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FREELAND, PA., JUNE 15, 1899.

A Paymaster's View of the Cubans.

From the Philadelphia Record.
Captain B. F. Havens, who is in Washington after having served six months in Cuba as paymaster of the volunteer army, has given an extended account of his experiences. He traveled very extensively through the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Havana, Matanzas and Santa Clara, and came into contact with all the diversified elements of the population.

According to his account he did not find the Cubans to be a horde of thriftless, unruly and debased human beings. Instead, he discovered them to be docile and law-abiding, but the subjects of "more misinformation and misrepresentation than any other people on the globe."

Captain Havens declares that episodes which a policeman in the United States would not deem serious enough to report to his superiors are described in the press dispatches from Cuba as horrible outbreaks of violence and crime.

Nor did this observant officer encounter during his travels through the interior any of the much feared banditti who are said to infest some of the provinces. Once, indeed, he saw two captured and handcuffed negroes who were pointed out as terrible villains, and it developed that they were guilty of the heinous crime of chicken stealing.

Concerning the reports that there is danger of an insurrection against the United States Captain Havens says: "I think it is true that there is unrest among many of the natives; but it is perfectly natural under the circumstances. If I were a Cuban, as I am an American, I would also feel some unrest as to the situation."

The conclusion reached by Captain Havens as a result of his observations is that the present unsettled conditions are due to the fact that the Cubans do not know what is to become of them. They are oppressed by the belief that they will be placed under subjugation by the United States and held in bondage.

The memory and the woes of Spanish oppression still weigh upon them, and their appeal is now for something like a definite statement from the Washington government as to their future.

In short, as Captain Havens intimates but hesitates to declare, they desire that the administration shall abandon its present policy of drift and say whether or not the island is to be annexed.

Financiering and Theft.

From the New York Journal.
In the *Journal's* financial review for the past week this instructive comment is made on the advance in sugar stock:

Two of the leading influences of the week which helped to bring about the better feeling in speculative circles were the regular dividend payment on sugar stock and the unexpected increase in the declaration on Atchison preferred. There was a threat by the insiders that the sugar dividend would be cut, but it was simply in the nature of a notice to certain speculative holders that they must let go of their stock, as the insiders wanted to pick it up. The stock was promptly dropped, causing the market to decline and enabling the insiders to gather it in. It was decidedly dishonorable, but it was in line with the usual Wall street methods.

No stronger evidence could be given of the lack of honesty shown by the sugar people. The stand-and-deliver policy of the highwayman is innocent compared to the methods of the Sugar trust, which not only robs the public but filches from the stockholders by reducing the size of the dividends.

How little faith there is in the integrity of the managers of this concern is shown by the value which investors place upon its stock. Although it pays 12 per cent it sells anywhere from \$100 to \$160 a share, while a number of honest stocks which declare only 7 per cent dividends sell for over \$200 a share.

Why should not the sugar manager who dishonestly manipulates a valuable property for his personal profit be put in Sing Sing like any other thief, whether his name is Havemeyer or Jones?

OUR CAPITAL LETTER.

PORTO RICAN FRANCHISES WILL BE GIVEN AWAY BY ALGER.

That is One of His Reasons for Remaining in the President's Cabinet—Still Suppressing Dispatches from the Philippines—Cubans Protest Against an Order.

Washington, June 13, 1899.
Everybody is asking everybody else why the administration is trying so hard to keep the people in the dark about what is going on in the Philippines, when only a short time ago it was its boast that it published all the official dispatches received. It is known from the press reports that have been allowed to pass the military censor at Manila, that hard fighting has been going on, and the suspicion is growing that General Otis is making some use of the volunteers who should be on their way home, if any of the numerous promises made had been kept, that the administration doesn't wish their friends at home to know until whatever is being attempted is all over. And it is admitted by officials that there are differences between General Otis and Mr. Shurman, president of the Philippine commission, but claimed that the differences are unimportant. The public doesn't care a continental about the claims made by officials, but it wishes to know and feels that it has a right to know what is being done with our volunteers; hence there is a general feeling of resentment against the suppression of official dispatches.

One of the principal reasons why Secretary Alger desires to retain the war portfolio, even when he knows that Mr. McKinley would like to get rid of him, will soon become apparent to close observers, as it has been announced that a number of franchises for various more or less valuable concessions in Porto Rico are shortly to be granted. It might naturally be supposed that such franchises, if granted at all before the establishment of the civil government by the military governor, but no chances are to be taken by the men who are after those franchises; they are to be granted by Secretary Alger, and it is dollars to ginger-cakes that every one of them that is at all desirable, will be captured by his friends and business associates.

In issuing a second elaborate defense of Mr. McKinley's civil service order, Secretary Gage rather overdid his task, without changing anybody's opinion. Criticisms of the order have made Mr. McKinley very sore, and he has engaged in the explanation business himself and even tried to get "funny" by telling how surprised senators and representatives have been who have come after some of the places excepted from the civil service rules and found that they were all filled, and that no removals were contemplated. He also gave out for publication a letter from the board of the Smithsonian Institution, asking that the heads of all the bureaus of that establishment be exempted from the civil service rules. So much explanation is calculated to increase rather than diminish suspicion of that order.

The full significance of the clause which permits the reinstatement of any government employe, regardless of how long they have been out of the government service, is just beginning to be seen. Under it every employe who was dismissed during the two Cleveland administrations can be reinstated, if they have pull enough.

Southerners were pleased by the selection of ex-Senator Pasco, of Florida, as one of the nine commissioners named by Mr. McKinley to make an investigation of the canal route across the Isthmus. Representative Underwood, of Alabama, declares that the people of his section regard provision for the building of a canal one of the most important matters to come before the next congress. The last congress appropriated \$1,000,000 for this commission. It was understood at the time that this provision was the work of the lobbyists employed by the Panama Canal Company. Unless those who think they know are badly mistaken, the Panama Company is not likely to profit by the commission, which is regarded as almost sure to report in favor of the Nicaragua route. How soon this commission will report is a matter of doubt, but its members have been requested to try to do so before or during the next session of congress.

A committee of distinguished Cubans are in Washington to protest against the order of the war department suspending all legal proceedings on debts contracted before last December, in Cuba, and to endeavor to get the order revoked, or at least modified. They say that the order is paralyzing the business of the planters, by making it impossible for them to borrow money without paying extortionate interest, but their chance for success is not encouraging, as the order in question was one of Alger's pet schemes.

Members of the administration are greatly exercised over the latest news from the Czar's Peace Conference at The Hague, which says that Germany is opposing the arbitration scheme, and that it will probably get enough votes from the smaller powers represented, to defeat it. There are others, however, who would feel grateful to Germany if it would defeat the arbitration scheme, because they regard it as much more likely to prove hurtful than helpful to this country, if adopted.

SOME WEALTHY BEGGARS.

Professionals Who Were Worth Vast Amounts of Money.

In 1895 a beggar who died in Auxerre, France, was found to have 1,000,000 francs in bonds in a trunk and in his cellar 400 bottles of wine of the vintage of 1790.

When Tori, a well-known Italian professional beggar, died, there were found hidden away in his rooms bank books, securities, gold and silver, amounting collectively to the value of upward of 2,000,000 francs, or \$400,000. His heirs were two nephews, who for years had been in a state of pitiable poverty.

An old beggar woman named Marie Dufour, who occupied a wretched garret at a house in the Rue de Severes, Paris, was found dead in her bed. In a bundle belonging to her were found a deposit receipt for 30,000 francs in the name of the deceased and government securities representing an annual income of 500 francs.

A man named Gustave Marcelin, a professional beggar, was found dead in his room in the Rue Puy Guillaume, Avignon, in November, 1892. A search led to the discovery of French government bonds and various securities to the value of \$100,000. He left a paper requesting that his savings might be divided equally between the city and the bureau de bienfaisance.

The Lost Cabin.

The western papers are again announcing that the famous "Lost Cabin" gold mine has been rediscovered. That has happened before and the mystery remains a mystery still. Deep in the barren Bad Lands of Wyoming, near the headwaters of the Big Horn, about sixty miles from Fort Washakie, the mine was originally located, and it has probably not traveled far from there in the last few years. Five men found it first in 1874. They left the fort full of hope to prospect for gold. Three weeks later one returned ragged, starved and crazy. He could only repeat six words, but these he said over and over again, until he died, raving mad, a month later. Those words were "Lots of dust in Lost Cabin." He had several large nuggets to bear out his words. Expeditions set out at once, but no trace could be found of either men or mine. Ten years afterward a cowboy, lost in the desert, found a rotted cabin and four skeletons lying in the doorway. A primitive tunnel in the hillside close by yielded nothing but plumbago. Yet the first man had returned with good gold. Half the best prospectors in the west have tried to solve the riddle, but the desert guards its secret well.

Alcohol in Sticks.

A new invention of great importance has just been patented by a German chemist, Julius Norden of Aldenhoven, Germany. He has succeeded in hardening alcohol until it becomes a solid mass. This will insure a very much greater popularity for the employment of alcohol. It now comes in small cylindrical pieces, packed in patent tin boxes, that can be used for cooking, lighting, heating and the various uses of everyday life.

The solidified alcohol burns without a wick, can be blown out after use, and then hardens again within a minute. The danger of explosion is absolutely done away with, and the neat little tin package, with its stick of alcohol, is always ready for use in the kitchen or bed room, on the toilet table or under the milk pot, on the road or in the field, as a night lamp or going upstairs at night.

Japanese Are Ruthless.

The Japanese are ruthless in their tampering with nature. If they decide that they want a bird or an animal of a certain shape or color they set about manufacturing the article, so to speak, by the exercise of exceedingly clever ingenuity and untiring patience. Here, for example, is how the white sparrows are produced. They select a pair of grayish birds and keep them in a white cage in a white room, where they are attended by a person dressed in white. The mental effect on a series of generations of birds results in completely white birds.

Did Its Work at Last.

In 1812 a British warship on Lake Erie fired a shell which failed to explode. It was treasured as a relic in Ashtabula for years, but accidentally it got into a pile of scrap iron delivered to the Phenix iron works foundry and performed its functions so well that the furnace doors were blown to smithereens.

The Cent.

The cent consists of 95 percent of copper and 5 percent tin and zinc. There are 1,000,000,000 pennies in circulation throughout the country, and the Philadelphia mint is turning them out at the rate of 4,000,000 a month to keep up the supply.

Friday Not Unlucky.

Gen. Herbert Kitchener evidently does not believe Friday an unlucky day. Twice he met and defeated the soldiers of the Khalfia on Friday. The battle of Atbara was fought and won in the early hours of Good Friday.

Labor Saving Machinery.

An engineer declares that 50,000 people now do the work, with the aid of machinery, which needed 16,000,000 persons to do a few years ago.

An Old University.

The university of El Ayhar, in Cairo, is the oldest in the world. It has records dating back 1000 years.

A Costly Tomb.

The tomb of Mohammed is covered with diamonds, sapphires and rubies, valued at £2,500,000.

A WONDERFUL CLOCK.

The Nearest Approach to a Perpetual Motion Machine Yet Discovered.

A Kankakee county, Ill., man is the possessor of one of the most wonderful clocks in the country. This clock is as near a perpetual motion machine as any piece of mechanism yet designed. The owner is not a perpetual motion crank, but is a jeweler named Peter M. Ravenskilde of Cabery, a town in the southwestern portion of Kankakee county.

The clock is the product of many years of study and labor and considerable expense. It keeps accurate time and will run for a year without the least attention from its owner.

The clock proper is run with a wheel 60 inches in circumference. From the outer surface of the circumference was suspended 120 cups, each one-half inch in diameter and a third of an inch deep. Each of forty of these cups, which are successive, contain steel balls three-eighths of an inch in diameter.

Every minute a half of this wheel turns by the weight of these balls one of them falls out of its cup, rolls down an inclined plane 20 inches long, when, by its own weight, it reunites a broken circuit of electricity and is again elevated by a little car traveling along a steeper inclined plane to the top of the wheel, where it falls into a cup which stands vertical for a short time.

After the car discharges its cargo it returns to its original station from its own weight. From the time one of these balls is dropped into a cup until it is again dropped into another cup it travels 36 inches. Thus the work done by all the balls is equivalent to one ball traveling over one mile a day, 400 miles in one year, and during the lifetime of a person living threescore years the distance around the globe.

The electricity used is generated in an ordinary storage battery, which does not require any attention for fully a year.

Spain's Great Building.

Spain possesses one of the largest buildings in the world. It is at once a palace, a museum, a library, a picture gallery, a monastery, a church and a burial place. This wonderful edifice is called the Escorial, although the name is very generally corrupted both in England and America into "Escorial."

The Escorial was commenced in 1563 by order of Philip II. of Spain and was intended partly as a royal burial place for the kings of Spain and partly as a commemoration of Philip's victory over the French at St. Quentin in 1557. It is built entirely of granite, and measures 744 feet in length by 580 feet in breadth. At each corner is a tower 200 feet in height. The building is supposed to represent an enormous gridiron lying upside down, and this shape is believed to have reference to St. Lawrence, who was martyred on a gridiron.

Twenty-one years were spent in building it, and it cost \$12,000,000. It has been twice partly destroyed by lightning and was sacked by the French soldiers in 1808. There are 14,000 doors and 11,000 windows.

A High Railway.

The highest mountain railway in Europe, leading to the top of the Gornier Grat in Switzerland, situated between the Matterhorn and Monte Rosa, is about completed. It was begun in 1896. A train can take 110 passengers two miles above sea level. The power is furnished by the water which flows from a glacier, and is, therefore, most abundant in summer, when most needed.

How the Japanese Sleep.

The Japanese always bury their dead with the head to the north, and for this reason no Japanese will sleep with his head in that position. Many private houses and hotels have a diagram of the points of the compass pasted on the bedroom ceiling for the convenience of guests.

The Longest Plant.

The longest plant in the world is the seaweed. One tropical and subtropical variety is known which when it reaches its full development, is at least 600 feet in length. Seaweed receives its nourishment from the air and mineral matter held in solution in the sea water.

An Electrical Well.

A well digger in Bar Harbor experienced several electrical shocks while down in a well, and was hurriedly drawn to the surface. He refused to descend again, and to test the matter a dog was lowered. When hauled up a few minutes later the animal was dead.

Length of Paris Streets.

The total length of the streets, avenues, boulevards, bridges, quays and thoroughfares of Paris generally is set down at about 600 miles, of which nearly 200 are planted with trees.

All the Difference in the World.

There is a great difference between being in the world, and having the world in us. Let a ship be in the water, and it is all right, but let the water be in the ship, and down she goes.

Spain's Resources.

Spain has greater mineral resources than any other country in Europe, including iron, copper, zinc, silver, antimony, quicksilver, lead and gypsum.

A Sober Fact.

When a man's troubles drive him to drink, the drink brings on more troubles that drive him to drink again.

Cost of St. Peter's.

The cost of St. Peter's, Rome, was over £14,000,000.

BURNT WOOD ORNAMENTS.

The Manner in Which to Decorate With Heated Iron.

The decoration of wood by the application of heated irons is an art of long standing, and many interesting examples of old work are occasionally to be found. For a trifling sum a complete apparatus may be bought, which includes a platinum point that is kept heated while the work is in progress, not by electricity, as many suppose, but by fumes of benzine, which is supplied by pressure on a rubber bellows which is connected by tubing to a bottle half filled with benzine. When beginning the work, the point should not be heated in any flame but that of an alcohol lamp. Any other flame would be liable to smoke and ruin the point.

In burning outlines remember that to make a broad, firm line it is not necessary to press. The lines are to be scorched, not incised. The point is held and guided much in the same manner as a drawing pencil, but some little practice is needed to enable the worker to pass it smoothly and readily over the wood, the tendency of all beginners being to allow it to rest and make dots. No discouragement, however, must be felt at this, as with a little practice the manipulation will become easy, and the worker be able to make dark or light strokes at will. Bold outlines and strongly burned backgrounds come out well on ordinary white wooden articles, such as tables, stools, chairs, bowls, plates, racks, etc.

Make Your Own Ozone.

Almost every person has noticed the peculiarly refreshing smell of clean linen, especially when just removed from the lines. But few people are aware that there is any connection between fresh, cool linen, just from the outside air, and the ozone of an apartment. It is stated that the atmosphere of an apartment may be charged with ozone by bringing into it damp linen sheets that have just been exposed to a dry, sharp wind; bringing them into the house and shaking them or waving them about in the air of the room will, according to the statements made, change the character of the air. This is a matter of importance to invalids, who often become exhausted from lack of ozone in the air they breathe. A means so simple and effective and one that is within the means of every person should be generally understood. It seems that all that is necessary is to bring the linen to the room immediately after it is taken from the lines out of doors and shake and whirl it about, when the character of the air will be altered at once.

He Knew How to Advertise.

An original form of an advertisement comes from Russia, where a shopkeeper posted up the following announcement: "The reason why I have hitherto been able to sell my goods so much cheaper than anybody else is that I am a bachelor, and do not need to make a profit for the maintenance of a wife and children. It is now my duty to inform the public that this advantage will shortly be withdrawn from them, as I am about to be married. They will, therefore, do well to make their purchases at once at the old rate."

The result was that there was such a run on the shop that in the course of a few days this shopkeeper had made enough money to pay the expenses of his wedding on a very lavish scale.

A Famous Bell.

St. John's church, at Ellicottville, N. Y., has a bell that was made nearly two centuries ago in Spain and which for over 100 years sounded matin and vesper calls at a monastery on the outskirts of Malaga. The monastery was destroyed during a civil war and for years the bell lay among the ruins. It was finally brought to this country by a New England skipper and purchased for the Ellicottville church in 1838. It is 4 feet 2 inches in circumference at the top and a little over 7 feet at the base.

Lightest of Liquids.

Additional experiments by Professor Dewar have shown that liquid hydrogen is by far the lightest of all known liquids. Its density is one-fourteenth that of water, and, curiously enough, this happens to be the same ratio of density that hydrogen in the gaseous state bears to air. Heretofore the lightest liquid known has been liquefied marsh gas, which possesses about two-fifths the density of water.

The World's Volcanoes.

There are 672 known volcanoes in the world, of which 270 are active; 80 in America, 24 in Asia, 20 in Africa; Java has 109, 28 active. In New Zealand, within an area of 127 miles, there are 63, ranging from 196 feet to 900 feet in height.

\$50,000 a Day.

Li Hung Chang is said to head the list of the great multi-millionaires of the world, and to be worth nearly one hundred million pounds. To this comfortable little sum it is computed that he is adding about \$50,000 a day.

Some One Suffers.

If a Chinaman dies while being tried for murder, the very fact of his dying is taken as evidence of his guilt. He has departed, but somebody must suffer; and his eldest son, if he has one, is sent to prison for a year.

Definition of an Optimist.

An optimist is a man who can keep on lying about the fish he caught until he persuades himself that it is true.

First Cup of Coffee.

Louis XIV. of France drank the first cup of coffee made in Western Europe. Coffee was then worth \$24 a pound.

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