

# THE REAL CUBAN

By Albert Gardner Robinson.

THE people of Cuba, like those of the Philippine Islands and the United States, are a composite race. The early years of Spanish occupation saw Spanish blood commingled with that of the so-called "Indians" whom the discoverers of the island found in possession. Later Spanish settlement established lines of distinct Spanish blood, and produced also a further commingling in varying proportions with the native blood. In later years a measure of immigration followed from the immediate surroundings. The Frenchman and the mixed French came from Hayti and San Domingo. The mixed Spanish came from Mexico and Northern South America. Slave trade brought the African negro, and the im-



A COMMON TYPE OF CUBAN COUNTRY HOME.

portation of coolie labor brought the Chinese. The color line is far less definite than it is in the United States. The census of 1890 gives the following determination: White Cubans, 910,299; white aliens, including Spanish, French, English, German and American, 142,198; negroes, 234,638; mulattoes, 270,805; Chinese, 14,857. Compared with earlier census returns the negro and the Chinaman show a marked reduction. The returns of 1862 give: Negroes, 422,000; Chinese, 34,000. Somewhere in this somewhat heterogeneous lot there is the type which may be rightly called the Real Cuban, the Cuban race type. I place this type, and I believe with entire correctness, on the soil. He is the peas-



CUBAN COUNTRY CHURCH, PROVINCE OF PUERTO PRINCIPLE.

ant, the farmer, el hijo del campo (the son of the country, as distinct from the man of the city and town). He is the man who is locally known as the guajiro (wah-hee-ro). Taken broadly, this class will include white, black and mulatto, though the greater number are white. In Cuba the term "white" has a latitude which is not recognized in the Anglo-Saxon race. The swarthy Spaniard may owe the darkness of his skin to some old drops of brownish blood from the long years of Moorish occupation of the peninsula.

Numerically the guajiros constitute probably some sixty or seventy per cent. of the people of Cuba. At the present time an exact classification is impossible. The processes of war destroyed the homes of many of the class, and they have been forced to seek such employment as might be open to them. This they have done with a patient and submissive endurance which is one of their chief characteristics. Gradually, as best they can, they seek to pick up the threads of the old life, to return to the spot of the old home to build anew the simple structure and to resume the old occupations.

The type of dwelling occupied by the guajiro is misleading to those who are unfamiliar with the world's peasant and pioneer life. It impresses such as a hovel which can only be the home of poverty, unthrift and social degradation. So does the rock and mud hut of the South African veldt, the humpy of the bush settler of Australia, the nipa hut of the Filipino, the dugout of the Western pioneer, and the log cabin of the mountaineer. Yet each uses for his dwelling that material, whether it be earth, stone, brick, wood, bamboo, or palm, which is most readily and economically available for his purpose. The nipa hut of the Filipino and the log cabin of the mountaineer may be and often are quaint and picturesque. The cabin of the Cuban guajiro seldom suggests anything other than the crude and the primitive. Yet, like the corresponding homes of other lands, the roof that may shelter a very worthy man, a good husband and father, a hospitable host according to his means. The rudeness of these houses is no true in-

dex of poverty. Wealth the Cuban peasant does not have, yet his little industry will and does give him as large a percentage of what he wants and needs as that which falls to the lot of many who would be disposed to pity him. A hut, a few acres of land, a few farming tools and an ox make him well to do. Two oxen and a horse will number him among the affluent.

The guajiro is usually a small farmer. He cultivates for his own needs with such surplus as he can for sale or exchange to gratify such desires or ambitions as he may have for himself or his family. His life calls for very little. He needs no store of fuel for a bitter winter; he needs no overcoats, no shoes for his children, no buggy in which to drive to town; he needs no barns of hay and grain to feed his cattle through a long winter. Cotton and calico will clothe the family, and the women of the household will braid a straw hat that is best suited for the climate. Carpets would

this class the burdens of destructive warfare have fallen most heavily. Ruined planters may be numbered by scores. Ruined guajiros count up into the hundreds of thousands. The few hundred of great planters in Cuba are an essential feature in the island's development. They are the employers of thousands of laborers. Their rights and their privileges are an important consideration in all Cuban affairs. Without them, our sugar would be a costly article, and none can say what Cuba would be. Yet equally if not more carefully to be considered in Cuba's political future, is Cuba's sturdy and peaceable peasantry. The guajiro is a peaceable man, tractable, easily governed, asking nothing save justice and fair taxation from his rulers. He is no discontented mischief maker. His greatest desire is to live in quiet, cultivating his little farm, chatting with his neighbors, disturbing none and desiring that none disturb him. His is no "strenuous life," and advocates of that sort of thing may regard his life as contemptible, yet it is the life of the majority of the world's population.

In the politics of the time this man has little place and his voice is little heard. He is probably the man who, in days to come, will determine what fashion of government Cuba shall have, but he is not yet ready for such definite determination, and he figures but little if at all in the plans and operations of political leaders. He now has no political organization, though such of his type as cast their votes in the recent election doubtless voted with the Cuban National party.

He is the backbone of Cuba, and Americans, in their consideration of the island and its political and social needs, should give due place to the guajiro, the sturdy, patient, tractable, peaceable, plodding majority.—New York Independent.

America's special interest in this group at the present time is, or should be, in its place in that political future of the island in which America is so deeply concerned, and for which she has assumed such important responsibility. To some extent the guajiro took part in the Cuban insurrection. Yet it is doubtful if anything more than a small percentage took any active part in the operations. The great majority of the original followers of the instigators of the revolt of 1895, like those who supported the earlier Ten Years' War, were a less responsible element, consisting of plantation field hands. The raids of Gomez and Maceo, westward from the home of the insurrection in Santiago province, demoralized and, in large measure, destroyed the productive activities of the central and western provinces. Some of the small peasant farmers, roused by the enthusiasm of the movement, joined the flying raiders and became its most effective fighters. Many remained passive, and constituted the class known as the pacificos, the peaceful, the non-combatants. Some of these materially aided the insurgents with such as they had to give, though unwilling to take active part. There were few, whether they were active or passive, who did not lose their little all. Insurgents and Spaniards seized their crops, their cattle and their poultry for "the needs of the army." Often their homes were burned, sometimes in wanton destruc-

tion, sometimes in alleged punishment for their attitude. From this class there came the large percentage of the unfortunate reconcentrados. Upon



A GUAJIRO HOME.

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The clash of the eastern and western military methods in China during the past year has brought many strange things into the public eye.



ORIENTAL CAVALRYMAN.

None of them, perhaps, is more amusing, from the western point of view, than the camel cavalrman shown in the accompanying picture. The rider is a Sepoy of the Twenty-sixth Baluchistan Regiment—a British East Indian soldier—and his steed is a part of the loot taken at Patachu.

The average value of the annual raw silk exports from Syria may be put at \$5,000,000.

## SUGAR MAKING IN PORTO RICO.



1.—Tasting the freshly cut sugarcane. 2.—Carrying sugarcane to the mill. 3.—Modern methods for quickly handling a big crop. 4.—A typical approach to the house of a rich Porto Rican.

—From Harper's Weekly.

### SUBMARINE PETROLEUM.

Project Afloat to Sink Oil Wells in the Gulf.

Texas capitalists are now interested in a company which will drill for oil in the Gulf of Mexico. It has been discovered that a considerable oil field underlies the Gulf a few miles outside

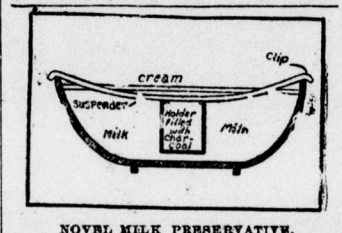


OIL.

of Sabine Pass. It is known as the "oil pool," and the surface of the water there is perpetually smooth from petroleum which floats up from the bottom. The proposition now is to sink pipes from the surface, which, after penetrating the bottom, will be sunk far enough to tap the oil supposed to exist in large quantities in subterranean caves far beneath the surface of the Gulf.

### Preserving Milk by Charcoal.

A rather unusual method of preserving milk has recently been brought to public attention in England, the chief feature of which is the use of charcoal. It is asserted that charcoal, if immersed in milk, will absorb all the impurities resulting from the chemical changes which are constantly taking place. This simple treat-

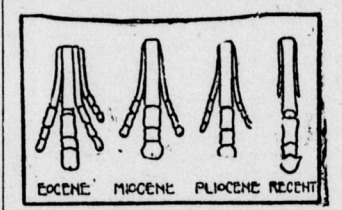


NOVEL MILK PRESERVATIVE.

ment, it is asserted, will preserve milk in a sweetened condition for seventy-five hours in all climates. In applying the principle for household use the charcoal is suspended in the bowls or pitchers used after the manner illustrated. The holder consists of a fine wire gauze receptacle, with thin metal arms attached for its suspension. New charcoal has to be used on each occasion. As applied to the dairyman's needs, the charcoal is contained in two perforated metal cases, one in the bottom of the churn, or can, and one attached to the inside of the lid.

### Evolution of the Horse.

Dr. Gidley, of the American Museum of Natural History, of New York City, recently spent some time in this city studying the type specimens of fossil horses preserved in the museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences. These specimens were described years ago by the famous comparative anatomist, Dr. Joseph Leidy. The study of fossil and recent horses is one of the most interesting and convincing of evolutionary theories. In Eocene times the ancestor of the modern horse had four toes, so he could run over the marshes. Later, in Miocene times he lost one toe from disuse. Pliocene times saw only the central toe predominant, when in the modern horse the extra toes do not penetrate the skin, and are only recognized anatomically as the splint bones.—Philadelphia Record.



EVOLUTION OF THE HORSE'S FOOT.

This picture is produced from a photograph taken at Parramatta, a sail of an flat, hot, and sleepy town, a sail of an hour and a half from Sydney, Australia, up the Parramatta River. Messrs. Adam and Eve are both enterprising business men, and appreciate the advertising value of the firm name. It is interesting to note that, as drapers, Adam and Eve are in a very appropriate business.—Profitable Advertising.



The owners of automobiles in Ohio constitute a new force in the good roads movement. There is a plan under way for the building of a boulevard from one end of the State to the other, touching the cities and largest towns.

### SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

When the sun is pouring down its rays upon the ocean at noon-day none of them penetrate to a depth of over 200 feet. Could a diver descend to that depth he would find himself shrouded in darkness as profound as though he were immersed in a sea of ink.

One of the difficulties in operating the arc light is the necessary renewal of the carbonrods. A substitute for them has lately been invented, which consists of two aluminum arms pointed with platinum. The arms are L-shaped, and are operated by a simple pendulum arrangement, which, with the arms themselves, is enclosed within a vacuum bulb. The lamp is to be used in a horizontal position and casts no shadow. It is claimed that there will be no wear of the incandescent parts.

The British Museum has recently received a specimen of the rarely seen "whale-headed stork," which was first found on the White Nile in 1849, and which until now had been supposed to be confined to that locality. The specimen referred to was shot on the north shore of Lake Victoria. It is described as a "distinctly weird-looking bird, having a gaunt, gray body, long legs, and a head surmounted by a little curled tuft and a scowling expression of the eyes." But its most remarkable peculiarity is its enormous bill, which is shaped like the head of a whale.

An interesting theory has been advanced to account for the phenomena of the Aurora Borealis, which takes into account the most recent scientific contributions of our knowledge of the composition of matter. This theory attributes the remarkable play of lights to be due to streams of Thompson's recently-discovered corpuscles which are supposed to be emitted from the sun. As these approach the magnetic field of the earth says the Electrical Review, they are deflected toward the poles, and when they finally reach a level of the air of the proper density they give rise to light phenomenon similar to those obtained with cathode rays in vacuum tubes.

In the Interstate park, near Taylor's Falls, Minnesota, has been discovered a singular group of "giant's kettles," or pot-holes, covering an area of two or three acres and ranging in diameter from less than a foot to 25 feet, and in depth from one foot to 84 feet. They have been bored in exceedingly hard rock, and in many cases they are like wells in shape, the ratio of width to depth varying from one to five up to one to seven. Mr. Warren Upham ascribes their origin to torrents falling through glacial "moullins" at the time when the northern territory of the United States was buried under ice. As with similar pot-holes elsewhere, rounded boulders are occasionally found at the bottom of the cavities.

The continued experiments of Prof. F. E. Nipher, of St. Louis, Mo., with "positive photography," have produced some very interesting results. He says that the plates may be separately wrapped in black paper at night, or in a dark room, and all the remaining work can be done in the light. A plate is taken from its wrapper in the light and placed in the slide holder, and an exposure—a long one—is made. After exposure the plate is taken out in the light again, and placed in the developing bath, and the picture is developed, and may be fixed in the light. The result is a positive. Fine pictures are thus obtained. While it is desirable to shield the plate from the light as much as possible during the changes, yet, Prof. Nipher says, all of the operations may be carried on without any dark-room conveniences that may not be secured even in the open fields.

### How to Acquire Psychic Forces.

Mystics who acquire tremendous psychic force do not eat meat at all, but live on fruits, vegetables, roots, cereals and one or two eggs a day. They have perfect health and live to be very old, many passing the century mark. Would you enjoy the ideal breakfast? Asparagus, scrambled eggs, dry toast and a cup of weak tea. The ideal luncheon? A cold tomato and three leaves of lettuce, with pepper and salt. The ideal dinner? Fresh peas, boiled onions, a half portion of fish, fried hominy and water from the spring. Omit bread. No good! Bread is the mother, father and remotest ancestor of dyspepsia. J. Pierpont Morgan is a man of tremendous vital force and nearly a giant in stature as well as intellect. At an official banquet given in his honor in London the other night all that he ate was a small piece of fish and two soft-boiled eggs, and his drink was a glass of water. He is hunting for psychic force!—New York Press.

### Maud Howe on Docking.

Maud Howe, speaking of the injury done to horses by the barbarous and foolish fashion of docking, says: "This fact is so well recognized by experts that there is not one cavalry regiment in the whole of Europe or America in which the docking of the tail is permitted, and in polo playing the long-tailed ponies are much the cleverest in turning and shifting their course, because they have the tails with which they were born."

France probably has the smallest conscript on record. Emile Mayot of Cunel in the canton of Montfaucon measures 3 feet 9 1/2 inches in his stocking feet and weighs 42 pounds. He was accepted.

## THE GREAT DESTROYER

SOME STARTLING FACTS ABOUT THE VICE OF INTEMPERANCE.

### Practical Temperance Work—Suggestions.

Made at the New Zealand Woman's Christian Temperance Union Convention—Warning Against American Plan.

Less platform speaking and house-to-house canvassing, and more work of a practical nature, were among the suggestions offered at the sixteenth annual convention of the New Zealand Woman's Christian Temperance Union, which was held at Wellington recently. One of the speakers said, among other things:

"We must make our city life different from what it is in America if we want to make provision for a possible future. Can we do it if we begin now? If we do not begin now, we shall find the same results as in America. The main tendencies of city life are the same all the world over. There is, therefore, a plain duty cast upon us. If we do not begin in this work of temperance reform we must become earnest advocates of, and so far as lies in our power, earnest workers for, municipal and educational reform.

"It cannot now be claimed for our women that they have no voice in municipal affairs, because the recent extension of the franchise is wide enough to take in most if not all of us. We can make our influence felt, if we will, at every local election in the colony, and in this way we can be sure that the management of our cities and towns will materially help in our work of temperance reform. Let me try to indicate how it can be made to help.

"We must make the homes of our people attractive enough to rival the public house. We need, then, in the first place, as much open space about all the houses as can be procured. That is physiologically necessary for the strengthening of both mind and body of the dwellers in the towns. And, besides, we want room for gardens everywhere, for they afford not only pleasure to the sight, and so add to the comfort of home, but they serve to occupy the leisure time of the fathers and sons, who might be tempted, if unemployed, to stroll to the nearest street corner to meet companions and friends and perhaps to have a drink together.

"We must endeavor to extend the benefits to city life as far as possible, in order that the surplus folk from the crowded streets may be induced to move a little further out, where they may live in cottages with gardens, and grow their own fruit and vegetables and flowers and have homes that look like the homes of the country back to them from work. The smoke grimed, close packed houses of some of our streets are, I am inclined to think, a direct incentive to intemperance. So we must induce as many as possible of our working people to live in the suburbs.

"Then we want healthy, educative occupation for the leisure hours and holidays of our people. In this colony the bulk of the working population have sixteen hours a day for eating, sleeping and recreation. At the least that should allow of four hours for recreation. And besides this, there are Sundays and the weekly half holidays, and the innumerable stray holidays throughout the year. We must help to provide for these. For this purpose we want public halls, with occasional entertainments of a bright and attractive kind—music and dancing and recitals and dramatic performances—anything that is bright and healthy. And these entertainments must be cheap. They need not necessarily be free, for people will gladly pay a small price for entertainment."

### Another Item of the Damning Count.

Crimes directly chargeable to the liquor traffic are of so common occurrence that the story of them has almost ceased to specially shock the public mind. In the days of Nero, we know that we are in the hands of a murderer, and have grown callous to his atrocities. Occasionally some instance of particular hideousness occurs that by its unusual features challenges public attention. Such a one was found in the daily papers of last week.

It appears that in the little town of Beaver, Mich., there was a hotel proprietor named Arnell. After several days of drinking he went into his house, and found a little girl, a few years old, hanging from a beam, and fearing him in his alarm, ran upstairs and hid from him. He followed her, and found her hanging place shot her dead. The mother came to the scene, and was so drunk that she shot her husband, who fatally wounded her with another shot. Coming down stairs he caught sight of his aged mother sitting in a chair, an invalid from years of paralysis. He fired at her, the bullet plowing into the forehead.

Coming into the street he met and fired at two of his sisters, wounding neither of them, however. A little further on he met his brother and brother-in-law and wounded the former, when the brother-in-law fired about him as he came after which he was taken prisoner and hurried to the jail.

This is the story told in the plainest possible language, without an adjective or an adverb, the bare, naked facts. The strange thing about it is that the American people know that the saloon produces this sort of thing, have known it for years, and keep the saloon right straight on as if they wanted these things done.—The New Voice.

### Must Be Put Down.

Mrs. Ella A. Boole's recent public statements prove the determination of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union to down the liquor traffic. To quote Mrs. Boole, she says in part:

"One has but to scan the daily and weekly papers with a mind open to conviction to see how drink is the fountain of most of the crime—political corruption and domestic unhappiness. Not that all these people were drunk when these crimes were committed, but the use of liquors blunts the moral sense, benumbs conscience, inflames passion, perverts manhood and curses womanhood. One reason for the apathy in the presence of these appalling evils is the fact that the masses of the people believe that they arise not from the nature of the drink, but from the weakness of the drinker. But the twentieth century scientists have discovered that they have their source in the nature of the drink, and while some subjects are more susceptible than others, evils are as sure to follow the use of alcoholics as night to follow day."

### The Crime-Breeding Centre.

The relation of intemperance to crime is thus summed up:

"The saloon is the disturbing cause, the crime-breeding centre and direct inspirational source where both young and old hatch their schemes and receive their common incentive; and alcoholism as a disease is the condition par excellence that engenders the criminal habit and strengthens all its abnormal proclivities."

### The Effect of Alcohol on Animal Life.

The result of recent experiments on a large scale on animals, made by M. Laignier, a French doctor, to test the effect of alcoholism on the system, will rejoice the hearts of the opponents of strong drinks. He has proved that animals alcoholized are utterly unable to resist infection with the bacilli of tuberculosis of anthrax, and still less with the poison of diphtheria. Moreover, the progeny of alcoholized guinea pigs are either born dead or are so weak that they survive but a very short time. These experiments will again direct attention to the subject of alcoholism in connection with the decrease of population in France.—New York Herald.