CUBA.

Scenes from the Slavers' Last Paradise.

VISIT TO A SUGAR PLANTATION.

The Maximum of Work and Ignorance, the Minimum of Food and Rest.

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SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Jan. 15, 1873. When the train at Villa Clara came to a stop, with a shock that recalled me from the contemplaon of past glories to the necessity of attending to uch vulgar cares as the safety of one's luggage inolves, I found myself set down on the outskirts of what appeared in this starless night a large village. he only reason for thinking that it was large was the great number of irrepressimuchachos who gathered round me so many young jackais with the ntention of rending my baggage from me. After good deal of pushing and elbowing and shouting at last succeeded in driving off the pack, and, en rusting my worldly goods to the care of a pair of trong urchins, each one of whom in his greed deed to have the sole control, although together they found it difficult enough to convey my equipage to the hotel to which fellow passenger had recommended me. It was situated in the centre of the town, for, as soon as the first palm covered huts were passed I found myself in a comparatively well-built and pleasant little town, boasting f gas lamps and sidewalks, the latter frightfully rregular and more dangerous than convenient. The hotel, like all the hotels in this country, was

ather a fonda, or inn, but THE LOVE OF HIGH-SOUNDING TITLES is so engrafted on Spanish human nature that it is proof against even the arrows of ridicule. As, owing to the perfect indifference to the comfort of cir passengers exhibited by the railway officials, I had been unable to procure anything to eat from early morning, my first care was for the inner man. Refreshed by the repast, I stonished the proprietor by a string of questions The fellow's curiosity was immediately aroused, and, being a captain, or general or something of the sort of volunteers, he proceeded at once to interview me. This to me was highly amusing. When he was through with the operation he had thoroughly convinced himself that I was a young man with plenty of money and a laudable ambition for nigger driving. Under this impression his heart opened and he professed himself my very devoted servitor. Horses and a good guide, I was assured, would be in waiting muy temprano next morning to conduct me to the principal fincu, or plantation, of the neighborhood. With my mind at ease on this point I went to bed and slept soundly until the muchacho of the hotel awoke me in the morning to take my coffee. This duty performed, I prepared for the road. The horse procured me was a small native animal, rather restive, but, as I found afterwards, good to go. From the manner he conducted himself I am under the impression that he was a mambi to the core, and, mistaking me for a Spaniard, endeavored to get rid of me. Finding the plunging business would not do, he tried what a sharp rush along the road would effect, but at last gave up, and conducted himself in a somewhat reasonable way. Owing to the constant rain that had failen for many days knew the roads were in a bad condition, but exexpected, in the immediate vicinity of the large towns, to find them somewhat passable. This expectation proved groundless, for scarcely picturesque old stone bridge that spans one of those chasms, at the bot tom of which flows a stream of water, which the natives dignify with the name of a river, when we found ourselves navigating through puddles and stretches of morass, in which we were constantly sunk almost to the saddle girths. For a lew hundred yards the ground, though muddy, was somewhat level; but we had not been riding a quarter. of an hour when a morass stretching away across the road blocked further progress. I was obliged to pull up while the guide went forward carefully, as if sounding a ford, to find a reasonably convenient passage. After a good deal of splashing about he made his way across without sinking any deeper than his horse's knees in the puddle— an achievement which I also had the good luck to imitate successfully. Bad as this passage was, it was by no means the worst, as before long we were obliged to quit absolutely the roads and ride in the bush or in the fields skirting the highway. We had been dodging about in this way for about three-quarters of an hour, now on firm land, now traversing pools of water, and sometimes tumbling into holes in the most unexpected localities, and only escaping broken necks by keeping a sharp lookout and a tight rein. One of these obstructions had delayed me an unusual length of time behind my guide, whom I always allowed to be well ahead of me, when an accident occurred that was nearly putting the HERALD special hors de combat. My guide was

A TACITURN OLD SOLDIER,
who never condescended to speak to me unless I addressed him, and then he replied with military precision and brevity. I do not think that he once turned his head to see whether or not I had succeeded in following him through the maze of sheep tracks, bushes, pools of water and mud holes through which he led me. In setting out I had ruffled his temper by insisting on shortening my stirrups and riding cross-country style, much disgust, the Cuban mode to have the stirrup leather long and the toe pointing gracefully to the ground, like a thirteenth century swell. I had, however, reason to be thankful for my obstinacy. In order to join the guide, who had ridden far ahead, after passing one of the

morasses of which I have spoken, I struck my spurs into my horse. At first he was inclined to dispute my authority, but having given expression to his feelings in a few vicious plunges he rushed off at a good pace. A sudden turn in the track, which passed at this point along a field, brought us into very broken ground, and I had orly time to gather up my reins when the horse stumbled, and in spite of my efforts to hold him up went down head ioremost. Fortunately I had him well in hand and I came down on my feet, but before I could completely tree myself be relied over

free myself he rolled over.
CRUSHING MY LEG, BUT VERY SLIGHTLY. The softness of the ground had saved both myself and the horse from any serious injury, so I remounted and joined the guide, who had chanced to look back just as my horse fell, but had not stirred one fach. When I rode up he asked, in a perfectly coof and unmoved manner, "Ha recibido daño?" Assured in terms equally brief that I had not, he relapsed into silence that was not broken until he reached the outer gate of the plantation to which we were bound.

THE PLANTATION.

We entered without any ceremony, riding up to a large mass of buildings standing almost in the centre of the plantation, which extended for miles on every side. Here we were fortunate enough to find all the superior officials at breakfast in the shadow of the great shed which protects the machinery from the weather. It was delightfully cool, as the place is open on all sides, giving the air free passage without creating any very perceptible draught. The usual invitation to partake, which is always tendered by the Spanish race to whoever enters when they are at their meals, having been declined on the grou nd that we had already eaten, the object of my visit was explained to the *major domo*, who expressed himself delighted at the chance of being of service. While waiting for the meal to be over I had an excellent opportunity to notice THE DOZEN OR SO OF SLAVE-DRIVERS

who were gathered around the table. For the most part they were vigorous, semi-military looking men, with faces indicating sternness. With one or two exceptions, there was nothing strikingly brutal in the expression of their faces, while about the look that consorted badly with the vile profession of the men. They were seated around a large deal table, on which a number of dishes of the country were placed. There was a rough plentifulness on which a number of dishes of the country were placed. There was a rough plentifulness on the board that reminded one of the feudal times. For the most part these men were rudely clad, and in some cases their linen was not remarkable for its cleanliness. Nearly all were travel-stained, having sat down to table as they arrived from the fields. In spite of the roughness of their exterior, there reigned, however, among themsall the polished courtesy of the old régime. It was amusing to watch the functilious attention paid to each other by this somewhat rough looking group. Rugged in feature, coarse in attire, but with the innate refinement of the Latin races, which even the barbarous habit of thought engendered by slavery could not wholly cracicate; booted and spurred, with the formidable-looking machete hanging at their sides, these men looked like beings called back from the barbarous days of chivairy by some magician's wand to contrast with modern ideas and progress as seen in the complicated machinery in whose shadow they were breakfasting. There was something so opposed to the spirit of liberty and thirsting after progress and justice, which distinguishes the nineteenth century, in this scene that I am not sure that I did not pinch myself just to be certain that I was not dreaming. As soon as breakfast was concluded the director of the plantation ordered one of the black slaves in attendance to saddle his horse, and in a few moments we were

ance to saddle his horse, and in a few moments we were

Jogging through the Grounds,
which were divided by well laid out roads to facilitate the conveyance of the cane to the mill. Our first visit was made to the buildings used by the slaves. In the distance, raised up on piles, were what appeared to me huts, but on closer inspection they were discovered to be small and unfit for human habitation. In answer to my inquiry I was informed that these were the storehouses in which the slaves were permitted to keep whatever corn they raised in the pateness set apart for their use. Underneath each hut were sties occupied by pigs of various sizes and conditions. These animals, I was told, were "bought" by the piantation for the maintenance of the employés. As I witnessed later in the day a "purchase" of this nature I am inclined to look upon the use of the word "buy" as a cuphemism. One of the superintendents of the estate called out a

ployés. As I witnessed later in the day a "purchase" of this nature I am inclined to look upon the use of the word "buy" as a cuphemism. One of the superintendents of the estate called out a woman's name. Almost immediately a wretched-looking creature advanced to where the Superintendent was standing, and taking up a position of absolute subservience, with head bowed and eyes cast down, awaited in silence the further wishes of the superior being before whom in spirit she was prostrated. She had not long to wait.

A P10 WAS WANTED! she had one ready to be killed; it was to be delivered up, and, in return, she would receive \$2. The poor creature bowed her head, mumbled an assent, and the "purchase" was completed. Not far from those houses we came upon an open shed, on two sides of which were placed narrow planks, on which a couple of oid negro women were busy placing a number of tin platters, each one filled with what appeared to me boiled maize. This, I was informed, was the breakfast of the slaves, who would come in from the fields at eleven o'clock. There was no sign of spoons, and I suppose the mode of disposing of the boiled corn was the same as that adopted by a number of naked urchins, who were busy DIVING INTO THE POTS, IN THE KITCHEN, when, much to their disgust and cenfusion, we ap-

mode of disposing of the boiled corn was the same as that adopted by a number of naked urchins, who were busy

DIVING INTO THE POTS. IN THE KITCHEN.
When, much to their disgust and cenfusion, we appeared on the scene. They were engaged in kicking up a "jolly row" over their feast, evidently not caring a straw for the old women, when the shadow of the Superintendent was cast in front of the shed. Suddenly the noise ceased, and the little ones crept steatthily away, until the voice of the man of power riveted them to the spot. An authoritative "Yen argai" brought a few of the young scamps to us. The poor children looked frightfully guilty, as if to eat corn out of a pot were a crime deserving very severe punishment, so they shambled towards us, too much afraid not to come, but not at all certain of the kind of reception that awaited them. For the most part they were fine, healthy children, and, in spite of the horribly degrading influences by which they were surrounded, bright and intelligent looking enough; quite as much so as white children under similar circumstances would have been. There was only one lesson taught them, and, young as they were, they already knew it by heart. It was not to be good or virtuous or honest, but

TO PEAR AND OBEY THE MASTER
if they would avoid the whip. There was something irresistibly comic in the expression of those faces, smeared with the corn which they had eaten out of their hands, for their spirits, though bent, were not yet broken by the knowledge of their abject and hopeless condition. Dismissed by a wave of the hand, the troop of youngsters disappeared with alacrity, and we pursued our way to the steeping quarters of the slaves. On the way the superintendent, who was an intelligent and apparently an open-hearted young fellow, informed me that there were on the estate some one nundred and fifty souls, including some twenty children. The greater number were men, most of them natives of Congo, one only being a coolic, who, contrary to the representations made about the frafi

about the traffic in Asiatics, was treated in every respect in the same way as his sable companions in misioritune.

THE SLEEPING QUARTER OF THE SLAVES is a low, square structure, entered on the side facing the mills by a gateway which leads to a large courtyard or open space, around which the steeping rooms are placed. It is a one-storied structure, divided into five apartments—two small and three large—which were occupied in common. Nominally the females occupied diferent apartments, but, as there was free intercommunication and no recognition of the marital relation, the state of morality can be imagined. At night all the slaves are locked in this building, and an armed guard mounts sentry to see that none escape.

In my character of nigger whipper, in prospectu, all these details were treated in an exhaustive manner, and I confess I was forced to admire the admirable organization of the slave system, while abhorring its workings. If the great aim of existence were to obtain the greatest possible amount of labor out of the human race, without regard to the happiness of individuals here or their fate hereafter, no system could be better devised to obtain this result than the one adopted on these plantations. At four o'clock in the morning the slaves begin their labor in the fields, and under the eye of the taskmaster, who moves about on horseback, armed with a whip which, in New York, would expose a bullock driver to the anger of the humane Bergh, continue to work until eleven in the day, when they return to their prison to shatch some rest to enable them to go through the same monotonous course of toll. During the Summer time necessity for labor is not so great, and the master is content to exact only twelve hours' sweat from his unfortunate bondsmen. Such is the uncolored and inexaggerated statement made by the taskmasters themselves, and the pictures of misery and suffering it calls up vividity to the mind must arouse the indignation of every heart in which there dwells a particle of numanity or of love of

lay for the current year would amount to \$20,000, and the value of the crop raised to \$160,000, a return of over

SEVEN HUNDRED PER CENT ON HIS OUTLAY.

With such enormous profits it is easy to understand how the planters become millionnaires—at the expense of the tears and misery of the wretches who toil or their benefit. That such a system can be permitted to exist among men pretending to be civilized is an outrage on the common conscience of mankind. When I see the representatives of this abomination kneeling before altar of the God of the Christians I regret the thunderbolts of the grand old gods of the past who, the poets tell us, smote in their indignation such criminals.

After a sharp ride through extensive fields of cane, it weld have been easy to forget everything but the wonderful beauty and fertility by which we were surrounded, if it were not for the erect and soldier-like form of the slave driver, by whose side hung a long and formidable machete, while the ornamented handle of a dirk peeped out from his girdle. These resintles reminded me constantly that the peace and happiness were

disk peeped out from his girdle. These realities reminded me constantly that the peace and happiness were

ONLY ON THE SURFACE.

During the ride this man told me that from time to time some of the slaves escaped into the woods; but that in the majority of cases, not being able to obtain food, they were obliged to return and give, themselves up to the authorities, by whom they were handed over to their masters. It is certainly astonishing to my mind haw it is that the slaves do not rise and kill their persecutors. Slave and freeman alike are armed with the terrible machete, which at will can be used as a weapon as well as an instrument of cultivation. I was surprised to find that scarcely any of the employes on the plantations carried frearms, the moral effect of their authority being sufficient to prevent any serious resistance on the part of the slaves. The Chinamen are by no means so tractable, and are more revengeful and dangerous as a class than the blacks. This, of course, is due to their superior intelligence and their keener sense of the wrong done to them.

On our return from the fields eranges were produced, and proved grateful and refreshing after the sharp ride in the sun. As soon as

THE SLAVES HAD FINISHED THEM PEED, for it would be a misuse of language to call it a meal, they were mustered in front of the machine shed. Each one brought his tin saucr and placed it in the general heap. These being counted and found all right the men and women were divided into squads and assigned to various duties. If I had never known anything of slavery but what I saw in the few minutes that parade lasted there was enough to make me a determined abolitionist for life. Not that any act of violence or brutality was committed, for no such occurrence took place, and I am quite willing to believe, as the directors assured me, that corporal punishment of a severe nature is very seidom inflicted on the slaves. It is not necessary, however, to ascribe this gentleness to any consideration of humanity, but simply to the lac

of the white man.

PREFERRING DEATH TO SURRENDER,
in the midst of almost impenetrable woods, these
escaped slaves defy the chivairy of Castile and
wage a war in which quarter is neither asked nor
given. Now, as an able-bodied slave is worth
\$1,500, and is becoming dearer every day, the running away of a slave indicts serious injury on
the master; besides, it is almost impossible to replace him, as the demand surpasses by ever-so-much the supply.
Knowing this, I was not much surprised when the
director toid me that, except in extreme cases, it
was not the custom on the estate to resort to severe corporal punishment. It would be impossible
to paint in words the forlorn and hopeless look of
the slaves as they stood in a half circle before the
director and his assistants. The clothing
of men and women alike consisted of a
coarse stuff, out of which coffee bags are
made, the only difference being that the men
wore something intended to represent pantaloons,
while the garments of the women came, in most
cases, only a little below the knee, being fastened
to be little or

NO DIFFERENCE IN THE AMOUNT OF WORK
expected from the women or the men, and, indeed, at first sight, it was not easy to discover any
difference of sex. For the most part the slaves
on this estate are Congo blacks; but a number of them, and nearly all the children,
are creoles, with unmistakable evidence
of the mixture of white blood in their velus. In
the older slaves all traces of the women not a
vestige remained of the softness and femininity of
character which we look for in those whose destiny
it is to be the mother of men, but beneath the lash
of the overseers. In the laces of the women not a
vestige remained of the softness and femininity of
character which we look for in those whose destiny
it is to be the mother of men, but beneath the lash
of the overseer's whip all thoughts and feelings
planted by Heaven had been crushed out, the
light of love extinguished, and the being whom God
orented for a noble end reduced to the level of a

to the

BASE PASSIONS AND AVARICIOUS GREED

of a master. View slavery from whatsoever side
we may, we shall be able to perceive nothing but
moral turpitude as its immediate result. Trampling all laws, human and divine, under foot, we
shall see the slave master and his assistants handing over their own fiesh and blood to this terrible life of degradation and expesing their
own children to the lash of the taskmaster.
That this terrible crime against humanity is
committed daily can be seen in the color
of the children born on the estates, and who, because they are not so white as their fathers, are
condemned to slavery. A system capable of so
deadening the best feelings of our nature as to
change men into monsters must be regarded by all
honorable men as accursed. In presence of this
sawful wrong even the Church is silent, because the
slaveholder is rich and powerful. True to its conservative instincts,

It is on the side of order,

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saveholder is rich and powerful. True to its conservative instincts,

IT IS ON THE SIDE OF ORDER,
as represented by the rich and chivalrous slave driver, who sells his own child into slavery or hands his daughter over to satisfy the caprices of some new master. It is only when the poor and the weak are unjust that the modern Church can thunder. Not a word is uttered against the slave master here, who, in defance of all laws of morality and justice, robs the slave of the sweat of his brow, and degrades him by forcing him to live in that very socialism which the Church denounces in Paris, but shuts its eyes on in Madrid. The owners of these estates in Havana, Madrid and Paris are Christians of the first water. It is said not to be unknown that many reverend fathers have an interest in human chattels. Owing to the bud treatment and hard work which the slaves undergo they die usually at a much earlier age than the white population. Since the stoppage of the free importation of slaves from Arica the difficulty of supplying the places of those who have died has been constantly felt on the estates. The experiment of

CHINESE LABOR

has not been altogether successful. It has been

cuity of supplying the places of those who have died has been constantly felt on the estates. The experiment of

CHINESE LABOB
has not been altogether successful. It has been disastrous in its effects on the immigrants, of whom about seventy-five per cent die during the eight years they are forced to labor by their contract. Very few of them can be persuaded to renew the contract, and the severest and most unjust laws are enacted in their regard to force them to work either for the benefit of a master or for that of the government. In cases where they have succeeded in overcoming all obstacles and establishing themselves in business, they are exposed to the extortions of the police, who can ruin them at any moment. Owing to this the condition of the coole after he has infilled his contract is almost as bad as while he is on the plantation. In many cases these coolle immigrants are

VERY BAD CHARACTERS,
and prove anything but a desirable acquisition on the estates. Owing to this, and the fact that they are more malicious and infinitely less tractable than the negro, there is considerable prejudice against them among the nigger-driving lraternity. In some cases the immigrants come voluntarily, but I am inclined to think it is very few.

AN ANONYMOUS SOCIETY IN HAVANA, at the head of which is one of the richest planters on the island, has gone largely into this business, which, under present conditions, is more remunerative than even the old slave trade used to be Before I left Havana I visited a Spanish steamer that had just arrived from Macao with a cargo of Celestials, some eight hundred and eighty-nine souls all told. As I mounted the gangway the shaven heads and round faces, with piercing eyes, of innumerable Chinese were popped over the vessel's side, and they seemed as much amused with my appearance as I was with theirs. Everything on board the ship way in applephe order, and if it had not been for the 'threatening looking iron grille that cut off all approach from the coolie as to

quarter of the ship and the quarter deck, as well as the appearance of two small ship's cannon so placed as to

SWEEP THE DECES

in case of attack, one might have thought himself on board of one of those floating herring boxes known as emigrant ships to the habitue's of the port of New York. With the permission of the captain, I went through the ship until I found a Celestial who had the reputation of speaking English among his fellows. Unfortunately his vocabulary was very limited, or I should have been able to get a pretty history from the cargo. His story, so far as he could tell it, was no doubt representative of, many of the rest. He had been to California some years ago, and had returned to his native land with some money. Having settled down, he married, and, things going wrong with him, accepted an offer of a situation in Macao, but, instead of being taken to Macao, he was put on board the immigrant ship and carried to Havana. The poor fellow seemed to feel very much for the two juvenile Celestials and his wile, who were left without protectors or support by his absence. In the case where this absolute bad faith is not exhibited a deception scarcely less cruel is practised. Men are induced to engage themselves with the prospect of high wages, which to their eyes is fabulous, but which, in the different condition of society in which they find themselves on their arrival here, scarcely suffices for their support. The impossibility of communicating with the people by whom they are surrounded makes their position

More hopeless even than trat of the Lacks.

The Congo traders could allege, with some ap-

MORE HOPELESS EVEN THAN THAT OF THE BLACKS. The Congo traders could aliege, with some appearance of truth, that, however bad the position of the slave on the plantation, it was certainly better than it had been in his native land. There was a speciousness in this argument sufficient to smooth consciences not over tender, but no such pretence can be put orth in defence of the coolle traffic. Here we have men of a high order of intel-

ligence, citizens of a free mation, whose civilization was old while our remote ancestors were still savages, as degraded as the Congo negroes, entited from their homes and forced into servitude. It was only necessary to see, as I have seen, the contrast between the new immigrants-full of strength and intelligence—and the wretched wrecks of humanity who survive the contract system to understand the fatal result of the new slave trade. It is my opinion that the nine hundred coolies whom I saw in Havana could compare favorably both physically and mentally with a similar number of almost any people taken at random from the population. That they were not altogether willing immigrants is shown by the fact that

SEVERAL REVOLTS HAD TO BE SUPPRESED On board before the arrival of the ship in port. However, the profits of this infamous traffic are too great to allow any considerations of right or justice to weigh with those engaged in it. According to the information furnished to me by the officers of the ship there are regular agencies established in the Chinese ports, having ramifications in the interior, whose business it is to supply the cargoes to the coolie ships. For each coolie shipped the agent receives \$50, but he has no claim to his money until the "emigrant" is actually aboard. The cause of this clause is that quite a number of the unfortunates after being delivered to the boats throw themselves into the water, preferring to be drowned, or to take the risk of drowning, to being carried into slavery. Once on board, there is little chance of escape, as the hatchways are guarded until the ship puts to sea. As the coolie represents a certain amount of cash I do not think that any unnecessary hardships are inflicted on him unless there should be such a revoil as puts the safety-of the orew in danger. In such circumstances

DEATH IS DEALT until the captives are reduced to obedience by terrors, and the knowledge of the hopeloss nature of a conflict of unarmed men with a well-armed and determined crew. It is very di

all."

This outburst of candor on the part of the assistant quite shocked his oily superior, who looked depreciatingly at the assistant, remarking at the same time that while at sea it was very difficult to keep the coolies clean. I did not appear to attach any importance to what the assistant had unguardedly blurted out, as it might have got him into trouble, especially if they should afterwards have discovered that the inquiring individual to whom he had so unguardedly expressed himself was a Herald correspondent. Some of these immigrants I afterwards encountered on my way through the country, being conveyed under guard to the plantations to which they belonged. There was no pretence on the part of any one whom I met with to regard them in any other light than as slaves, the only difference being that after the lapse of eight years they would be entitled to their liberty, should they have the good or bad fortune to survive the hardships and cruelties to which during that period they were certain to be exposed. Kept to work for an average of fourteen hours a day, with the necessity of working for themselves on the holidays if they wished to have the means of procuring even the most ordinary luxuries in which the poor induige: exposed to a trying climate, without proper food or proper care, it is not to be wondered at that within the time of contract seventy-five per cent of the immigrants perish, though for the most part they come to the country in the prime of manhood. Such is the demand for labor that the planters willingly give something over five hundred dollars for the use of an able-bodied Chinese during eight years. The profits of the traffic can, therefore, easily be calculated. The NINE HUNDRED HUMAN BEINGS BROUGHT TO MARKET II."
This outburst of candor on the part of the assist-

NINE HUNDRED HUMAN BRINGS BROUGHT TO MARKET
in the ship I visited were worth some \$450,000 to the importers, and, as they had cost originally less than fifty thousand, the anonymous society had some logir hundred thousand dollars as the result of the voyage to meet contingent expenses. Never in the palmiest days of the African slave trade wefe such tremendous profits realized, and it is needless to say that so long as the law permits this linking it will flourish with the proverbial rankness of ill weeds.

weeds.

THE PROJECTED REFORMS,
looking to the immediate abolition of slavery in Porto Rico, have caused the greatest consternation here. Every effort is being made by the slaveocracy to prevent the Governor carrying out the instructions from Madrid. Assurances have even been given me by very well informed parties that a million of dollars have been sent to the sister island, with the object of convincing the Governor and other officials of the dangerous nature of the proposed reforms, whether this argument will be convincing or not cannot yet be known, but it is said that the orders from Madrid are peremptory. The growing power of the republican party in Spain and the noble efforts of Castelar in the cause of justice and humanity are exercising a healthful influence on the cause of universal liberty. The slaveocracy the cause of universal liberty. The slaveocracy here look on America as the chief cause of all their misfortunes. Fortunately they do not dare to exhibit openly their hatred, as, with all their loud talk, they are a class remarkably prudent. At every step one hears

THE OLD PLEA OF THE INADVISABILITY Of inaugurating basty referms. If the irredom of

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THE OLD PLEA OF THE INADVISABILITY
of inaugurating hasty referms. If the freedom of
the slaves would only be decreed two years hence
all would be well, but to give the blacks therty
now would be to reduce the country to anarchy.
Then we are assured that the blacks are a hopelessly lazy race, who will not work unless from
fear of the overseer's whip. I ask them why they
did not begin the gradual emancipation ten years
ago, or twenty, by which all the trouble could have been avoided. They do not
seem to be able to understand the philosophy
of the question, the fact being that it no one interfered slavery would be maintained here to the day
of judgment, so far as the will of the slave masters
is concerned. Their cry, therefore, about the "inopportunity" of the abolition movement is only an
effort to gain more time, and would be repeated
with the same insistance ten or twenty years
hence. If these people are so anxious that the
fields should be cultivated at any cost
of human suffering let them cultivate
themselves. For myself, I do not see why the
blacks should not have a turn at driving as well as
the whites, and since these latter are so anxious
for the interest of sugar-eating humanity it ought. blacks should not have a turn at driving as well as the whites, and since these latter are so anxious for the interest of sugar-eating humanity it ought to be a labor of love for them to cultivate the cane. When it has been watered with the sweat of their brows it will taste to them sweeter than ever. Of course I know they will be awnully indignant that such a proposition should be made, for when they preach the necessity of industry they mean that others should toil and sweat while they enjoy the fruits of the labor. Just now the slave owners are in a state of terrible uncertainty. The purchase of slaves has been almost wholly discontinued since the appearance of the article in the Herald insisting that slavery should be abolished in Cuba as well as in Porto Rico.

in a state of terrible uncertainty. The purchase of slaves has been almost wholly discontinued since the appearance of the article in the Herald Insisting that slavery should be abolished in Cuba as well as in Porto Rico.

The Full Force of the Herald Logic is felt here, and if the reforms should be carried out in good faith in Porto Rico there will be a general stampede among the slavers here. The sentiment among the native population is very much in favor of the abolition of slavery, but the Spanish immigrants feel that it would weaken their hold on the Island considerably, and therefore are almost to a man opposed to the proposed change, it is aimost impossible to arrive at the opinion of the colored population. For the most part they are suak in the deepest ignorance, but many among them are people of education and refinement, It is, however, dangerous for them, or they think it is, to be seen speaking to me, for, somehow or other, everywhere I go the people think that there is something very important in my mission that does not meet the eye. The government of the United States is supposed to be very deeply interested in the state of the island, and public opinion does me the honor of thinking that I represent not alone the Herald, but am also

A COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES government. My enforts to enlighten people in the few instances in which I undertook it seemed only to have the effect of deepening this impression. So I leave the people now to form what conjectures they please. It is said that I am very closely watched by the authorities, but whether this is true or not I have no means of knowing, not being a quainted with the secret police. As I have told them exactly what I wanted and what I meant to do, I don't think that they will be much wiser for their attentions, from which I do not experience the slightest inconvenience.

IN BELATION TO THE INSURRECTION probably there is more known in New York than here. Since leaving Havana I have heard nothing but I more. The lact is, the government on

tacked by

A COLUMN OF SIX HUNDRED CUBANS

and destroyed, with the exception of three
soldiers. Such is the Cuban story, and in its main
details it has been admitted to be true by people
high in command here; but it has not been allowed
to see the light, except a short paragraph in the

Randera Español, yesterday, which said that a fight had taken place in the direction of Puerto Principe, in which the Cubans lost six killed and one prisoner. A column of cavalry that was met next day was put to ignominious flight. The number of the killed in this latter engagement is not given. There is no account of any one having been hurt on the Spanish slide, so that I think I will be able to reap quite a large amount of military glory without any heavy risk by marching under the Spanish flag. This idea has come to me in the form of

Apropos of Spanish columns, I shall have something to say in my next, as I have just returned from my first expedition. I telegraphed that I expected to remain out ten days, but circumstances over which I had no control brought the military operations to a rather sudden close, and left me very little to brag about in the way of trophies. I was already calculating whether

AMACHETS OR A PICKLED HRAD

would make the most sensational addition to my museum of curiosities, when all my plans were spoiled and brought to naught by a telegram from General Morales ordering the column back. Every one in the column pretended complete ignorance of the causes of our sudden return, and it is but justice to the officers and men to say that they were more annoyed even than I was. They have been fighting in the dark for four years and several months, and, like intelligent fellows, as they are, they welcomed a historian among them with warm and appreciative courtesy. However, my campaign under the Spanish flag will form a chapter by itself. There will be some things to be said which will pinch some-body's corns. Some of the officials here, being anxious to know what I thought about the troops, I rather surgrised them by saying that "I thought a little more bread would do them a good deal of good." The official shook his head and assured me "IT was DIFFICULTA,"

and, in view of the enormous fortunes made in the Commissary Department, I am not at all surprised at the difficulty of giving the unfor

THE REBEL EXPEDITIONS.

The Reports in Havana of Landing Arms and Munitions of War in the

As usual we are in the dark with respect to the anding of flibuster expeditions on this island. The only reliable information, received here through the underground railroad, states that two of these have successfully accomplished their mission in landing a few men and a large cargo of arms and munitions within the past few weeks. The first expedition is reported to have effected its landing at Zaza de Tunas, on the south coast, and the second was landed a short distance to the westward of Baracoa. On the 10th inst, the Spanish war steamer Tornado sighted a suspicious-looking steamer, carrying two smoke stacks, standing off the coast toward Jamaica The war vessel gave an unsuccessful chase. The filibuster distanced her, and escaped under cover of the darkness.

Private reports have reached here of an engagement between the contending parties, Spaniards and patriots. The fight took place on the 13th instant, twenty leagues to the westward of Santiago de Cuba, near the coast. The insurgents are reported as the victors. The rebels are reported to be very active in the eastern and central departments. Numbers of small bands are roving in every direction, and keep the defenders of "national integrity" on the qui vive. THE RUMORED CAPTURE OF AGRAMONTE.

There is no truth in the report that General Ignacio Agramonte had been captured by the Spaniards. It is one of the thousands of canards and fancies daily circulated and upon which the Spaniards count the prompt and happy conclusion

opaniarus count the prompt and happy conclusion of the insurrection, which at present appears as strong as ever.

AN INSURGENT EXECUTED.

The insurgent chief, Chieho Gomez, whose capture was duly chronicled, was executed on the 14th instant, in the village of Banao, jurisdiction of the Cinco Villas, after the customary drum-head court martial.

court martial.

CORDOVA AND THE CAPTAIN GENERALSHIP.

The Diario this morning has the following:—"A
letter, written by a well informed person, states
that the President of the Council of Ministers desires General Cordova to accept the Captaincy
General of this island so soon as the Cortes reassume their sessions, but that the mentioned General would never accept the Charge without the
assurance that he could rely upon the efficacious
co-operation of the loyal inhabitants of this island."

MORE SPANISH RECRUITS.

More spanish recruits.

The Spanish mail steamer Antonio Lopez arrived at this port yesterday, and brought 937 recruits for the front. This is the largest remittance received for some months past.

Colonel Aguero's Report of His Operament of the Insurrectionist Supplies-Landing of the Cargo and Inventory

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 30, 1873.
The Key West Republican of the 17th instant gives a diary of the operations of Colonel Aguero, commanding the expediton recently landed on the coast of Cuba from the steamer Edgar Stuart, of which the following is a translated

DECEMBER 11.—Sailed from New York for Colon with twenty-two men, in the steamer Henry Danney

DECEMBER II.—Salled from New York for Colon with twenty-two men, in the steamer Henry Channeey.

1971—6 P. M.—Arrived at Colon.

2571—6 A. M.—Salled from colon on the Edgar Stuart, with forty men and a large cargo of arms, ammunition, &c.

JANUARY I TO 3.—Engaged in landing the cargo at Porto Aquero and Rotto Lono, by means of small vessels that came off for the purpose while the steamer was lying some distance from the shore; cargo salely landed and conveyed into the interior.

5TH.—Saw many steam and sailing vessels, which kept at a distance; at midnight, when 190 miles from Key West and 22 from the coast of Cuba, broke machinery and proceeded under sail.

12TH.—Anchored in the harbor of Boca Grande, 20 miles from Key West.

12TH.—Anchored in the harbor of Boca Grande, 20 miles from Key West.
THE COMMISSARIAT SUPPLY CARGOES.
The cargo landed at Porto Aquero consisted of 500 Remington rines, 500 Springfield rides, 5,000 Spencer percussion caps, 3,000 Remington percussion caps, 500 hand grenades, 2½ tons of powder, 200 machetas, 3 medicine chests, 6 cases surgical instruments, 6 bales of lint, 15 barrels of provisions and a large quantity of small articles.
A similar cargo was landed at Porto Lono.

OUTRAGE ON AMERICAN CITIZENS.

The Spanish Government About to Pass Sentence of Death on United States Citizens-They are Ordered to Present Themselves at the Jall at Havana-Secretary Eish Called Upon to Inter-

Spanish insolence toward the United States to daily becoming more aggressive, as the following edict lately published in Havana will show. Three of the names mentioned are those of American citizens resident in this city, who long ago elected to become subjects of the United States, in prefer ence to longer enduring Spanish tyranny. The following are the names of the gentlemen who

SWORN FRALTY TO THIS GOVERNMENT, and the property they own in Cuba, although now embargeed by the Spanish, may be roughly esti-mated at from five hundred thousand dollars to seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars:—Pedro Bombariler, Miguel Barbarossa and José Portuondo. The two Augaricas mentioned, now fighting in Cuba, are nephews of the wealthy Cuban resident

The two Augaricas mentioned, now fighting in Cuba, are nephews of the wealthy Cuban resident in this city of that name, who a short time back manumitted all his slaves resident on his various plantations. The following is the proclamation in question:

PROCLAMATION.

DON LUIS VILLELONGA Y AGUIRRE, Military Commandant of the City of Havana:
Whereas it has come to my knowledge that the following individuals, named respectively Miguel Harbarossa, José Portundo, Pedro Bombariler, José Navarete, Miguel Angarica, Manuel Angarica, and who are accused of disloyalty to Spain, have absented themselves from the jisland of Cuba: Now, therefore, Lin virtue of the powers invested in me by the King our sovereign, and by his royal ordinances addressed to the officials of of the Island of Cuba, ordain as follows, by these presents: That the before-mentioned individuals are cited and ordered to appear in person at the common jail of the city of Havana within the delay of thirty days from the present date, and upon their surrendering themselves the question of their imprisonment or being put at liberty will be argued.

Should the before indicated men not put in an appearance, as hereby ordained, they will be sare the code as rebels by the Council of War of Havana, and sentenced to the gravest punishment at the

hands of the King of Spain, without further not This notice has been duly affixed and publicly isplayed according to law.

FRANCISCO VIVERO, SCOTCEARY.

LUIS VILLALONGA.

HAVANA, Jan. 10, 1873.

Naturally, pope of the control of the c Naturally, none of the individuals cited to appear by the 9th of February will put in an appearance, and, as a matter of course, they will be sentenced to

and, as a matter of course, they will be sentenced to DEATH BY THE GARROTS, by order of the military court, which will be seen held. It was reported yesterday in New York that remonstrances will be sent to Secretary Fish by the American subjects whose names are herein mentioned, also asking for the protection of the United States. The amount of property alluded to in the proclamation is estimated at \$1,500,000, belonging to Cubans and citizens of this country. Several Cubans in this city, by way of a reprisal. Several Cubans in this city, by way of a reprisal names of many Spanish merchants doing business in this city and large holders of real estate, who declare their intentions so to do.

The following is a copy of the original document,

this month:—

TRIBUNALES.

Don Luis Villalonga y Aguirre, Coronel Sargento Mayor de esta plaza.

Habiéndose ausentado de esta isla los paisance.

D. Miguel Barbarrosa, D. José Portuondo, D. Pedro Bombalier, D. José Navarrete, D. Miguel y D. Manuel Angarica, d quienes estoy procesando por el delito de infidencia, usa-ndo de la jurisdiccion que el Rey Nuestro Señor tieno concedida en estos casos porsus Reales ordenanzas á loc oficiales del Ejército, por el presente, cito, llamo y emplazo, por este mi primer edicto y pregon a dichos individuos, senalandoles la carcel nacional de esta plaza donde deberan presentarse que se cuentan desde el de la fecha a dar sus descargos y defensas, y de no comparecer en el reforido plazo, se seguira la causa y se sentenciara en rebeidia por el Consejo da guerra de la plaza por el delito que merezca peira mae grave, sin mas llamaries ni emplazaries, por ser esta la voluntad es S. M. Fijese y pregonese este edicto para que venga a noticia de todos. Havana, 10 de enero de 1873.

I or su mandato, Francisco Vivero, Secretario.

LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.

THE THIRD VOLUME OF HOD. W. Beach Lawrence Commentaire sur les Eléments du Droit Interna tional" is just published by Brockhaus, of Leipsic. and contains much important matter on the ques-tions of naturalization, expatriation, domicile, conflict of laws and the rights of married women

under the laws of various nations.

MR. GLADSTONE deciares that the story of his beginning every day with Homer conveys a very untrue impression of the demands of his present office, and that, in truth, he has not read Homer

THE FOUR HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY of the birth of Copernicus will be celebrated on the 19th of February, 1873, and will be signalized by the publication of a centenary edition of his great work, "De Revolutionibus Orbium Collectium."

ONE OF THE NUMEROUS FAMILY Of Macdonalds

(Duncan G. F.) has written a very good book on "Cattle, Sheep and Deer," which all lovers of mutton, venison or beef would find tooth

CLAXTON & Co., Philadelphia, announce for early publication "The Hemlock Swamp" and "A Sum-mer at the White Sulphur Springs," a novel, by

Elsie Leigh Whittlesey.

Professor Henry Morley's short "History of English Literature" is expected to be ready in Jan-SWIFT said the reason a certain university was a

learned place was that most persons took some learning there and few brought any away with them, so it accumulated. DR. HAVILAND has published a very interesting

work on the "Geographical Distribution of Dis-eases in England," in which it is shown that scrotula and other maladies have an intimate rela-ONE OF THE ECCENTRICITIES of the late Théophile Gautier was to dress in red velvet pour-points. He was an Orientalist, born in Gascony—the most

brilliant Frenchman in modern literature. JONCKBLORT'S "History of Netherlandish Litera ture" has been translated into German by W. Berg and E. Martin. The German edition contains a full list of Netherlandish authors and their works.

THE Animal Kingdom, a new paper, is to be conducted in the interest of the dumb animals. JAMES R. OSGOOD & Co. have undertaken the publication of an American edition of a new English periodical, entitled The Practical Magazine. THE ONLY BOOKS in the English tongue yet honored with a concordance are the Bible, Shak-

speare, Milton, Tennyson, "Keble's Christian Year" and the "Constitution of the United States," "A SCAMPER TO SEBASTOPOL AND JERUSALEM." by James Creagh, is a very tedious performance, by an egotistic Englishman.

EDWIN FORREST'S Shakspearian library, which had taken years to collect, was entirely destroyed by fire, with the exception of a single volume of Halliwell's edition. A fine copy of the first folio Shakspeare of 1623 was consumed, all but a few inches of the centre. The copy was worth between \$1,500 and \$2,000. It was bought some years ago at the sale in this city of the library of William E. Burton, the actor, for \$600. It may be curious to note that by the loss of this volume the number of copies of the first folio known to exist is reduced

PROPOSED ANN STREET WIDENING.

o thirty-nine.

The Plans of the Improvement. [From the Commercial Advertiser, Jan. 29.]

The projectors of the plan for widening Ant street, which, unsuccessful four years ago, has of late assumed definite shape and probability, will soon apply to the Legislature for the passage of special law authorizing the intended improvements. Several prominent railway men and a number of property owners of Ann and Beekman streets comprise the persons especially interested. and it seems probable that the proposed measure will be successful. The question of costs, compensa-tions, condemnation of property and the like, are provided for by existing laws, and will be settled accordingly. The design is to give a width of 125 feet to Ann street, at Broadway. The ground needed will be taken from the north side of the street, which will then run eastward for about twenty-five feet; the north side at a right angle to B roadway, and at an obtuse angle to Ann street as now located. It will thus be caused to gradually lessen in width until 100 feet will be attained on an average. From the north side of the street as far as Gold street all the new ground needed is to be

avera ge. From the north side of the street as far as Gold street all the new ground needed is to be taken.

At Gold street, Ann and Beekman streets, together with some intervening ground, will blend into an open place, which at this point will be 160 feet wide, and will afford ample accommodation for horse cars. The street will gradually lessen in width from this point to 100 feet at Cliff street. Beekman street will continue of the same width down to the East River.

The necessary ground is to be taken on both sides of the street, between Cliff and Water streets, but from Water street to the river only on the north side. The necessity of appropriating anything on the south side is, of course, obviated by the twenty feet "offset?" which exists below Water street.

street.

'Yhe only building of any considerable value
which the widening of the streets will oblige to be
pulled down is the Market National Bank, at Pear
and Beekman streets, the other buildings affected
both on Ann and Beekman streets being old and