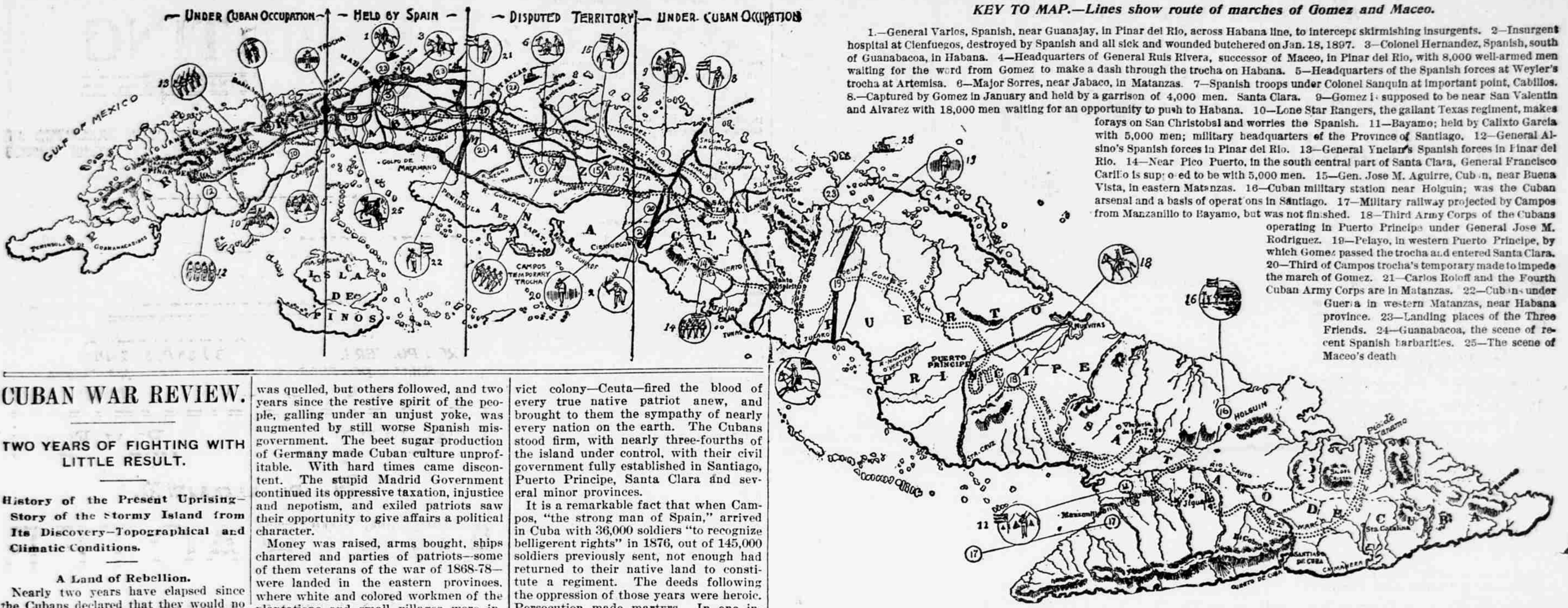


Map of Cuba, Showing Disposition of Spanish and Cuban Troops, and All Important Operations to Date.



CUBAN WAR REVIEW.

TWO YEARS OF FIGHTING WITH LITTLE RESULT.

History of the Present Uprising—Story of the Stormy Island from Its Discovery—Topographical and Climatic Conditions.

A Land of Rebellion.
Nearly two years have elapsed since the Cubans declared that they would no longer endure the yoke of Spain. Millions of dollars have been expended during that time, both in the maintenance of armies and the destruction of the property of the people of the war-swept island.



GARCIA'S HORRIBLE TORTURE.

Feb. 24, 1895, is the date upon which the insurgents declared their independence, and before the end of the month martial law had been proclaimed in Havana. Jose Marti was placed at the head of the provisional government, and Gen. Maximo Gomez had arrived in Cuba to begin operations.

The history of the island runs coincident with our own, and is therefore interesting. Cuba was discovered by Christopher Columbus Oct. 28, 1492, sixteen days after he touched at San Salvador, and nineteen years later his son, Diego, colonized the island. Pope Leo X, erecting its first cathedral. Velasquez followed with new contingents, and in 1519 the capital was located, at once assuming a position of importance in the eyes of the free lances of the ocean. In 1538 a French adventurer sacked the town, which was rebuilt when Ferdinand De Soto, the discoverer of the Mississippi River, was made Governor. Spain prized Havana as a base of operations. There Cortez completed his preparations for the conquest of Mexico, and there Pizarro rested his men before proceeding to Peru. Despite the strong fortress erected, the French in 1554 again destroyed the town, when two other fortresses for the defense of Havana were built, which still exist—the Moro and the Punta. By 1600 the colonists were raising cattle and applying thumb-screws and the torch to the natives to induce them to reveal the spots where they found gold and silver nuggets. Then they started the cultivation of tobacco and sugar, and the woes of the natives began. Under a system of cruelty and oppression the gentle aborigines diminished so rapidly that negro slaves were introduced, and that eventually led to the internecine strife which has made one of the fairest spots on earth the home of pestilence and crime and savagery in warfare, the contemplation of which sickens a civilized world.

After invasions by the French, English and Dutch, and various claims as to the ownership of the island, Cuba was restored to Spanish rule in 1763. A new native population now sprung up, and in 1790 Las Casas, whose memory is revered by Cubans to this day, became captain general of Cuba. Its ports were opened to the world, and great public improvements were effected. Despite the fawning of prosperity, however, and the

was quelled, but others followed, and two years since the restive spirit of the people, galling under an unjust yoke, was augmented by still worse Spanish misgovernment. The best sugar production of Germany made Cuban culture unprofitable. With hard times came discontent. The stupid Madrid Government continued its oppressive taxation, injustice and nepotism, and exiled patriots saw their opportunity to give affairs a political character.

Money was raised, arms bought, ships chartered and parties of patriots—some of them veterans of the war of 1868-78—were landed in the eastern provinces, where white and colored workmen of the plantations and small villages were induced to take up arms.

The location of Cuba is such that in case of annexation to the United States or even the certainty of its independence, the commercial benefits accruing to this country would be very great and lasting. It is only 130 miles from Florida, and although containing only 43,319 square miles, or a little more than half the area of the State of Kansas, every section is studded with rich natural resources. It has valleys that are susceptible of raising the finest grades of vegetable luxuries, and mountains 8,000 feet high. It has 200 rivers, and its seasons are uniformly divided—rain from May to October, sunny skies from November to April. The population is fully adequate to all possible national and commercial requirements. Five years ago it was announced that 1,521,684, of whom 977,992 were Spanish, 10,632 foreign whites, 489,249 blacks, and 43,811 Chinese. Havana alone is credited with a population of 200,000 souls. There are several short railways, in the aggregate covering some 500 miles. Cuba abounds in citrus fruits. There are peerless orange, lemon and lime groves; coconuts, cocoanut oil, cocoa, coffee, india rubber, tobacco—these commodities form the base of supplies easily obtained, while the interior and middle sections boast immense forests of mahogany and dye woods. It is estimated that there are 13,000,000 acres of uncleared mahogany forests alone. The wood is so common that chopping blocks are made of it, and watering troughs of red cedar. Lignum vitae for flutes, lancewood for carriage shafts and surveying instruments, and other fine varieties of rare and precious timber also exist in wild and unlimited volume. There is the richest kind of grazing for cattle. Forty-four times more food can be secured from an acre of bananas than from an acre of potatoes, and it is claimed that from that small area in Cuba 20,000 pounds of flour can be obtained in a single year, and the much-used banana wine in proportion. With all these manifold resources, it is estimated that the island in normal times would take \$300,000,000 worth of merchandise annually from the United States, to which country it now sells 250,000,000 cigars every year.

Up to the present time, when Cuban independence is still hovering in the balance, the history of the last great struggle for independence in Cuba involves the same line of victories and reverses that characterized the strife of the '60s, only that the people seem more determined and better organized. The death of Marti May 19, 1895, and that of Maceo a few weeks since, were severe blows for the insurgents, for they idolized these men, but intrepid leaders are not lacking. Marti's great political act was the summoning of the September convention, which declared a provisional government. He was shrewd, and persistent, and in an incredibly brief space of time had vast quantities of firearms imported from the United States. By December, 1895, the Cuban forces were right in the center of the Spanish army. The latter were driven back for seven consecutive days, and Campos, then in command, was forced to change his strategic positions by Gomez, being overwhelmed at Calisso, Christmas eve, Gomez, as he had promised, was within a few miles of Havana and Matanzas, and so certain of success seemed the efforts of the patriots, that Gen. Weyler was sent "to subdue this conglomeration of negroes, bandits, assassins and adventurers." Then began the

vict colony—Centa—fired the blood of every true native patriot anew, and brought to them the sympathy of nearly every nation on the earth. The Cubans stood firm, with nearly three-fourths of the island under control, with their civil government fully established in Santiago, Puerto Principe, Santa Clara and several minor provinces.

It is a remarkable fact that when Campos, "the strong man of Spain," arrived in Cuba with 36,000 soldiers "to recognize belligerent rights" in 1876, out of 145,000 soldiers previously sent, not enough had returned to their native land to constitute a regiment. The deeds following the oppression of those years were heroic. Persecution made martyrs. In one instance, a boy of 15 was arrested for



TORTURED WITH BLAZING MATCHES.

seditions writings. He was loaded with chains, kept at hard labor, and finally sent to Spain. Here he became a brilliant journalist. This boy was Jose Marti, the great Cuban patriot, who by 1891 had formed patriot clubs everywhere, and who was the first to appear as a war leader when the present revolt broke out.

The war in Cuba may be primitive in its general methods and barbarous in the matter of butchery, but it is certainly modern in the rapid development of dynamite and other explosives as weapons of offense and defense. To the dynamite

across the island from Santiago to Pinar del Rio, the fierce fights within cannon shot of Havana, the constant destruction of the trochas, were brilliant achievements that terrified the encompassed Weyler, until they culminated in the death of Maceo. With the opening of the new year, however, the situation seems just as complex and undetermined as it was the day after the two chieftains hoisted their flag in the eastern province, and began the battle for freedom. The end is apparently no nearer than it was a month after the first call to arms.

PERSONAL ENCOUNTERS.

Interesting Notes About Duels and Duelling.

Even in Germany the popularity of the duel is open to some doubt. Its existence is due not so much to a desire for a combat as of fear what people will say if there is no fight. There have been noted duellists who were always ready for a fray, and when they entered a drawing-room women quailed and hoped it would not be their husbands or lovers who would be so unlucky as to excite the ire of the men of blood.

During the occupation of Paris by the Allies there were duels every day, the Frenchmen usually being the challengers and the victors, as they were very skillful with the small sword.

The combat naturally attracted much attention. A great crowd witnessed the duel. One man received three ugly prods but finally killed his antagonist.

No duelist could ever be made to smile over the famous story of the Englishman and Frenchman who were to fight a duel in a pitch-dark room. Not wishing to kill his man, the Englishman fired up the chimney when the word was given, and, to his surprise, brought down the Frenchman, who had hidden there. When this story is told in France it is always the Englishman who is up the chimney.

Fighting Fitzgerald was successful in eighteen duels before it was discovered that he always wore a coat of mail. For years his fame in society had rested on his invariable success as a duelist, and this discovery was his undoing. A certain major in fighting him objected when his sword snapped on a heart-thrust and demanded an investigation. He was afterward hanged in Ireland for murdering a neighbor.

The most tragic duel in England was between Lord Byron, grand-uncle of the poet, and a kinsman. It was fought in a tavern room by the light of one tallow candle. Lord Byron was tried for murder, but got off on manslaughter, from the penalties of which he es-



HOW LONG MUST THIS LAST?

gun used by the Cubans in Pinar del Rio more than to anything else may be attributed the noteworthy successes of Maceo against the Spanish troops. Invisible bullets, though deadly in their effect, are comparatively easy to stand against. It requires superhuman nerve, however, to face a healthy dynamite projectile, and it is no wonder that the Spanish troops have been invariably defeated when called upon to make a stand against such weapons. Army officers are watching the war in Cuba with great interest, as the employment of dynamite by the Cubans has satisfied the military mind of the value of this explosive for offensive purposes.

Despite her financial embarrassment Spain has recently done relatively more than any European power, with the exception of Great Britain, to strengthen her navy. At present there are four torpedo-boat destroyers in the hands of builders. The first two have recently completed their official trials, and these have been most successful in all respects. The dimensions of the vessels are 220x20 feet, and the engines are triple expansion, developing 6,000 horse power. The engines at the trials, both in the measured mile and in the three hours' continuous steaming test, worked smoothly and with no heating. The internal appliances are of the most up-to-date character, special attention being paid to what is the general defect in all torpedo craft, namely, ventilation.

The encounters at Bocas del Toro, Palmirito, Palmiros, Canasi, Manut Mogate and Taganaco were fast succeeding developments of the Cuban campaign directly after the declaration of independence, but these were mere skirmishes compared to the events of the past year. The splendid march of Gomez and Maceo

Sometimes, however, they made a mistake, as when they jeered at an English officer over losing his leg at Waterloo. The jeerer discovered that the loss of his leg did not interfere in the least with the Englishman's aim.

There have been exceptions to the



GENERAL JUAN RUIZ RIVERA.

mania for fighting at any price. An English captain, challenged by a Frenchman, had the choice of weapons and chose pistols. The Frenchman declared he would fight with nothing but the sword and interested friends finally compromised on lances, horseback.

caped because he was a peer of the realm. This safeguard of peers was done away with only during the present reign.—Chicago News.

Crisp and New.

A much cleaner lot of paper money is in circulation now than formerly, a bank cashier states. The banks now send their soiled notes to the United States Treasury to be destroyed as soon as a sufficient quantity accumulates to justify it, and new notes are issued in their place. This has been rendered not only possible, but advisable, owing to the increased facilities for printing banknotes. One never sees a soiled banknote in London. They are all crisp and white and new, simply because the Bank of England never lets a note go out a second time. The average life of a Bank of England note is said to be five days.

A Living Skeleton.

Seurat, who was shown as a living skeleton in England in 1825, was 27 years old. He was 5 feet 7 1/2 inches high, and his bones were merely covered with his dry, parchment skin. The upper joints of his arms were four inches round. The distance from the chest to the backbone was but three inches. The shoulder blade bones were scarcely an inch asunder. His appetite was good. The pulsation of the heart was visible to the eye.

Measure of the Centimeter.

One thousand cubic centimeters equal a quart of the standard measure in use in this country.



Said Freddy Vane:
"I am awfully glad to see it rain,
For now, b'gosh,
I can wear my \$20 mackintosh!"
—Chicago Tribune.

"Do you think that all matches are made in heaven?" "Yes; except those made at the seashore."—Judge.

"Aren't you giving your boy dancing lessons at a very young age?" "But we intend him for the army."—Life.

Poak—The way of the transgressor is hard. Jeak—True; but the trouble is, it's generally hard on somebody else.—Truth.

Friend—Do you always wait for inspiration before you write a poem? Author—No. I always need ten dollars.—Somerville Journal.

"Is the sail the only thing that guides a ship?" asked the green passenger. "No," said the mate. "There are rudders."—Indianapolis Journal.

"I am hopeful that you will pay me that \$10 before the end of the week, Smithson." "That's right, old man. Be hopeful, but don't be sanguine."—Judge.

"I believe you men think more of your wheels than you do of your wives." "Why not? We can get an improved make every year."—Chicago Record.

"I love to have you come and see sister, Mr. Tompkins." "Why, Dickie?" "Cause she never likes that candy you bring her, an' gives it to me."—Chicago Record.

Fisher—Do you believe in heredity? Mann—Sure. Many a time I have noticed that when a man was rich his son had the same trait.—Cincinnati Inquirer.

Miss Wabash—So you come from Boston, do you? That's where everybody is so cultured, isn't it? Miss Beaconstreet—No; cultivated.—Somerville Journal.

Blynkins—That fellow, De Soaque, says some very dry things, doesn't he? Wynkins—Yes, I've heard him say "Don't care if I do" repeatedly.—Baltimore News.

"If poker is our national game, then the American beauty rose ought to be the national flower." "Why?" "Because it has such a royal flush."—Chicago Record.

Minnie—George said I ought to go on the stage. He said that he had no doubt I would be a peach. Mamie—Are you sure he didn't say a Cherry?—Indianapolis Journal.

Tommy—Paw, what is a designing villain? Mr. Figg—Oh, the description would apply to one of these poster artists about as well as anything.—Indianapolis Journal.

He—Have you heard my new song, "The Proposal"? She—No; what key is it in? He—Be mine—er. She—I will. (And now you can transcribe it to the key of "A flat.")—Life.

"Tain' allus dem ez hab de mos," said Uncle Eben, "dat manages ter hol' onto it de longes." De cullud gemman don't git bald nigh ez quick ez de white gemman."—Washington Star.

Read—All the original jokes were written 2,000 years ago. Wright—What nonsense! I'll leave it to you, now. Do I look as if I could be more than 2,000 years old?—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"You do not go out often to dinner, Mrs. Waddington?" "No. I don't think the best dinner on earth is sufficient compensation for making one's self agreeable for three hours at a stretch."—Chicago Record.

Rugby—Our landlady is one of the most expert calculators in town. Wilkins—Is she? Rugby—Yep. We had beans for dinner to-day, and she asked me how many I would have.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Professor—Say, Anna, couldn't we just as well postpone our silver wedding and celebrate it at the same time as the golden wedding? I don't like to be interrupted in my work so often.—Flegende Blaetter.



MOTHER AND BABY SHOT BY THE SPANIARDS.

representation of the island in the Madrid Parliament, several successive outbreaks occurred, culminating in the famous "Black Eagle" conspiracy of 1829. Good governors were few, and from Velasquez down to Weyler, they were vested with absolute power. Insurgents were burned alive, intolerance throve, and the merciless dealings of the despots finally effected an amalgamation of the white, red and black races. The insurrection referred to

policy of terror and butchery ever since diligently pursued. The tortures inflicted on prisoners, on suspects, on helpless, innocent women and children, almost rival the Armenian cruelties; men were lashed to death, slowly garrotted, women and children were cast into burning houses, blistered with lighted matches, dismembered, and these horrors coupled with a memory of what 300 patriot Cubans were suffering in Spain's pet con-