

QUEER OLD SAN JUAN

PRINCIPAL CITY OF THE ISLAND OF PORTO RICO.

Walled Town Built 250 Years Ago—All the Ground Floors Built With Filth. There is No Sewerage—Streets Are Kept Very Clean.

San Juan, the principal city of Porto Rico, our new seat of war, is a perfect specimen of a walled town, with portcullis, moat, gates and battlements. Built over 250 years ago, it is still in good condition and repair. The walls are picturesque and represent a stupendous work and cost in themselves. Inside the walls the city is laid off in regular squares, six parallel streets running in the direction of the length of the island and seven at right angles. The houses are closely and compactly built of brick, usually of two stories, stuccoed on the outside and painted in a variety of colors. The upper floors are occupied by the more respectable people, while the ground floors, almost without exception, are given up to negroes and the poorer classes, who crowd one upon another in the most appalling manner. The population within the walls is estimated at 20,000, and most of it lives on the ground floors. In one small room with a flimsy partition a whole family will reside.

The ground floors of the whole town are with filth, and conditions are most unsanitary. In a tropical country, where disease readily prevails, the consequences of such herding may be easily inferred. There is no running water in the town. The entire population depends on rainwater caught on the flat roofs of the buildings and conducted to the cistern, which occupies the greater part of the courtyard that is an essential part of Spanish houses the world over, but that here, on account of the crowded conditions, is small.

There is no sewerage, except for surface water and sinks, while vaults are in every house and occupy whatever remaining space there may be in the patios not taken up by the cisterns. The risk of contaminating the water is great, and in dry seasons the supply is entirely exhausted. Epidemics are frequent, and the town is alive with vermin.

The streets are wider than in the older part of Havana and will admit two carriages abreast. The sidewalks are narrow and in places will accommodate only one person. The pavements are of a composition manufactured in England from slag, pleasant and even and durable when no heavy strain is brought to bear upon them, but easily broken and unfit for heavy traffic. The streets are swept once a day by hand and, strange to say, are kept very clean. From its topographical situation the town should be healthy, but it is not. The soil under the city is clay mixed with lime, so hard as to be almost like rock. It is consequently impervious to water and furnishes a good natural drainage. The trade wind blows strong and fresh, and through the harbor runs a stream of sea water at a speed of not less than three miles an hour. With these conditions no contagious diseases, if properly taken care of, could exist. Without them the place would be a veritable plague spot.

Besides the town within the walls there are small portions on the outside called the Marina and Puerto de Tierra, containing 2,000 or 3,000 inhabitants each. There are also two suburbs, one, San Turco, approached by the only road leading out of the city, and the other, Canas, across the bay, reached by ferry. The Marina and the two suburbs are situated on sandy points, or spits, and the latter are surrounded by mangrove swamps. The entire population of the city and suburbs, according to the census of 1887, was 27,000. It is now (1896) estimated at 30,000. One-half of the population consists of negroes and mixed races.—Boston Transcript.

THE PHILIPPINE CHARACTER

Brave, Incontinent and Chasing Under Restraint, but of a Pliant Nature.

After years of study of the native character I have come to the conclusion that the Philippine islander is very matter of fact. He is not unwilling, but unable, conscientiously to accept an abstract theory. Christianity, with its mysteries, has therefore no effect on his character, but he becomes accustomed to do that which his forefathers were coerced to do—namely, to accept the outward and visible signs without being imbued by the inward and spiritual grace. The mere discipline—the fact that he is held to a certain standard at a given hour in a given day appears dressed in their best and attend the church and (in the case of headmen) go to the monk's residence to "kiss hands"—has certainly had the effect of taming the masses into orderly beings.

Yet restraint of any kind is repugnant to him. He likes to be as free as a bird, but he is of a pliant nature, and easily managed with just treatment. He is extremely sensitive to injustice. If he knows in his own mind that he has done wrong, he will submit to a thrashing without any thought of taking revenge. If he were punished out of mere caprice, or with palpable injustice, he would always have a lurking desire to get even. He has an innate contempt for cowards, hence his disdain for Chinese, but will follow a brave leader anywhere and will never be the first to yield to hunger, fatigue or possible chances of death. He takes every trouble with profound resignation, he promises everything and performs little, and does not feel that lying is a sin. He is inconstant in the extreme and loyal so long as it suits him, but as a subject he can be easily molded into any fashion which a just, honest and merciful government would wish.—Contemporary Review.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of
Wm. D. Druggist

HEROISM OF THE WOUNDED.

High Praise For the Negro Soldiers in the Field and Hospital.

A private letter received in New York from the front gives the following description of scenes among the wounded after the hard fighting near Santiago: "The misery here is simply indescribable and the suffering of the hundreds of wounded soldiers is terrible to behold. Yet in it all the men are brave and patient, and not a voice of complaint is heard, even from those who are mortally hurt. The Red Cross nurses are working here heroically, but last night the women nurses were so exhausted that they asked for volunteers to relieve them, and every one has turned in to help the wounded. "There is nothing but the warmest praise heard for the fighting of the negro soldiers in the face of fusillades of Mauser bullets. Kenneth Robinson of the rough riders, who had a bullet go through his body and lodge in his arm, said to me last night: 'There isn't a man in the rough riders but takes off his hat to the negroes. They not only fought like devils, but they were the readiest to come to our help when we were wounded.' The negro soldiers also show remarkable bravery in the hospital tents, where many of them have been under the surgeon's knife. Their pluck is the talk of the surgeons, and they show more nerve than many of their fellow soldiers of lighter hue."—New York Sun.

SPEED IN BATTLE.

The Magnificent Run of the Oregon and Its Lesson.

With every gun, except one 13 inch in the after turret, blazing forth, the Oregon is represented in a letter received in Washington as rushing forward out of the reach of ships and in ten minutes after the start taking the next place to the lead in the big race. From that time on she was under forced draft all the time and making higher speed than she had ever recorded while in the service. At some periods of the race the big vessel is believed to have been going, according to her engineers, over 16 knots, which tallies with Captain Enlat's statement that no battleship making only 15 knots could possibly have kept up with the fast Colon, with her high powered engines.

Raymond Rogers, the executive of the Indiana, writes that when the Oregon came racing across his bow it was the grandest sight he ever witnessed. She charged down, he says, on the Spanish fleet, letting go first at one vessel and then the other, and all the time carrying a great white line in her teeth that told of her engine power and great burst of speed. All the time she was running men were working on one of the after 13 inch guns, while the other was being fired right alongside in the turret.—Boston Journal.

THE COLON'S HEAVY GUNS.

Story Purporting to Explain Why They Were Not on Board When She Sank.

A prominent Geneva merchant vouches for the statement that when Italy sold the cruiser Cristobal Colon, then the Cariballi, to Spain, her big guns arrived too late to be tested before being mounted on board. They were accordingly put on board without being tested, but the Armstrongs, by whom the guns were made, insisted upon their being tested nevertheless. The Spanish commander of the ship protested, declaring that there was no time for a full test and besides such a test of the guns on board would shatter the furniture, mirrors, etc., in the cabins. The Armstrongs were still insistent, and finally a compromise was made whereby the guns were put ashore and tested at Spezia. The test was in every way satisfactory, but the Spanish commander sailed away without again shipping the guns. This accounts for the fact that when the Cristobal Colon was run ashore and sunk by the American fleet on the Cuban coast, it was found that she was without heavy armament.—Special Cable to New York Sun.

Yellow Jack.

You're a very crafty foe, Yellow Jack, but you're really got to go, Yellow Jack. We've a campaign now in view that'll surely settle you. And we're going to do it, too, Yellow Jack.

We're in earnest when we say Yellow Jack, that'll bring you in the way, Yellow Jack. 'Mid the wrongs to be redressed, We now count you as a pest, And we'll sweep you with a zest, Yellow Jack.

The Irene's Mission.

The German warship Irene, which is so much blamed for the episode with the Philippine insurgents, really should be praised for the success and celerity with which she performed a delicate mission. It was necessary to find out just the amount of foreign interference the United States would stand, and the Irene found it out exactly.—Baltimore American.

Why allow yourself to be slowly tortured at the stake of disease? Chill and Fe-r will undermine me, and eventually break down the strongest constitution. "FEBRI CURA" (Sweet Chill Tonic of Iron) is more effective than Quinine and being combined with Iron is an excellent Tonic and Nervine Medicine. It is pleasant to take, is sold under positive guarantee to cure or money refunded. Accept no substitutes. The "just as good" kind don't effect cures. Sold by B. W. Hargrave.

THE IMMUNE REGIMENTS

All Their Members Not Proof Against Yellow Fever.

RUSH IN NEW ORLEANS TO ENLIST.

Colonel Riche and Colonel Hood Will Command the Immune Regiments to Garrison Santiago—Difficulties in Carrying Out the Law For Their Organization—Volunteers Furnished to Other States—Great Scarcity of Young Men.

The City of Berlin, the big transport of the International Navigation Company, will carry the First and Second United States immune regiments, commanded respectively by Colonel Riche and Colonel Hood, to Santiago to act as the garrison of that town. These regiments are wholly white and are sent to Santiago first because they have been the longest organized and are in the most efficient condition; but, while efficient, they are not immune, according to the popular acceptance of the term. As a matter of fact, it is doubtful if 5 per cent of the members of the First immune regiment are proof against yellow fever, and probably not more than 30 per cent of the Second have been or been near that disease. The act creating these regiments did not say they were immune against yellow fever, but simply against tropical disease, a somewhat vague expression. The moment the bill was passed there was a rush of volunteers and the services of three white and two negro regiments, composed exclusively, or nearly so, of immunes, were tendered from New Orleans alone, but the officers had to be declined. The First immune regiment was assigned to Texas, and when it was organized the immune provision was altogether ignored. This was done on the ground that the law said nothing about yellow fever, and, secondly, because of the difficulty of determining whether or not an enlisted man was immune. The doctor does not usually give a patient a certificate that he has had yellow fever, and the only proof of immunity—and that is by no means an absolute one—is the fact that one has been in a city where an epidemic of yellow fever has prevailed. As the last Texas epidemic occurred in 1867 and the fever then appeared in only a few coast towns it will be seen that the chances of a recruit from Texas being an immune are very small. The First immune regiment is therefore so only in name. The fact that it comes from a southern state may make it slightly more proof against tropical diseases, but the difference in this respect between it and any ordinary regular regiment of the United States army is small.

The Second immune regiment was assigned to Louisiana and is a little more nearly immune than the First. Colonel Hood lost both his father (General J. B. Hood of Confederate fame) and his mother of yellow fever in the epidemic of 1879 and is himself an immune. The New Orleans part of his regiment is also immune. The fact that the regiment was recruited at Covington, near New Orleans, attracted to it a number of recruits from that city and renders it relatively more nearly immune than the First.

There is no lack of yellow fever immunes in the United States army. The only trouble is that, instead of being concentrated in regiments, they have been scattered among a score or more. The Second Louisiana volunteers is far more immune than either of the two so-called immune regiments. It comes wholly from New Orleans, where yellow fever epidemics have made 99 per cent of the population immune. Fully 90 per cent of its officers and men have had yellow fever or nursed it, and it could be stationed anywhere in Cuba without danger. Nearly half the men of the First Louisiana are immune. The Second Mississippi and the First Alabama contain many immunes. So does the Fifth United States volunteers, while the Ninth United States volunteers (colored) contains more than 90 per cent of immunes, 31 of the 13 companies being from New Orleans.

The war fever has raged perhaps more violently in New Orleans than in any other part of the country, and the city has contributed more than ten times its quota and has filled up the scanty regiments of Alabama and Mississippi. The rural districts of the southwest have fallen far behind their quotas, and their deficiencies have been made good mainly by New Orleans. This is all the more remarkable because in the civil war these districts furnished far more than their proportion to the Confederate army. Alabama has fallen short of its quota and had to furnish as its third regiment a negro organization. Mississippi has had to open recruiting offices in New Orleans.

When the original call was made by the president, Louisiana was asked to furnish two regiments of infantry. Based on population, New Orleans' share would have been a battalion, or 400 men. Governor Foster found that the city would furnish more volunteers than the country, and assigned one of the regiments to New Orleans—that is, three times its quota, and the other to the country. The city regiment (the Second) was filled up at once from New Orleans. The country regiment (the First) hung fire. It was found to be impossible to get a full regiment from the parishes. The country companies of militia dwindled wonderfully when subjected to medical examination; one company finally got down to 80 men, and it took three companies to make one. It was necessary to give one entire battalion to New Orleans, while Company A came also from the city. The ranks,

moreover, of the depleted companies were filled out by New Orleans men until now the First Louisiana, which is supposed to represent the rural districts of Louisiana, contains more city than country men. Thus these two infantry regiments contain 1,900 men from New Orleans and 600 men from the rest of Louisiana. When in the second call the president asked for three companies of artillery, Governor Foster, taught by experience, called for two from New Orleans and one from the rest of the state. Finally, the Louisiana naval militia, 500 strong, comes altogether from New Orleans. This makes a total of 2,600 furnished by the city to the state service, as against 700 by the rest of the state. As the population stands as one to five the city, it will be seen, furnished in proportion 15 times as many men as the country.

This includes, however, only the state volunteers. The United States organized in this district three volunteer regiments of immunes—the Second, Fifth and Ninth. The Second was intended for Louisiana, but more than half the regiment came from New Orleans; the Ninth (colored) contains 11 city companies out of 12; the Fifth (white) has its headquarters at Columbus, Miss. It was intended to include volunteers from Alabama and Mississippi, so that it was found impossible to get enough recruits from these states recruiting offices were opened in New Orleans. Entire companies have come from here, so, for instance, Whittaker's and Underwood's, to fill out the Alabama and Mississippi quotas. These three regiments contain 2,400 men from New Orleans.

Finding what an excellent field New Orleans was for recruiting, the Eighth and Twenty-third United States regular infantry and the Fifth cavalry while here opened recruiting offices and picked up 450 men without difficulty, and now Mississippi, finding it impossible to raise its third regiment, has opened recruiting offices in New Orleans and will fill its quota here. These last recruits will bring the total of New Orleans volunteers up to 5,700 or 5,900, including the navy enlistments. This may not seem large for Greater New York, but it is actually 12 times the quota that the city was called on to furnish and is equivalent to an enlistment of from 75,000 to 77,000 men in New York city. If so many men were taken out of Manhattan just now, the city could not but miss them, and New Orleans is missing its volunteers in many ways.

The explanation of the large number of enlistments here, aside from any patriotic ardor, is the very strong love of adventure, for which the city has always been noted, and the fact that summer is a dull season here, when a large proportion of the population has little if any work. The disposition to regard the war as likely to be a short one has tempted hundreds of young men to enlist in the belief that it will be over and they will be back at work in the fall, when business is brisk. Moreover, the climate of Cuba and yellow fever have less terror for the average New Orleans man than for the resident of any other city in the United States.

TRADE OF PORTO RICO.

Growth of the Island's Commerce and Its Distribution.

COLONIAL OFFICIAL STATISTICS.

Coffee, Sugar and Tobacco the Chief Articles of Export—Imports of Agricultural Products From the United States. The Foreign Trade Is Conducted Chiefly With Spain, America, Germany, the United Kingdom and France—Export of Coffee Has More Than Doubled in Ten Years.

The foreign trade in 1896 of Porto Rico, which will be the seat of our army's next campaign, was the largest in the history of the island, amounting to \$36,624,120, and for the first time in more than a decade the value of the exports exceeded that of the imports. The statistics of the year's trade have been collected by Frank H. Hitchcock, chief of the section of foreign markets of the department of agriculture, and published in a bulletin, "The Trade of Porto Rico." The statistics are based upon the official trade returns compiled by authority of the colonial government and were procured in advance of publication from the colonial customs officials at San Juan by the New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company.

The foreign trade of Porto Rico is conducted chiefly with Spain, the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom and France. Of all the merchandise imported and exported by the island during the four years 1893-6 fully 85 per cent, measured in value, was exchanged with the five countries mentioned. Spain received the largest share of the trade, an average of \$9,888,074 a year. The United States ranked second, with a yearly average of \$9,845,253. Cuba's trade with Porto Rico was \$3,050,334, that of the United Kingdom was \$2,868,920, and that of France \$2,201,687. During 1896 nine other countries had a trade with the island exceeding \$100,000—British possessions, other than the East Indies, \$2,039,749; Italy, \$1,047,843; British East Indies, \$886,939; Austria-Hungary, \$658,793; Belgium, \$297,701; Argentina, \$251,844; Uruguay, \$223,798; the Netherlands, \$170,586; and Denmark, \$137,218. Other countries included in the trade returns were French possessions, Danish possessions, Santo Domingo, Venezuela, Sweden and Norway, Switzerland, Peru, Mexico, Haiti and Portugal.

Agricultural products make up a large part of the island's imports and nearly all her exports. The value of the agricultural imports in 1896 was \$7,171,352 and of the nonagricultural imports \$9,664,101. The agricultural exports were valued at \$14,573,366 and the nonagricultural at only \$617,490.

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Cotton fabrics led the nonagricultural imports, their value in 1896 being \$2,070,667. The imports of fish amounted to \$1,918,107; of wood and its manufactures, \$540,611; of leather and its manufactures, \$714,417. The imports of tobacco in its manufactured forms amounted to \$699,333. Iron and steel and their manufactures, not including machinery and apparatus, were imported to the extent of \$658,418, and the imports of machinery and apparatus were valued at \$344,879. The value of the imports of manufactures of hemp, flax, jute, manilla, etc., was \$408,974. Other important nonagricultural imports were: Soap, \$248,571; paper and pasteboard and their manufactures, \$196,197; mineral oils, crude and refined, \$169,629; cotton yarn and thread, \$154,964; woolsens, \$154,947; paraffin, stearin, wax, spermaceti and their manufactures, \$151,995; glass and glassware, \$128,658; coal and coke, \$124,536.

Coffee and sugar, the leading products of the island, comprise in value fully 85 per cent of all the merchandise sent to foreign ports. The quantity of coffee shipped in 1896 was 40,243,698 pounds, and its value was \$9,159,985; the exports of sugar amounted to 132,147,275 pounds, valued at \$9,905,741. In addition to the sugar, \$539,571 worth of molasses was shipped, making the total value of sugar and molasses exported \$4,445,312. Leaf tobacco is the next most important export, the amount in 1896 being 3,665,051 pounds, valued at \$673,787. Other important exports were: Cattle, \$141,816; maize, \$69,410; hides, \$124,536.

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Cotton fabrics led the nonagricultural imports, their value in 1896 being \$2,070,667. The imports of fish amounted to \$1,918,107; of wood and its manufactures, \$540,611; of leather and its manufactures, \$714,417. The imports of tobacco in its manufactured forms amounted to \$699,333. Iron and steel and their manufactures, not including machinery and apparatus, were imported to the extent of \$658,418, and the imports of machinery and apparatus were valued at \$344,879. The value of the imports of manufactures of hemp, flax, jute, manilla, etc., was \$408,974. Other important nonagricultural imports were: Soap, \$248,571; paper and pasteboard and their manufactures, \$196,197; mineral oils, crude and refined, \$169,629; cotton yarn and thread, \$154,964; woolsens, \$154,947; paraffin, stearin, wax, spermaceti and their manufactures, \$151,995; glass and glassware, \$128,658; coal and coke, \$124,536.

Coffee and sugar, the leading products of the island, comprise in value fully 85 per cent of all the merchandise sent to foreign ports. The quantity of coffee shipped in 1896 was 40,243,698 pounds, and its value was \$9,159,985; the exports of sugar amounted to 132,147,275 pounds, valued at \$9,905,741. In addition to the sugar, \$539,571 worth of molasses was shipped, making the total value of sugar and molasses exported \$4,445,312. Leaf tobacco is the next most important export, the amount in 1896 being 3,665,051 pounds, valued at \$673,787. Other important exports were: Cattle, \$141,816; maize, \$69,410; hides, \$124,536.

"In a minute" one dose of HART'S ESSENCE OF GINGER will relieve any ordinary case of Colic, Cramps or Nausea. An unexcelled remedy for Diarrhoea, Cholera Morbus, Summer complaints and all internal pains. Sold by B. W. Hargrave.

TRADE OF PORTO RICO.

Growth of the Island's Commerce and Its Distribution.

COLONIAL OFFICIAL STATISTICS.

Coffee, Sugar and Tobacco the Chief Articles of Export—Imports of Agricultural Products From the United States. The Foreign Trade Is Conducted Chiefly With Spain, America, Germany, the United Kingdom and France—Export of Coffee Has More Than Doubled in Ten Years.

The foreign trade in 1896 of Porto Rico, which will be the seat of our army's next campaign, was the largest in the history of the island, amounting to \$36,624,120, and for the first time in more than a decade the value of the exports exceeded that of the imports. The statistics of the year's trade have been collected by Frank H. Hitchcock, chief of the section of foreign markets of the department of agriculture, and published in a bulletin, "The Trade of Porto Rico." The statistics are based upon the official trade returns compiled by authority of the colonial government and were procured in advance of publication from the colonial customs officials at San Juan by the New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company.</