

CUBAN WAR REVIEW.

TWO YEARS OF FIGHTING WITH LITTLE RESULT.

History of the Present Uprising—Story of the Stormy Island from Its Discovery—Topographical and Climatic Conditions.

A Land of Rebellion. Nearly two years have elapsed since the Cubans declared that they would no longer endure the yoke of Spain. Millions of dollars have been expended during that time, both in the maintenance of armies and the destruction of the property of the people of the war-swept island.



GENERAL JUAN RUIZ RIVERA.

vana, Jose Marti was placed at the head of the provisional government, and Gen. Maximo Gomez had arrived in Cuba to begin operations. Five years ago it was announced that the history of the island runs coincident with our own, and is therefore interesting.

Up to the present time, when Cuban independence is still hovering in the balance, the history of the last great struggle...

government. The best sugar production in Germany made Cuban culture unprofitable. With hard times came discontent. The stupid Madrid Government continued its oppressive taxation, injustice and nepotism, and exiled patriots saw their opportunity to give affairs a political character.

The location of Cuba is such that in case of annexation to the United States or even the certainty of its independence, the commercial benefits accruing to this country would be very great and lasting. It is only 130 miles from Florida, and although containing only 43,310 square miles, or a little more than half the area of the State of Kansas, every section is stored with rich natural resources.

Cuba abounds in citrus fruits. There are peerless orange, lemon and lime groves; coconuts, coconut oil, coconut coffee, india rubber, tobacco—these commodities form the base of supplies easily obtained, while the interior and middle sections boast immense forests of mahogany and live woods. It is estimated that there are 13,000,000 acres of uncleared mahogany forests alone. The wood is so common that chopping blocks are made of it, and watering troughs of red cedar.

ance, a boy of 15 was arrested for seditious writings. He was loaded with chains, kept at hard labor, and finally sent to Spain. Here he became a brilliant journalist. This boy was Jose Marti, the great Cuban patriot, who by 1891 had formed patriot clubs everywhere, and who was the first to appear as a war leader when the present revolt broke out.

and adventurers." Then began the policy of terror and butchery ever since that date. The thousands of innocents, on prisoners, on suspects, on helpless, innocent women and children, almost oval the Armenian cruelties; men were lashed to death, slowly garroted, women and children were cast into burning houses, blistered with lighted matches, dismembered, and these horrors, coupled with a memory of what 300 patriot Cubans were suffering in Spain's pet convict colony—Centa—fired the blood of every true native patriot anew, and brought to them the sympathy of nearly every nation on the earth.

It is a remarkable fact that when Camacho, "the strong man of Spain," arrived in Cuba with 36,000 soldiers to recognize belligerent rights in 1874, out of 145,000 soldiers previously sent, not enough had returned to their native land to constitute a regiment. The deeds following the oppression of those years were heroic. Persecution made martyrs. In one in-



TORTURED WITH BLAZING MATCHES.

stance, a boy of 15 was arrested for seditious writings. He was loaded with chains, kept at hard labor, and finally sent to Spain. Here he became a brilliant journalist. This boy was Jose Marti, the great Cuban patriot, who by 1891 had formed patriot clubs everywhere, and who was the first to appear as a war leader when the present revolt broke out.

The war in Cuba may be primitive in its general methods and barbarous in the matter of butchery, but it is certainly modern in the rapid development of dynamite and other explosives as weapons of offense and defense. To the dynamite gun used by the Cubans in Pinar del Rio more than to anything else may be attributed the noteworthy successes of Maceo against the Spanish troops. Invis-



HOW LONG MUST THIS LAST?

rebuilt when Ferdinand De Soto, the discoverer of the Mississippi River, was made Governor. Spain regarded Havana as a base of operations. There Cortez completed his preparations for the conquest of Mexico, and there Pizarro rested his men before proceeding to Peru. Despite the strong fortress erected, the French in 1554 again destroyed the town, when two other fortresses for the defense of Havana were built, which still exist—the Moro and the Punta. By 1690 the colonists were raising cattle and applying

gle for independence in Cuba involves the same line of victories and reverses that characterized the strife of the '90s, only that the people seem more determined and better organized. The death of Marti May 19, 1895, and that of Maceo a few weeks since, were severe blows for the insurrectionists, for they dolized these men, but intrepid leaders are not lacking. Marti's great political act was the summoning of the September convention, which declared a provisional government. He was shrewd, and persistent,

ble bullets, though deadly in their effect, are comparatively cheap to stand against. It requires superhuman nerve, however, to face a healthy dynamite projectile, and it is no wonder that the Spanish troops have been invariably defeated when called upon to make a stand against such weapons. Many officers are watching the war in Cuba with great interest, as the employment of dynamite by the Cubans has satisfied the military mind of the value of this explosive for offensive purposes.

Despite her financial embarrassment Spain has recently done relatively more than any European power, with the exception of Great Britain, to strengthen her navy. At present there are four torpedoed destroyers in the hands of builders. The first two have recently completed their official trials, and these have been most successful in all respects. The dimensions of the vessels are 220x20 feet, and the engines are triple expansion, developing 4,000 horse power. The engines at the trials, both in the measured mile and in the three hours' continuous steaming test, worked smoothly and with no heating. The internal appliances are of the most up-to-date character, special attention being paid to water-tightness, and in all torpedo craft, namely, ventilation.

The encounters at Boca del Toro, Palmarito, Palmiros, Canasi, Manat Mogate and Taznasco were fast succeeding developments of the Cuban campaign directly after the declaration of independence, but these were mere skirmishes compared to the events of the past year. The splendid march of Gomez and Maceo across the island from Santiago to Pinar del Rio, the fierce fights within cannon shot of Havana, the constant destruction of the trenches, were brilliant achievements that terrified the encompassed Weyler, until they culminated in the death of Maceo. With the opening of the new year, however, the situation seems just as complex and undetermined as it was the day after the two chieftains hoisted their flag in the eastern province, and began the battle for freedom. The end is apparently no nearer than it was a month after the first call to arms.

Old Corks.

Cork has become one of the most valuable components of a city's refuse. Great quantities of discarded corks are now used again in the manufacture of insulating covers of steam pipes and boilers, points to be protected from the influence of heat. Powdered cork is very useful in filling in horse collars, and the very latest application of this material is the filling in of pneumatic tires with cork shavings. Mats for bathrooms are made of cork exclusively, and it also goes into the composition of linoleum. Cheap life preservers are now filled exclusively with bottle stoppers, cut into little pieces.

A Guatemalan mother gives her consent to her daughter's marriage by laboring the young lady with a heavy stick.

MOTHER AND BABY SHOT BY THE SPANIARDS. thumb-screws and the torch to the natives to induce them to reveal the spots where they found gold and silver nuggets. Then they started the cultivation of tobacco and sugar, and the woes of the natives began. Under a system of cruelty and oppression the gentle, dim-witted aboriginals diminished so rapidly that negro slaves were introduced, and that eventually led to the intercaste strife which has made one of the fairest spots on earth the home of pestilence and crime and savagery and warfare, the contemplation of which sickens a civilized world.

After invasions by the French, English and Dutch, and various claims as to the ownership of the island, Cuba was restored to Spanish rule in 1763. A new native population now sprung up, and in 1790 Las Casas, whose memory is revered by Cubans to this day, became captain general of Cuba. His ports were opened to the world, and great public improvements were effected. Despite the drawing of prosperity, however, and the representation of the island in the Madrid Parliament, several successive outbreaks occurred, culminating in the famous "Black Eagle" conspiracy of 1825. Good governors were few, and from Velasquez down to Weyler, they were vested with absolute power. Insurgents were burned alive, intolerance throve, and the merciless dealings of the despots finally effected an amalgamation of the white, red and black races. The insurrection referred to was quelled, but others followed, and two years since the restive spirit of the people, galling under an unjust yoke, was augmented by still worse Spanish mis-

and in an incredibly brief space of time had vast quantities of firearms imported from the United States. By December, 1895, the Cuban forces were right in the center of the Spanish army. The latter were driven back for seven consecutive days, and Campos, then in command, was forced to change his strategic positions by Gomez, being overthrown at Caliseo, Christmas eve, Gomez, as he had promised, was within a few miles of Havana and Matanzas, and so certain of success seemed the efforts of the patriots, that Gen. Weyler was sent to subdue this conspiracy.



GARCIA'S HORRIBLE TORTURE.

W. M. HOYT COMPANY, WHOLESALE GROCERS!

IMPORTERS AND JOBBERS OF TEAS! Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9 Michigan Ave. and 1 to 9 River Street, CHICAGO.

R. V. ROMANO, 380 South Halsted Street.

Watches, Jewelry and Diamonds. HIGH GRADE GOODS. Special attention paid to repairing Fine Watches, Jewelry, etc. All work guaranteed. General Western Agent Atlantic Steamship Line, from New York direct to Italy.

Z. R. CARTER & BRO., Wholesale Dealers in Grain and Hay

Halsted and 16th Streets, TELEPHONE CANAL 27. CHICAGO.

HENRY E. BRANDT, Paints and Wall Paper, 446 & 448 Lincoln Avenue.

Painting, Paperhanging and Decorating. Wholesale: No. 410 Graceland Ave., cor. Lincoln Ave. Telephone: Lake View 100.

SHEFFIELD AVENUE SHOEING SHOP

GEO. B. MILNE, Practical Horse Shoer, 548 SHEFFIELD AVENUE, NEAR LINCOLN AVE. Telephone Lake View 120.

Horses Shod on the Most Approved Principles with Neatness and Dispatch.

North Western Storage Warehouse

1467 to 1481 North Western Avenue, (Corner Humboldt Boulevard). If you have furniture to store or move don't fail to see my storage house and tearing outfit before going elsewhere. Separate clean and dry rooms, with keys. Reasonable rates to all. Packing and shipping promptly attended to. Dealer in

Coal, Grain and Mill Stuff.

Main Office: 302 & 304 Belmont, cor. Hoyne Ave. Telephone Lake View 135. W. H. TARNOW, Prop.

JOHN M'CORMICK, Headquarters for all kinds of

WHISKIES AND CIGARS, 3636 Cottage Grove and 3701 Armour Avenues, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.



Advertisement for saloon and glass work, including 'FURNISH YOUR SALOON WITH FINE BAR & SCREEN GLASS WORK' and 'OFFICE & FACTORY 87-89 ILLINOIS ST. CHICAGO'.

Advertisement for William O'Connell, 'WHISKIES & LIQUORS', '182 State Street CHICAGO'.

Table listing various liquors and prices: J. E. O'Connell Old Reserve, 1871, \$1.00; Anderson Old Bourbon, \$1.00; J. E. O'Connell Pure Old Rye, 1878, \$1.00; Old Crow Old Bourbon, \$1.00; J. E. O'Connell Bourbon, 1877, \$1.00; Irish Whisky, John Jamieson, \$1.00; W. E. McBrayer Old Bourbon, \$1.00; Scotch Whisky, Andrew Usher Special, \$1.00; Spring Hill Old Bourbon, \$1.00; Reserve, \$1.00.

BASS' ALE and GUINNESS' STOUT

ALL GOODS PROMPTLY DELIVERED AT RESIDENCES. We handle no cheap or adulterated goods.

Advertisement for P. H. Heffron, 'RICHELIEU WINE CO. (INCORPORATED)', 'WHISKIES & LIQUORS', '24 VAN BUREN ST. 68 RANDOLPH ST. Chicago, Ill.'.

American Brewing Co.

922 North Ashland Avenue, 922 North Ashland Avenue, BREWERS OF THE

A. B. O. COLUMBIA and MINNEHAHA Brands of Lager Beer.

VALENTIN BLATZ BREWERY, Milwaukee, Wis.

OFFICE IN CHICAGO, Union and Erie Streets. Telephone No. 4287.

BOTTLING DEPARTMENT, 29 West Ohio Street. Telephone 4382. HENRY LEEB, Manager.