# SHOPS IN THE CITIES OF CUBA

## Clerks Smoke Cigarettes While Waiting on You.

Grocery Stores Lacking-Attempt of an American Officer to Buy 100 Shirts-Curlo Sword at a Bar-

gain. To be caught shopping in the middle of the day in Cuba is to expose one's self to be considered eithen a lunatic or a stranger-terms synonymous to the cynical Cuban. During the later hours of the afternoon or in the evening are the allotted times, and it is then women, stroll forth to scan the counters and criticise the latest styles in lace mantillas. There are no large department stores as in America, no bewildering vistas of articles dear to feminine hearts, no miles of aisles, no multitude of floors, no swift-moving elevators; in fact, there are only three shops in the whole of Cuba containing more than one room devoted to the sale

of goods. A recent arrival in Havana, the wife of a Major of volunteers, sallied out on her second day to look for the shopping district. She called a carriage, but was unable to explain her needs to the native driver, and, after driving bootlessly through the streets for several hours, returned to the hotel. "There is not a shop in the place,"

she declared, half in tears. "It is dread-"There must be stores of some kind," replied her husband. "People surely

buy things." "But I looked everywhere. I saw lots of houses and they had their doors open, but they must be like those little plate for the beans. The fried plan-Where are the large stores?"

The Major concealed a smile. la large shop down near the Prado."

### Clerks Smoke Cigarettes.

which had doors and iron-barred windows and an awning over the sidewalk. They passed in and discovered a long frequenters tell it. room containing a counter running parallel to the wall and severe dingy cases. Heaped about were cottons and silks and wearing apparel of various kinds. Back of the counter were seated half a dozen young clerks, each with a cigarette in some stage of comibustion in his mouth. There were no placards extrolling the merits of the goods, no glistening metal of glass. Near one of the doors-there were several-was a pile of shoes resting haphazard upon an empty, undraped wooden packing case. In the centre of the room stood a rack bearing an assortment of grudy shawls. The windows were narrow and barred with iron. There was absolutely no pretence of decoration or window dressing. It was simply a room with shelves, a counter and several cases.

The clerks glanced up listlessly and at his cigarette. At the same time a rinb his hands.

"The Cuban merchant, I suppose." suggested the Major. There was an effort at conversation, cheap prices, and finally a purchase was

"I suppose they have a-er-delivery system," she remarked doubtfully. "Or do they carry their own bundles?"

Each Customer His Own Delivery Wagon.

The question was answered by the action of a Cuban woman nearby, who had bought a number of articles. These were wrapped up by one of the clerks and given to a barefooted negro girl who had entered with the customer and the country stood revealed.

"Each purchaser brings his own delivery wagon, remarked the Major, as he thrust the package of linen under his arm. "Not a bad idea where vehicles are dear and servants plentiful." In Santiago de Cuba, a city of some

50,000 inhabitants, there are not three shops worthy of the name. The largest store is located on Calle Enramadis, back of the palace, in the parlor of nee? an ordinary dwelling house. All manner of goods are on sale, however, and whiskey in the Fourth ward to run it is possible to purchase anything the Republican damplaign? found in the general country stores in 4th. Who instructed the overseers and

of looking after his company's inter- did it in great shape for a while. est regardless of personal cost, applied at the largest store in Santiago for light

"We have them, senor," replied the

"Many?" "Oh, yes; plenty."

"Well, let me see," mused the military shirts, assorted sizes, and have them

"Senor, senor!" hastily interrupted of duty or other cause they will find the clerk, aghast, "we have not that on their envelope Salturday evening, many, we have not one dozen. One "Lay off." hundred shirts! There are not twenty-five in the province of Santiago. One hundred!" The shirts were ordered from New York.

### Absence of the Green Grocery.

. The entire absence of what we call green grocery stores early becomes apparent to the visitor. There are small shops in which can be bought teas and sugar and articles of that class, but for fresh vegetables it is necessary to apply at the market. The later institution really forms the centre of industry of each city. It is the financial babrometer and the visible proof of the

pied by the petty merchants and the prospective customers. It is a thriving beehive that is never empty, and he money changing hands in the course of twenty-four hours is no considerable sum. One can pass through the enrance and emerge again fully clothed, fed and satisfied. There are stalls offering for sale fish, boots, cane-bott maed chairs, walking sticks, medicine and lottery tickets. Cheek by jowl will be found a jewelry booth carrying a valuable stock and one displaying ten

ananas at three cents the lot. Probably one of the most peculiar customs noticeable in the Cuban markets is the extremely small purchase made by the natives. Small gourd cups holding scarcely more than a table spoonful are used in measuring rice flour, beans and peas. Cabbages are cut into wedges the size of a cigar, turnips into eighths, squashes minute chunks and onions in halves. Potatoes are sold by number. It is no uncommon thing to see a woman buy a piece of meat weighing a coupie of ounces, then pass through the market purchasing a tablespoonful of vegetables here and a piece of garlic there and finally, after an hour of gossip.

Temporary Restaurants in Every Corner.

An odd feature of the markets is the temporary restaurants found in every rook and corner. They do not occupy stalls, but are conducted wherever a bit of space can be secured. As the sole equipments consist of a small charcoal brazier, frying pan and a wicker basket, not much room is required. The proprietor is generally an ancient negro woman, one of the toothless, mumbling kind sometimes found in the South. The menu is not extensive, rarely exceeding three articlesfried plantains, tortillas or corn pan-

cakes, and frijoles, a black bean. There are no dishes, no cutlery, no napkins. The beans and cakes are sold together and the cake acts as a cheap places we have at home, where tains are served in rusks and are eaten they sell calico for five cents a yard, much as bananas, the husk being peeland knitting yarn and-and thread, ed off by degrees; A breakfast of this cakes and beans and three plantains del c," he replied. "Seems to me I saw fish stands and places where jerked meat is the chief dish, but they are wages or who have money left them. He led her to a corner building, There is a tradition in the Santiago fulness. Their sun has set and the market that a man from Jamaica once started an eating place with real ta- shine like the stars, to glorify the excusable after you read his letter: bles and plates, but only the oldest night.

Selling of Pledged Articles.

A new business in Cuban mercantile circles is the selling of pledged articles from the North. Shortly after the surrender some one started the rumor that the pawnshops of Eantiago were filled with valuable plate and jewels pledged by the inhabitants during the siege. This may have been true to a certain extent, but the quantity of alleged family heirlooms carried from Cuba during the past six months would stand for three periods of Spanish history. Last June there was two pawnshops in Santiago. Today there are at least six, and they are springing up, fully equipped, all over the city. It is quite the thing for the tourist to ask after their location on reaching shore, and his purse must be small if mustasche left an inclosed wicker cage is that these articles are pouring into in one corner and came forward rub- the coast cities from the interior and from adjacent islands in an increasing of the war for American Independence.

acquaintance found a little line on the about us when they are ignorant of sprains and hard marching. lower part of the hilt which read: the price of their freedom? "Made in Germany, 1897."

## QUESTIONS ASKED.

Ralleigh, N. C., May 2, 1899. your subscribers to ask a few questions the west side of Haw River, or Saxa- peace of portry I made on myself and through your valuable paper? The rea. pahaw River, which runs lengthwise ancester: My memrays carrys me back son I say valuable is, that I have been of the county from north to south, the to the day when I was stout-Always taking it ever since it started.

the Fourth ward against the protest of Whitesides, now Whitsettes, the three year ago it was the Enama thirs. the leading Republicans of the city of Grimes, now Grahams here, but not ty bullet that pearst me threw the leg

of the leading Republicans of the di- Griffis' vision in order to defeat Mr. Charles F. Cooke, the regular Democratic nomi-

3d. Who furnished money and also

hands on the streets? Mr. Blake, the The word Houltz is very probably low works, and so sent this short communi-

treet commissioner, WHOSE DUTY IT Deutch. SHOULD BE, does not do it. 6th. Why is it that some negroes in please, and the street commissioner philanthropist, doing a little figuring. can't say quit, because they have high-"Send out to the Fifth Volunteer camp er instructions, and a number of white to Capt. Blank about one hundred men only get seventy-five and eighty cents per day to work right by his side

> 7th. Why is it that the pay of some of the overseers is more some weeks contention between the two political N. C. than the elight or ten men that does parties—the Whigs favoring it while the hard work under them combined. Mr. Editor, you can hear these (and ture of 1848, however, decided to build a few more) things on the streets; and a road from Goldsboro to Charlotte. if they are lies, they should be stopped; Orange then had four Representatives,

public should know it. WALTER O. SCOTT.

In Boston are two large advertising agencies, the members of both firms being women and all their employees ined him politically.

More anon.

An entire block of houses in New progress of all trade. From early York was papered by a young woman morning until late at night it is coou- ders from builders.

## SKETCHES OF **ALAMANCE**

By Sallie W. Stockard.

North Carolina is as rich in noble leeds of daring men as Scotland. The knowledge of what Scotchmen endured and availed was an incentive to the Scotch. It also gave them self-confitence, less to fear in seeming failure, and a long look ahead.

given a place in the shining temple of "than are received in any other branch fame is due largely to Percy's Reliques, of the government service, hardly ex-Burns, and Sir Walter Scott's works. cepting the Poscoffice. Some of them The Direct Line to All Points. They merited this high honor, their are intensely amusing, too. I have condeeds were seeds that would have died clusted that Imagination is not bound in the embryo but for these men who down by illiteracy, ellher, because some preserved them to sow broadcast for- of the most ignorantly written letters ever over the English speaking world. torian holds the same relation to the write to have their pensions increased.

ought to feed and manna be sent him odd that I have waived red tape long

a labyrinth, a jumble of incidents with years: out the silver thread of argumentation tory and read it.

ited facilities and leasure.

There are Jeanie Deans and Dukes of Argyle among us as true and good as

memory for our bard to be? only did he succeed in living like a lord

and Alamance. good deeds they've done come out and

In 1771 Chatham and Lord North letters of Junius were attracting general attention and all sorts of political contentions were hurled against King to the American soldiers and visitors George's government. Far away across the Atlantic the farmers of Orange county, North Carolina, were making resistance to Col. Edmund Fanning, our Register of Deeds at Hillsboro, who was contributing to the onnression of

American citizens. Herman Husbands, fired by the same animation as Patrick Henry-but not with like courage, prevailed, on his neighbors to make opposition. He livat what is now called Swepsonville Alamance county. The farmers he organized were the famous Regulaors. They were to help each other in all trouble growing out of a refusal to ay like unbrevful demand of Fanning. On May 16, 1771. Governor Tryon met about two thousand Regulators on our territory at Alamance Battle Ground. Then was the first blood shed for freelom on American soil; that was the first open resistance against the opprespresently one approached, still puffing he cannot carry away one or more sion of King George's rule. The battle pictures, candlesticks, silver teapots of Alamance, North Carolina, and not little bald man with carefully waxed inlaid machetes. The painful truths the battle of Lexington, Mass., was the beginning of the Revolutionary war. It was fight against the causing cause

Alamance should have the county my needle tell be died." A volunteer signal officer lately re- pride of Mecklenburg. Alamance was turned from Santiago took great pride the first to strike at the shackles of the volunteer's wife discovered a quan- in exhibiting to his envious friends a oppression and ought to have not only tity of really fine linen at marvellously curiously worked swords he had se- a mational reputation, as Lexington, cured at a price from a dealer down but spirit enough left to know it and there. He told its history and how it to celebrate it. Do we expect to make had been worn by an ancient grandee statesmen and patriots out of the from Spain, until one day an inquisitive bright eyed little fellows everywhere I am totully wrecked by army trubbles.

> It is interesting to know the names of some of the people who lived here

By tradition we know who made opposition to tyranny. In some cases the Mr. Editor-Will you allow one of old spelling shows the nationality. On son of the war 1812 I will rite you a 1st. Who got the Republican candi- the Trowsdales, the Freelands, the Aldaites to run in the second division of brights, the Shavers or Shepherds, the Take me, it made me think of thirty-2d. Who persuaded the Independent days. The people on the east side of I have always been to proud to beg. candidate in the second division of the the river were Binghams, Mebanes, it has made me dred when I had to Third ward to run against the protest Whites, Glasses, Dixons, Dishongs,

"Hornaday" has a bit of history showing how some of these names were sertien men would says, heare sleepes given. A ship crossing the ocean was a herow he suffered thirty-three years detained and the supply of drinking fore his country know wonder we can water became low. The little fellow weep not only that he was a granson who allowed the drinks, gave each a of the revellsion that hope make the horn a day. So while he gave the peo- constetushun not only that he was a the United States, but not in any quan- street hands to go to the polls and ple drinks, they rave him a name that son of the war of 1812 that never did vote and work against Mr. Charles F. stuck. Horn-a-day, Strolingers or Trol. rebell the caus of it I never could tell. A Captain of the Fifth Immunes, a Cooke in the Third ward? They said ingers were those who strolled around they were instructed to do so; and they from place to place. The Albrights had been put off the rolls because of the place of the company's interest of the company's inter 5th. Who employs the overseers and the name of their castle in Germany, couldn't stand being outside the breast-

> In 1828 the first meeting in North Carolina for the construction of a rail- Stated be ing bline in 1 i dog Gon it." many. His idea was to build a road away the letters." from Morehead through the center of the State to the mountains, the cars to or in his rear, and for the least neglect be drawn by mules. It is pathetic to think that the place where the first railroad meeting was held is still a long-distance from a railroad.

The railroad, then, was a bone of the Democrats opposed. The Legislaand if there is any truth in them, the among them Hon. Giles Mebane, a Bryant, Esq., Durham, N. C. Whig and Col. John Stockard, a Democrat. Hon. Berry was Senator from this district. Hon. Bartlet Grave, of Caswell, Speaker of the House, cast the deciding ballot in favor of the rail- is a woman. There is a saying to the road. As he was a Democrat, this ru- effect that in Kansas there is no in-

The men in this section who favor- deal without a woman in it. this one were Hon. Giles Mebane, Gen. Trolinger and a few others perhaps insurance company is credited with the who takes the contract for such or- It runs by Haw River instead of the largest salary paid to any womancounty seat, some say, because Gen. \$10,000 a year.

Trolinger had property there, others SOUTHERN BAPTIST AND AUXILthat the people in Graham hated the railroad and gave the company several hundred acres of land at Burlington, a few miles away, that the shops might be built there and not at Graham. Such is the world. We hate a change

(To be continued.)

ODD PENSION OFFICE LETTERS.

Picturesque Accounts of Woes on Which Applications Are Based.

Washington, May 3.- "We probably file more queer letters in our depart-The fact that the sturdy Scots are ment," said a Pension Office clerk, display inventive gentus and cover the A comprehensive history of North whole range of fact, fiction and an Ama-Carolina would be invaluable. The his- neas-like propensity for lying. Men mind of man as the farmer does to his Neighbors write to help along the cause of a man seeking a pension. Wives But he is a man of the most liberal write to tell the Commissioner why they culture, large grasp of ideas, leisure, no ought to get pensions. Family troucares for daily bread, unprejudiced, bles are aired for the benefit of the magnanimous. Such an one the ravens office. Sometimes the letters are so enough to make copies of some of them. History is a narrative not having be- For instance, this is one from a man ginning or end. Unwritten history is asking for a pension, after all these

or exposition. It is like the beads of a a-ketching of a hog. The hog wor a rosary, unconnected, disjointed, broken. sow hog and our Capitain wanted her to crawl threw. I stuck and tryin to would be work for a lifetime, to write one hat me on my hed and nocked me historical sketches of one's county is senseless. I do not think the sow had more within the range of one with lim- nothing to do with my line for duty fer I did not ketch the hog. With she never war caught.

"A neighbor tried to do a pension in Scotland. Shall we not preserve their seeker a good turn in the following ef-

fusion: Alamance was never a barren waste. "'I varily believe that Orville Jame-Four hundred years ago the red man son is fatiged from earnin his leavin revelled here in luxurious nature. He becos he is too fatt ways 200 pounds could kill more deer than could be eat- and have a family to fead-the nabors en on "Stinking Quarter" Creek. Not think he hav dropsy but I no he hav no The Major concealed a smile. cakes and beans and three plantains to the music of the names he gave its or references. I no he hav solid faut them—Altamahaw, Ossipee, Saxapahaw and vittels in him an no dropsy.

"A New England farmer, who seems But besides the Indian and far above perfectly certain in his own mind that reserved for those who earn a day's him in might there have lived among a pension will be forthcoming just beus great men in the high noon of use cause he asks for it, writes to the Commussioner in a spirit of vindictiveness against his wife, which seems a little " 'I got blood pison by beinge hit with a hens eg which was not good when you were "thundering in Parliament," the send my pensen I want the Deed made sos my wife can't get none off it-she

throde the eg. demand for an increase of pension on consideration of being otherwise provided for, and writes direct to the Secretary of the Interior to this effect:

"Now, i want "ou or the comesenir of pensens to give me a plais in your offits-then i won't ask for no moar raze in pensen jus now. i can clurk o. k. but i can't laber, or i cud boss the other clurks and maik them stan roun an raze dewlie entitely pensens keape them from loafinge whesperin in offes ours in fack akt as janeter or supper-

viser seeinge all thing goan rite." "A widow, feeling herself entitled to a large pension, writes detailed statement of her husband's sufferings and dealth. Among other things she says: "'My husband was terribel bloated. It didn't look like hissel. He couldn't stoop over and stratten up wilhout helping hissel. To ham, beans, pork, mashed potatoes, eggs, veul, cabbage, his stummach was repulsive. His ru-

matism was the kind called lumbagoalt fursit. His dropsy was remibel. "'P. S.-When my husband come back from the war I supported him on

"A man from Delaware did not think that the doctor's certificate he sent would have sufficient influence, so he supplemented it by stating that: 'I fust got to be a total wreck from liver and kidneys then I was totully wrecked by consumption with came on me. Now Sometimes, like Silas Wegg, they

drop into poetry, or at least they threaten to do so. A Massachusetts applicant informs the Commissioner as

"I am a grandson of the revelision a Houltz, the Strolingers, the Stockards, able to roll myself about, but when undertake it I feel the kean pane over change in other parts, and the Horna- it has made me wish that I was dead. walk upon my Leg. it has gave me such a pane, it has made me so lame that I have wight that I was dead then were noblemen from Albrightsberg- palpable fraud in securing his pension

"'I poot in application too bee re in Rafeigh get a dollar per day for work- road was held in Alamance, at the "Oh, yes," said the clerk, as he put ing on the streets, and work when they please, and the street commissioner home of William Albright, near Cane away his copies, "If you go into the creek. Dr. Joseph Caldwell, just re- Pension Office with a sense of humor turned from Europe came to this meet- you're apt to find plenty of matter upon ing full of railroad plans from Ger- which to feed it while you are filing

OAK RIDGE COMMENCEMENT.

cation to the Commissioner:

Sunday, May 21, 11 a. m.-Annual Sermon, Rev. Livingstone Johnson, pastor Baptist church, Greensboro, Monday, May 22, 8 p. m.-Junior

contest. Tuesday, May 23, 10 a. m.-Commencement exercises. 2 p. m.-Literary address, Victor S.

Music by the Student Cornet Band. The railroads will give special rates. A successful ranch owner in Kansas

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Ly Palmers ..... 12 ] 'Ar Gulf ......

and Western Railroad.

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Superintendent.

but "writ his name in water." So the motar insides him than he now have berivers and the springs ripple and sing sides which he are without vitious habrivers and the springs ripple and sing sides which he are without vitious hab-

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