

Cuba's Resources.
Chicago Times Herald.

The area of Cuba is about 42,000 square miles. Its greatest length is 760 miles, and its breadth ranges from 20 to 135 miles. Perhaps there is no space of earth the equal in size to Cuba that can begin to compare with her in the production of those things that are useful to man. Antonio y Morales, a noted authority, has prepared a table showing the variety and quantity of the staples that can be raised on a tract of thirty-three acres in Cuba. A farm of that size in one year produces thousands of pounds of sugar, coffee, tobacco, cacao (chocolate), cotton, indigo, corn, rice, sage, bananas and yucca. The choicest lands in California—noted for the variety and quantity of their products—cannot approach the soil of Cuba in this respect. With its mild climate, its exuberant vegetation and the eagerness of the earth to respond to the slightest efforts in the way of culture, Cuba offers an ideal home for the man in love with agricultural life.

The commerce of Cuba, even under the blighting rule of the Spaniard, has been great. In 1893, before the curse of war fell on the island, Cuba exported 718,204 tons of sugar and produced 15,789,400 tons. Its exports of molasses to the United States alone in that year were 7,654 hogsheads. Of rum the exports were 9,308 pipes. In 1893 the Cuban exports of leaf tobacco were 227,865 bales. Of manufactured cigars 147,305,000 were exported and of cigarettes 39,581,493 packages. These are only the main exports. They show what may be done with the exhausted soil and climate of the island when its people were in a condition of virtual slavery at a time when chattel slavery had been abolished only seven years. It is an axiom of economic science that free labor is infinitely more productive than slave labor, and the industrial growth of the United States is an example of the expansion of industry when enterprise is unhampered by the curse of slavery and by foreign political interference. Cuba's chief industries were growing in spite of the drain upon her before the present war began, for in 1894 her total production of sugar was 1,054,214 tons, an increase of 238,320 tons over the preceding year.

The natural resources of Cuba are infinite, one may say, in variety. Of her area only 10 per cent is under cultivation, 7 per cent is not reclaimed, and 4 per cent is under forests. Great tracts of the land are practically unexplored. She had in 1894 a population of little more than 1,500,000. Of these nearly one-half have been starved to death during the present war. Cuba could support in plenty a population of 10,000,000. Her forests are stocked with the finest wood in the world—wood several species of which are as hard as iron, turning the edge of the axe and remaining imperishable under water. There are found woods invaluable for the dye industry, ebony, cedar, luscio, lancewood, mahogany, rosewood, jocama, acana, and many others. There are fifty varieties of palm. Her fruits are valuable and little cultivated. The climate is admirably suited for the olive; and the orange, the lemon, the pineapples, and the banana are indigenous.

The mineral resources of the island are great, yet the mineral industries are in their infancy. Almost all the metals are found in Cuba. There are gold, silver, mercury, copper, lead, and all the forms of asphaltum; antimony, magnesium, coppers, gypsum, red lead, ochre, salt, arsenic, talc and many others. Copper is abundant in all the metamorphic rocks of Cuba. It is true that coal is yet undiscovered, but under a free republic capital would flow into the island, and there is no doubt that true coal would soon be found to replace the bitumen that is now used, and which is found in springs and mines in great quantities.

Cuba is rich in marble, awaiting the capital of the speculator. Great deposits of this rock are found, and in the Isle of Pines there is marble of a quality as fine as the best of that material used by the sculptor. Beautifully colored marble and jasper are common. On the coasts are immense deposits of rock salt, and there are also unlimited quantities of the purest white sand, capable of being converted into fine earthenware. Even the illustrious Humboldt was amazed at the richness and variety of the mineral wealth of Cuba. How much of this wealth has been utilized may be gathered from the fact that at the end of 1891 the total number of mining titles issued in Santiago district was 296. Of these 138 were iron, 88 manganese and 53 copper.

As a pastoral country Cuba was more a century ago than she is now, but her pastures are broad and rich and the possibilities are unlimited. Cuba, with her grand natural pastures, was just beginning to raise fine Durham and Devonshire stock when the ten year war desolated the country and put a stop to the industry. The millions of acres of free land in Cuba are ready for the agriculturist, the cattle, sheep and hog raiser, the cotton and fruit grower, the miner and the reducing plant and even for the silk grower and manufacturer. The mulberry tree grows to perfection in the island. Silkworms, according to Dr. Auber, are more prolific and productive in Cuba than in any other country on the face of the globe. Here is a land that is prepared to yield up utilities that will add immeasurably to the happiness of the world; waiting to blossom into a garden and to swim with population; to develop almost every art of peace; to be converted into an industrial microcosm in the macrocosm of the world at large. Cuba is waiting the hour when the capitalist, assured of peace and uninterrupted growth, may safely enter

and reap the harvest which nature has prepared for man in the milder, throttled and neglected Pearl of the Antilles.

When Cuba Was For Sale. It is one of the most curious coincidences of history, says the Philadelphia Record, that the American Asiatic Squadron should have begun its move on the Philippine Islands on or about the date (April 27) of the 377th anniversary of Magellan's total battle with the natives of Zebu. The Philippines, named in honor of Philip II., were discovered by the greatest of the Spanish born voyagers, Fernao de Magalhaes (Magellan), in 1511. When his ship, the Victoria, after the first circumnavigation of the globe, returned to a Spanish port its new captain brought the tidings not only of Patagonia and Magellan Strait, but also Magellan's battle with the chief of the Isle of Matan and his burial on the shores of Spain's new empire in the Pacific Ocean. Ferdinand, of glorious memory, had inspired Magellan's great exploit. Already Cortes had invaded the golden realm of Montezuma and Pizarro had followed in Balboa's footsteps and overthrown the dynasty of the Incas.

Manila was built in 1581 and has for over three centuries been the seat of Spanish Government. But tenacious as her hold upon the Philippines and Cuba has been (the last relics almost of her once parting empire), Spain came near parting with both these possessions during this century. Queen Maria Christina—not the present widow of Alfonso XII., but the wife of Ferdinand VII.—was noted for her greed. On her succession to the throne she found the Spanish treasury so depleted that she schemed to sell both the Philippines and Cuba to France. She forced Senor Campuzano to undertake the execution of the inglorious project—a mission that was extremely distasteful to his Spanish pride. When he opened Christina's proposition to Louis Philippe the proud don struck he table a heavy blow and muttered a curse. The Queen proposed to hand over to the French King the Island of Cuba for 30,000,000 reals (about \$3,000,000), and the Philippines and Porto Rico for 10,000,000 reals (about \$1,000,000), or some \$4,000,000 in all. Louis Philippe was willing enough to pay the price for Cuba, but objected to the sum asked for the Philippines. "Seven millions of reals is my offer," he said "or else the contract must be thrown into the fire." Talleyrand, who was present, was about to remonstrate, but as he stretched forth his hand to take the Queen's paper, Campuzano leaped to his feet, seized the contract, crumpled it in his hands, and exclaimed: "Your majesty is right! The contract is worthless, only fit to be thrown into the fire." And with these words he flung the paper upon the fire and beat the flaming document with the tongs into blackened fragments.

AUSTRIA'S NAVY.—The *Neue Freie Presse* has given particulars of the intended naval establishment, to which the Ministers of both Austria and Hungary are said to have agreed. There are to be fifteen armored vessels ranging between 6,000 and 9,000 tons, seven cruisers between 4,000 and 7,000 tons, seven third class cruisers between 1,500 and 2,000 tons, fifteen torpedo gunboats, and ninety various torpedo craft, all the new vessels being built in Austrian yards, and receiving their armament, except the heavy guns, from Austrian works. The new ships demanded are five armorclads, five cruisers, eight torpedo gunboats, and sixty other torpedo boats, involving an extraordinary credit of 55,000,000 florins. Ten years was the intended period to be covered by this expenditure, but, at the advice of the Austrian and Hungarian Finance Ministers, this period has been extended. The armored cruisers of the new program are to be of the class of the "D" now in hand—6,100 tons, 8,600 horse power, twenty knots speed, and a large armament for the size. The scheme also contemplates adding three monitors and six patrol vessels to the Danube flotilla. The ordinary naval estimates are to be increased by 500,000 florins annually to provide for the increase of the personnel which the larger fleet will make necessary.

Lost in London Cabs. No less than 38,025 articles were found in cabs, etc., in London last year, and as many as 2,955 people left their purses and money behind them during that period, says the *Westminster Gazette*. How anyone could leave his watch behind him is somewhat puzzling, but 206 people achieved this feat. Bags containing valuables numbered 2,595, while among other "unconsidered trifles" were 811 opera and field glasses and 257 rugs. There is food for much thought in the fact that one seems more liable to forget an umbrella than a walking stick, for the walking sticks totted up a beggarly 816, while the umbrellas reached the handsome total of 17,020.

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & Co., Prop., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

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