PRESIDENT M'KINLEY IN RICHMOND.

(CONTINUED FROM EIGHTH PAGE.)

dential salute, but so loudly did the crowd cheer when Mr. McKinley finally made his appearance at the door of his coach and lifted his hat that for awhile even the cannonading was indistinguishable to the ear.

There was some little delay in getting Mayor Taylor through the crowd to the private car, and in the mean time the crowd becoming impatient, the President stepped out on the platform and then pandemonium broke loose among the populace. A colored mail-carrier clambered upon the platform and extended his hand, which Mr. McKinley grasped. This set the example for hundreds of others, and for a few minutes the President, standing looking down upon a sea of upturned and smiling faces,

SECRETARY-OF-STATE HAY.

was kept busy shaking the hundreds of hands that were extended in every direction. He seemed to enjoy the sight, and laughed heartily once or twice at the methods resorted to by those who were anxious to grasp his hand.

THE MAYOR'S GREETING.

It appearing impossible to put a stop to this demonstration, which was blocking the way for the Mayor to enter the coach, the train was pulled down the track about twenty yards, and then Mayor Taylor entered. He greeted the President with a hearty handshake, and turning to the multitude of people said:

Mr. President,—This occasion demands simply an old-Virginia welcome. As the Mayor and the representative of every man, woman, and child of this community, I bid you and your distinguished associates a hearty welcome to this historic city. We are mindful of the fact that you have shown by your patriotic utterances that you stand by the whole republic, in consideration of the purpose of binding the sections together, which were once, unhappily, divided. We lay aside all differences. We esteem you as the President of our entire country, and as such we greet you, and thank you sincerely for your kindness in coming to our celebration of an event which is an epoch in our commercial history.

You and your distinguished associates have honored us, and we shall show our appreciation of it by doing all in our power to make your visit pleasant.

APPRECIATED THE WELCOME.

The Mayor's speech called forth a great outburst of applause, and as soon as this subsided the President, turning to Mr. Taylor and then to the crowd, said:

Mr. Mayor and My Fellow-Citizens,—I only appear for a moment to give heartfelt response to the warm and cordial welcome given to me by the people of the city of Richmond, through its honored Chief Executive officer. Your Mayor has kindly alluded to the good feeling which everywhere prevails, and I can only, in replying, say that if in the slightest degree I have contributed to the unification of the country, it is the proudest honor of my life. (Applause and cheers.)

I am to speak for a few minutes this afternoon, and so, only thanking you, Mr. Mayor and my fellow-citizens for this welcome, I bid you all good morning.

LONG'S WORDS ARE CHEERED.

There was loud and prolonged cheering when the President concluded, and this was followed by calls for Secretary-of-the-Navy Long. Mr. Long, appearing on the platform, first bowed his acknowledgments, but the calls for a speech continuing, he responded and said

Mr. Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I shall not attempt to make a speech to you at this time, and under these circumstances, I can only say that as Secretary of the Navy, and still more as a citizen of this great united republic, I rejoice heartily with you in this contribution to our naval equipment—in this example of what can be done by southern capital and southern labor, and in the fact that this day is a "feather" day in the proud history of the grand old Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mr. Long's utterances called forth loud applause, and immediately after he had concluded Mayor Taylor offered his arm to the President, and together they left the coach for the carriage in waiting, Mr. A. H. McDowell holding an umbrella over the President during the short walk to the vehicle. The Cabinet officers followed with their ladies, and as soon as the carriages could be filled all of those on the presidential train were cared for and sent to the Jefferson.

The route taken by the President was out Belvidere to Grace, up Grace to Pine, down Pine to Franklin, and thence to the Jefferson. The sidewalks on either side of the streets over which Mr. McKinley passed were thronged with people, and as he dashed past in the handsome white satin-lined coach of the Jefferson livery he was given a great ovation. Ladies waved their handkerchiefs, crowds cheered, and altogether, there was the widest enthusiasm.

RECEPTION AT THE JEFFERSON.

Thousands Assemble to Greet the President—A Splendid Luncheon.

Several thousand people were waiting in and around the Jefferson to catch a glimpse of the President, and as his carriage rolled up to the door and he made his appearance on the sidewalk cheer after cheer was sent up, and it was with difficulty that the police could restrain the crowd, all of whom were anxious to get as near as possible to the distinguished guest.

The President entered the library at the Jefferson, where he was greeted by the Honorary Reception Committee and introduced by Senator Daniel, and as soon as he was joined by his Cabinet he retired for a few moments' rest to the bridal chamber set apart for his use. In the mean time the other guests from Washington were arriving, and as soon as all the carriages had been emptied the President came down into the marble hall and the doors were thrown open to the public.

Governor Tyler and members of the Cabinet, together with several members of the Reception Committee, stood with the President to the left of the door, and thousands of people pressed by and were presented to the President, each receiving a warm grasp of the hand, and passing out through the Main-street entrance. During this reception the President evinced his fondness for children. A curly-haired little boy and a pretty little girl entered with their father, and though they were jostled by the crowd and almost concealed from view by the larger forms in front of them, the President saw them, and, stepping out into the crowd, picked them up and fondled them gently for a few moments and returned them to their father.

GREETS MISS SHUBRICK.

Quite a pretty scene took place when the sponsor of the Shubrick, Miss Carrie Shubrick, was presented to Mr. McKinley at the Jefferson.

The pretty little miss wore a white cashmere gown, trimmed with white satin ribbon. She carried an immense bunch of American Beauty roses. The President gave the descendant of the old Commodore an especially cordial greeting. Miss Carrie acknowledged the President's greeting by lisping a winsome "Thank you, sir," and, suffused with blushes as red as the roses she carried, made her way back to her parents.

AN ELEGANT LUNCHEON.

The reception continued uninterruptedly until 1:30 o'clock, at which time luncheon was announced, and the President and the other distinguished guests, together with the members of the Council, Reception Committee, and Civic Carnival Committee, repaired to the magnificent dining hall, where a splendid course luncheon was served. The President was seated at the head of the central table. In the west dining hall, with Mayor Taylor on his left, and grouped around this table were Secretaries Hay, Gage, Long, Root, Hitchcock, and Wilson, Private Secretaries Porter and Cortelyou, Mrs. Gage, Mrs. Hitchcock, Misses Hitchcock, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Porter, Governor Tyler, General Lee, Senator Daniel, Congressman Lamb, Mr. Caskie, Judges Waddill, Keith, and Lewis, Major Allen, Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. Travers, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Christian, Mrs. Waddill, and Mrs. Lewis.

The other tables were scattered over the three dining-rooms, and were all filled. The menu consisted of oysters on the half-shell, bouillon, fish, claret, steak and mushrooms, champagne, ice cream and cake, and coffee.

DRIVES TO THE LAUNCHING.

Promptly at 3 o'clock the President arose from the table, and as soon thereafter as possible the entire party took carriages for the launching, where they arrived about 3:20. The presidential party entered the handsomely decorated box prepared for their reception. Owing to the rain, however, and the dampness of the seats, it was impossible to control the crowd on the grandstand, none of whom took seats, and the result was that all who could do so crowded forward and occupied the seats originally set apart for the gentlemen who came from Washington on the presidential special. All were provided with places, though, and made as comfortable as circumstances would permit, and the visitors, realizing that the rain had materially interfered with arrangements for their reception, made the best of the matter and accepted the situation philosophically.

CALLS UPON THE GOVERNOR.

Just as soon after delivering his speech as possible Mr. McKinley left the stand and re-entered his carriage. Together with all the visiting party, he was driven to Libby Hill, where the magnificent view afforded there was enjoyed. St. John's church was next visited, but no stop was made, and the party drove up Broad street by Monumental church and the City Hall, and then drove around the Confederate Museum. From there they entered the Capitol Square and called upon the Governor at the Mansion. An informal reception was held by the Governor and Mrs. Tyler, assisted by the Misses Tyler, and the President sat for some time in the reception parlor and chatted pleasantly with those about him. At 5 o'clock, after all present had been presented to the receiving party, the carriages were re-entered and the President returned to the Jefferson, where he held another public reception. It had been announced that he would receive from 6 to 6:45 o'clock, and crowds of people were awaiting for him when he reappeared at the hotel. Without going to his rooms at all, Mr. McKinley asked that the doors be at once thrown open, and he received and shook hands with something like 3,000 people in the three-quarters of an hour allotted for the reception.

RETURN TO WASHINGTON.

The President then retired for a short time to his apartments, and at 7 o'clock entered his carriage and was driven to Elba, where he re-embarked for Washington, which place he reached shortly before 11 o'clock last night.

The presidential special was in charge of Conductor E. Dickinson, one of the most trustworthy men in the employ of the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac, and the throttle on the engine drawing the train was handled by Engineer William Bryant. They returned with the special last night. Traffic-Manager Warren P. Taylor travelled with the President from Washington to Richmond, and returned to the national capital on the special last night. He looked personally after the comfort of the President, and highly complimented Engineer Bryant for the splendid run he made.

When the presidential party reached Richmond yesterday morning the carriages were in waiting for them, but with such a vast number to care for, it was a complex question as to how they should be best cared for. Mr. Joseph Wallerstein, of the Board of Aldermen, was on hand, however, and with the able assistance of Sergeant-at-Arms Ruskell, he made quick disposition of the guests, and tiresome delays were avoided.

SECRETARY-OF-WAR ROOT.

SECRETARY-OF-AGRICULTURE WILSON.

THE RAIN AND THE CROWD.

The Heavens Wept, But the People Came—Notes and Incidents.

"How many visitors would there have been in Richmond if it hadn't rained?"

One heard this question on every hand. But it rained. Oh! how it rained. It has been some time since rain fell in Richmond in such a business-like way. It rained like it meant to keep at it for a week.

A minute before the President's car rolled into the station the fall ceased. The sky lightened, and when the presidential train stopped the sun seemed ready to break from out the clouds. But before Mayor Taylor had finished speaking it was pouring again, and the sky was black as ever.

People got wet in the most nonchalant manner. The visitors were largely from the country, and our country cousins are not as fearful of water as their city kin. A 16-year-old girl in thin dress of calico or muslin, the rain pouring, and she without umbrella, wrap, or goloshes, attracted much attention at Seventh and Broad about noon.

Lack of umbrellas was very apparent until the launching. Then it looked as if there were one for every man, woman, and child on the grandstand. Not once in a lifetime does one see such a sight. It looked as though a vast covering of black cloth had been thrown over the great crowd, each individual in it doing his share to hold up his protection from the weather.

The hotels are crowded. The Jefferson has more vacant rooms than any other. The visitors are chiefly Virginians. Probably every county in the State is represented. "The most prominent citizens" are here. Charlotte county, for instance, seems to have transferred its county government to Richmond, since there are registered at New Ford's Messrs. E. F. Daniel, County Treasurer; J. C. Carrington, County Clerk; J. H. Price, Sheriff; J. H. Shorter, Superintendent of the Poor; Colonel John B. Faris, Deputy Treasurer, and H. C. Marshall, Justice of the Peace. With them were Messrs. F. C. Thornton, cashier of the Smithville Bank; J. Hobson Norvell, John P. Marshall, Mrs. B. P. Eggleston, Miss Catharine Boyd, and Miss Elsie Boyd.

It was not a political crowd. One could not hear Democrats and Republicans mentioned. It was an American crowd, come to what every true Virginian thinks the finest American city to welcome America's President. To-day he will be a Republican, and the vast majority of those who cheered him in Richmond will be Democrats. Yesterday he was the President of the United States, the guest of the Virginia people, which made all the difference in the world.

There was scarcely a drunk man seen during the day. The crowd was remarkably good-natured, and was exceedingly well handled. The President, through Secretary Cortelyou, complimented Richmond's police. He said the great crowds were handled by the officers in a manner reflecting much credit upon them.

One of the most cosey parties which witnessed the launching was that aboard the Virginia oyster-boat, the Chesapeake. The trim little craft was moored immediately below the Shubrick, but on the opposite side of the dock. Captain Hudgins, the commander, had about fifty ladies and gentlemen aboard. Among them were members of the Governor's family—Miss Tyler, Miss Sue Tyler, Miss Lily Tyler, and Mr. J. H. Tyler, Jr.

One incident of the day will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it; nor by the man who was chief actor. The Shubrick had just glided down the ways. The tumult of applause was at its height. Suddenly the crowd on the grandstand saw a man in the exuberance of his enthusiasm leap upon one of the timbers down which the vessel had just glided. That timber was slick. It had been greased. But the man didn't know it. His feet shot from under him. The first portion of his anatomy to strike was the back of his head. And it struck the water. The man disappeared entirely save his feet. These waved wildly a moment. Then they went down. In a moment the man came out. He was probably wet when he hit the water. He could not have been made wetter when he came out. The crowd showed its sympathy in the usual way.

The carnival brought a number of fine bands to Richmond, among them the celebrated Stonewall Band, of Staunton, which has frequently visited the Virginia capital, and is extremely popular.

General-Manager Stevens, of the Chesapeake and Ohio, brought the organization to Richmond, treating the public to a very pleasant surprise. Twenty-eight members of the organization came, only two being left in Staunton. The manager, Mr. R. D. Apperson, came. The leader, J. M. Breton, received an especially warm reception, having been as late as five years ago, when he removed to Staunton, a member of the Blues Band, of this city. The organization was quartered at Murphy's. Owing to the scarcity of room the men had to be placed in one big apartment, in which were a number of beds.

Last night the band went to the Commonwealth Club, and was royally entertained. Later a large number of the members of the club, headed by the band, came down to the Westmoreland for the purpose of serenading the members of the latter club. After playing a number of airs the members of the splendid organization were served with refreshments, and when the musicians went away, at a few minutes after 10 o'clock, having to make the 10:30 Chesapeake and Ohio train, they were followed out on to the club-house steps, where three cheers were given for the Stonewall Band. Several members of the club were pleading for "Dixie" "just one more time" as the band went off down the street.

The celebrated Soldiers' Home Band, of Hampton, is also here, and is expected to take part in the parade to-day.

The old Petersburg Grays' Band, an organization very well known in Richmond, was also here yesterday, but returned home last night.

Owing to the fact that the First Regiment Band had a prior engagement to play at the Roanoke and Tar River Fair at Weldon, N. C., to-day, it will not be in the parade.

Anxious About Vice-President.

During his stay here the President showed much concern as to the condition of Vice-President Hobart, and about 1 o'clock, hearing an unauthorized rumor to the effect that his associate was dead, he dispatched one of his private secretaries to the long-distance telephone office, and direct communication was gotten with Mr. Hobart's bedside. The telephone company placed every facility at the hands of the President, and his anxiety was speedily relieved.

On his way to Richmond the President decided upon an appointment, and as soon as he arrived here he sent a telephonic communication to the White House to let the appointment issue forthwith.

Safe Return to Washington.

WASHINGTON, October 31.—The train bearing President McKinley and party, and the other guests invited to participate in the demonstration at Richmond, incident to the launching of the torpedo-boat Shubrick, arrived at the Pennsylvania station at 10:35 to-night, exactly on time. The return trip was without noteworthy incident.

The Isthmus of Panama.

Its engineers believe that they have solved the problem of the successful completion of this great enterprise. If so, it will prove a great benefit to humanity; no more, truthfully speaking, than has Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the remedy which never fails to cure afflictions of the stomach—for of what use is prosperity without health? The Bitters invariably strengthens weak stomachs and torpid livers, and is one of the blessings of the age.

PORTO RICAN LIFE.

A GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF OUR NEW INSULAR POSSESSION.

THE EFFECTS OF THE HURRICANE.

Millions of Dollars Lost—Statue of Columbus Injured—San Juan, the Capital City, a Clean, Healthy Place.

(For the Dispatch.)

San Juan de Puerto Rico,
October 5, 1899.

San Juan de Puerto Rico, to the peripatetic American tourist, would be quite an innovation. Unlike Santiago de Cuba, there were no extensive war and awful shedding of blood like that attendant upon the occupation of the Island of Puerto Rico by the American army. The excitement and novelty of the changing times and conditions which prevailed during the earlier days of the American occupation have all passed. Everything has now settled down to a peaceful and expectant quietude, to the credit, be it said, of the peace-loving inhabitants of this little island, who though now laboring under conditions as bad—if not worse—than those which formerly existed under Spanish rule, are patiently awaiting the solution of the numerous, and, I may say, complex, questions continually arising for the bettermentof the island, both from a financial aspect and otherwise. Upon the satisfactory settlement of these questions there will no doubt result much good and benefit to Puerto Rico. The island possesses a climate and a soil which for fertility and productiveness is not equalled by that of California. Even under the most unfavorable conditions it will produce fruits, vegetables, and the like, of such immensity and exquisite delicacy of taste that they will be the wonder and utter astonishment of those who have been pomologists of agriculturists the best portion of their lives.

EFFECTS OF THE HURRICANE.

The severe hurricane of August 8th last has done much towards retarding the progress of the hitherto fairly prosperous island, and has caused an immense lot of suffering among the poor people, whose means of subsistence have been thus destroyed. The condition of these people who live in the country districts is pitiable in the extreme—more so even than those living in the cities, where work of some kind throughout the year can generally be had. The banana and plantain, upon which these people subsist principally, and which are prepared by them in a score of different ways, have been almost totally wiped away, and in consequence the inhabitants have been obliged to accept of the generosity of the people of the United States, and also the United States Government. Since the hurricane, food, medicines, and money have been very generally distributed to the destitute and suffering.

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS LOST.

The damage to the coffee crop of the island, as well as the tobacco and sugar-cane, has been very great, and it will take a long while for these crops to fully recuperate from the fearful blow sustained. The damage wrought by the hurricane has been variously estimated at from $20,000,000 to $50,000,000, and the loss of life from 800 to 1,000. The greatest number of fatalities was at Ponce, the largest city of the island, which seems to have borne the brunt of the storm. Here the loss of life has been estimated at about 600. Very fortunately, San Juan escaped the worst of the storm, though at times the velocity of the wind was terrific. The principal damage done here, outside of the unroofing of th etheatre and other buildings in the city, was the havoc the storm played with the magnificent statue of Christophere Columbus, located in the principal plaza of the city—Plaza de Cristobal Colon. The uplifted hand of this statue was blown entirely off from the body, as cleanly and neatly as if it had been accomplished with the aid of tools for the purpose. The statue was otherwise badly damaged. This statue, made entirely of fine Italian marble, was erected here a few years ago by the city of San Juan in honor of the great navigator at a cost of $40,000.

THE CAPITAL CITY.

San Juan, the capital city, is situated on the northern coast of the island. At this place are the headquarters of the army, and from it all the affairs of the island are managed and directed. It is a small place, about one and a half square miles in area, and contained in this territory are 35,000 people, mostly negroes. To a visitor it is a mystery where this large mass of people are quartered, but after one has lived here a sufficient length of time the matter becomes as plain as possible. The lower portions of the residences here, even of the best and most prominent families, all of which are built with court-yards, called "patios," are tenanted by negroes. It is not infrequent that forty or more people occupy perhaps five or six of the rooms on the ground floor. The overcrowding of the lower portion of these houses is, to my mind, a matter that should receive prompt attention from our government, and the evil practice should be abolished. I will cite a case which came under my own observation a short while ago. It presents a striking argument against the overcrowding of these places. A family of eleven persons, consisting of the father, mother, and nine children, occupied one lower room in the house of a prominent family here. A short time after their occupancy of the room the father developed unmistakable signs of that dread disease, leprosy. Before the matter was discovered by the local Board of Health the disease had been transmitted to two of his children. At this stage the matter was reported to the proper authorities, and the sick were all promptly isolated at the Lazaretto, established on the "Isla de Caguas." Be it remembered, during the time of the man's illness he was up and about, and mingled freely with the other occupants of the rooms adjoining.

A CLEAN, HEALTHY PLACE.

The streets of San Juan are all exceptionally well paved with small-sized Belgian blocks, and the thoroughfares are at all times a model of neatness, being swept daily by an organized body of native street-cleaners. In comparison, San Juan, Puerto Rico, is as different from Santiago de Cuba as day is from night. The streets are devoid of those overpowering smells which daily assailed one's nostrils in walking through many of the thoroughfares of that filthy Cuban city. There is no yellow-fever or other disease peculiar to a tropical climate in San Juan, and it has been singularly free from epidemics of all kinds, which, considering the filthy habits of the people, and their mode of living, is rather to be commented upon, and speaks volumes for the healthiness of the climate of Puerto Rico.

GOOD HOTELS.

There are many fine hotels here, among the principal of which are the Inglaterra and the Francia. The cuisine and appointments of both will compare favorably with some of our best hotels in the States. There are also here, as elsewhere, numerous boarding-houses at which accommodations can be secured at reasonable prices. An intending visitor to Puerto Rico who probably expects to put up with very ordinary accommodations during his sojourn, would be very agreeably surprised at the comfortable and inexpensive manner he can live at some of the best hotels of this place. However, there is one discomfort that the Americans have to contend with, and that is the iron-clad rule that has been established by the hotels of only serving strong black coffee and a little fruit as the first meal of the day, and again, the almost universal custom of cooking garlic in the food. Any one who has lived in either Cuba or Puerto Rico, and who has had a garlic taste in his mouth morning and night, can really appreciate the excellence of American cooking. Puerto Rico, with its superb climate (barring hurricanes such as that of last August, which occur about once in a century), presents an alluring field for an American hotel. This place would make an ideal winter resort, and to the individual or individuals who start such an enterprise here, it would, if properly managed, be a great investment.

THE CHURCH BELLS.

While General Davis, the Military Governor of Puerto Rico, has introduced many reforms and customs here, still there is one thing that he has not molested, and which, in my opinion, and to many other nervous American residents, is as abominable as the desecration of the Sabbath by the opening of the theatre and saloons here, or the cock-fights on Sunday. I refer to the fiendish, senseless, soul-harassing ringing of the church bells of the large Cathedral at San Juan. There are about five or six bells in the tower of the old Cathedral, varying in tone from a shrill tenor down to a deep, throbbing bass. These bells are rung all through the week and Sunday, too, without rhyme or reason. They are rung for mass when the doors of the church are open, and the people are assembling for divine service; and they are rung again when the doors of the Cathedral are tightly closed and no signs of any service going on. They do not ring in an orderly manner, nor do they harmoniously chime together, but simply clang in an indescribable confusion and excitement, as if the town was being pillaged and burned. The bell-ringing will cease as suddenly as it begun, and the cause of all this noise and nerve-destroying is soon apparent, when a small side door of the Cathedral is opened, and two or three small black "muchachos" slip out and hurry way, before a party of indignant Americans can carry out their plans of lynching them.

TOO MUCH STREET VENDING.

Another nuisance to which a stop should be put is the large amount of street vending carried on by the natives here. All kinds of articles, both for food and wear, are sold by peddlers, who begin their traffic in the early hours of the morning by crying in their loudest and most discordant tones the excellence and cheapness of their goods, and only cease late at night. The old axiom of "Early to bed," etc., could be very well reversed in Puerto Rico to "Late to bed and early to rise," etc., as it is impossible to sleep after 6 o'clock in the morning, and before 12 or 1 o'clock at night.

On Sunday and Wednesday evenings the brass band of San Juan, composed entirely of Porto Ricans, assembles in the principal plaza and discourses favorite American and Spanish airs, to the delight and amusement of the parading throng. The Porto Ricans possess rare musical ability, and their rendition of the most difficult compositions is certainly most creditable to their musical training. A Peurto Rican father hardly considers his child's education complete without the addition of music to the list of his accomplishments. San Juan, in addition to its splendid band, boasts of two excellent clubs, "The Cosmopolitan" and the "Casino Espanol." The latter, as may be inferred, is Spanish. Frequent receptions and parties are given by both clubs, each vying with the other in the splendor of its entertainments.

MUSIC AND "CUSS" WORDS.

The avidity and quickness with which the small native boys pick up the American airs, and also, by the way, the choicest of our English "cuss" words is remarkable. Profanity seems to be the first thing they learn in the English language. They will use the most horrible language on any and all occasions without the least cause of provocation. No doubt they consider this the very acme of good Americanism. It is not an uncommon occurrence to see a black boy about three feet in height, walking proudly down one of the principal streets of San Juan, rehearsing to himself, utterly oblivious of who may chance to hear him, some of the most blood-curdling American oaths, which would put to shame the efforts of an "old salt" in this direction.

The raising of fruit for the American markets promises to be one of the great industries of Puerto Rico. At present such fruits as oranges, bananas, and cocoanuts grow in a wild state, and little or no attention is paid to their cultivation by the natives here. With a little careful cultivation all of these fruits could be made to produce abundantly. This island possesses an unusually inviting field for fruit raising; frost is never known here; labor is exceedingly cheap, and a person with a small capital of say from $5,000 to $10,000 to invest in orange lands (provided, of course, he has the means to tide him over until his grove begins to bear fruit), would be insured after that period a comfortable yearly income from his investment.

COCOANUTS AND SUGAR.

The raising of cocoanuts also presents great inducements to the investor. There are many Porto Ricans who are enjoying good incomes derived from their cocoanut groves. It requires but little or no labor to start a cocoanut farm; after the seed has been planted further care or cultivation is not necessary, and at the end of about five years the trees will begin bearing cocoanuts, which, when ripe, will drop off the tree. They are then gathered by the "peons" and the cocoanut is ready for market.

Sugar plantations need large capital. Much of the profit comes from the economical handling of the cane, and the better the machinery the greater the income. To-day the best sugar plantations here produce about 4,000 pounds per acre. Some years ago many of them produced as much as 9,000 pounds, and the lands were cropped again and again without replanting. The cane was cut down, new shoots at once sprouted up about the old stalks, and within a few months there was another crop ready for cutting. In Louisiana they cut about two crops in three years, when the cane must be replanted. In the past Puerto Rican plantations here produced fifteen years in succession. Many of them now produce for five years, and in the best part of the island some continue to yield for seven years.

OLD MACHINERY.

The machinery used on the sugar-cane plantations of Peurto Rico is not the most modern. Most of the mills are old-fashioned and wasteful. Some are moved by oxen, and with a few exceptions, none is up to date. Some of the Louisiana mills cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. They make their profits because everything in the cane is turned into money and not a cent goes to waste. This will be impossible here until more modern machinery is adopted. On a few of the plantations there are railroads from the fields to the factories. One or two estates of prominent and wealthy planters have steam-engines to pull the cars over the track, while on the others this work is done by oxen. Upon the smaller plantations the cane is hauled in ox-carts, and nearly everywhere the sugar when manufactured is carried to the seaboard by the same animals.

The labor on the plantations is done by the "peons," who receive from 30 to 40 centavos a day and board themselves. They plough the cane; they keep it free from weeds, and when it is ripe cut it down and load it on the cars for the factories. They labor from daylight until dark and never strike.

EUGENE J. BELLENOT.

SECRETARY-OF-THE-TREASURY GAGE.

Gems of Thought.

Do not for one repulse forego the purpose that you resolved to effect.—Shakespeare.

Evil report, like the Italian stiletto, is an assassin's weapon.—Mme. de Maintenon.

Give me health and a day, and I will make ridiculous the pomp of emperors.—Emerson.

As small letters weary the eye most, so also the smallest affairs disturb us most.—Montaigne.

Gradatim.

Heaven is not reached at a single bound;
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to its summit round by round.

I count this thing to be grandly true,
That a noble deed is a step toward God,
Lifting the soul from the common clod
To a purer air and a broader view.

We rise by the things that are under feet;
By what we have mastered of good and gain;
By the pride deposed and the passion slain,
And the vanquished ills that we hourly meet.

We hope, we aspire, we resolve, we trust,
When the morning calls us to life and light;
But our hearts grow weary, and ere the night
Our lives are trailing the sordid dust.

We hope, we resolve, we aspire, we pray,
And we think that we mount the air on wings
Beyond the recall of sensual things,
While our feet still cling to the heavy clay.

Wings for the angels, but feet for men!
We may borrow the wings to find the way—
We may hope, and resolve, and aspire, and pray.
But our feet must rise, or we fall again

Only in dreams is a ladder thrown
From the weary earth to the sapphire walls;
But the dreams depart and the vision falls,
And the sleeper wakes on his pillow of stone.

Heaven is not reached at a single bound;
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to its summit round by round.

J. G. HOLLAND.

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