

THE DEFEAT OF SPAIN IN 1866

A Brooklyn Man's Story of the Callao Bombardment.

THE OUTRAGEOUS BETRAYAL OF HOSPITALITY IN PERU BY THE SPANIARDS AND THEIR ATTACK ON CALLAO AFTER HAVING BOMBARDED DEFENCELESS VALPARAISO—THE PART THAT THE AMERICANS PLAYED IN REPELLING THE ATTACK AND IN SENDING SPAIN'S CRIPPLED SHIPS AWAY.

From the New York Sun.

On May 2, 1868, Spain's armada suffered its final and overwhelming defeat on the western coast of South America. Never again did Spain have a foothold on the continent where her possessions had so vast. A few United States citizens took part in that last decisive battle and those yet living refer to the event, with evident satisfaction, as a triumph of freedom and pluck against heavy odds.

While making a thorough study of the Inca antiquities in Peru, Dr. Augustus Le Plongeon, now living in Brooklyn, resided in that country eight years, and took part in the stirring events. He gives the following account of Spain's crushing defeat:

"In 1864 a squadron of three Spanish frigates, of sixty guns, suddenly appeared at Callao. These ships were the Villa de Madrid, Comandante Gonzalez, El Triunfo, whose commander's name I do not recall, and La Blanca, commander Tonete, an uncle of the Spanish consul general recently in New York. The fleet was under command of Admiral Pinzon, allied to Mazaredo, who acted as plenipotentiary. The officers declared they were on a scientific mission, that their cruise in the Pacific would extend to California, and that their only object in calling at Callao was to renew friendship with the Peruvians. After 1821, when Peru had shaken off the Spanish yoke, it had had no diplomatic relations with that country, which had not acknowledged its independence.

"Those who have lived among the Peruvians know how hospitable and generous they are. The Spaniards, however, cordially welcomed as brothers who had returned after a prolonged absence; feted by the best society in Lima, where banquets and balls were given in their honor; treated by the government as envoys of a friendly nation, and every facility for learning all about the country, its public monuments, institutions, and so forth, was given them.

"After eight or ten days, during which nothing that could make their visit enjoyable was omitted, the Spaniards left their hosts with many a hot tear and loudly expressing their wishes for the prosperity of the republic. The officers said they were going toward California, and were seen to start northward, but no sooner were the ships out of sight than they changed their course and went south direct to the Chiriqui islands, whose guano, exhausted in 1852, then made them the treasure house of Peru. There a company of marines landed, surprised the guard of twenty-five Indian soldiers, hauled down the Peruvian flag and hoisted the Spanish colors, proclaiming Spain the owner of that land, and declaring war on Peru, whose warships, as the treacherous Spaniards had seen, were all dismantled and unfit for service, for the country was at peace with all nations, and not anticipating any aggression.

"When the action of the Spaniards became known in Lima the indignation of their generous entertainers knew no bounds. A state of consternation also prevailed, when it was rumored that Callao would be bombarded. General Antonio Pezet, the president, went at his wife's end to know how to retreat the islands, so as to fill the contracts for guano. To fail to do this would have proved exceedingly detrimental to the country.

"In the council chambers of the Callao (City Hall) the foreigners residing in Lima held a meeting, at which the traveller George E. Squier, then commissioner of the United States to Peru, presided. It was resolved that a protest should be sent to the Government of the foreign merchants, in the name of the plenipotentiary, to Mazaredo, Spain's plenipotentiary in the city, and on the Chiriqui islands, against the treacherous action of Spain. This was done, but did not produce the desired result. Spain was there to insist upon the payment of the indemnity, and the ships did not move off until one of them was mysteriously destroyed.

HOW IT WAS DONE. "How was it done? Well, after a few days two or three citizens went to Pezco, a small port opposite the Chiriqui islands, hired a fisherman's can, and its owner, and at early dawn visited the Spanish squadron to see how it appeared in the morning mists. Before the sun was up an outside accident happened to El Triunfo, although afterwards offered and crew declared the calamity occurred inside the ship. There was a fine illumination which first lit the rigging, then caught the hull, and the Spaniards were so pleased they jumped overboard to have a better view of the spectacle. The Triunfo was towed a short distance from the other ships; it burned to its water line, and sank where it can be seen to this day in calm weather.

"Two or three days later the other ships sailed south to Chill, but the news of their defeat had reached that place, therefore its port was closed and war declared against the Spaniards. Guayaquil followed the same course; and not one country on the western coast allowed the Spanish ships to take water. For this and for

wood they had to go to Juan Fernandez. "Chill and Peru took measures toward fitting up their men-of-war; but the Spanish fleet was strongly reinforced by the armored ship Numancia, the 67-gun frigate Almansa, the despatch boat Nuestra Senora de Covadonga and the frigate Berenguela. These, with others mentioned, formed the strongest Spanish squadron that had ever searched the waters of the Pacific, and it remained there two years. During this time President Ponce of Peru, wanted to temporize with the Spaniards, even to pay the indemnity. This resulted in his removal from office by a revolution.

"In 1865 the fleet was under command of Admiral Pareda, son of the viceroy of Peru, and born in Lima. Upon being ordered to bombard Valparaiso, a commercial, defenceless city, this man, rather than do such a dastardly deed, blew out his own brains on board the Numancia. The command then devolved upon the next chief, Mendez Nuñez, who, less scrupulous, bombarded the city for four hours, destroying many public buildings, while not even a pistol was fired off in return. The French frigate Venus was in the harbor at the time, also the English frigate Shearwater and the American war steamer Vanderbilt, with Commodore John Rodgers on board, acting as escort to the monitor Monadnock, which was on its way to California, where it now is.

"Commodore Rodgers sent word to Captain Derram, of the Shearwater, asking if he would like to preserve Callao from the bombardment. The English commander replied that, having only one ship, he hesitated to attack the Spanish squadron. Rodgers then said: "Fire one gun against Spain and retire. With my monitor and my ship I will send those blasted Spaniards to the bottom."

"Rodgers himself told me this. It was afterwards rumored that the British commander was disgraced for having done nothing toward the great English interests in Valparaiso. At the same time the Spanish squadron east another six miles from Callao at the head of Isla Saint Lorenzo. On learning of the bombardment of Valparaiso, Commodore Trade, then president of Peru, ordered the setting up of two iron-clad turrets belonging to a monitor which had been brought in sections and had been put together. One turret was placed a short distance to the south of the city, and called La Mirador. The other was placed to the north and called Santa Rosa. In each turret were guns, 200-pounders, were mounted.

"The army officers, from generals to the youngest lieutenants, and the students of universities and medical colleges hunted up fifty old cannon of various calibres, which had been discarded, mounted these as best they could on the short spaces between the two turrets and in front of the cannon placed sand bags as a protection against the cobblestones that formed the beach, and which the balls of the enemy could convert into grape shot. The officers themselves manned the guns. No common soldier had a hand in that unequal struggle.

"The fifty or twenty United States residents, mostly merchants, came to the front and, in the defence of American soil, got permission to use and man another Parrott gun, a 500-pounder, that was in the arsenal. This was mounted on its carriage about fifty yards south of the railroad depot. Commodore Rodgers, who was in the fort, assured me that he had difficulty in restraining his men, so anxious were they to land and assist in the fight.

POPULAR ENTHUSIASM. "When on that famous May 2, the people in Lima learned that Spanish ships were stripped for action and that Callao was to be bombarded, their courage and enthusiasm knew no bounds. Every able-bodied person wanted to hasten there to encounter the perfidious Spaniards. Those who could not get there in the railroad cars walked to the port, nearly nine miles off. Young women of the best families sped to the scene of action to encourage the combatants and attend the wounded. The Peruvian priests also hurried to the coast, but the Spanish frigate in the bay shot at them, and they were forced to flee. The most cowardly of the foreign merchants, and civilians did not even wait to call upon the common soldiers, but rushed headlong to the defence of land and liberty. There was a reserve force of 2,000 men out of sight, only a few hundred passed from the shores, followed by seventy-five pieces of field artillery and ready to face the Spaniards had these effected a landing. The 2,000 soldiers were sheltered behind the walls of a fortress which covered fifteen acres of ground. It was built in 1775 and served as custom house and storehouse.

"The Spanish fleet, consisting of the Vanderbilt, Gonzalez, the Callao and other vessels of the United States South Atlantic fleet—the Dakota, Sirvanes and Mohogee, also the French frigate Venus. The squadron of Mendez Nuñez started from its anchorage about 11 o'clock and advanced in the form of a letter V, the Numancia leading by its point until about half a mile from shore. This ship then took up its position in front of the old fortress. The Almansa and Villa de Madrid faced the northern batteries, La Blanca and Berenguela those to the south. The Covadonga kept beyond the line of fire, ready to aid any disabled ship.

"As eight bells sounded on board and the bells in the fortress rang out 12 o'clock the first gun was fired—from the Numancia. Considering the strength of the foe, we on shore all expected to be blown to bits, but after twenty minutes had gone by we laughed, for the Spanish gunners aimed so badly that their missiles flew toward

Sunday School Lesson for June 5.

Jesus Condemned.

Matt. XXVII, 11-26.

BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D., Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

CONTEXT.—After the supper Jesus and the eleven went forth to the Garden of Gethsemane. There he was arrested by the Jews and forsaken by the disciples. Led away into a courtyard he was judged before the high priest and subjected to insult. The attendant menials and soldiers, unrestrained by their superiors, heaped upon him the most brutal and filthy abuse (Matt. xxvi, 67-68). They led him through the court yard with cursing and revellings, and thrust him into the court room to await the break of day. In the early morning he was brought before the Sanhedrin (Mark xv, 1), of whom only a portion had been present at the court session of the night before. He was actually, but his first formal and legal trial. No attempt was made before that august body to present any new complaint, or was deemed best to frame a charge of constructive blasphemy, based upon His own extorted words (Mark xiv, 62-64). As this was a flagrant violation of the law (Lev. xxiv, 16), they begged that Pilate would ratify their decision and pronounce sentence.

PILATE.—Upon the deposition of Archelaus (Matt. ii, 23) A. D. 6, Judea was attached to Syria, and a procurator, vested with judicial and military authority, was appointed to administer the province. He was the sixth of such governors. Entering the office, A. D. 26, he soon awakened the displeasure of the Jews by removing the headquarters of the army from Caesarea, the capital (Acts xv, 1), to Jerusalem. Several of the subsequent acts led to riot and bloodshed. Our Saviour refers to one of these acts, when he became disgusted with the fanaticism of his unruly subjects, but at times he sought to conciliate them for the sake of the empire. It is held that in the year 28, upon complaint of the Samaritans, he went to Rome to answer their accusations before the emperor; that on reaching the imperial city, the emperor, having died, he was overcome with disappointment and that he killed himself.

ANALYSIS.—The arraignment of Jesus before Pilate is the subject of all the evangelists (Matt. xxvii, 2-14; Mark xv, 1-15; Luke xxiii, 1-5; John xviii, 28-39). No one of them gives a complete account. By combining the various accounts, we get a tolerably correct idea of what transpired. The scene changed several times. Throughout the grandiose accusation against him, the procurator, having the Jews set over against the repeated acquittal by Pilate and his effort to set the prisoner free, ending at last in his disgraceful flight, which had been the purpose will be to weave the scattered facts into a continuous and orderly narrative. The object is to display the spirit of the world, which had been the church and state—Judaism and heathenism, the former principal—united to put to death the Son of God.

ACCUSED.—Early in the morning, perhaps 7 o'clock, Jesus was brought by the chief priests and officers of the Sanhedrin, to the colonnade of the palace, which he did not enter lest they would be defiled (John xviii, 28). Pilate, annoyed by the early call, went out and inquired, "What accusation bring ye against him?" Sentencing the question, they answered, "If

he were not a malefactor we would not have brought him." Declining the matter unworthily of his attention Pilate said, "Take ye him and judge him" (John xviii, 30). Confessing their impotence as "murderous persons" they answered, "It is not lawful for us to put to death." Dropping the charge of blasphemy, the mob cried out, accepting Jesus of Pontius Pilate as "King of the Jews." "These were the words which most certainly would arrest Pilate's attention. "Forsaking the nation," "forbid ding to give witness against a King"—these were the terms. The last was a perversion. The first (Matt. xxii, 21) and the second (Matt. xvii, 27) were wholly without foundation. Opposite of His teaching, contrary to the spirit of Christianity, as set forth by the apostles (Rom. xiii, 1).

EXAMINED.—The charge produced the desired effect. Pilate could not ignore any matter involving the peace of society or the stability of government. Retiring with Jesus into the Judgment hall, he asked, "Art thou the King of the Jews?" (Matt. xxvii, 13). "Sayest thou this of thyself?" he asked. "I have no other title," he indignantly answered. "Art thou a Jew?" he asked. "I have no other title," he indignantly answered. "Art thou a Jew?" he asked. "I have no other title," he indignantly answered.

ACQUITTED.—Returning to the Jews Pilate said, "I find no fault in this man." But they cried, "We have no king but Caesar." Pilate asked the meaning of these accusations, but he made no answer. He had been informed by the chief priests that Jesus had been accused of sedition. "Thou nothing?" Pilate queried, wondering at the silence. "Turning to the people he said a second time, 'I find no fault in him.' But they broke forth and insisted only made the Jews more bitter and boisterous. 'He stretch up the people, teaching throughout Jewry, beginning from Galilee, and ending at Jerusalem, who before had been enemies (Luke xlii, 12). Herod, whose life was polluted with Herodism, whose hands were red with the blood of the innocent, and state—Judaism and heathenism, the former principal—united to put to death the Son of God.

DEFENDED.—Once more confronted by the noisy crowd Pilate determined to defend Jesus. He was convinced of His innocence. He had been informed by his wife (Matt. xxvii, 19). Assuming the judgment seat he made an address, saying that he and Herod had found no reason in the accused (Luke xxiii, 15). He was willing to conciliate the Jews, he proposed to release one of the prisoners whom they had chosen. The men who handed them were inspired by the holy love of progress and freedom.

CUBA IN FUTURE.

Likely to Be an El Dorado for Americans with Brains, Sense and a Little Capital.

H. S. Castled in Times-Herald. "Cuba is the smile of the sea," says the ever picturesque Ingersoll. It is a country of wonderful resources. Add to these its geographical position, and we have the factors of a glorious product. It is within easy reach of New York and other large markets of the United States. The transportation is cheap. The United States and Cuba are reciprocal in production. We find there a ready market for manufactured goods, and the island sends us sugar, bananas and other tropical productions. A tremendous trade could be made under free trade conditions.

Cuba is the largest sugar producer in the world. The Constancia plantation near Cienfuegos produced, according to the last Cuban census, 45,000,000 pounds in a year. With American energy and money, Cuba could be made to produce 250,000,000 tons easily. There would be heavy competition among experts in the production of sugar. These lands would be sufficiently cultivated, and the cane reduced by the diffusion of machinery and improved processes. The cane, finely chopped up and placed in large iron cylinders and submitted to the same process as tea in the household, this there is not more than one-half of 1 per cent. of saccharine matter.

PERUVIAN HEROISM. "From first to last I took an active part on shore, and can testify to the heroism of the Peruvians as well as of their United States allies. About 320 have been perished on land, not struck down by the Spanish fire direct, but, by the cobblestones which covered the shore and which, scattered by the cannon balls, did so much damage to the men, chief surgeon on the Vanderbilt, or any of the officers on board at that time are still living, they can corroborate my account. Dr. Johnson may also remember the words of Captain Gonzalez of the Madrid when he and I stepped on the deck of that ship to present the compliments of Commodore Rodgers and offer our professional services for the wounded seamen.

"Gonzalez received us courteously, accepted our offer, and said: 'I am glad not to have had to fire a shot against the city. That cannon ball spared my feelings. I am a republican, and my soul revolted against firing, but as a military man I should have had to do it had not this saved me,' pointing to the ball that had done such effective work. We visited the shore batteries also, last of all the Numancia, which we left at 9 o'clock at night in one of the fogs common at that season, and with difficulty found our way back to the Vanderbilt.

"The Spanish ships remained at their anchorage about eight days making repairs, then departed in a very crippled state. On its homeward voyage the armada was still further damaged and scattered by tempests, as if even the elements entered a protest against Spain's crime. Nevertheless, the Spaniards claimed, as usual, that they had been victorious.

"Thus was Spain finally ejected from Peru by the dauntless courage of its patriots and a few United States citizens. It was for the Spaniards a shameful defeat—300 ships—destroyed by fire

poised scourging and release. To make that courteous remark, he reminded them that it was customary to release one prisoner on the feast day. The multitude hearing this and being incited by the Jews, cried for the release of Barabbas, a notorious robber and murderer (Matt. xvii, 20). "What shall I do with Jesus?" he inquired, as if expecting money. They said, "Crucify Him." He replied, "I find no fault in Him and will chastise Him and let Him go." This proposal drew forth fresh cries for crucifixion.

INSULTED.—Seeing that he could not prevail, but that a tumult was raised, Pilate washed his hands in water, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person," and the people answered, "His blood be upon us and upon our children." Then releasing Barabbas, he condemned Jesus to be crucified. The soldiers led Jesus into the court, stripped Him, put on Him a robe and a crown, thrust a reed in His hand, bowed the knee, and mocked Him saying, "Hail, King of the Jews" (Matt. xxvii, 21-26).

PRESENTED.—Thus arrayed, he was brought forth to the people, and Pilate, purposing to make another effort to save Him, said, "I find no crime in Him." But they cried, "We will have him crucified." He made Himself the Son of God (John xvi, 5), returning to the charge of blasphemy. Hearing this statement Pilate again asked, "What crime do you have against Him?" "But no answer was returned. Coming forth, he offered to release the prisoner. They cried, 'It must be this man that we are not a friend to Caesar (John xiii, 33). "Behold your King," said Pilate. "We have no king but Caesar," was their answer, repeating all their Mosaic law, "that Pilate delivered Jesus to be crucified.

CONCLUSION.—The trial of Jesus, if such it may be called, excluded. He has appeared in succession before Annas, Caiaphas, the Sanhedrin, Pilate, Herod, Pilate, without rest, probably without food. He has been in the hands of enemies, from the early hours of the morning. Mocked, whipped, spit upon, he has been falsely accused, and acquitly sent to the victim of crucifixion. He is condemned to death, the last day of His life. The proceedings from first to last vindicate Him. He will pass into history as among those of whom the world was not worthy (Heb. xi, 38). At this distance of time it is not wise for us to condemn those who participated in the awful crime. With centuries of anxious looking for a temporal price it is not surprising that the Jews rejected Him. Even Jesus pleads for them (Luke xxiii, 34), and Peter exercised due charity toward them (Acts ii, 27), certainly it is a miserable bigotry that fastens fault upon their descendants, although the consequence cannot be avoided (Ex. xxxiii, 7; Matt. xxvii, 25). The vasellating course of Pilate is a warning to magistrates. It is well, however, to remember that the world is made up of men to act and He overrules their doing for His glory (Psalm cxlvi, 9; Acts i, 33). It is conceded to be a profound mystery that Jesus should go by this way to the cross.

strides on the smoke of factory chimneys will be the most serious of the now paralyzed lazar. In a business as well as political sense, Cuba has a wonderful future.

Evidence of its richness is given by the fact that Cuba was self-supporting as early as 1827. Since that time it has prospered steadily, and exceedingly. It has paid Spain since 1827 from \$1,000,000 to \$6,000,000 yearly. It is a country wonderfully prosperous, and increases in prosperity when let alone by its own and other peoples, it has grown steadily richer. The fact that its per capita taxation is three times that of the United States. Now that Spain must forever keep hands off the little island, and American thrift will be infused into its slow southern veins, we shall see great things from it.

The climate of Cuba is in many parts delightful. Being insular, the heat of the sun is much tempered by cooling breezes from the surrounding waters. It is much more healthy than is commonly supposed, the higher portions being comparatively free from the deadly disease of some of the lowlands. The fearful mortality from yellow fever in Havana is due almost wholly to the horribly unsanitary condition of the city. The bay is a huge cesspool that contains enough germs of all sorts, kinds and conditions to devastate the world. There is almost no tide-way in the bay—not more than four inches. With American capital and American business ability the drainage of Havana and its consequent improvement in matters of health are foregone conclusions.

Americans will reap rich financial harvests in Cuba, whether it be annexed or not, and in the years not far distant the population will be largely American in either case. American capital will predominate and American industry of government will obtain. On account of the right hand of fellowship now extended by Uncle Sam, Americans will be welcomed by the Cubans, and given concessions greater than any other nation enjoys. The relationship between the countries will be very close, and the commercial interests of one identical with those of the other.

On account of its climate Cuba has great recuperative powers, and when the patriots have beaten the sword into the plowshare it will be but a short time until all traces of the recent devastation will have disappeared. There will be no further destroying of crops, and the insurgents hold the situation, and the rainy season now approaching will obliterate many signs of ruin made during the past two years. The Pearl of the Antilles will shine all the brighter for its baptism in blood and will cast its radiance over all the globe, whether it be only a single gem or is worn in Columbia's crown.

In the Museum. From the Chicago News.

"Somebody has swiped my pocket-book," said the restless wonder the other afternoon.

"You're always kicking about something," replied the Circassian beauty. "Whom do you suspect of this thing?" "I hardly know who to suspect, but I've my eye on the armless man. He's a sleight-of-hand performer, you know."

A Tinge of Jealousy. "I hear," said one man, that the president has filed the three cent postage stamp so well adapted to your capacities.

"You were misinformed," was the reply, by a manner of studied haughtiness, "he has appointed another man to the position, but he hasn't filled it." Washington Star.

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