

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—Curio Shop at a Bargain.

To be caught shopping in the middle of the day in Cuba is to expose one's self to be considered either a lunatic or a stranger—terms synonymous to the cynical Cuban.

A recent arrival in Havana, the wife of a Major of volunteers, sallied out on her second day to look for the shopping district.

"There is not a shop in the place," she declared, half in tears. "It is dreadful."

"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 cheap places we have at home, where they sell calico for five cents a yard, and knitting yarn and—thread."

"The Major concealed a smile. "We will go forth and explore, my dear," he replied. "Seems to me I saw a large shop down near the Prado."

Clerks Smoke Cigarettes. He led her to a corner building, which had doors and iron-barred windows and an awning over the sidewalk.

The clerks glanced up listlessly and presently one approached, still puffing at his cigarette. At the same time a little bald man with carefully waxed mustache left an inclosed wicker cage in one corner and came forward rubbing his hands.

"The Cuban merchant, I suppose," suggested the Major. "There was an effort at conversation, the volunteer's wife discovered a quantity of really fine linen at marvellously cheap prices, and finally a purchase was made."

"I suppose they have a—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 an ordinary dwelling house.

A Captain of the Fifth Immunes, a young Southerner with the reputation of looking after his company's interests regardless of personal cost, applied at the largest store in Santiago for light linen shirts.

"We have them, señor," replied the clerk. "Oh, yes; plenty."

"Well, let me see," mused the military philanthropist, doing a little figuring. "Send out to the Fifth Volunteer camp to Capt. Blank about one hundred shirts, assorted sizes, and have them there by—"

"Senor, señor!" hastily interrupted the clerk, agast, "we have not that many, we have not one dozen. One 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.

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Orders have prompt attention.

DURHAM AND CHARLOTTE R. R. Time Table. IN EFFECT MAY 15, 1899.

NORTHBOUND. Train No. 1. Lv Parkerwood Junction (Hallison) 11:45. Lv Putnam 12:00. Lv Glendon 12:15. Lv Linwood 12:30. Lv Haw Branch 12:45. Lv Caribon 1:00. Lv Palmers 1:15. Ar Gulf 1:30.

SOUTHBOUND. Train No. 2. Lv Gulf 1:45. Lv Palmers 2:00. Lv Caribon 2:15. Lv Linwood 2:30. Lv Glendon 2:45. Lv Putnam 3:00. Ar Parkerwood Junction (Hallison) 3:15. Connects at Gulf with the C. F. & Y. V. Railway and at Parkerwood Junction (Hallison) with the Carriage and Western Railroad.

FRANK D. JONES, Superintendent.

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For full particulars concerning this lamp the public will please call to see J. C. S. LUMSDEN, Sole Agent, at his store on Fayetteville street. Mr. Lumsden will exhibit the light at any store or office in the city upon request.

BUG DEATH.

Is a NON POISONOUS Powder that effectually takes the place of Paris Green (a deadly poison) and other dangerous insect powders, when used as directed, cheaper than Paris Green. Is SURE DEATH to the Potato, Squash and Cucumber Bugs, Tomato worms and other plant eating pests. It is a plant food of great merit, a benefit instead of injury to all plants. Write for circulars, prices, &c. If your local dealer does not keep it you can get it direct from the SOLE agents for North Carolina. Prices and samples to dealers furnished upon application to

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