

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

Devoted to the Protection of Home and the Interests of the Country.

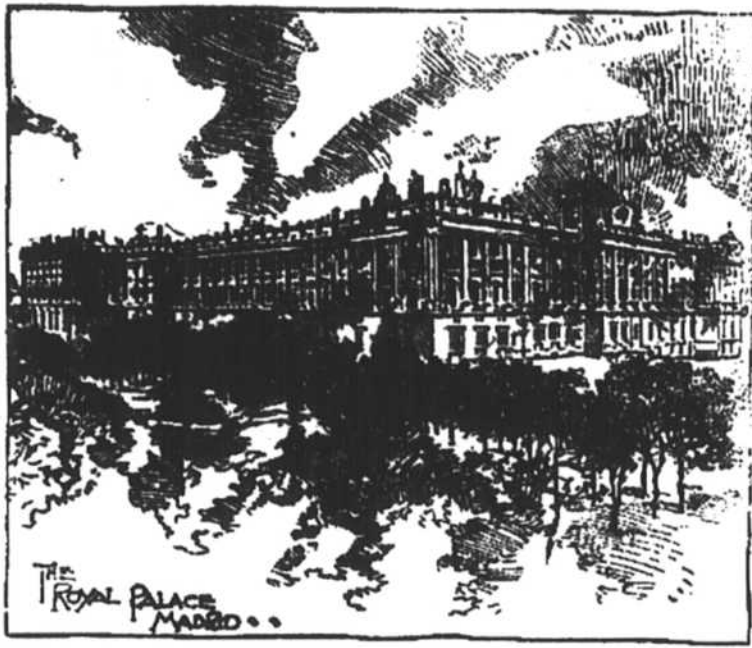
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SPAIN AND HER PEOPLE.

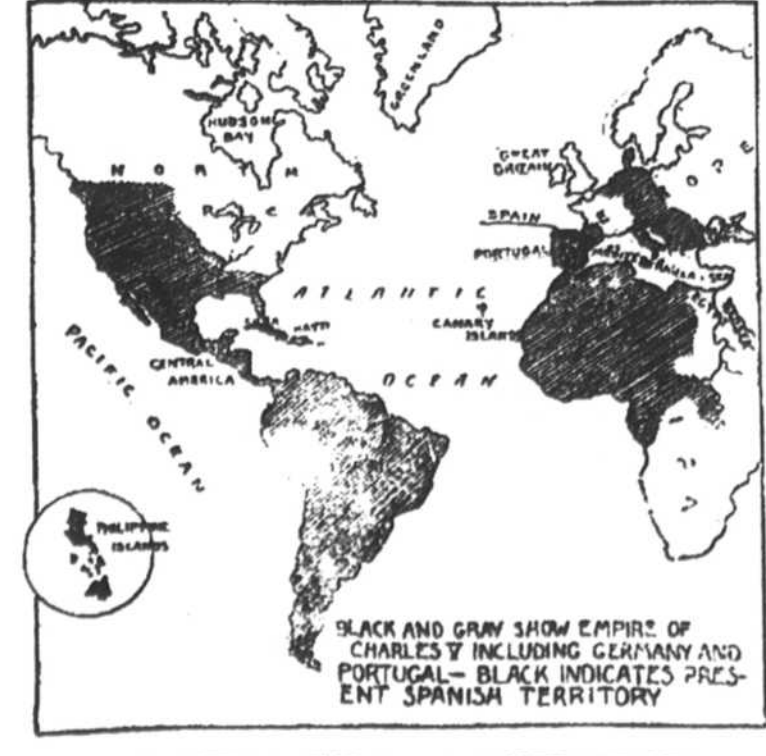
THE GROWTH AND DECAY OF THE GREATEST NATION IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD.

Founded on the ruins of ancient Rome and peopled by the rugged races of the middle ages, Spain easily conquered the old world and discovered and overran the new world. Under the rule of Charles I of Spain, better known as Charles V of Germany, the Spanish empire included the whole Iberian peninsula, the Italian islands, Flanders and Burgundy north of the Pyrenees, the island of Sicily, Naples and Milan, Franche-Comte, Holland and Belgium and practically Austria, Bohemia, Hungary and Transylvania. In Africa it held the vast domain which Portuguese adventurers had seized, and in Asia the Philippine archipelago. In North America Spanish territory included everything south of Savannah on the east and San Francisco on the west, together with Mexico, Central America and the West Indies. Spain dominated all South America, including Brazil, which was a Portuguese



province at the time Spain ruled Portugal. The total dominion of Charles as its zenith was about 17,000,000 square miles, double that of the czar of Russia and infinitely greater than that of any other monarch in history. Nor was Spain great in size and strength alone. She was rich beyond computation. Beside the boundless resources of the Spanish peninsula, which the Rothschilds consider superior security for encumbrance, she was rich in Germany, Austria and the Netherlands was at the disposal of Spain.

All this, however, was as nothing to the gold and silver that poured in from America. The native monarchs of Mexico, Central America and Peru yielded up their treasures at the command of Spanish adventurers, and the mines, worked by Indian slaves, produced the precious metals in quantities that dazzled the world and intoxicated the Spaniards. It is estimated that during this century which followed the discover-



BLACK AND GRAY SHOW EMPIRE OF CHARLES V INCLUDING GERMANY AND PORTUGAL—BLACK INDICATES PRESENT SPANISH TERRITORY

strong again. Franco seized the provinces north of the Pyrenees and Franche-Comte. All authority in the German states had long been lost in Spain, and the last Spanish king of the Austrian dynasty, at the close of the seventeenth century, saw his realm the prey of the great powers.

Equally disastrous were those times in the colonies. The Dutch, French and English seized foothold in the Guianas and then helped themselves one after another to the smaller islands in the Caribbean sea. By the time of the Dutch war of 1665 the pretensions of Spain to universal ownership in those regions were wholly ignored. The English seized Jamaica. The French first took Tortuga and thence sent out filibusters, who presently drove the Spaniards out of Haiti—Hispaniola, Little Spain—and made it a French province. Even Havana was attacked more than once. Drake had a fruitless venture at St. Peter and Venables, who took Jamaica, tried to take it, but failed. England did storm the forts in 1700 and held the city a few years, then gave it back to Spain. By the end of that century Trinidad, too, was snatched away, and Spain's commerce with the American colonies substantially destroyed. England came to her aid at home in the Napoleonic wars, and then France in turn helped Ferdinand VII to hold his throne.

Spain loses a Continent.

Early in the nineteenth century rebellions began in South America. Secret societies were formed which had for their object the throwing off of the Spanish yoke. The chief founder and promoter of these was a Spanish creole of Venezuela, Francisco Miranda by name. He had served under Washington in the American Revolution and had become thoroughly imbued with the spirit of liberty and with the principles of republicanism. What had been done in North America could, he thought, be done in South America. He therefore formed in London, since it could not

be done in the same year, and the Argentine confederation, after a ten years' war, in 1824. Brazil had been lost to Spain in the conquest of Portugal, and Florida was ceded to the United States in 1819. Nothing was now left to Spain in the western hemisphere except Cuba and Puerto Rico.

Rebellions Everywhere of an Empire.

Beyond the rear end of the Spanish peninsula, a few islands adjoining her shores and a penal colony in Africa in which political prisoners are starved and tortured Spain has nothing left but Cuba and the Philippines, and both are in revolt. Columbus declared Cuba to be the "most beautiful land ever beheld by human eyes." Her possible natives the Spanish exterminated with every horror of torture. Since there was no gold in the island Cuba was neglected and ignored for many years. But the Spaniards colonized it and ultimately found that its sugar plantations and tobacco fields were more profitable than gold mines. For two centuries it has proved the most valuable of all Spain's possessions. Cuba finally grew tired of being plundered by Spain, and rebellion after rebellion arose, only to be ruthlessly suppressed. Then came the famous ten years' war and finally the present formidable insurrection. The smaller island of Puerto Rico, which, with Cuba, makes up the remnant of Spain's empire in America, commands but slight attention. Its history has been colorful, its individuality not significant. It hangs upon the fate of Cuba.

The Philippines form an important link in the great volcanic mountain range lying off the Asia coast—Tanzania, the Eritria, Japan, Luzon, the Philippines, Luzon, Java. There are two large islands, Luzon and Mindanao, seven others of considerable size, and uncounted hundreds of smaller ones, down to the narrowest of coral and volcanic rock on the sea. They are all made of volcanic rock and coral and abound in valuable minerals. The climate is tropical, but the heights of the moun-



THE ALCAZAR OF SEVILLE.

tain and plateau makes it endurable to Europeans. The total area of land is 54,000 square miles, and the population some 8,000,000. The flora is wonderfully profuse, comprising oak, sandal and camphor trees, palm, tea, a vast variety of spices and perfume bearing flowers, rice and the famous manilla hemp. The fauna shows no dangerous beasts of prey save the crocodile. There are buffaloes, pigs, antelopes, monkeys and leopards galore. As for the people, they are as much mixed as those of Spain itself. Negroes were probably autochthonous. Then Polynesians came in, and then Malays. Chinese also came in great numbers, and of late years the Japanese have been flocking, with intent, it may well be, to possess the island when the Spaniards are expelled. The Spanish population is very small. Industry and commerce are considerable. There are steamship lines, railroads, telegraphs and cables, and a foreign trade of \$60,000,000 a year. Manila is a splendid city, set on the margin of one of the finest harbors in the world. It has an ancient fortress, fine churches, a gay parade, busy streets and casinos, parks and palaces, hotels and theaters. The inhabitants are an amiable and handsome race.

Fortified Cities of Spain.

The fortified cities of Spain on the north and northwest coast are Bastonia, Santander, Coruna, Ferrol and Vigo; on the Atlantic, between the Portuguese frontier and the strait of Gibraltar, there are Palos, San Lúcar, near the mouth of the Guadalquivir river; Cadix and Tarifa. In the Mediterranean are Malaga, Cartagena, Barcelona, Palamos, Tarragona, Almeria and Alicante. Barcelona, Cartagena and Almeria were formerly looked upon as the most formidable fortresses on the Mediterranean



HAVANA IN 1325—FROM AN OLD PAINTING.

side advocates. Be the cause what it may, the fact is apparent that the greatest nation of the fifteenth century is among the least of the sixteenth. The twentieth century may find her nothing but a memory.

Spain has had much architecture, some art and little literature. The Alhambra, the Escorial and the Alcazar are marvels of beauty and grandeur. In a book conspicuous for friendliness to Spain Mr. Chasfield-Taylor says that Spaniards are probably less understood in America than any people in Europe. In fact, the popular conception of the Spaniard is of a dithering scoundrel, swamped in a cloak, who smokes cigarettes and commits dark deeds—a sort of comic opera villain, whose passion is cruelty. This absurdity is fully equalled by the Spanish impressions of Americans—or "los yankees," as they call us. They look upon us as a species of plutocratic barbarians, whose sole merit lies in our dollars, whose manners are bores and whose government is the most corrupt and most overbearing in the world. It is not always pleasant to



ALFONSO XIII.

see ourselves as others see us, and when one reads in Spanish papers that the United States is a country without principle or religion, without manliness or bravery, whose negroes are roasted alive and Italians lynched in the public streets, where Chinamen are persecuted and strikes are prevalent, where anarchists are governors of states and personal liberty is unknown, one cannot but be struck and feel the jingo spirit surging in one's heart. As a matter of fact, the Spanish conception of the American is merely an exaggeration of the national fault, just as our idea of the Spaniard is a misconception of his character, formed by magnifying his vices at the expense of his virtues. Human nature is very much the same the world over, and the Spaniard is very like other men, save that he is down on his luck. Like most people who have known prosperity, he finds it difficult to appreciate his circumscribed position and is wont to survey himself from the magnificent standpoint of his achievements.



THE ALHAMBRA.

THE GROWTH OF WAR EXPENSES.

Secretary Gage and Chairman Dingley looking into the history of taxation during the war.

Secretary Gage and Chairman Dingley, of the House Committee on ways and means, are now preparing to take steps to put the Treasury in a condition to meet all the demands that a conflict with Spain may impose upon it.

Much of the additional revenue that is raised will have to come from internal taxation, as the Dingley bill has put the tariff taxes on most articles up to the limit. The Secretary's estimates, however, show that considerable increases can be made in the customs receipts by imposing free of duty, duty reductions that will be made in Customs for additional revenue will include a recommendation of a tax of 6 cents a pound on coffee, which, on the basis of importations, is estimated to yield about \$20,000,000 a year additional revenue, and a recommendation of a tax of 10 cents a pound on tea, which will yield a little more than \$11,000,000, it is believed, and another million may be raised from a tax on cigars. This will make a total of \$41,000,000 for these three articles.

Congress will be asked to increase the tax on beer from \$1 a barrel to \$2, and the resulting increase in the revenue, it is estimated, will be about \$95,000,000 a year, and this will be the largest increased revenue from any one source. Whiskey is now taxed fully up to the highest revenue-producing point, and no additional revenue can be raised from this source. Tobacco and cigars will stand a substantial increase, however, and may be made to yield eight or ten millions additional.

Other odds and ends of taxation can be found which will make the total increase in the revenues of the government amount to fully \$100,000,000 a year, and these other sources of revenue which can be raised if the war should be long drawn out.

It is probable that the immediate increase in revenue which will be asked will not exceed this, though should the war be prolonged, other taxes will be imposed which will greatly increase the receipts.

Strong arguments will be made for an immediate issue of bonds, but Secretary Gage and Chairman Dingley, what he will recommend on this matter. He is thinking of contenting himself for the present with a recommendation that authority be granted by Congress for the issuance of Treasury certificates of indebtedness to the amount of \$100,000,000.

These certificates would be of small denominations, but bear interest at a low rate, and be redeemable at the pleasure of the government. It is believed that \$100,000,000 of these certificates would be absorbed as fast as they might be offered by the Treasury.

With \$100,000,000 from the issuance of certificates of indebtedness and \$20,000,000 from the cash balance in the Treasury, Secretary Gage would have at the start \$120,000,000 in the war chest. The proposed increase of taxation which the Secretary has in contemplation would begin to increase the revenues as soon as enacted by Congress, as they would require little additional machinery for their collection.

This would mean a constant addition of about a quarter of a million dollars a day to the fund available for extraordinary war expenses in addition to the ordinary revenues of the government.

The inflow of gold.

Philadelphia North American.

If there could be such a thing as too great a supply of gold, that would be the nature of our financial complaint today. The imports of the yellow metal are exceeding all expectations, and records. Competent judges estimated that the top figure of the importations would be \$30,000,000. Already this has been exceeded by \$10,000,000 and the end is not yet. Up to Tuesday the total receipts of gold by the eastern cities since February 25 were about \$34,000,000, which, with the amount drawn from Australia by San Francisco, made a grand total of about \$40,000,000. So long as the condition of affairs continues—and there is nothing to indicate that it will end in the near future—the nation will be able to meet without difficulty any contingency that may arise, even to a prolonged war, and without any fear whatever of being forced to suspend its specie payments for a single day.

Reverendation cured.

My wife has used Chamberlain's Pain Balm for rheumatism with great relief, and I can recommend it as a splendid liniment for rheumatism and other painful use for which we have found it valuable.—W. J. Caylor, Red Creek, N. Y.

Mr. Caylor is one of the leading merchants of this village and one of the most prominent men in this vicinity.—W. G. Phillips, Editor Red Creek Herald. For sale by J. B. Curry & Co.

The Gaffney Ledger burns one of the original stockholders in the Clover, S. C. Cotton Mills says he has received 50 cents on the dollar in dividends since the mill was organized 7 years ago, and on July 1st would receive 10 per cent more, making 105 in all. The stock of the Clover mill is now 110 on the market.

"A word to the wise is sufficient" and a word from the wise should be heeded, but you ask, who are the wise? Those who know. The oft repeated expression of "I wish every person may be taken for knowledge," Mr. W. M. Terry says Chamberlain's Cough Remedy gives better satisfaction than any other in the market. He has been in the drug business at Edison, N. J., for twelve years; he has sold hundreds of bottles of this remedy and never all other cough remedies manufactured, which shows conclusively that Chamberlain's is the most satisfactory to the people, and is the best. For sale by J. B. Curry & Co.