

Once the Mistress of the World. Ruined by Greed and Cruelty. SPAIN'S RISE AND FALL

From the Philadelphia Record.

Spain's rise dates from the marriage of Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile, rulers of provinces in what was now known as Spain.

This discovery was quickly followed by the act of Pope Alexander IV, who issued a bull granting Spain all of the New World west of the Azores.

Spain's first newspaper there was a seventeenth century attempt at one in Mexico. By 1575, nearly a century before there was a printing press in English America, books in 12 different Indian languages had been printed in Spanish America.

In Europe the name of Spain was feared. The nation was built in a day. With its strong foundation, set by Ferdinand and Isabella, and its vast territorial acquisitions, it was in a position to become the virtual director of the world.

Perhaps more clearly will Spain's power be realized when it is recalled that it was under Charles that Martin Luther preached his cause in Worms, and that it was under Charles that was begun the Reformation.

Spain's monarch defeated Francis I, king of France, and imprisoned him at Madrid. Francis I, renounced his pretensions in Italy, Flanders and Artois and restored the Duchy of Burgundy to Charles.

Spain's conquests, Pope Clement VII, headed an opposition of Italian states, but this was at once avenged by the sack of Rome. Charles had his brother, Ferdinand, elected king of the Romans, though opposed by the Protestants, on whom Charles was severe.

Spain's conquests in Africa. Even Africa was forced to bow to this strong Spanish nation. Barbarossa had made himself Dey of Algiers. His domains nearly coincided with modern Algeria.

Spain's conquests in the Americas. The attention of the people had been diverted to unprofitable war. The invincible soldier of Spain lost prestige in Holland.

The attention of the people had been diverted to unprofitable war. The invincible soldier of Spain lost prestige in Holland. Enormous taxes, from which the clergy and nobles were exempt, fell crushing severity upon the productive class.

The exhaustion of the country was inevitably followed by the degeneracy of its ruler, Philip III, to whom devotions constituted the proper administration of government, determined to expel the Moors.

The present century has been a period of decadence for Spain, though it has been the most peaceful and least eventful of her life. In 1808 Spain owned two-thirds of the United States, all land west of the Mississippi, Mexico, Central America, nearly all of the West Indies, all of South America except Brazil.

Her history in North America is a monument to diplomatic stupidity. She early gave offense to the United States, not only in a direct manner, but also

In endeavoring to swerve France from aiding this government. The position and strength of the countries occupied by the Americans, said Granada, the Spanish cabinet member in 1763, "excites a just alarm for the rich Spanish possessions on their border."

The dispute as to the boundary line of Spain's possessions came particularly forward in 1786, when, by a change of Spanish ministers, Don Carlos Martinez, the Marquis de Yrujo, came to Philadelphia. He married Sally McKean, the daughter of the chief justice of Pennsylvania, and became a leader of Philadelphia society.

Thomas Binkley negotiated a treaty with Spain that settled the Spanish boundary and the question of the navigation of the Mississippi river, which at that time was claimed by Spain. It fixed the Florida boundary line at the thirty-first degree north latitude, between the Mississippi and the Appalachicola, and east from the junction of the Flint river to the head of the St. Mary river and to the set.

The acquisition of territorial Louisiana, from which we have made Louisiana, Indian Territory, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, South Dakota and North Dakota, came to us from Spain through France. In 1800 France ceded to Louisiana was ceded by Spain to France, who had previously given the territory of Louisiana to Spain.

Florida, too, was to soon pass from under Spanish rule. In 1763 Florida was exchanged by the Spaniards with Great Britain for Cuba, which had recently been conquered by England, but twenty years later Florida was returned to Spain. When France ceded Louisiana to the United States it was declared to be ceded with the same extent that it had in the hands of Spain, and as it had been ceded by Spain to France.

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great nations appropriate large sums for their colonies, Spain does not contribute a cent for hers. While the islands need foreign machinery and utensils, Spain does not manufacture them, but makes the island pay heavy import duties.

RAVAGE OF THE PHILIPPINES. The Philippine Islands form a striking illustration of the wrecking of a rich country by the greediness of officials, which has now terminated in rebellion. The islands are about 400 in number, but the principal one, and the one most heavily populated, is that on which is situated Manila, the capital with a population of 150,000 persons.

NO REPLY MADE. This extraordinary insult no direct reply was made by our government. The entire correspondence was forwarded to Richard Rush, then the American minister at Paris, with instructions to bring it to the attention of the French government.

FORCED TO WAR BY TAXES. Since the rebellion of the natives in 1872 taxes have become more oppressive, and recently the tariff duties, framed to give a monopoly of the market for manufactured products to Spanish producers, have been raised to a point that smothered commerce.

DISMEMBERING THE COLONIES. Florida, too, was to soon pass from under Spanish rule. In 1763 Florida was exchanged by the Spaniards with Great Britain for Cuba, which had recently been conquered by England, but twenty years later Florida was returned to Spain.

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LATER INSTANCES. The case of Mr. Catacazy, dismissed in 1871, was of a somewhat different nature, while the Sackville-West incident is too recent to require description.

TO PAY IN INSTALLMENTS. Sometimes, without a doubt, American and British judges, who are held to a close accountability to the letter of a law which may have in it no justice for a particular case, may well sigh for the latitude of an Oriental cad.

A BRITISH EXIT. During Madison's first term the British minister, Mr. Jackson, wrote to the secretary of state a note indirectly accusing our government of duplicity.

GREED AND GRAB. The true cause of the backwardness of Spain is the procession of horrors, violence and public calamities that it has forced on its colonies. But only Cuba and Porto Rico can suffer such terrors in this hemisphere now, and they, perhaps, not long.

POSSESSIONS IN AMERICA. The present century has been a period of decadence for Spain, though it has been the most peaceful and least eventful of her life. In 1808 Spain owned two-thirds of the United States, all land west of the Mississippi, Mexico, Central America, nearly all of the West Indies, all of South America except Brazil.

must be convinced that it is more honorable to acquit fairly a debt contracted during war, under pressure of necessity, than to evade it by any means, and endeavoring to brand the character of an honest man.

The minister was summoned at once to the state department and informed that his letter was offensive, but that he should have an opportunity to withdraw or modify it.

UNTAUGHT BY EXPERIENCE. This experience, however, did not teach his wisdom. The offense which led to his dismissal occurred several months later. Commander Carpenter of the United States war vessel Iris had saved a French ship in a gale off the Mexican coast.

Mr. Secretary State in the name of the French government, to address a severe reproof to that officer of the American navy, in order that the error which he had committed should not be repeated hereafter.

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