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THE BIBLICAL RECORDER; THE LEASE QUESTION; AND THE GOVERNOR.

It is well known that THE CAUCASIAN has differed with the Governor upon the question of the arrangement recently entered into betwix the Southern Railway Company and the Directors of the North Carolina Railroad in respect to the ninety-nine year lease. But we have no sympathy whatever with such attacks upon the Governor of the State as that made in a recent issue of the Biblical Recorder; and we desire to evince our utter want of sympathy with such attacks, from whatever source they may come, by replying to the misstatements, misrepresentation of motives, and gross perversion of facts contained in the article we have alluded to.

We hold it to be elemental journalistic morality, that every newspaper should tell the exact truth about matters which it discusses; and, it would seem, that this law of elementary morals should have a special binding force upon religious newspapers. But it would seem that such moral force is not always felt by newspapers in this latitude. THE CAUCASIAN has always deprecated the collossal ability of political journals of a certain kind in North Carolina to avoid any and all connection with the habit of truth telling. It is more than surprised at this example of perversion of fact.

But to the matter in hand:

The Biblical Recorder says editorially in the article under review, that the Governor has denounced Judge Simonton as a "scoundrel." Every person who has read carefully the public press knows that this statement is untrue.

It is true that the Governor has spoken pretty freely in commenting upon facts, made notorious, mainly through Democratic newspapers, that Judge Simonton has been in the habit of accepting such favors from the Southern Railway Company as would indicate, that he was wholly under the influence of that corporation. It is also true that the governor has sometimes commented with really commendable vigor upon some of Judge Simonton's rulings in well known railway litigations. But that he has ever called him a 'scoundrel' or applied to him any other epithet of like import, is utterly untrue. We think that we have read the newspapers pretty closely. We think we have read all the Governor has said publicly upon the now famous lease question; and we know he has used no such language, as applying to Judge Simonton, as that which the Recorder attributes to him.

The Biblical Recorder further says, "Our Governor has given up the effort to make void the lease of the North Carolina Railroad to the Southern Railway Company.'

Well, if what the Recorder says so gushingly about the improvement of the road by the Southern—about the Southern's better management of the road—about the better service given to the public by the Southern—about the better pay to the State from the road in the hands of the Southern—if all this gushing praise, which has the appearance of having a string to it somewhere, be true, ought not "our Governor" to have given up the fight against the ninety-nine year lease some time ago? If the State has a better road under the lease—if the people have a better service under the lease—if the State gets more money from the road under the lease—it would seem that the Governor would be doing not only a very impolitic thing, but also a very wicked thing, in trying to get the lease set aside in Judge Simonton's court or elsewhere.

But has the Governor given up the fight to make the Southern Railway Company do exact justice to the State of North Carolina and its people in all respects, including those of the ninety-nine year lease? We trust not, and we think not; at any rate we know that THE CAUCASIAN and the people have not. Will the Biblical Recorder stand with us in this fight?

The Biblical Recorder also in speaking of the compromise says, "The terms are—on the side of the State, absolute surrender."

This statement is in our opinion wholly unwarranted. As we understand it neither the State, nor the Governor, nor the Directors of the North Carolina Railway, has surrendered anything whatsoever to the Southern Railway in this lease fight. The facts are, that the lease case is to go on in Judge Simonton's Court to a final hearing and decree. How can anyone but a man who writes either recklessly or ignorantly, say, that the State surrendered anything in collecting all her costs out of the plaintiffs in the case? Let us suppose for a moment that Judge Simonton shall finally decide that the ninety-nine year lease was made through the procurement of fraud; in that event, the State will have lost nothing, will have surrendered nothing. But on the other hand, let us suppose that Judge Simonton shall finally decide that the lease was made openly and fairly and righteously In that event the Governor will have won for the State the unique distinction of having gotten all of the State's costs back out of the party who succeeds in the suit; and that too, without the surrendering to the Southern Railway of any one thing of substantial value.

The Biblical Recorder also says that the Governor has lost to the State its opportunity to appeal from Simonton's court. But it must be remembered that Governor Russell did not start this suit. He would never go to the Federal courts to settle this lease question. His plan has always been and is now to have the legislature to settle it. The next legislature can deal with this question effectively regardless of what Simonton may decide. The suit was started by the Southern Railway and now they want to stop by agreeing to pay all the cost.

Our contemporary further says, "in his bitter denunciation of Simonton he (the Governor) went to a degree to which no one could follow him."

There is no one who knows the facts in this case who does not also know, that this statement is wholly untrue. The anti-monopoly people, so far as we know, have stood squarely by the Governor in all the utterances he has made in the pending controversy. It may, indeed, be that the Biblical Recorder cannot go as far in its denunciation of corporate greed as the Governor has gone, but, if so, it will be for the reason, that, after all its protestations to the contrary, it has a stomach which has become clamorous for monopolistic ailment; and not because it believes the Governor has gone too far in his defence of the people against corporate power.

However anyone may honestly differ on this point or that with the Governor in respect to the late arrangement, it yet remains true, that the Governor has secured for the State and its people exemption from a heavy burden of costs without surrendering the right of the next Legislature to deal fully with the whole lease matter. Indeed he has given up nothing he was not likely to be compelled to give up any way; and he has saved the State some thousands of good sound dollars. While we would have pursued a different course, yet his action does not deserve the critisicisms to be found in the columns of the Biblical Recorder.

But the most remarkable thing in all the Recorder's article is found in the two sentences following:

"For our part we are not regretful that the long agitation of the lease of the North Carolina Railroad is over and done."

"But in the interests of all concerned, and for the sake of justice we did hope that the test of the lease would be carried out fairly to the end."

In the last quotation the editor of the Recorder says it was for the interests of "all concerned"—for the interests of the whole people of the State. Certainly for the interests of the whole tax paying body of the State—that the test of the lease should have been made. And yet the editor says, in the very next sentence above, that he is not regretful that the agitation concerned about the testing of the lease "is over and done." That is as if he had said, "I know the lease was procured by fraud; and I know it ought not to stand. But I am not regretful that it is to be allowed to stand after all."

We put our contemporary's position thus fairly before our readers, in order that they may see, that a man who writes thus carelessly about matters so important is not competent to teach the people upon a subject involving such difficult matters of law and public policy as those involved in the ninety-nine year lease litigation.

The article in the Recorder quietly assumes all through that the Governor has brought a suit to test the character of the lease of the North Carolina Railroad—to determine whether the lease was fraudulent or not. Of course all people, who know anything whatever about it, know very well that the Governor has brought no suit at any time to test said lease. The suit, now pending, and yet to be decided, was brought by the Southern Railroad Company to restrain the Governor and the directors of the North Carolina Railroad from bringing a suit in the courts of this State to test the lawful and fairness of said lease; and all the Governor has done in the matter up to this present time, he has done as one of the defendants in that suit This is the simple truth, and the editor of the Biblical Recorder ought to have known it.

The Biblical Recorder further says that the Governor charged that the ninety-nine year lease was fraudulent. In this the Recorder is right. The Governor did charge that the lease of the North Carolina Railroad was fraudulent, and he has proved it to the satisfaction of all fairminded men. He proved it when he made it perfectly plain that the directors who made the lease entered into that contract with a full knowledge that the Seaboard system would give a larger percentage upon the valuation of the property. He contends that it is a fraud for a trustee, acting wholly for another, to lease property to one party, when there is another party who is willing to pay a better price for it. He proved it when it was shown that many of the Trustees for the State who made the lease were largely interested as private stockholders; and as such held the interest adversary to the State. And yet they made a contract for the benefit of their own stock, to the prejudice of the State. But it is believed by many that Judge Simonton and other corporative judges will find excuse to sustain this conduct of the trustees for the State. The Governor believes rightly that all ordinary transactions between man and man, these same judges would hold such conduct to be fraudulent, but as he expresses it, "When Shylock and Mammon are plaintiffs these corporation judges hold such contracts to be valid."

THE CAUCASIAN has entered into this matter thus fully because the Biblical Recorder had not only misrepresented the Governor, but had grossly misstated the facts about an important matter concerning which the people should know the truth.

THE CAUCASIAN and Governor Russell will urge the next legislature to use all lawful means to set aside the fraudulent midnight ninety-nine year lease. Will the Biblical Recorder stand with THE CAUCASIAN and Governor Russell in that fight?

COMMON SENSE AND VICTORY IN MILWAUKEE.

In every city where the people have made the egregious mistake of allowing such public functions as lighting the city by gas and electricity, street car service, water supply, telephone service and other natural monopolies to go into the hands of corporations, the result has been a poor service and a high charge for it, and worse than all, followed by a corrupt city government.

This is the situation in the city of Milwaukee, Wis., and it is simply one case in thousands. In that city there are 42,414 registered voters. Nine out of ten, if not a larger per cent. of these voters who are oppressed and robbed by the city monopoly, are shocked by the bad city government, and want to see a change. Probably about one thousand of these voters, including the "most influential and wealthy men" are given special favors: are given the services of these monopolies free. These are the men most able to pay. Yet free or cheap service is furnished to them so they will not complain while the other forty-one thousand voters (not so rich and influential) are robbed by high rates for poor service.

But, you ask, why do not the forty-one thousand voters use their votes to change this bad and oppressive system and establish justice and equity? That is the problem. The trouble is here: 17,916 of these voters are Republicans; 15,377 are Democrats and 9,121 are Populists. The Republicans have less than a majority, but when three tickets are run they always elect. The monopolists of course furnish campaign funds for the Republicans and manage to capture their party leaders and newspaper organs. The party boss no doubt accepts and uses the money of the monopolists to capture his own party convention and establish himself as a boss, and having done this the monopoly newspapers lay on the party lash and whip every Republican voter into standing by the "dear old party." This is the usual proceeding and is occurring in other cities all over the country.

But, what is the remedy? It is to cut off the source of corruption: it is to take these natural monopolies out of the hands of private corporations and syndicates. It is to use these public necessities as public functions for the benefit of all the people, at cost, and then there will be no one getting rich at the expense of the public, therefore no one in a position to use these monopolies to corrupt politicians and city governments. In short, it is municipal ownership of these natural monopolies.

But how can this ever be accomplished while the city is ruled by a party that is owned by the greedy and corrupt monopolists? It cannot. The only way and the only hope to throw off the clutches of monopoly from the city and for good government to be established is for the majority of the voters who are opposed to such oppression, robbery, and corruption, to co-operate and vote together. There are 9,121 Populists voters and 15,377 Democratic voters in Milwaukee, making a total of 24,498 voters, while the Republican machine controls only 17,916 voters. Now if the People's party and the Silver Democrats (if they are opposed to monopoly rule) co-operate the people will win a victory by over six thousand majority. This is exactly the common-sence course that has been agreed on and the overthrow of monopoly domination and victory for good government is in sight.

The People's Party proposed the co-operation, as we understand it, provided the silver Democrats would overthrow the gold and monopoly element in their councils, and would make a square fight not only to beat the monopoly Republicans and get the offices, but at the same time to pledge the officers to remove the causes of corruption and bad government. The Democrats agreed to this and put the following plank in their platform:

We believe that one of the most sacred duties which citizenship imposes upon us is to secure an honest, economical and efficient municipal administration, and we appeal to voters of all parties to aid us at this time to bring this about.

We believe the prevailing corruption and bribery in all large cities to be caused by the fact that public utilities are controlled by private corporations. The dependent relation of corporations upon the good will of aldermen, coupled with frailty of human nature, makes it impossible to secure official honesty. While there are disadvantages attendant upon municipal control and ownership of public utilities they are insignificant compared to the wholesale corruption and bribery incident to control by private corporations.

Therefore, in the interest of the public morality and good government, we favor, when the condition of the city's finances warrant, municipal control and ownership of all public utilities and the immediate erection of a municipal garbage plant.

The co-operative ticket put up by the two parties is as follows:

For mayor, David S. Rose.
For comptroller, John R. Wolf.
For treasurer, Wm. Bollow.
For city attorney, Carl Runge.

It is sure to be elected. Thus the nine thousand Populists have gotten the co-operation of fifteen thousand silver Democrats to put a great fundamental principle of the Peoples party, but it is indeed nothing more than a fundamental principle of real Democracy as advocated by Thomas Jefferson. It is a great principle of good government, which the Democratic party for a long time having become corrupt and degenerate had deserted and repudiated. The platform of the People's party is nothing more nor less than the great original fundamental principles of good government which the forefathers advocated and which all bold and brave patriots have stood for since.

There are of course some gold and monopoly Democrats who did everything they could to prevent this co-operation. That is natural, because they are opposed to the principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, and are in favor of monopoly rule. We regret to say that there were also some Populists who were opposed to this co-operation. They call themselves "mid-roaders." They claim to be for these principles, but they are favoring a policy that will help Cleveland and his class of Democrats to make Republican and monopoly victory certain We trust they will see the error of their way.

The Populists and silver Democrats of Milwaukee are to congratulated upon their common sense and patriotism. The people of Milwaukee are to be congratulated that these parties were controlled by such wisdom and patriotism in taking this action. Milwaukee has set the whole country a good example.

P. S. The above was written two or three weeks ago, but has been crowded out each issue. Since it was written the municipal election in Milwaukee has taken place. The co-operation ticket was elected by nine thousand majority. This is not only a victory against the gold standard and monopoly in general, but it is a specific victory for municipal ownership of natural manopolies. It was on this important plank of the People's party platform that the co-operative ticket was nominated and the battle fought to a successful conclusion. The principle of municipal ownership is making rapid strides everywhere. The People's party should form co-operative tickets in every city where the silver Democrats and silver Republicans will join them in a fight for this most important reform.

THE POPULIST STATE CONVENTION.

As announced in the last issue of THE CAUCASIAN, the State Committee of the Peoples Party has called the State convention to meet in Raleigh on May 17th. A large majority of the committee favor co-operation of all who are opposed to the gold standard and the election of an anti-monopoly legislature. There was, however, a difference of opinion among those favoring co-operation as to the day on which the convention should be held. Some favored May 12th, others May 17th, others May 25th; and probably some others a later date, in June. THE CAUCASIAN thinks it might have been best to have held the convention on May 15th. If the convention had been held on that date, then there could have been no misunderstanding among the people as to who was sincere and who insincere, and as to who was responsible for a failure to co-operate, if there should be a failure. But if all sides are sincere, the date for holding the convention is all right. But the fact that the Populist convention meets one week ahead of the Democratic convention makes it necessary for the proposition to co-operate to be so fair and just that no honest man in any party can object to it. If the masses of the Peoples Party are properly represented in the Peoples Party State convention, and if the masses of the Democratic party are properly represented in the Democratic convention, there will be a fair and honorable co-opertion that will not only equitably arrange the places of trust between the parties, but will also make a great triumph for the principles of good government. For twenty years the State legislatures of North Carolina have been dominated to a greater or less extent by corporations and monopolies. If corporation attorneys and the agents of monopoly, and men who would barter the welfare of the State for an office, control the conventions then there will be no co-operation, and the monopolist will win. To-day the people have the determination of these matters in their own hands. If the people fail to go to the primaries and elect their best and truest men delegates, then they can rest assured that the agents of monopoly will take charge of the primaries and will control the convention against the interest of the people. Let every man who loves his State attend his primary and see that the people are properly and honestly represented at the State convention, and then all will be well.

A WONDERFUL RECORD.

The People's party has made a wonderful record of progress and reform in its six short years of life—and its achievements are concisely summed up by the Boise Sentinel—Senator Haifield's paper—calling attention to the fact that the party was born but six years ago and that at that time there were but few prominent men in either of the old parties that endorsed any of its platform of principles. But in a few months it gathered to itself one and a half million voters who were the advance guard of a mighty revolution of public sentiment destined to sweep over the country. During that six years such a marvelous growth has attended that party, that now, Walter Wellman, a Washington goldbug correspondent of the Chicago Times-Herald, says that well informed politicians at the national capital fear the Populists will hold the balance of power in the next Congress. He calls attention to the fact that nearly every plank in the People's party platform, (including free silver, government paper money, municipal ownership of natural monopolies, the control of the instruments of commerce by Congress, income tax, Postal Savings banks etc.) are now endorsed by the silver Democrats and silver Republicans. One of the planks of the platform, namely, postal savings banks, stands a good chance of becoming a law this winter.

Six years of agitation and education have made government control or ownership of semi-public corporations a living question. Six years of education have forced other parties to recognize the truth of Populist financial doctrine, until today two-thirds of the American voters will vote with us on that question if given a direct opportunity, free from entanglement with other questions about which they are not yet so fully satisfied.

What more glorious achievement can any new party hope for than that, what more encouraging for a future outlook than that great leaders such as Bryan, Altgeld, Teller and Towne should indorse nearly if not all the doctrines of populism.

In spite of the victories of the past and the hopes of the future there are those who prate about the disintegration of the Populist party. The march of that party is onward, until people are supreme rulers over their own destiny. True the party may halt for a moment at a critical place to join hands with a friendly neighbor, and thus plant securely the banner of victory for one great principle, only to resume its march again, in the same field that has been so richly prolific of good results.

ALWAYS KEEP ON HAND

Pain-Killer

THERE IS NO KIND OF PAIN OR ACHE, INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL, THAT PAIN-KILLER WILL NOT RELIEVE.

LOOK OUT FOR IMITATIONS AND SUBSTITUTES. THE GENUINE BOTTLE BEARS THE NAME,

PERRY DAVIS & SON.

Oh, How Thankful

Pain Was Maddening and Hope Had Been Abandoned—Wonderful Results of Purifying the Blood.

"A very severe pain came in my left knee, which grew worse and worse, and finally a sore broke out above the knee. It discharged a great deal and the pain from my thigh down was maddening. Large, hard, purple spots appeared on my leg. I suffered in this way for years, and gave up all hope of ever being cured. My wife was reading of a case like mine cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, and she advised me to try it. I began taking it and when I had used a few bottles I found relief from my suffering. Oh, how thankful I am for this relief! I am stronger than I have ever been in my life. I am in the best of health, have a good appetite and am a new man altogether." J. P. MOORE, Lisbon Falls, Maine.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills. 25 cents.

A WEAK AND SHAMEFUL MESSAGE.

President McKinley has at last sent in his Cuban message to Congress. To say that Congress is disappointed, if not digusted, is to put it mildly. The message is weak, it is disgraceful, it is humiliating. It does not declare for the independence of Cuba, it does not call for satisfaction for the destruction of the Maine and the murdering of our sailors by Spain. It ask us to arbitrate that most infamous crime against our national honor It asks us to wait and give Spain more time to conquer Cuba, which means more time for Spain to murder, butcher and starve the women and children of Cuba's patriotic sons. It asks Congress to give him (the President) power to intervene when he sees fit to "stop the war," which means not to drive the barbarous Spainards from Cuba, but to stop the Cubans from contending for their liberty. The war in Cuba cannot stop as long as the Spanish flag floats there. The Cubans have already won their independence. Shall this nation help Spain to take it from them? The President's message means war against the patriotic Cubans instead of war against the murderous and treacherous Spaniards. The President has advertised his want of courage and patriotism. He has shown that he is incompetent to deal with the situation and to maintain the national honor. The responsibility is now on Congress. Will it follow the President's lead to national disgrace or will it strike a decisive blow for liberty, humanity, and national honor?

The Maine must be avenged, and Cuba must be free.

Springtime is Sick Time

It is impossible for the system to withstand the demands made upon it just at this season, without the assistance of a good purifying and strengthening tonic. The changes which Nature decrees shall take place each spring are so severe that a breakdown is almost sure to come. It is wise that all possible assistance be given during this period, as upon this purifying process depends the health for the entire summer. Everybody just now should take a thorough course of Swift's Specific

S.S.S. For The Blood

which thoroughly cleanses the blood of all the accumulated impurities, tones up and strengthens the entire system, and aids Nature in renovating and renewing the body so as to render it healthy and strong. Those who purify their blood with S. S. S. at this season are well fortified against the many forms of disease so prevalent during the dreaded heated term, for it has been demonstrated that the system that is thoroughly purified in the spring is well prepared to resist disease all summer.

No other remedy on the market is equal to Swift's Specific as a spring medicine, because it is the only purely vegetable blood remedy and is guaranteed absolutely free from potash, mercury and all other minerals. It cleanses, purifies, builds up and strengthens. Insist on S. S. S., for there is nothing half as good.

Tone Up With Swift's Specific

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the Hands of Congress—Responsibility now Rests With That Body.

A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT

Is Expressed on all Sides in the Tone of the Message—An Outline of the Document—The Message Referred to Committee on Foreign Relations—Senator Butler Introduces a Resolution Demanding Spains Withdrawal and Cuban Independence.

Special to THE CAUCASIAN.

WASHINGTON, D. C. April 11, 1898.

Today at 12 o'clock every Senator was in his seat, and nearly every Congressman. The galleries and the corridors were crowded with probably more people than have been in the capitol on any one occasion for a quarter of a century. There was the greatest tension and interest as to what the President would say in his message. The interest for the past week has been intense, but the President had already so often disappointed the people that there would not have been the profoundest surprise if he had again dropped and refused to send in any message at all. But the message came, such as it was. Congress and the people have already learned not to expect any more from McKinley in the interest of patriotism, liberty and national honor than he is forced to do, but yet everybody expected more than his message contained. He pleads for more time for Spain to subjugate Cuba. He declared that he thought it was unwise to recognize the independence of the Island. He said nothing about the Maine outrage except to express a hope that Spain would either do the honorable thing or else that the matter could be adjusted by arbitration. He closed with the hope that Spain would yet do something, or enough to prevent it being necessary for this country to take any action at all. The whole thing is sickening.

As soon as the reading of the message was finished, Senator Davis moved that it be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Before the motion was put Senator Stewart took the floor and in a strong and effective speech showed up the weakness of the message and further showed that it either meant nothing or else it meant conquest to gobble up Cuba instead of giving the patriots their independence.

He was followed by Senator Butler who said that if the message meant anything that it meant a war against Cuba instead of a war against Spain. He said that the blowing up of the Maine was an act of war, and that that foul crime should be avenged, and that in doing it we should in the interest of liberty and humanity declare the independence of the Cuban Republic and back up the declaration with the army and navy of the United States. He closed his speech by offering a resolution expressing these sentiments and gave notice that he would call it up on to-morrow.

It is certain that the President backed by the peace-at-any-price Senators and Congressmen will do everything in their power to prevent any action being taken against Spain to avenge the destruction of the Maine or to prevent any steps being taken to guarantee Cuban independence. But patriotism and manhood in the United States are not dead, and if Conpress represents even in a small degree the sentiments of the American people the President and his Wall Street policy will be brushed aside. We believe that Congress will avenge the Maine and see that Cuba is made free.

THE MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, D. C, April 11.—The President to-day sent the following message to the Congress of the United States:

Obedient to that precept of the Constitution which commands the President to give from time to time to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and to recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, it becomes my duty now to address your body with regard to the grave crisis that has arisen in the relations of the United States to Spain by reason of the warfare that for more than three years has raged in the neighboring island of Cuba. I do so because of the intimate connection of the Cuban question with the State of our own Union and the grave relation the course of which it is now incumbent upon the nation to adopt must needs bear to the traditional policy of our government if it is to accord with the precepts laid down by the founders of the republic and religiously observed by succeeding administrations to the present day.

The present revolution is but the successor of other similar insurrections which have occurred in Cuba against the dominion of Spain, extending over a period of nearly half a century, each of which, during its progress, has subjected the United States to great effort and expense in enforcing its neutrality laws, caused enormous loses to American trade and commerce, caused irritation, annoyance and disturbance among our citizens and by the exercise of cruel, barbarous and uncivilized practice of warfare, shocked the sensibilities and offended the human sympathies of our people.

The Struggle in Cuba.

Since the present revolution began in February, 1895, this country has seen the fertile domain at our threshold ravaged by fire and sword in the course of a struggle unequalled in the history of the island and rarely paralleled as to the number of combattants and the bitterness of the contest by any revolution of modern times where a dependent people, striving to be free have been opposed by the power of the sovereign State. Our people have beheld a once prosperous community reduced to comparative want, its lucrative commerce virtually paralyzed, its exceptional productiveness diminished, its fields laid waste, its mills in ruins and its people perishing by tens of thousands from hunger and destitution. We have found ourselves constrained, in the observance of that strict neutrality which our laws enjoin and which the law of nations commands, to police our own waters and watch our own seaports in prevention of any unlawful act in aid of the Cubans. Our trade has suffered; the capital invested by our citizens in Cuba has been largely lost and the temper and forbearance of our people have been so sorely tried as to beget a perilous unrest among our own citizens, which has inevitably found its expression from time to time in the national legislature, so that issues wholly external to our own body politic engross attention, and stand in the way of that close devotion to domestic advancement that becomes a self-contained commonwealth whose primal maxim has been the avoidance of all foreign entanglements. All this must needs awken and has indeed aroused the utmost concern on the part of this government, as well during my predecessor's term as in my own.

An Attempt for Peace.

In April, 1896, the evils from which our country suffered through the Cuban war became so onerous that my predecessor made an effort to bring about peace through the mediation of this government in any way that might tend to an honorable adjustment of the contest between Spain and her revolted colony, on the basis of some effective scheme of self-government for Cuba under the flag of sovereignty of Spain. It failed, through the refusal of the Spanish government then in power to consider any form of mediation or indeed any plan of settlement which did not begin with the actual submission of the insurgents to the mother country, and then only on such terms that Spain herself might see fit to grant. The war continued unabated. The resistance of the insurgents was in nowise diminished.

The efforts of Spain were increased, both by the dispatch of fresh levies to Cuba and by the addition to the horrors of the strife of a new and inhuman phase happily unprecedented in the modern history of civilized Christian peoples. The policy of devastation and concentration, inaugurated by the Captain General's band of October 21, 1896, in the province of Pinar del Rio was thence extended to embrace all of the island to which the power of the Spanish arms was able to reach by occupation or by military operation. The peasantry, including all dwelling in the open agricultural interior, were driven into the garrison towns or isolated places held by the troops. The raising and movement of provisions of all kinds were interdicted.

A Warfare of Devastation.

The fields were laid waste, dwellings unroofed and fired, mills destroyed, and in short everything that could desolate the land and render it unfit for human devastation or support was commanded by one or the other of the contending parties, and executed by all the powers at their disposal.

By the time the present administration took office a year ago, reconcentration socalled had been made effective over the better part of the four central and western provinces, Santa Clara, Matanzas, Havana, and Pinar del Rio. The agricultural population, to the estimated number of 300,000 or more, was herded within the towns and their immediate vicinage deprived of the means of support, rendered destitute of shelter, left poorly clad, and exposed to the most unsanitary conditions. As the scarcity of food increased with the devastation of the populated areas of production, destitution and want became misery and starvation. Month by month the death rate increased in an alarming ratio. By March, 1897, according to conservative estimates from official Spanish sources, the morality among the reconcentrados, from starvation and the disease thereto incident, exceed 50 per centum of their total number. No practical relief was accorded to the destitute. The over-burdened towns, a ready suffering from the general dearth, could give no aid. So called "zones of cultivation" established within the immediate area of effective military control about the cities and fortified camps proved illusory as a remedy for the suffering. The unfortunates, being for the most part, women and children, aged and helpless men, enfeebled by disease and hunger, could not have tilled the soil, without tools, seed or shelter, for their own support or for the supply of the cities Reconcentration, adopted avowedly as a war measure in order to cut off the resources of the insurgents, worked its predestined result. As I said in my message of last December, it was not civilized war-fare; it was extermination. The only peace it could beget was that of the wilderness and the grave.

Meanwhile, the military situation in the island had undergone a noticeable change. The extraordinary activity that characterized the second year of the war, when the insurgents invaded even the hitherto unarmed fields of Pinar del Rio and carried havoc and destruction up to the walls of the city of Havana itself, had relapsed into a dogged struggle in the central and eastern provinces. The Spanish arms regained a measure of control in Pinar del Rio and parts of Havana but, under the existing conditions of the rural country, without immediate improvement of their productive situation. Even thus partially restricted the revolutionists held their own and their conquest and submission, put forward by Spain as the essential and sole basis of peace, seemed as far distant as at the outset.

The message then continues in detail, of which the following is a synopsis:

The President says:

Spanish measures for the relief of these unfortunates proved illusory, and the reconcentration adopted, avowedly as a war measure, proved not to be civilized warfare, but exterminaton.

After it became evident that the struggle would only result in extermination, a full military victory on either side seeming impossible, the President submitting (on the 7th ulto.) after muce representation and correspondence, propositions looking to an armistice until October 1st.

In addition, the immediate revocation of the reconcentration order was demanded, together with a request that the needy might be relieved by the United States government in co-operation with the Spanish authorities.

The reply of Spain (on the 31st ultimo) offered as a means to bring about peace, to confide the arrangements therefor to the island parliament. Spain would agree to a suspension of hostilities, if asked for by the insurgent General-in-Chief.

It is understood, the message says, that the Spanish government stands ready to give the insular Congress all power to settle the terms of peace.

With this last overture in the direction of immediate peace, and its disappointing reception by Spain, the executive was brought to the end of his efforts.

The President then proceeds to discuss exhaustively the measures yet untried to bring the contest to a close.

He cites President Grant's measured words in declaring against the recognition of belligerency and pointing out the dangers of such a step.

The recognition of the independence of the island is also deprecated.

The cases of the Republics of Texas and Mexico are cited as precedents against such recognition, and it is absolutely certain that the independence of the revolting people is not beyond peradventure.

Such recognition, the President points out, is not necessary for us to interpose, and the difficulty of recognizing that government as a people a foundation as the present republic, are pointed out.

The blowing up of the Maine is referred to as an event that horrified the nation.

The message continues on that subject in these words:

"The Naval Court of Inquiry which, it is needless to say, commands the unqualified confidence of the government, was unanimous in the conclusion that the destruction of the "Maine" was caused by the exterior explosion of a submarine mine.

"It did not assume to place the responsibility. That remains to be fixed.

"In any even', the destruction of the 'Maine,' by whatever external cause, is patient and impressive proof of a state of things in Cuba that is intolerable—that the condition is thus shown to be such that the Spanish government can not assure the safety and security in the vessels of the American navy in the harbor of Havana on a mission of peace, and rightfully there.

"Diplomatic negotiations in reference to this sad affair resulted in Spain's offer to submit the case to international arbitration, the facts to be ascertained by an impartial investigation by experts whose decision Spain accepts in advance. To this offer no reply has been sent by this government.

The message concludes in these words:

"The only hope of relief and repose from the conditions which can no longer be endured, is the enforced pacification of Cuba.

"In the name of humanity, in the name of civilization, in behalf of the endangered American interests which gave us the right and duty to speak and act, the war in Cuba must stop.

"In view of these facts and these considerations, I ask Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of the hostilities between the government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the island the establishment of a staple government capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility, and the security of its own citizens as well as our own; and the use of the military and naval forces of the United States, as they may be necessary for these purposes.

"And, in the interest of humanity, and to aid in preserving the lives of the starving people of Cuba, I recommend that the distribution of food and supplies there be continued, and an appropriation out of the public treasury to supplement the private charity of our citizens.

"The issue is now with Congress. It is a solemn responsibility.

"I have exhausted every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors.

"Prepared to execute every obligation imposed upon me by the Constitution and the law, I await your action." * * *

"Yesterday, and since the preparation of the foregoing message, official information was received by me that the latest decree of the Queen Regent of Spain directs General Blanco, in order to prepare and facilitate peace, to proclaim a suspension of hostilities, the duration and details of which have not yet been communicated to me.

"This fact, with every other pertinent consideration, will, I am sure, have your just and careful attention in the solemn deliberation upon which you are about to enter.

"If this measure attains a successful result, then our aspirations as a Christian, peace loving people, will be realized.

"If it fails, then the fact will be only another justification of our contemplated action.

[Signed] "WILLIAM MCKINLEY."

The message, together with the Cuban consular correspondence sent to Congress at its request, therewith was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Anitolia's Massacre.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 10.—The Armenian Patriarch has sent to the Turkish relief committee a list of forty churches whole or partly destroyed during the recent massacres in Anitolia. He fixes the number of orphans whose parents were killed at forty thousand.

EVERY BRIDE

and wife should know about the preparation that for half a century has been helping expectant mothers bring little ones into the world without danger and the hundred and one discomforts and distractions incident to child-birth. It is applied externally, which is the only way to get relief. Medicines taken internally will not help and may result in harm.

Mother's Friend

fits and prepares every organ, muscle and part of the body for the critical hour. It robs child-birth of its tortures and pains. Baby's coming is made quick and easy. Its action is doubly beneficial if used during the whole period of pregnancy.

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NOT ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD.

A fact often overlooked, or not always understood, is that women suffer as much from distressing kidney and bladder troubles as the men. The womb is situated back of and very close to the bladder, and for that reason any distress, disease or inconvenience manifested in the kidneys, back, bladder, or urinary passage is often, by mistake, attributed to female weakness or womb trouble of some sort.

The error is easily avoided by noting urine aside for twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling is evidenced that your kidneys and bladder need doctoring. If you have pain or dull aching in the back, pass water too frequently, or scanty supply, with smarting or burning—these are also convincing proofs of kidney trouble. If you have doctored without benefit, try Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy. The mild and the extraordinary effect will surprise you. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures. If you take a medicine you should take the best, at druggists fifty cents and one dollar. You may have a sample bottle and pamphlet, both sent free by mail upon receipt of three two cent stamps to cover cost of postage on the bottle. Mention THE CAUCASIAN and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghampton, N.Y. The proprietors of this paper guarantee the genuineness of this offer.