

JUDGE SCOTT'S VIEW

Of the Causes Which Prompt Cuban Patriots to Rebel

Against the Tyrannical Rule of the Spanish Government—Presticraft at the Bottom of Their Woe.

So much had been said about Cuba recently that we concluded it would be a good idea to get an article from one who had resided there and knew the island, its people, their traditions and customs, and by one who would not hesitate to tell the truth as to why Cuba was in rebellion. Having decided that part the next question was who had been there and was fearless enough to place the blame where it rightly belonged? As we were debating that part of the question Judge Scott came in and we asked him what he knew about Cuba, and in an interesting conversation told us of its people, their trials, their hopes and their disappointments, which we induced him to place in the form of a letter so that you might all know what an American thinks of the contest now being waged on that island. Here is his communication:

OMAHA, Neb., March 4th, 1896.—Cuba, the "Queen of the Antilles." "It is the most beautiful land that eyes ever beheld!" was the enraptured exclamation of Columbus when the island was first beheld by him.

Cuba was settled about two centuries before the settlement of this country; is a part of the great American continent; its rock-bound northern shores are washed by the same waters that wash our southern boundary; it is only a few furlongs south of Key West, and so near us that the inhabitants thereof could almost hear the booming of cannon—the shouts of our people—the peals of our liberty bell on the 4th day of July, A. D. 1776, proclaiming for the first time in the history of the world those undying, ever-living, self-evident, inherent principles of self-government and universal human liberty: "That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its power in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their safety and happiness."

Cuba is the largest of the Antilles, or West India Islands, and by far the most important of Spain's transmarine possessions. Its length is about 750 miles by an average width of about 50 miles. It has an area of about 43,233 square miles—about 10,723 more square miles than Ireland. It is nearly half as large as the island of Great Britain. The population, according to the latest authority (1894), is 1,631,687, of which 65 per cent are white, the balance being colored, or negro.

Only about 10 per cent of the area of the island is cultivated, 7 per cent uncultivated, 4 per cent forests, with large tracts of land still unexplored; and yet, notwithstanding the fact that so small a per cent of the area is cultivated, so rich are its mineral resources, so productive its soil, so industrious and progressive are the Cubans, that in 1893-4 the revenue of the island amounted to the enormous sum of 24,440,759 pesos or Spanish dollars.

The debt of Cuba in 1894 was over \$37,200,000. The number of landed estates on the island in 1892 was estimated at 90,960, of the value of 220,000,000 pesos, the rental of which was 17,000,000 pesos. There were 584,725 horses and mules, 2,485,766 cattle, 78,494 sheep and 570,194 hogs. The chief products are sugar and tobacco. The quantity of sugar produced in 1891-2 was 976,789

tons; in 1892-3, 815,894 tons. Of 718,204 tons of sugar exported in 1893, 680,642 tons and 7,654 hogheads of molasses came to the United States. In 1893 9,308 pipes of rum were exported. The export of tobacco in 1890 was 194,000 bales; in 1891, 205,000 bales; in 1892, 241,291 bales; in 1893, 227,865 bales. Number of cigars exported in 1889, 250,467,000; in 1890, 211,823,000; in 1891, 196,644,000; in 1892, 154,931,133; in 1893, 147,365,000. Two-thirds of the tobacco and nearly all of the cigars exported from Cuba come to the United States. Mahogany and other of the finer timbers, which abound upon the island, are exported—as are also honey, wax and fruits. The total exports from Cuba in 1892 amounted to 89,652,514 pesos, of which 84,964,685 pesos was for vegetables, 871,625 pesos for animals, and 3,485,924 pesos for mineral products. In 1891 the total mining titles issued was 296, with an extent of 13,727 hectares. Of the mines reported and claimed, 138 were iron, 88 manganese and 53 copper. There are over 1,000 miles of railway, 2,810 miles of telegraph lines. Havana, the capital of Cuba, is connected with the United States by submarine cable.

All this immense wealth, which has been produced by the sweat and toil of the Cubans, together with the island of Cuba, belongs to the Cubans and not to Spain, as truly and justly as did the colonial states belong to the colonists and not to England at the time of the Declaration of Independence.

This enormous and almost fabulous development of the resources of Cuba is not due to the government of the island by Spain, for the Government of Spain as it always has been, and so long as not the power behind the throne but the throne behind the power has control of that tyrannical, bloodstained and bloodthirsty, liberty-hating, freedom-detesting, church-ridden, inquisitorial monster—a crushing despotism to the people under its fiendish dominion. No galley-slave was ever lashed into a galling, submissive servitude more than have been the Cubans by their tyrant-master—the Cortez government at Madrid.

The Cubans are taxed to starvation and to death by the Spanish ministry. They have only the right to live, labor, starve and die in order that the revenue from their hard and unrequited toil may fill the coffers of an unmitigated Spanish despotism. The Cubans have no voice or representation in their government. They are denied all rights except to labor as slaves for a merciless, inhuman master. Cuba is divided into six provinces, each and all of which are ruled by a governor-general sent from Spain, and with unlimited powers over the Cubans. The governor-general is assisted by a council of administration, nominated by royal decree, and the island is represented at the Spanish Cortes by 16 senators and 30 deputies. It is true that the Cubans may, by royal grant, send representatives to the law-making body, but they have no vote, as I am informed. It is unnecessary to say that such a representation is a mockery—a travesty upon justice and human liberty.

When I was in Havana, several years ago, all the government officials of the island and of the city were Spaniards sent from Spain by the Cortez court at Madrid, to lash the poor Cubans into obedience to the royal edicts and mandates—to sink the chains of slavery still deeper into the quivering flesh of the liberty-loving but priest-ridden Cubans—to enrich the treasury at Madrid and the throne behind that power, over on the Tiber. History attests the truth of what I say. All the priests and church dignitaries are also sent from Spain. No Cuban can be a priest, as I am informed. All salaries, expenses and luxuries of these foreign emissaries from the Cortez court are paid by the sweat and blood, yea, the lives of the Cubans.

When there I visited the church building at the corner of Empedrado and San Yzacio streets, which was erected in 1724, for a college of Jesuits, but which was constructed into a cathedral in 1789. I saw a solid royal silver diminutive cathedral which cost \$35,000 and for which the Cubans were taxed, to satisfy a whim of the priest. I also saw a poor woman, the picture of poverty, bearing in her arms a ragged, half-starved babe which she brought to the priest for baptism in the holy church. The good priest and father in the church baptized one side of the child's head for which the poor woman had to pay \$2.50 with the injunction to come back in so many weeks and have the other side of the head baptized, for which the poor mother would have to pay another \$2.50. I shall never forget the picture of woe that crossed the poor mother's face as she left the presence of the good father, wondering where and when she would get the \$2.50 for the other half of the baptism.

During carnival season, called by the church "The Holy Season" the "sub of the so-called successor of St. Peter" issues and causes to be posted up upon the church buildings and doors of the cathedrals, as also in all public places, a notice that the church members may go and sin for forty days. Here is the notice: "His Extremely Illustrious Excellency makes known to

all and each one of the faithful that goes to hear the Word of God in this holy season, that he concedes to them forty days of indulgence for each time that they thus do so, and also, as special apostolic favor, a full indulgence to those who attend four sermons in said missions, and confess and worship devoutly," signed "His Extreme Excellency, Senor Bishop Diocesan." More indulgences to Cubans more sins; more sins more confessions; more confessions more money to the "successor of St. Peter" and "God's Vice-gerent." These church dignitaries have a regular schedule of tariff prices to be charged for baptism, for burials, for marriages, for masses, for prayers, for purgatorial souls and for hearing confessions. There is an old adage that "the nearer the church the farther from God." Upon almost every square within the walls of Havana is a church surmounted with a cross.

The superior authority of the secular Cuban church is the captain-general (from Spain) as vice royal patron, and his deputy in the arch-bishop of Cuba, the commanding general (from Spain), of the eastern department. There are orders of St. Domingo, San Francisco, Jesuits, San Augustine, convents, nunneries and monasteries in Havana and Cuba galore. The priesthood and the church have an almost unlimited influence upon the female portion of the Cubans. I am unable to state the number of young women who have "married the church" and are immured within the impenetrable gloom of convent walls in Cuba, but they are numbered by the thousands, I am informed.

That the Roman Catholic church should rule Cuba and the Cubans is not strange, because the Roman Catholic church is the national church of Spain. The pope at Rome rules the Roman Catholic church in Spain, the Roman Catholic church rules Spain, Spain rules Cuba through the church, hence the pope rules Cuba. The great body of the Spaniards are Romanists. There the church and state are united, the church dominating the state absolutely. In 1884, the last date at hand, there were in Spain 32,485 priests, 62 dioceses, 1,684 monks, 161 monastic houses, 14,592 nuns in 1,027 convents, 65 cardinals, 30 religious colleges, 18,564 churches, and all other church edifices count 11,202 in Spain. All of these have greatly increased since that date.

According to article 12 of the constitution of 1876 (Spain) a restricted liberty of worship is allowed to Protestants, but it has to be entirely in private. All public announcements or public worship by the Protestants is strictly forbidden. The same constitution also enacts that the nation binds itself to maintain the worship and ministers of the Roman Catholic religion. In 1889 the population of Spain was 17,552,346, of which 68 and one-tenth per cent could neither read nor write. It is unnecessary to say that what is wanted in Spain just now is an absolute divorce of church and state—less so-called vice-generals of godless so-called successors of St. Peter—less rule by the pope and more rule by the people, uninfluenced by the church. A few little red school-houses in Spain would help both Spain and Cuba. This is what Cuba wants and will have. Mark the prediction. Their swords will not only be beaten into plowshares and their spears into pruning-hooks, but their convents, nunneries and monastic institutions will be turned into free, untrammelled, unsectarian, unprejudiced schools for their children, wherein will be heard the joyful laugh of happy, bounding childhood. The light of heaven's sun will enter the walls of benighted, moss-covered, abominating purileous of monasticisms, and crumble them to the earth. Trees and grass and flowers will rest the eye and cheer the hearts of free children of free Cuba, while the Stars and Stripes of Old Glory will wave over them.

I have not forgotten, nor have the American people forgotten, that in our struggle against the slave power in the south, the pope at Rome, of all the rulers of the earth, acting as a temporal prince, was the only one that officially recognized that arch-traitor Jefferson Davis as the head of a real government, and the only one that recognized the Confederate states as a government. On the 23rd day of September, A. D. 1863, Jefferson Davis, as president of the Confederate states, officially addressed the pope as follows: "The Most Venerable Chief of the Holy See, and Sovereign Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church," to which the pope answered, December 3rd, 1863: "To the Illustrious and Honorable Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America."

It must be remembered that the Southern Confederacy was waging a war against the United States to perpetuate human slavery in this country, while the Cubans are waging a war against Spain to abolish human slavery in Cuba.

We owe Spain nothing. In 1768, when England was threatening the colonists with all the rigors of the law if they would not submit to the English Parliament, Spain, through its minister, Fuentes, expressed the hope that "the English might master the colonies, lest the Spanish colonies also

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should catch the flame." She "preferred a dependent colony to an independent republic." In 1776, the Catholic King of Spain, through his chief minister, was opposed to a republic being established upon the western continent. During all the contest with England for the establishment of a free and independent republican form of government in this country, Spain was opposed to the colonists, because a republican form of government meant human liberty and Spain, as now, hated human liberty. Spain refused to recognize American independence until long after England had been forced to the recognition. On the 17th day of June, 1861, before the civil war had fairly begun, the Spanish government made unseemly haste to form a combine with the French emperor in order to secure belligerent rights to the southern confederacy. In January, 1862, the Sumter entered the port of Cadiz and was not only permitted to obtain supplies, but was allowed the use of a government dock to make her repairs. In February, 1865, the Stonewall was compelled to put into Ferrol and was allowed to remain more than a month refitting, notwithstanding the protest of the United States minister. In May, 1865, the Stonewall entered the Spanish colonial port of Havana. The captain-general not only recognized her as a vessel of war, although the Confederate government had, to all appearances ceased to exist, but he advanced to her commander the amount necessary to pay off her crew.

The Cubans fought heroically, bravely and as became a liberty-loving people from 1868 to 1878, ten long years, and under promise by Spain that her oppressions upon the Cubans should and would be removed, the Cubans laid down their arms, to learn, when too late, that liberty-hating Spain only made the promise of freedom to deceive and betray the Cubans and to fasten the chains of slavery more securely upon the deluded Cubans. The Cubans have again taken up arms in defense of their rights as human beings, and in spite of all opposition at home and abroad, have maintained a de facto government for over a year. They will now either die in the attempt or succeed in establishing another republican government upon the American continent.

All hail to the noble senators and representatives who have demonstrated to the world that the principles of our declaration of independence are for the people upon every part of the American continent.

Will President Cleveland carry out the work so patriotically instituted by the United States Congress? If not, his ashes will go down into the earth unwept. CUNNINGHAM R. SCOTT.

Linton is the Man.
EDITOR THE AMERICAN: I am exceedingly well pleased at the many stand which you have taken in behalf of the gallant Linton for president of the United States. You occupy tenable ground, from which you cannot be dislodged. Linton is the recognized leader of the patriotic forces of the nation. He is a statesman who is a United States man. He is a man of undoubted honor—something which can truthfully be said of but few of the leading politicians of the day. He is not, like Grover Cleveland, a Briticized edition of an American statesman. He is for the promotion of American interests—even at the expense of the neglect of British or European interests. We do not want a president who will curry favor with Irish Roman Catholics, with Italian Roman Catholics, or with any other class of aliens in the midst of us. We want a president who is, in every fiber of his being, in his every instinct, an American—one who is not susceptible to foreign influence. Such a man is William S. Linton.

Some A. P. A.'s may think McKinley loyal, but all A. P. A.'s know Linton is loyal. Linton richly deserves preferment at the hands of Americans, and his candidacy would obviate the necessity for honest Republicans and honest Americans apologizing for anything their candidate ever did.

Linton is undoubtedly sound on all those questions which affect the safety, welfare, happiness and prosperity of the American nation. As president, he would be in favor of extending protection to the American workingman as well as to the American manufacturer. He would be in favor of retarding foreign immigration. He would maintain the honor of our flag at home and abroad. He would see to it that all laws looking to the amelioration of the condition of the American workingman were strictly enforced. He would not appoint a Roman Catholic to any office within the gift of the appointing power. No disloyal Protestant would receive official favors from him.

Let all the A. P. A.'s throughout the country set to work to elect Linton delegations to the St. Louis convention. Let all our friends unite as one man on Linton of Michigan. We will never accomplish anything unless we do this. We must cast aside every personal predilection, every local prejudice, which will in any way interfere with the accomplishment of our purpose to put an American in the White House. We must be united on one man for the presidency of the United States. And if we will unite on Linton, we can win. Why should any honest, loyal, consistent member of the A. P. A.

refuse to support Linton for president? Some A. P. A.'s will say: "Wait four years; we are not yet strong enough to elect an A. P. A. president." We cannot afford to wait four years. It is neither politic nor politics to wait four years. We get a chance to vote for our choice for president only once in four years; and for that very reason we should do what lies in our power—and we have great power—to elevate a plain man of the people to the presidency of the United States. ADALBERT BEACH.

Mexican Veterans, Attention.
Should this notice be read by any of the surviving comrades of the Mexican war of 1846, serving under General Kearney, in Colonel Doniphan's division, who knew a comrade by the name of Joseph D. N. Thompson, of Missouri, who was of medium height, light complexion, brown hair, blue eyes and 35 years of age, and was born in White, Clay county, Tenn., of Irish parents, they will confer a favor on his heirs by writing and will be reimbursed for expense of postage. Address all letters to MRS. RACHEL T. ZOOK, 4339 Lake St., Omaha, Neb.

Mrs. H. C. Ayer, of Richford, Vt., writes: "After having, never I was very much debilitated and had dyspepsia so bad I could scarcely eat anything. A little food caused bloating and burning in the stomach, with pain and much soreness in my side and a great deal of headache. My physician seemed unable to help me and I continued in this condition until I took Dr. Kay's Renovator which completely cured me." Sold by druggists at 25 cts. and \$1.

Ill Tempered Babies
are not desirable in any home. Insufficient nourishment produces ill temper. Guard against fretful children by feeding nutritious and digestible food. The Gall Borden Eagle Brand Condensed Milk is the most successful of all infant foods.

Abraham Lincoln.
Some are suggesting that we make the birthday of Lincoln a holiday. While I admire Lincoln and have always been a Republican, I do not support this. Some at least of the Roman Catholics would put this through just at this time, so as to divide the vote of the north and south, which they are afraid will become solid, and which we should work to make solid in order to down the pope's Irish and dagos. A.

New Money-Making Invention
DEAR READER—I met a friend selling a new case for attaching photographs to tombstones so they are imperishable and last for ever. Being out of employment, I ordered two dozen from the World Mfg. Co., Columbus, O., who manufacture many good selling articles for agents. I sold twelve the first day, profit \$18. Every family has photographs. Anyone can put one on the monument in five minutes. The case is elegant, made of aluminum, the new metal. Every family is glad of a chance to buy one. They are beautiful, and yet so cheap. I made \$67 in one week, \$18 last month. You can do the same by writing. C. B. SNOW.

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