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DAYS OF WAITING AT CUBA'S CAPITAL

Scenes at Havana as Described by a Press Correspondent.

WHERE WEALTH AND SQUALOR MEET

Pen Pictures of Characters in the City Turned—The Charms of the Tropics—A Glimpse at Captain Sigbee.

From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press.

Havana, March 14.—Skies of turquoise, royal palms with trunks of silver and crowns of green, many charming looking women and fine looking men, bands thoroughly melodic, houses whose outer ugliness but accents the status haunted, flower embossed beauties within, occasional flashes of noonday heat rendering the stentia time almost a necessity, ozone laden morning and evening breezes that make one's lungs a luxury, semi-occasional showers with sub-tropical down pourings—these are some of the attachments and attributes that mark Havana, as remaining some of her old time charms.

Narrow, ill-paved streets, unsanitary and foul-smelling garbage, uncleanly alleys and back-yards, lack of modern conveniences, a super abundance of glare, a surfeit of squalor, misery, starvation, disease, death in countless and appalling forms, stagnant business, regnant officialism, crowded hospitals, gorged prisons—these, the seamy sides of the tapestry of life here and to the observant the sadness makes discernible the joyful notes. A visit to a relief station makes the laughing crowd around the band stand in the "Parque Central" a mockery and the gay equipage of the rich officer or merchant only brings into bold relief the mean death cask of the pauper and the Pacific.

COSMOPOLITAN CITY.

It is a cosmopolitan city in a way, but while the Latin, the Gallic, the Indian and the African predominate in the numbers, the Anglo-Saxon holds, as usual, his share of public attention. The most animated conversation among the voluble Cubans is hushed into quiet observation if Sigbee, the on-guarded Maine, comes into view. Sigbee, aloft, pleasant-faced, kindly, medium in stature but erect in carriage, keen of eye, ready of tongue, almost demobair when off duty, but incisive, vigilant, politely peremptory, sure in command, quick in foresight, when on board; the first man the stranger wants to see and, if so fortunate as to meet him, the last to whom adieux are made.

Then there is the court of inquiry—Sampson, tall, slightly bent as to shoulders as he gravely listens to question or suggestion, with a face marked with thought, firm lips, shadowed by grey mustache and beard, courteous but cold, quick to detect assumption and quicker to grasp a point of moment, a very ideal president of a court for whose decision, it is not too much to say, Christendom waits with eager interest—Chadwick, ruddy, semi-portly, genial, suave, fluent, hearty, with eyes none the less keen that they grow merry on occasions and lips that can close in lines of iron though well acquainted with laughter—Potter, brunette, soldierly, quiet but kindly, self-effacing, but with the weight of high intelligence in glance, speech, gesture; the model of the executive officer diplomat, man of the world—Marx, a potential of high value in any deliberative body; looking as if he could address court or jury to marked advantage should occasion serve, posted in every detail of his profession (as indeed are all his conferees), a man not to be humbugged and in the habit of weighing even his own thoughts before he gives them utterance. Certainly a quintette (Sigbee always being included) of which the United States is proud.

PEN PICTURES.

Pen pictures might be made of Lee—that dashing cavalry soldier and unshakable—consul general of Elwell, Miss Barton's chief of staff, with the face and form of Pickwick and a heart as kindly as that dear creature—of Springer, vice-consul, who knows Cuba and its people as he knows the game of whist—of half a dozen other officials whose names are now almost household words in the states; but suffice it that all are men to be admired for strong and many qualities.

Interesting too, to a Dickens, a Thuchery, a Dumas or a Kipling would be the better class of correspondents to whom Havana is now the habitation of hope—alas for them it is hope deferred. They must join the vast multitudes who read their dispatches in playing the truly Spanish game of "set down." Patience is harder here than in the North for the islander in a "day-after-tomorrow" person anywhere and the sight of his cool nonchalance while great events are having birth is aggravating. Those of this dilettant complexion of thought who were in the corridors of the Hotel Inglaterra must have been startled on the day that the Associated Press correspondent read to a group of newspaper men the bulletin "Senate passes fifty millions defense bill this morning unanimously." What a cheer went up. It was startling in its suddenness, invigorating in its volume. News from home, in advance of the semi-weekly steamers is always eagerly desired here and when it was such news there was handshaking and cries of "Waked up, have they? Hurrah for congress." If there was an American, civil or official, native or naturalized, who did not rejoice at the news, the correspondent did not find him.

THE FOURTH ESTATE.

The fourth estate here is the liveliest factor observable. Several of the

Havana newspapers are really entertaining and for all editions the newspapers rush and grow vociferous as in the Yankee cities. It is a little amusing, after glancing over columns and pages of governmental manifestos, pronouncements, bandos and the like, to note the brief editorial paragraph which says in effect "Same old thing. Words are they, signifying nothing." The political situation, so far as it can be learned, has been given from time to time by cable. In this, as in the general life, beneath the splendor and equator, underrunning alike the light talk and the serious discussion, is that current of vague unrest which might, in semi-paradoxical fashion, be described as "Expecting the unexpected."

What tomorrow, which the next stroke of the clock officers have forth, no man knows. His lack of knowledge does not impair his powers of guessing, however, and the prophetic surmises, logical or illogical deductions, fears, hopes, assurances one has on every hand would be laughable were not the times so full of frowns.

MOVEMENTS OF INSURGENTS.

Of the movements of the insurgents the news that reaches the Havana general public is, at best, meagre and contradictory. Many of the advices from the Eastern provinces must come by steamer, via the North or South coast. Of course there are hundreds here in constant touch with Gomez, Garcia and the lesser leaders, but they do not brut their intelligence abroad. It is known that since the recent arrests here for conspiring, a very considerable number of young Cubans have left Havana for the field. A high official is authority for the statement that there are constant donations of money from residents in this and other Cuban cities to Gomez in the field or the junta in New York. There is a well accredited story of a rich Cuban resident in one of the principal cities of the island, who, in the first of the year has sent \$10,000 cash to the junta and as much more to the insurgent cause. It is averred that while many of the Spanish officers have not been paid for four months and a large proportion of the soldiery has not received a cent for six months, the insurgents are well clad, well fed and well armed, their only pressing need being small arm ammunition. When, or if, Senator Proctor talks in the senate he is likely to have much of interest to say concerning the insurgents as well as the Autonomists and Spaniards.

PHYSICAL ASPECTS.

To return to the physical aspects of Havana. The harbor always presents a picturesque and often a stirring sight. The falling off in vessels of commerce is fully made up by the influx of men-of-war and transports. The little white, greyhound-like Montgomery lies within biscuit toss of the big, black Vizcaya, whose twin the Oquendo is only a couple cable lengths away and that much nearer the hills across the harbor dominated by Cabanas portress of bloody memories. On the Montgomery, under Converse, (whose knowledge of high explosives is regarded as second to that of no living man) alertness and vigilance are the order of the day and night. No apprehensions of treacherous violence are felt, but the visitor to the dainty cruiser must pass the scrutiny of the sentinel marine and later, of the officer of the deck ere admittance is given to the main deck. Both Converse and the officers have already won golden opinions and add to the pride Americans have in their representatives here and hereabouts.

FOREST CITY.

Of late there has been quite an exodus of Forest City people to localities where steadier employment is promised than has prevailed here for the last two years. Newport News, Va., seems to be a favorite objective point for many. New Mexico comes in a good second, and we have contributed our share even to the Klondike region. Thursday evening John Cotter and Ernest Conrad left the borough, bound for the Virginia town, and the same day Mrs. William Bryden and family

left Vandling for New Mexico, to join Mr. Bryden, who has secured a position in a growing town of that state. Others are contemplating an early departure for different places that hold out inducements that can not at present be found in the coal valley.

Nothing more than has been made public has been done in the matter of getting a bridge across the Lackawanna river. Whether the project has been tenderly laid to rest with a number of other schemes that have met an early demise or whether those in charge are quietly getting ready for a stroke that will rear an imposing structure across the stream that flows southward is not known. Some time ago the Wayne county commissioners appointed L. S. Collins as a member of a commission to establish a line between Wayne and Susquehanna counties, and Judge Purdy appointed a Mr. Westbrook of Pike, as another member. The commissioners and Judge of Susquehanna county were asked to appoint two more members and then let the four choose a fifth and proceed to do the work. No action was taken by Susquehanna county. Therefore, reason the Wayne county people, Forest City has no one but its own county officials to blame that nothing can be done with the bridge question. The line must be first established before either county can know just what share of the expense it ought to bear in building a county bridge. If no line is established there will be no bridge. And no one seems particularly anxious to find the line except the fellows who have to wade the creek or go a mile out of their way to get to the side opposite to that from which they started.

This year's annual convention of the Jefferson branch union of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor will be held in the Welsh church, Clifford.

AVOCA.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Hollister left yesterday for Brooklyn, Susquehanna county, to attend the silver wedding of Mrs. E. W. Kent, of that place.

Rev. Mr. McArthur, of Pittston, preached the Christian alliance gathering at Mary Hastie's on Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hoase, of Pittston, spent yesterday among friends in town.

A number of citizens from Dupont are advocating the removal of lights from the town. A movement is on foot to have the Electric Light company extend their system through the town.

Miss Gertrude Silvis, of Wilkes-Barre, is the guest of Miss Kate Campbell.

David Griffiths will leave next week for Butte City, where he will make his future home.

Messrs. Michael Brennan and Michael Walker, of Carbondale, were visitors at the Whalen residence on Thursday.

Miss Iona Robinson, of Pittston, was a guest at the Newlin residence yesterday.

Mr. Patrick Callahan left yesterday to undergo treatment for Bright's disease in the university at Philadelphia. He was accompanied by P. T. McGowan.

The funeral of Nellie, the four-year-old daughter of Mrs. Brawley, took place yesterday afternoon. Interment was made in St. Mary's cemetery.

M. F. Donnermuth, third ward, Thomas Rowlands, Thomas Coleman, R. A. McNulty, George Lammpan, John Burke, M. J. Gilroy, B. J. O'Boyle, James Richens.

old daughter of Mrs. Brawley, took place yesterday afternoon. Interment was made in St. Mary's cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodruff, of Canton, are spending a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Harris.

James Price, of the North End, is undergoing treatment for appendicitis in a Philadelphia hospital.

Mrs. John Brennan, of Main street, is critically ill of pleurisy.

The Old Forge colliery of the Pennsylvania Coal company has suspended operations until March 23.

The salary of the borough secretary has been increased from \$70 to \$100.

"ON SATURDAY"

All our departments unfold and unfurl an unparalleled outpouring of Fashion's commands and bargains of the sharpest values. There is no chance, no luck business here, only solid, substantial fact selling

SPRING TOP COATS.

That \$8 Spring Overcoat we spoke of yesterday is certainly a favorite. They are selling fast. Made in the very latest style, with box back and broad overlaid seams, a fault-defying garment, the same coat has been sold at \$12 here.

Our next coat is a full shapely box coat, 36 in. long, made and tailored in the best manner, in beautiful shades of brown and grey mixed, and the price

\$10

This coat would suit the most fastidious dresser, a choice box top coat, made in several shades of covert cloth, strapped seams, satin sleeves, highly tailored, a regular \$18 garment,

\$12

The "Pool Spring Special," we have mentioned, has taken the eye of the swell dressers of Scranton. It is a thorough, up-to-date copy of the plates furnished by the great English master tailor.

\$15

NEW SPRING SUITS.

You can see the sample of a Spring Suit in our Penn avenue window that is strictly all wool, made in the latest style, 3 and 4 button, Cutaway Sacks, in overlaid mixed chevots. Suits that you can't get later on.

\$8

There is another in the same window that is made and cut in a stylish manner; the quality of the cloth you can rely on, including Non-Shrinkable Tweeds and Chevots.

\$10

And while you are looking just take notice of these splendid Fancy Worsteds and Cheviot Suits. They are cut and made by skilled tailors. Such as you would pay \$25 and \$30 for at a custom tailor's. The pants are cut medium width, falling gracefully over the shoe. There are two grades,

\$12 and \$15

A Few Nuggets from the Mine of Bargains

Fancy Silk Marked Hose
The kind you have paid 25c for in exclusive furnishers. OUR PRICE,
15c, 2 Pairs for 25c

Suspenders
Made of the best elastic web, easy and comfortable, always sold for 25c by us, other stores charge you still more.
19c.

Balbriggan Underwear
A medium weight, regular wear underwear that we have been used to selling at 50c.
29c

Gent's Silk Garters
Made with best elastic, with nickel-plated clasps; the kind you paid 25c for
9c

Neg igee Shirts
In Oxfords, very neat patterns to choose from. A Shirt that will sell later in the year for 75c.
39c

Japanette Handkerchiefs
This handkerchief is as soft as silk, of the very best quality, fancy border or plain initial, always sold for 25c.
15c, 2 for 25c

Collars
All the latest shapes, pure, 4-ply linen, the regular 15c grade.
10c, or 3 for 25c

Fancy Percale Shirts
These shirts are the very latest patterns, 2 collars detached and one pair of cuffs, the same as you have paid \$1.00 for.
59c

Golf and Bike Shirts
Made of Madras cloth and wove in fine effects of coloring, with two detached collars and cuffs. 75c values.
48c

Fancy Silk Bow Ties
Made up in all the latest shades and patterns, the regular 25c kind, 15 cents.

Just arrived—15 cases of the latest shapes in Black Stiff Derbys and Pearl, Brown and Black Soft Hats. They are the best quality we



have yet received; silk tipped, with leather sweat bands.
See them in our corner window. Our regular \$1.50 Hat for
98c

SAMTER BROS.,
Furnishers, Hatters and Clothiers.

March April May

The months for renewing and healing in the physical world.
The months for new life, new energy, new blood in men and women.
The months when our need of help from medicine is greater than at any other time of year.
The months when Hood's Sarsaparilla will do us the most good because we are all now especially susceptible to benefit from this medicine.
The months when Hood's Sarsaparilla is taken by the millions because they have found that it is the medicine which does them good.
The months when you should take Hood's Sarsaparilla, because it will purify, vitalize and enrich your blood, and put you in good condition to resist the debilitating effects of changeable, warmer weather. Try it now.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is sold by all druggists. Price \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only by C. L. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass., The Best Spring Medicine.

Williams & McAnulty,
Money-Saving Specialties for March.
WALL PAPER, 10,000 Rolls at 3c Per Roll
Carpets { 35c Ingrain Cotton Carpets, that will not be duplicated again this season, at 25c per yard
45c Ingrain Cotton Carpets, that will not be duplicated again this season, at 30c per yard
60c Brussels Carpets, that will not be duplicated again this season, at 50c per yard
1,000 pairs Ruffled Muslin Curtains, worth \$1.50 per pair, at 90c
1,000 Window Shades on Spring Rollers, complete, at 75c

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Fancy Rockaways, East Rivers, Maurice River Coves, Mill Ponds, &c., &c. Leave your order for Blue Points to be delivered on the half shell in carriers.

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THIRD NATIONAL BANK OF SCRANTON.

Special Attention Given to Business and Personal Accounts. Liberal Accommodations Extended According to Balances and Responsibility. 3 Per Cent. Interest Allowed on Interest Deposits.

Capital, \$200,000
Surplus, 350,000
Undivided Profits, 79,900

WM. CONNELL, President.
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The vault of this bank is protected by Holmes' Electric Protective system.

LADIES
Clean your Kid Gloves with MILLER'S GLOVE LIME. For sale only by Sears & Roebuck, headquarters for dressed and undressed kid gloves in all the most desirable shades.

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Mining and Blasting POWDER
Made at Moosic and Rushdale Works.

LAFLIN & RAND POWDER CO'S ORANGE GUN POWDER
Electric Batteries, Electric Exploders, for exploding blais, Safety Fuse and Repsuno Chemical Co's HIGH EXPLOSIVES

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The Most Perfect Insulation.

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