Wisdom. Let me tell you, my countrymen, that reclamation will not be promoted by recrimination...

Buncombe, Pure and Simple. An instructive example of the insincerity and clap trap which characterize too much state legislation in this country...

The Surest Guarantee. Some of the more ardent advocates of international arbitration may feel inclined to take exceptions to the tone of the address of Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt...

Political Pointers. Seven states had succeeded and rebellion was well under way in nearly a dozen states when Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated in 1861...

Law Vases. The Republicans in the senate are pushing the tariff bill at the greatest possible speed. They say no time is to be lost in consideration...

What Mr. Calhoun Saw in Matanzas. Washington, June 3. Writing from Matanzas, Cuba, to the Star of this city, under date of May 21, Charles M. Pepper, the newspaper correspondent...

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don't want the gentlemen of the house to play chess too long." Public opinion could not be more aptly summarized.

The supposition has been that the downfall of Canovas would carry with it the recall of Weyler. It will be interesting to see if this shall prove correct.

While our South American visitors are inspecting this county's industries it is hoped they will be kept too busy to see much concerning our average city governments.

If Spain experiences any shortage on cabinet material it will be remembered that McKinley had some he didn't use.

It will take a long rainy season in Cuba to wash away the blood stains wantonly made by Spain.

President McKinley's special representative could not see the house burning. That was months ago. And he did not put the people who talked to him under oath...

"When the strangers first appeared in the camp of the pacificos not a hand was stretched forth begging alms, not an appeal for charity. All the members of the party in starting out had provided themselves with what seemed a liberal amount of small change, bits of copper, silver coin and coppers...

"The length of this letter forbids the account of what was actually done for the Americans. That and some further particulars of the pacificos at Matanzas must be reserved for another letter, along with a word about the Cuban resistance in the valley where nature has proven less inhospitable than man...

Special Commissioner Calhoun, who was sent to Cuba by President McKinley to obtain facts concerning conditions there, is to be in Washington this week. There is reason to believe that the administration will announce a definite policy on the Cuban question...

There is a right way and a wrong way of doing things, and it is because the right way is better than the wrong way that the Republicans have been unwilling to allow the Democrats to force the bill on the president...

The Republicans in the senate are pushing the tariff bill at the greatest possible speed. They say no time is to be lost in consideration except to answer the criticisms from the Democratic side...

There is talk of starting another morning newspaper in Philadelphia. The city is growing and improved distribution facilities make accessible each year a larger number of readers. At the same time it is not easy to imagine in what respects a new paper could so far improve upon the ones already established as to survive their competition...

That was a bright remark made by Mrs. Lincoln, one of the speakers at the rally for Cuba held in Washington, Tuesday. Preceding speakers had recommended the placing of trust in the patriotism and good judgment of the president...

Passing events give a force to these words that can hardly be misunderstood. Let us suppose—and the supposition, we are convinced, involves no improbability—that Commissioner Calhoun has reported conditions in Cuba which require determined action by President McKinley in the highest interest of humanity...

Let me tell you, my countrymen, that reclamation will not be promoted by recrimination. The distrust of the present will not be removed by distrust of the future. A patriot makes a better citizen than a pessimist, and we have got to be patient, for much as we may want to move out of the old house we cannot do it until the new one is finished...

On the 21st of May, the train was ready to start for Matanzas. No parade was made of the departure of the party. No advance notice of their coming was served on the authorities at Matanzas. It was simply a quiet trip for observation. The railroad journey was a reminder of the winter car war, and the train was filled with soldiers. Other soldiers were on the platforms. The passengers were mostly going back to their posts. The train was preceded a few hundred feet by a pilot engine, or 'explorer'...

At Matanzas, the Americans proceeded to Casero hill, where the camp of the pacificos is located. Mr. Pepper continues: "Hundreds of palm huts are scattered over the hill, and in some order of regulation. All are alike inside. The gravel and dirt make the floor. Boards stretched along the sides serve for tables and benches. A few chairs, chairs simply rough benches. The household effects are usually a few old clothes in the corner. Two or three tin pans are the cooking utensils, which are seldom needed, because there is nothing to cook. The bedding is an old blanket or sheet spread over the boards. Sometimes a rude makeshift of a litter serves for a bed. Some of the huts have rough partitions, but many of them are single rooms. All about in the interior furnishings what would be called in the states about poverty. Mr. Calhoun took ample observations at the extent of these interior furnishings, because he had seen sick like other people and need comforts. And in the rainy season, which is close at hand, the huts are open to the time indoors instead of in the open air."

"It is, however, with the pacificos, or reconcentrados, themselves that we are at present concerned. A pause at the doorway of one of the huts was met with an invitation to come in. There was no room for all the visitors, but some crowded past the threshold. A young woman was sitting on a bench, and she was 7 months on her lap. She was intelligent and answered questions promptly. A boy, 2 or 3 years old, clad in nature's garb, stole to the side of the mother, or he drew a faded shawl across her shoulders, and her modesty shielded, looked at the strangers. Through the opening of a partition we could see an aged woman raise herself from the litter on which she lay and peer out curiously. A man of 25 or 30 sat on a stool and listened to what was said. All he wanted, he said, was a chance to work in the fields and get something to eat. The young woman told President McKinley's representative that the people on the hill got a living by begging and working. The work was making the straw hats out of the palm leaves in which many of the women were seen engaged. There was little demand for these hats and the pay was so very small, but it was better than nothing. Food was got in Matanzas by begging, and some good folks did what they could for the pacificos. But there was no distribution of ration by the military authorities, not even once a day. Now part of the men were allowed to go out a little ways into the country for food, but the women were not. As a consequence, not much was to be had, and the soldiers would not let them go far. The pacificos shared with one another when they had food. The family around her, the young woman said, had had breakfast that morning. They did not hope for another meal that day, but they were not so very hungry. 'It wanted an hour of noon.' They had lived in a good house, three miles from Matanzas. The soldiers have burned it and they come in with the reconcentrados."

"In another part the stay was short. A middle-aged woman, who was sewing the straps of a palm hat, invited us to enter and see for ourselves. She was active and intelligent. On some boards at one side a

President McKinley's special representative could not see the house burning. That was months ago. And he did not put the people who talked to him under oath, so the absolute verity of their testimony may be questioned by skeptics. Yet the evidence of his own eyes. He could not have gone through the settlement with his eyes blindfolded and not have felt the misery around him, but he kept his eyes open and saw women and children in actual starvation. One woman hobbled along painfully, leading her little boy, who also walked as if in pain. When they approached it was seen that their ankles and wrists were badly swollen. Many others were in the same state. They did not know what caused it, perhaps the water. It is a merciful ignorance. A physician afterward told us that they were in the 'anaemic condition' due to making bread and the blood turning to water. Some of them, he added, were certain to die.

When the strangers first appeared in the camp of the pacificos not a hand was stretched forth begging alms, not an appeal for charity. All the members of the party in starting out had provided themselves with what seemed a liberal amount of small change, bits of copper, silver coin and coppers. It was only when the coins began to come spontaneously from our pockets that the clamor for aid began. The country people thought we were a relief party, and they could not be blamed if they made known their needs. The proceeding, at best, was wholly irregular. The distressed American citizens to whom Congress voted relief were not on the hill of Casero. Neither Mr. Calhoun, the consul general, Consul Eries, Vice Consul Delgado, nor the rest of us had business there. We placed ourselves in the class of meddling Americans. In succoring these poor people the military authorities of Spain were not to be faulted. It was the duty of the Minister de Lomo to call them, we may have been guilty of a grave international offense. But when our pockets were emptied no one was sorry. Food is scarce and dear in Matanzas, yet there is food to be bought with money, and the thought of a few shavings and people having something to eat that day must be our recompense.

Seven states had succeeded and rebellion was well under way in nearly a dozen states when Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated in 1861. Yet he did not even call his congress to meet until July 4. People who are complaining that President McKinley's administration is slow in getting its tariff and other legislation completed would do well to compare the progress of events now with those of that period, when the life of the nation was being threatened. There is reason to believe that the tariff bill will now become a law by the date at which the congress was assembled on that occasion.

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