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### The Beginning of the End.

One month ago we said: "The first duty of the Government is to order our navy to proceed to Cuba and Porto Rico. With these islands captured the affair will be over and Cuba free."

We also said of the torpedo boats at the Cape Verde Islands which had inspired such terror among the sensational alarmists in this country, but which have since crept back to Spain, followed, it is now reported, by the entire remainder of the terrible new armada, that—"It is doubtful if these vessels ever reach this side. They were not built to cross the ocean. The capture or destruction of their convoy ships would leave them helpless."

It was likewise said in the same article: "Coal is as necessary to modern warships as powder. They cannot move or fight without it. Spain in Cuba is 4,000 miles distant from her supplies of coal, and the moment we seize Cuba and Porto Rico her fleet will be at our disposal. Is it not lunacy to suppose that her other ships will cross the ocean to fall into our hands after the war is practically over?"

Havana has been blockaded for nearly three weeks. San Juan, the principal harbor of Porto Rico, has by this time been invested by Admiral Sampson, and with no Spanish ships on this side of the ocean the main portion of his fleet can return to assist in the reduction of Havana. And at last the army is moving in full force, under the personal direction of Gen. Miles, to invade Cuba and in co-operation with the navy to capture and occupy Havana.

When these two operations are completed, as they may be within a very short time, the war will be over. Whatever fleet Spain may muster, it will never venture across the ocean with no coaling stations available and with both Cuba and Porto Rico in our possession. If Spain could not defend these islands she certainly would not hope, even in her madness, to recapture them.

As for the talk of privateering, Europe will have something to say about that, even if Spain's bankruptcy and revolution at home do not put an end to her ridiculous bombast about "fighting forever."

The retreat of the Spanish fleet and the movement of our army toward Cuba mark the beginning of the end of this "War of Liberation."

### So Much the Worse for the Facts.

The Saturday Review of London does not let any little obstacle like facts interfere with its assertions. "At Manila," it says, "the Spanish ships were all wooden, and mostly about one-fifth of the size of their opponents." The actual fact is that, of the ships beaten and destroyed, the Reina Christina was steel; the Don Antonio de Ulloa, iron; the Isla de Luzon, steel; the Isla de Cuba, steel; the General Lezo, iron; the Marques del Duero, iron; El Cano, iron; the Velasco, iron; the Don Juan de Austria, iron. In short, of the ships in line of battle, instead of "all" being wooden, only one was wooden, the Castilla.

The Saturday Review is equally veracious when it says that the Spanish ships were "mostly about one-fifth of the size of their opponents." The largest vessels in the fight were our Olympia and Baltimore; but the two next were Spaniards, namely, the Reina Christina and Castilla.

The displacements of our vessels, excluding the revenue cutter McCulloch, which did no part of the line, were as follows: Olympia, 5,870; Baltimore, 3,130; Raleigh, 3,113; Boston, 3,000; Concord, 1,710; Petrel, 892, making a total of 19,098. The displacements of the Spaniards

were, with some slight variations in the authorities: Reina Christina, 3,520; Castilla, 3,342; Don Antonio de Ulloa, 1,152; Don Juan de Austria, 1,152; Isla de Luzon, 1,040; Isla de Cuba, 1,040; Velasco, 1,152; General Lezo, 524; El Cano, 524; Marques del Duero, 500. In addition the Isla de Mindanao, 4,195 tons, was destroyed, but she was only an armed transport. Leaving her out, we have a total displacement of 13,946 against our 19,098. This does not look much like five to one.

We could not expect the Saturday Review to observe that the Spaniards had their shore forts to aid their ships, or that they were in a familiar harbor and our men in foreign waters. We could not expect it to see that splendid seamanship and splendid marksmanship were factors no less potent in the victory than the displacement armament. But why should it call the Spanish ships all wooden and mostly one-fifth as large as ours?

### Possible Work for Our Ships

Admiral Dewey's assertion that he holds Manila under his guns, and can reduce it whenever he chooses, has properly stimulated the Government to prepare a force of troops for occupying the Philippines. Practically the taking of Manila will carry with it the control of the whole group of islands; yet so vast is their extent that the Spaniards might make a show of resistance elsewhere even after losing Manila. There are, in fact, other points in the islands garrisoned by Spain, notable among them being Iloilo, in Panay. But all these places can be reduced by even a small part of the fleet, and their troops, if wise, would surrender without a fight.

Spain's loss of the Antilles and the Philippines ought to bring forth with an end of the war, but should she make a pretense of continuing it she would have still more to lose. In the Pacific she has the Caroline Islands, a widely scattered archipelago, where we used to have a missionary station at Ponape until a few years ago, when Spain made it so uncomfortable for the missionaries that one of our warships took them away. Associated with these are the Pelew Islands. More important are the Padrones, or Mariana Islands, which are very fertile, while on Guam the principal island is the town of San Ignacio de Agaña, which is worthy of our consideration as a naval station. These islands, north of the Carolines and on the route from Honolulu to the Philippines, might become important to us.

It is clear, at all events, that Admiral Dewey will find work to do in the Pacific, even if Spain should not accept the occupation of Manila and Havana as the end of the war. In the Atlantic we should find a point of interest in the Canaries. Fernando Po, further south, is a beautiful island, occupied as a penal settlement, which would probably not concern us. It is rather significant, however, to hear that Spain is busily defending Port Mahon, in the Balearic Islands, as if she feared that even the Mediterranean might not escape the attention of our fleets.

### "Daddyism" in War.

There have been already appointed or slated for prompt appointment to offices of high rank in the army sons of Senators Elkins, Gray and Fairbanks, and a nephew of Senator Allison, and sons of Representatives Hill and Hitt, Secretary Alger and the late Secretary Blaine.

It is known to Mr. McKinley that none of these sons of distinguished sires has been educated or trained in the duties of the offices to which he has appointed them and that therefore their duties will not be properly performed. As a consequence many soldiers are liable to suffer—possibly to die—from this form of political favoritism.

Perhaps Mr. McKinley hoped by such appointments to improve the morale among the faithful and competent officers of the regular army over whose heads they were made.

If there is any place on earth where "daddyism" or nepotism of any kind is utterly and dreadfully scandalous, it is in the army in the presence of actual war.

If there has been any massacre at Manila, as is reported, the blame for it must fall on the Spanish misrule which has rendered settled conditions impossible alike in Manila and Havana. Whatever the Philippines are, they are only what the Spanish masters have made them.

### Discredited Regiments.

Two of New York's "crack" regiments have brought discredit upon themselves by their action with reference to volunteering.

The Seventh quite unanimously resolved not to offer their services to their country. They were in the field for ninety days during the civil war, and they do not care to repeat that experience, brief and uneventful as it was. It is said the great majority of the men of the regiment were willing to volunteer, but that the influence of their colonel and other officers prevented them. They therefore took the ground that if they went into the service at this time there was danger that the regiment would be disintegrated—that the companies might be separated, new officers put over them, &c.

The improbability of anything of that sort being done occurred to nearly everybody else in New York but them. And the result is that the Seventh will never again hold the warm place it has long held in popular affection.

It is conceded that there are men in the regiment upon whom absence from home at this time would impose great hardships, but there can be no doubt that if these had stepped out of the way plenty of other men would have come forward to fill their places.

The situation of the Thirteenth Regiment is even worse than that of the Seventh. It actually went into camp and was confidently counted upon by the State authorities; but when the time neared when it was to be mustered in, it "reneged" and retired amid the hoots and jeers of all the other soldiers.

The defence set up by the colonel of the Thirteenth is much the same as that of the Seventh; but, unfortunately for the former, it got deeper in the mud than the latter. The result is that the Governor has issued an order disbanding the Thirteenth regiment. And he is right. Officers and men who do not know their own minds better than those of the Thirteenth do, ought not to be trusted with firearms. Happily for the State of New York it has plenty of regiments willing to help her make up her quota, and so another regiment will at once take the place of the disgraced, disbanded and disgraced Thirteenth.

It was never expected that all of the officers and men in all the companies and regiments would volunteer for the present service, but the public was justified in hoping that those who could not, or would not, go to the war would not make themselves stumbling blocks in the way of others who were inclined to volunteer.

### The South Carolina Liquor Law.

In the United States Supreme Court last Monday the South Carolina liquor law was again made the subject of a decision, which was handed down by Justice White. The State dispensary law having been amended since the recent decisions holding it invalid, Monday's decision deals with the new law. This law attempted to eliminate the feature of the old law discriminating against other States in the shipment of liquor to individuals for their own use in South Carolina, but while this inhibition was eliminated and the privilege restored in the new law, it was coupled with conditions of inspection which, it was claimed, still amounted to discrimination.

The court in the decision accepted this view of the case, holding that the inspection provision of the law was tantamount to a denial of the right of interstate commerce and therefore antagonistic to the Constitution of the United States. The court held, however, that the portion of the law regulating the sale of original packages within the State was valid. The decision was rendered in the case of Vance and Scott vs. the Vandercook Co. of California. The decision of the United States Circuit Court for South Carolina was in favor of the California company. The opinion rendered had the effect of affirming this opinion in part and reversing it in part, and the case was remanded with instructions to proceed accordingly.

Chief Justice Fuller and Justices Shiras and McKenna dissented as to the portion of the opinion reversing any part of the decision of the lower court below. They took the position that the law in its entirety is in violation of the Constitution and that the opinion antagonistic to it should be sustained. The court reversed the opinion of the Circuit Court for South Carolina in the case dealing with the

seizure of liquors shipped into South Carolina by Vandercook & Co. on the ground that the court had no jurisdiction.

Senator Tillman, the author of the dispensary law, says that the part that is rejected by the Supreme Court will not affect the workings of the law, and that the point sustained is sufficient. He had already secured the passage of a bill in the Senate to meet the objections which the former decision rendered invalid, but says that it will not be necessary upon Monday's decision to have the bill pass the House.

### Our Aristocratic Emigres.

During the Franco German war when France was in need of every one of her sons in order to defend her soil against the invader, there were a certain number of Frenchmen who had previously figured as social stars in the Parisian salons, and who chose that particular time to take up their residence abroad in Spanish, Swiss, Italian and English fashionable resorts precisely in the same manner as the aristocratic Emigres, who deserted King Louis and Queen Marie Antoinette at the close of the last century seeking refuge in foreign climes.

And there they remained until the war was over, assailing with reproaches those of their countrymen whom they condemned as responsible for bringing about the war, and criticising the military acts of those who had remained at home to fight.

There is something very much of the same kind going on with the large American colony in Europe, and in London society in particular the attitude of many of the members in loudly deploring the conduct of their countrymen in forcing a quarrel on Spain, has excited not only considerable astonishment, but likewise disgust.

Indeed, several of the London papers comment on this behavior of the American colony on the banks of the Thames, and of the Seine, and sarcastically intimate that the attitude of these unpatriotic sons and daughters of Uncle Sam is in keeping with the recent letter of ex-Minister Phelps.

Patriotism has never been considered bad form even by the most frivolous and worldly people in the old world. But absence of patriotism is accounted not merely bad form but almost a crime, and to this day those who absented themselves from France in 1870 to avoid the war are still cold-shouldered by French society, no matter what their birth or ancestry.

### Cuba and Porto Rico.

Will the loss of these two islands to Spain end the war? If common sense guided the actions of the Spanish Ministry it would, but political considerations and that enigmatical "Spanish pride," which seems to thrive on reverses, may compel a continuance of the conflict. In such event the Canaries will serve as the first halting place on the American march to Madrid.

It is necessary for the future safety of our Republic that this war should be as decisive as it seems now to be one-sided. If the tactics of Spain make it necessary for our ships to go to Spanish waters to meet the enemy, thither they will go. For the glory of invading Spain we as a nation have no ambition. American soldiers have never campaigned on the other side of the Atlantic, and to-day there is no desire to mingle the sound of our drums and trumpets in the European concert. But if Spain retires to her stronghold and sulks there we will attack her until she sues for peace.

The way is now open to Cuba and Porto Rico without other opposition than the land forces in those islands may offer. There is every reason to anticipate that when next we hear from Admiral Sampson's fleet it will be news that the American flag is raised over Porto Rico, and the vigorous preparations now being urged forward by the authorities at Washington leave no doubt that a lodgement will be effected in Cuba early in the week.

During a discussion in the Reichstag in Berlin on a supplementary estimate of 5,000,000 marks for Kiaoo Chou, Herr von Bulow said Germany had no agreement with Great Britain, which had spontaneously declared that she would not use Wei Hai Wei to interfere in the sphere of German interests. Germany would certainly not take the initiative in a partition of China, and did not desire it. From the firm foothold she had acquired she could await the further development of affairs in tranquillity.

## OUR FOREIGN NEWS.

Translated and Selected from leading European papers for the SENTINEL.

### ENGLAND.

HER MAJESTY'S PROCLAMATION OF NEUTRALITY.

Times—London, April 27.

The proclamation differs from its predecessors only in making it more clear than before that these obligations are imposed upon all Her Majesty's subjects in the colonies and dependencies of the Empire, as well as upon the people of these islands; and in applying the practical rules of administration to vessels belonging to the belligerents which may happen to be in our ports at the date of the proclamation as well as to those which may enter them after its issue. To that extent the proclamation may be regarded as more stringent than its predecessors, and to that extent may be held, if anybody so pleases, to set forth a policy peculiar to the present Government. Another difference which may be noted is that the present proclamation recites for the first time the rules appended to the Treaty of Washington, which are, however, the basis of the agreement with the Foreign Enlistment Act itself. \* \* \* The proclamation makes no attempt to define contraband of war, and, in particular, adds nothing to the elucidation of the question whether coal is contraband, which now excites a good deal of interest. The Government has decided, wisely in our opinion, to confine itself to ground covered by precedents, and to definition of the duties unmistakably imposed upon British subjects by statute. For all that lies outside that area British subjects must depend upon the less certain guidance of international usage and its interpretation by the belligerents. Whether coal be contraband of war or not, the supply of coal to the ships of the belligerents in the ports of the Empire is regulated with great minuteness, in common with all other stores and provisions.

Standard—London, April 27.

The people of the United States will, of course, take of excellent amusements this early token of our determination to do our duty as a neutral Power; and as, hitherto, no Spanish vessel has been hampered by our vigilance, the over keen Continental critics who charge us with being selfishly devoted to the interests of "Transatlantic Anglo-Saxonism" will, perhaps, revise their hasty judgment. France has also made timely provisions against any breach of neutrality by its "nationals." The regulations submitted by Mr. Hanotaux yesterday, and approved by the Cabinet, are substantially the same as those issued on the occasion of the last Russo-Turkish war, and follow very much the lines of our own policy. Civilized Governments cannot confine their energies to restraining their own subjects from any participation in the pending hostilities, or from giving aid or comfort to the belligerents. They have to exercise police supervision over the combatants who come within their borders, and see, as well as they can, that there is no breach of the peace near their own shores. \* \* \* Happily, the United States has voluntarily adopted for its own guidance a policy no less wise than considerate. Even for Spanish merchantmen in American ports the liberal allowance of time is given for loading and unloading. The right of search is to be exercised with a scrupulous regard for the rights of neutrals, and nothing but the gravest suspicion is to justify any stoppage of mail steamers.

It is the recognized practice of nations that a warship in a neutral port may obtain enough coal (and no more) to reach her nearest destination under her own flag. This is the rule laid down in the proclamation, with the usual restriction to the use of the rule. How it will work out to the advantage or disadvantage of this side or that it is impossible to foresee; nor would it be possible for any neutral power to take such considerations into account. What the law of neutrality requires is a general rule, applied equally to both sides, in accordance with the famous "Three Rules" under which a neutral is bound "not to permit either belligerent to make use of its ports as a base of naval operations against the others, or for the purpose of the renewal or augmentation of military supplies."

Daily News—London, April 27.

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GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY IN THE FAR EAST.

Times—London, April 28.

We have not the smallest desire to underestimate the friendliness of Germany's attitude throughout the recent crisis, or to suggest that it ought not to be required on our part. It is clear from the parliamentary papers that she has been anxiously anxious in the development of her Far Eastern policy not to come into gratuitous conflict with British interests. Offers of a port and coaling station in the south of China were made to her more than once by the Chinese, but they were refused by her out of regard for our just susceptibilities. \* \* \* When we demanded the reversion of Wei Hai Wei Lord Salisbury instructed Sir F. Lascelles to assure the German Government that we did not wish to interfere with the interests of Germany in the province of Shantung. But it seems scarcely necessary to have extended this assurance, and in particular to have proclaimed an intention not to connect Wei Hai Wei with the railway system of the interior. \* \* \* "The principal point," said the *Kolonial Zeitung* in an interesting article on the value of Germany's new acquisition, quoted in the parliamentary papers, "is that the power which possesses Kiaoo Chou will control the coal supply in

Northern Chinese waters." The statement is not strictly correct if it be limited to Kiaoo Chou. It is absolutely true, when extended to the whole of Shantung, as the assurance given by our Government "of its own accord" has now extended it. On January 12 Lord Salisbury told the German Ambassador that the relation of the German occupation of Kiaoo Chou to our treaty rights in China "would require careful consideration." The result of the process can hardly be pronounced satisfactory to the nation.

Daily Graphic—London, April 28.

Herr von Bulow, the German Minister for Foreign Affairs, made a statement in the Reichstag on Far Eastern affairs, which will not help to still the feelings of disappointment aroused in this country by the publication of the recent Blue Book. It is true that Herr von Bulow tells us nothing that is not to be found in the official despatches, but he brings our relations with Germany in regard to the Far East to a focus, and shows us pretty clearly how much Germany has gained from us and how very little we have obtained from her. Three things we seem to have done, each of which involved a sacrifice on our part. In the first place we raised no objection to Germany seizing the harbor of Kiaoo Chou; in the second place we have obtained no definite and permanent "open door" assurances consequent on that seizure; and, in the third place, although we protested that we would never recognize any exclusive claims of Germany in Shantung, we have now spontaneously "enrolled" from Wei Hai Wei upon our (the German) political or economic sphere of interests. What have we received for all this? Absolutely nothing, barring a number of exceedingly effusive assurances of German friendship. Herr von Bulow says, indeed, almost boastfully, "we have concluded no arrangements with Great Britain." If this is all our diplomacy can effect when it is dealing with friends, it is scarcely surprising that we should have suffered so much mortification when we are confronted with a foe like Russia. \* \* \* It is, of course, possible that the British Government counts on German support in the future in its Far Eastern policy. So far our experience of Germany is that she does not do much for anybody's *beaux yeux*, and we are afraid that at any time we should need German support we should find that a fresh and heavy price would have to be paid for it.

### RACE HATRED IN ALGERIA.

Jewish Chronicle.

Not long ago, I said that Algeria had many black days in store for her, and the shameful events, which are now daily occurring, only go to prove that I was not wrong in my predictions. At the present moment, it is a matter of difficulty to foresee what will ultimately be the end—if end there will be—to the semi-stage that we are now enduring, and the accused anti-Jewish troubles which have now extended to the hitherto peaceful regency of Tunis.

Since I last wrote you, several events in connection with this outrageous anti-Semitic warfare have occurred, notably the imprisonment of Max Regis, editor of the *Anti-Jail*, and, *par contre*, the arrival here, on Sunday last, of Edouard Drumont, of the Paris *Levee Parole*, and the new anti-Jewish candidate for the representation of Algiers. The man in which Regis was imprisoned, on the day the governor general gave his official ball, is worthy of note, as to do so, without creating any further disturbance or giving the mobs cause for excitement, strategy had to be resorted to. Regis was very quietly and successfully arrested, his followers knowing nothing about it till the evening. He was summoned to the bureau of the procureur general, to be confronted with M. Martin, the commissaire special of police, who was recently sent from Paris to support the charge against Regis of having boasted, at the famous meeting held in the Salle Chaynes in Paris, of having been the chief instigator in the riots against the Algerian Jews and the pillage of their shops here in January last. Regis of course emphatically denies everything, but he was not given time to say much, for he was instantly surrounded by fifteen gendarmes, who carried him without further ado, and drove him to the prison of the courtyard, and there he has since been, and where he is likely to remain until after the May elections. Independently of this new charge against him, which, if proved, will surely end in a long term of imprisonment, Regis has to serve four months for libel against the Procureur de la Republique of Algiers. When the news of his arrest was made known, the crowds of anti-Semites and the Algerian *negroes* in general tried to give vent to their feelings of indignation in every way possible, but the police and troops were almost equal to the occasion, i. e., they averted anything serious, though a disgraceful incident occurred in the evening. When the guests at the governor's ball were driving up in front of the Winter Palace, the crowds mobbed their carriages, some of which were hailed with stones and other missiles as the occupants alighted therefrom. Indeed, I myself was one of the victims. At the same time cries of "Down with Lepine!" "Resignation!" and "Vive Regis!" were heard on all sides.

The town is now practically blocked by the militia, and the situation for the *paissibles citoyens*, Christians as well as Jews, is becoming more and more embarrassing every day. The troops are stationed day and night in all available corners of the town, and at times it is only with much difficulty that we can move about, so that, if eventually, a state of siege is proclaimed, we shall, at all events, have been educated up to its embarrassments and annoyances by the situation of affairs. The situation of the Governor General is worse than grotesque; he cannot show himself in public without being hooted by the mobs, and the everlasting cries concerning himself must sound rather unpleasantly in his ears.

The same applies to M. Granet, the Prefect who has long since been dubbed "Jacob" Granet, owing to his alleged friendship for the Jews. Even the little children in the streets have been taught to shout "A bas les Juifs!" and if you enter the house of an Algerian Christian you are immediately greeted with the same cry—who are positively taught nothing else. Two days ago, one of the sons of the Governor General, a young lad, was riding through the streets of Algiers, on his bicycle, when he was mobbed and knocked down by a gang of young Algerian boys; he was soon, however, rescued by the police and carried home, rather severely beaten. The keeping of Max Regis in prison is, of course, exciting the mobs to the highest pitch; and deputations of the Radical press, and other anti-Jewish bodies approached the Governor with a view to getting their "beloved patriot" to "have confere" (Max Regis) set at liberty, but all to no avail. The Governor has received his orders from the Paris authorities, and nothing will remove him in the matter. The last deputation was one of anti-Jewish women of Algiers, and the whole thing was too grotesque for words, these fair members of the Ligue Anti-Jew, decked out in unaccustomed splendor, provoking considerable merriment even among the anti-Semites themselves, who crowded the streets on the return journey from the Winter Palace of these *jeunes courageuses*. The outcome of this remarkable deputation was sixteen arrests in the evening, mostly women and including the chief "Female Deputees." Needless to say, they gained nothing else for their trouble, and are now, I fancy, sadder and wiser women.

RUSSIA'S TREASON TRIAL.

The treason trial which has just been brought to a conclusion at St. Petersburg has created a far greater sensation in Muscovite society than might have been gathered from the brief paragraph which has appeared upon the subject in the foreign newspapers.

The principal culprit, namely, Porunoff, who has just been sentenced to degradation, and to penal servitude for life, in chains, in the mines of Siberia, has until now held the rank, not only of General of Division in the army, but likewise of Privy Councillor of the Empire, besides which he was President of the Imperial Russian Palestine and Holy Land Association, which has in charge the promotion of pilgrimages to Jerusalem and the extension of Russian schools and Russian institutions in the Holy Land.

He has been found guilty of selling the plans of mobilization of the Russian army to the Austrian Government, and it is significant that as soon as ever Gen. Porunoff was arrested, Austria at once recalled from St. Petersburg the military attaché of her Embassy there, Gen. Klepsch.

Gen. Porunoff has had several confederates, who have all been sentenced to similar terms of penal servitude. They include Col. Turstannoff, commander-in-chief of the Peter Paul at St. Petersburg; Col. Abdurahman, of the general staff of the army, and Staff Captain Lochwitski, son of the principal adviser of the War Department. The General's beautiful nineteen year old daughter, until now a titular maid of honor of the Czarina, has likewise been concerned in the affair, and been sentenced to exile.

Incidentally the fact was brought to light during the trial that Gen. Porunoff had for some years carried on a regular trade in the sale of decorations and medals in conjunction with the late Archbishop Michael, Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church in Serbia, and who was reputed a very holy man by all save those who were aware of his reckless speculations on the stock exchanges of Vienna and Pesth.

It is not only the Queen Regent of Spain who is threatened with a pronouncement, but likewise the Pope. Fortunately, the military revolt now brewing within the walls of the Vatican is a far less serious character than that which menaces the dynasty of Spain. The troops who are now giving voice to their discontent constitute the least warlike corps of the papal army, and are known as the Palatine Guard. It is a sort of militia composed entirely of Roman shopkeepers and tradesmen, who only do military duty on stated occasions, and all of whose uniforms and accoutrements are kept at the Vatican.

They present a very droll appearance, are a source of considerable ridicule, and have not even the most elementary notion of drill. Some of them are very fat, others exceedingly lean, and some again are tall in the extreme, while others are positive dwarfs. They wear a sort of tail coat something like the West Point cadets, only with skirts more voluminous, and they are armed with muskets that have never been used for such a purpose.

The discontent of the Palatine Guard is due to the fact that, owing to the darkness and dampness of the apartments in the Vatican assigned to their use, they suffer from rheumatism, face ache, and colds, besides which they have not the necessary amount of room in which to dress when they don their uniforms, scenes of the most extraordinary and ridiculous confusion resulting therefrom.

Then, too, they demand that their salute shall be returned by the other soldiers of the Papal army, and that their officers shall be saluted as such by the privates of the other corps of the Papal forces and treated as brother officers by the officers of the Noble Guard and of the Swiss Guard.

Until now the Swiss and Noble Guard, officers as well as men, have always affected to ignore their existence, and have treated them with the most galling contempt.

The Palatine Guard want these and a number of other analogous grievances righted, and threaten that unless their demands are conceded they will not mutiny, but are traitors to their duty.

are, go on strike; so that there is no danger for the life of the venerable Pontiff. It is probable that the Holy Father will avail himself of the present affair to disband the guard.

EGYPT AND THE SUEZ CANAL.

New Age.

As "Egypt" is such a conspicuous word in present day history, we may well give a glimpse of the past history out of which the present state of things has grown. To begin, Egypt had a civilization so ancient that history is silent about it. It goes back thousands and thousands of years. The farther back it goes the more elaborate and refined does the civilization appear to have been. What we generally regard as "Egyptian antiquities"—the great stone figures and gaudy mummy cases in the British Museum—belong to the "late" periods, to an Egyptian civilization so "modern" as to be coeval with Moses! In the Book of Exodus, in Cairo, disinterred from the earth, are dainty toys, clever wood carving and most exquisite ornaments and jewelry which belonged to the earlier and obscure period.

The aboriginal dynasties of Egypt came to an end rather more than 500 years before the Christian era. After that Egypt was subject successively to Persia, Greece, Rome and the Byzantine Empire of the East. From the latter she was wrested, more than 600 years after Christ, by the first general of Mahomet. At that time Egypt was nominally a Christian country, but the Christians presented to her was one of obscure dogma and perpetual internecine persecution. The bulk of her population was glad to change the government, and in character, learning and humanity the early Moslem leaders were at least on a par with their contemporaries of Christendom. Therefore, though the Egypt of to-day has in population representatives of every race under the sun, it is yet mainly composed of two races—the descendants of the ancient Egyptians, the builders of the pyramids, and the descendants of the Moslem Arabs, who conquered the country. The line between these is not always easily discernible, since most of the Egyptians became Moslems, and thus according to Moslem custom were absorbed by their Moslem rulers. A remnant, however, resisted all the persecutions which eventually arose, remained true to their ancestral Christian creed, and are known to-day as "Copts."

In course of time the Ottomans of Asia Minor and Turkey became the chief Moslem race. A troop of Turkish slaves employed by a Governor of Egypt presently seized the supreme power there, which and their descendants, as the "Mameluke Caliphs," held for nearly 500 years. But they held Egypt as a separate Power until 1517, when it was conquered and annexed by the cruel but capable Sultan Selim I. For more than three hundred years the Porte held Egypt, at the end of which time the then Viceroy, an Albanian, Mehmet Ali, succeeded in making Egypt almost a self-governing country, but still paying tribute to Turkey, and obliged to do so feudal services and to pay deference to its wishes. Also, a strongly Turkish element, both racial and social, remained in the aristocratic ruling classes to save nothing of the Khedival family itself.

Mehmet Ali was so ambitious and so capable that, but for the intervention of "the Powers" of Europe, he would probably have seized Constantinople itself. His son Ibrahim, another cruel but clever general, only reigned for two months. He was succeeded by his nephew Abbas, a ferocious and ambitious bigot. He and his successor, Said, used to exercise their soldiers by causing them to fire at the beautiful monuments of the Mameluke Caliphs. In his greed, Abbas tore down many of the costly marble panels in the mosque built by Mehmet Ali, and substituted painted wood; and he was so thoroughly aware of the deserved hatred in which he was held by his subjects that he always kept at his palace a troop of fully caparisoned camels, to take flight from his capital in any moment. Abbas was succeeded by his uncle, Said—a son of Mehmet Ali—and this brings us within the range of the present day complications, since it was in Said's day that the Suez Canal was commenced, and it is that network of Western "finance" in whose meshes Egypt has been struggling ever since.

The Suez Canal is itself no advantage to Egypt; nay, it diverted from Egyptian ports and railways a large and increasing traffic of great revenue value, yet it has cost the Egyptian treasury in all more than £17,000,000. Said was not only induced to take up nearly half of the capital originally subscribed, but he consented to supply 80 per cent. of the laborers required, by a forced recruiting among his subjects—the very people upon whose agricultural home industry the prosperity of Egypt depended. He also sold the company great tracts of land contiguous to the Canal for £74,000, and made other land concessions. Said died in 1863, and was succeeded by his nephew Ismail, who, recognizing the folly of impoverishing his own tax payers by driving them to labor which enriched neither them nor himself, submitted the case to the arbitration of Napoleon III.—the emperor of shapers and dem-mondaines. His award compelled Ismail to lose heavily on the rearrangement of his bad bargain. One item will suffice to show how the matter was dealt with—to buy back that tract of land which Egypt had sold for £74,000, she had to pay £400,000! After the forced Egyptian labor had been withdrawn, the Suez Canal Company had to engage a motley crowd of labor which Europe—Italians, Germans, French and Maltese. The awful sacrifice of obscure human life in the making of that "highway to India" is seldom alluded to in any accounts of the great enterprise. The state of things during the making of the Canal, as we have heard it described by an eye witness, was incredibly bad.