

# WAR WITH SPAIN AND THE FREEING OF CUBA.

"I SAY God bless the Journal for sending that Commission to Cuba. The report of the Commission is in line with the sentiments I expressed a year ago. The speech of Senator Gaffinger to-day on the wrongs of Cuba might not be improperly classified as exhibits of the pleadings that full justice be done in the cause in which the American people are now so intensely interested."—Senator Mason, of Illinois, on the work of the Journal's famous Commission to Cuba.

## Forced Government to Bring Peace Even With War.



Pictures of Starving Cubans.

## CHAPTER IX. PICTURES OF STARVING CUBANS.

The Journal made the reconcentrado famous and brought to the knowledge of the world the awful condition of starvation and helplessness with which the poor Cubans were confronted. Months before the Administration took steps to ascertain officially the condition of affairs in Cuba, the Journal had dispatched to Cuba two men, Richard Harding Davis, the writer, and Frederic Remington, the artist, with instructions to report and sketch faithfully what was to be learned and observed in the colonies of the reconcentrados. What was written and pictured by these two men startled the world. Their disclosures of the starving and pitiable condition of the reconcentrados was followed later by another stroke of enterprise on the part of the Journal. What Remington's pencil had failed to discover the camera, in the hands of a corps of skilled photographers, sent to Cuba expressly by the Journal, brought to light in the most startling fashion the deplorable scenes and conditions to be observed among the poor, starving Cubans. The Journal photographers invaded the very hamlets and photographed dead and dying Cubans, men, women and children. A feature observed in most of the photographs was the invariable presence of the glutton buzzards, flying overhead or perched on a neighboring tree or hut top, waiting patiently for the death of the dying reconcentrado pictured in the photograph. Always where death was shown the buzzards hovered near. The Journal had enlarged photographs of these awful scenes made and caused their distribution throughout the country. They told the story more graphically than any pen could.

## HOW THE JOURNAL TOOK THE FIELD FOR FREE CUBA.

(Journal Editorial, January 21, 1896.)

BY yesterday's poll of the House and Senate, the Journal demonstrated that Congress stands eight to one in favor of the immediate recognition of Cuban independence. Why then should action be delayed? Upon what reason do we hesitate? When Spain withdraws Campos she admits the success of revolution. What she may hereafter do before formal admission of Cuban independence is wrong from her will be mere vengeance. Practically Spain is beaten. Cuba free and the calling home of Campos is Spanish concession of the fact. Cuban recognition is not only countenanced by international propriety and pleaded for by the peace of a hemisphere, but, if granted now, it will save the flowing of much blood. Were one to seek a reason why the United States should hesitate he would find none. The American public would hail Cuban recognition by Congress with cheers; that Cuba be recognized is its dearest will and wish. Nor has Spain the least of lien or claim upon the kindness of this country. She has no friendship for us, gives us no good will, is ignorant of us, suspicious of us, hateful and inimical to us. Her loss of Cuba, too, is a cup of her own brewing. How has she governed it, or, rather, misgoverned it? With scarce 800,000 of taxable people in Cuba, of whom 160,000 might be expected to stand as family heads for the rest, Spain has extorted taxes to the amount of over \$20,000,000 a year. Spain claimed \$12,000,000 annually as a fashion of war debt for putting down the last Cuban revolution; \$6,000,000 Spain took to support the army she kept in Cuba to shed Cuban blood and choke down Cuban aspiration for liberty; the balance went to pay officials of civil kind. One hundred and twenty years ago Americans preferred the worst that war might bring rather than be taxed where they were not represented. Let them grow some sympathy, then, for a struggling neighbor who tears a leaf from their book. Let them recognize Cuban independence, already practically consented to by Spain, and once in a way do unto another as over a century ago they would have had others do unto them. Were Congress wise, just and politic, it would wait no longer before extending the right hand of American sympathy and American recognition to the brave little island which has fought so hard and well for her rights.

## Journal's Enterprise Praised by the President.



Capture of Spanish Prisoners by the Journal.

## CHAPTER XIII. SPAIN BACKED DOWN.

The Journal continued to protest against the prisoners being shot. The country was excited over it, and after a great deal of shuffling on the part of Spain the death sentence was commuted. The two men are now in prison in Cadiz, Spain. The announcement that General Stewart L. Woodford had been selected for Minister to Spain was exclusively published in the Journal of June 16, 1897. The news was confirmed the same day, when President McKinley sent the nomination to the Senate. It was announced at the time that General Woodford was going to his new post carry President McKinley's note to Spain demanding indemnity and reparation in the Ruiz case and the settlement of other United States claims against Spain. President McKinley was also anxious for early action on account of the "pacifists," or reconcentrados, who were penned up, without means of subsistence, in squalid quarters, where death was carrying them off daily at an alarming rate. This loss of human life appealed more strongly to the President's heart than the actual destruction of armed insurgents by the rifle bullets, and it was his intention to stop it as soon as possible. An encounter with Spain was drawing nearer. By July, as the Journal had often predicted, it became apparent that nothing short of absolute independence would satisfy the Cuban patriots. Spain, realizing the mistake it had made in ignoring the demands of the insurgents, began to think of offering autonomy when it was too late. The time when Cuba would have accepted autonomy was gone. On July 2, 1897, was published in the Journal a dispatch containing the substance of a letter from General Garcia in which the writer stated: "I want you to make it known everywhere in my name and in that of my army that we will compromise with absolutely nothing which would not mean the absolute independence of Cuba."



Grover Flint's Escape.

## CHAPTER XI. WORK BY OTHER CORRESPONDENTS.

While the news of Havana and the Spaniards was being so carefully collected for the Journal, other correspondents were with the insurgents. Grover Flint was one of these. He penetrated to the insurgent stronghold of Sagua, and did valiant fighting for Cuba. He was promoted to be a Major eventually. His dispatches from the interior brought to this country the only correct and trustworthy information about the fighting Cubans and the situation as it appeared from within the insurgent lines. Major Flint had been an attache in the United States Legation at Madrid and had also had some military experience in the West before going to Cuba. He, therefore, knew the Spanish, and was competent to observe military actions. In addition to these qualifications, he knew how to draw, and his sketches in the field were unique features of the Journal's exhaustive illustration of the war in Cuba. Major Flint had a remarkable experience in getting out of Cuba. He could not go to a seaport town to take passage for the United States when he wanted to come home, as that would have meant capture by the Spaniards and death, the penalty of having fought with the insurgents. So he had to embark in a little open boat, with one or two other equally daring companions. They met bad weather and rough seas, but they surmounted the perils of the sea, and after a week or so reached this country safely late in July, 1896.



John Barrett Interviews Admiral Dewey.

## CHAPTER XII. PRESIDENT MCKINLEY ACTS.

Roused to the realization of the atrocious cruelties of Spain and the fact so persistently pointed out by the Journal, that Spain could never conquer Cuba, President McKinley decided that it was time for action to be taken. He came to agree with the Journal that it was cruelty itself to allow such a war to go on, and that delay was criminal. Early in June he began to consult with his advisers about sending a note to Spain with a peremptory demand. To one of them he said: "This bloody war must stop, as well in the interests of humanity as on account of the lives and property of Americans who have been and are needlessly sacrificed. I have every confidence in Consul-General Lee, his integrity and his painstaking accuracy in reporting the situation. But I feel that the American people would be better satisfied were my action based upon reports obtained by the confidential agents and advisers of my own administration, and for that reason I concluded to send in the first place Judge Day and later Mr. Calhoun to make the investigation. The situation does not admit of delay." On June 7, 1897 the Journal, through its Washington correspondent, pointed out that Porto Rico, as well as Cuba, would be lost to Spain if the United States were forced into war by Spanish arrogance and obstinacy. The result shows that this view of the



Congressman King.

## CHAPTER X. CONGRESSMAN KING'S MISSION.

William Henry King, member of Congress from Utah, who made a long and tedious trip through Cuba at the suggestion of the American Government, made his first report to the Journal, it appearing in full in its columns over his own signature, addressed to the editor of the Journal. He furnished an exhaustive study of the terrible condition then pending in Cuba. His thrilling story, spread broadcast through the Journal's columns, accompanied by graphic pictures, had a powerful effect. He told of Weyler's inhuman, brutal policy; related how he had seen thousands of Cubans die; wrote that Spain's work in Cuba was a blot on civilization; that peace was the only hope for thousands of Cuba's suffering poor, and concluded his report with this: "Our Government now recognizes Cuba's sufferings, and has called for aid for Cuba. Having begun the work of relief, can we withdraw until the suffering is ended?" Upon his release from a Spanish prison, where he spent two years because of his devotion to his beloved Cuba, General Julio Sanguliy publicly thanked the Journal for the efforts made to secure his release. General Sanguliy was a prisoner when the Journal came under its present management, and it at once began to give wide publicity to the iniquity attending the continued confinement of the patriotic Cuban. The Journal investigated thoroughly the case of Sanguliy and learned that he had not taken up arms against Spain when he was apprehended on general principles on the outbreak of the revolution and lugged off to prison. Although an American citizen and guilty of no crime Sanguliy was kept in prison until the Journal began to show the way and the United States Government followed by demanding the General's release. In his letter to the Journal General Sanguliy wrote: "I feel, on reading American soil, that I am under a friendly flag again, and that I owe my freedom principally to the noble work of General Lee and the Journal." Journal correspondents searched the where long-lost American to have been lost into prison.



Correspondent Marshall Shot in Battle.

James Creelman was sent to Havana in these days by the Journal. "Butcher" Weyler soon singled him out as a man to be feared, for he was unearthing scandals and outrages that the Captain General did not want published. The Journal man was summoned to the palace, and was warned against sending news to his paper, and angry words followed. General Weyler responded in his usual way by expelling Creelman from the island. The information and experience that Creelman gained in Havana stood him in good stead later in Madrid, to which centre the Journal transferred him. One of the most remarkable interviews ever given by a Prime Minister to a newspaper man was secured from Canovas del Castillo for the Journal. Frederic Remington, accompanied by Davis, to Cuba. He and the former drew and illustrated events reported in the Journal to the



Journal's Congressional Commission.

matter was correct. Spain would not be warned, and will lose both, as well as her other colonies. The Journal was the first to announce the President's policy of mediation, which was overruled by Congress. On June 8, 1897, the Journal published Consul-General Lee's official confirmation of the statement made by the Journal from the time that Dr. Ruiz was killed, that Spain was responsible for his death. General Lee's investigation of the case, which led to his report, was made in connection with William J. Calhoun, the special commissioner of President McKinley. In a letter to the Journal, the same day Mrs. Ruiz acknowledges what it has done for the crime on her husband's murderers. It was another step toward the war which President McKinley was reluctant to admit was inevitable. The public first saw the report through the columns of the Journal. The Journal's Washington correspondent read all the officials at Washington, most of them reading it in the



Journal's Tug at Bombardment of Morro Castle.

## CHAPTER XIV. FIRST IN WAR, FIRST IN NEWS.

On June 1 the Journal printed the first authentic news of the bombardment of Santiago, the first real operation of the war in Cuba. The next day the Journal published a brilliant, exhaustive and accurate description of the battle, written by the only correspondent that witnessed it. The Journal's boat was the only newspaper craft on hand during the bombardment, and it went into the thick of the firing to be sure of missing nothing that was going on. On June 3 President McKinley thanked the Journal for giving him the first news of the battle of Santiago. Ever since Captain John D. Hart was imprisoned for lending aid to the insurgents the Journal steadily fought for his liberation. On June 12, at the solicitation of the Journal, President McKinley pardoned Captain Hart. On June 11 the Navy Department, in a special bulletin, specially complimented the Journal and one of its artists, Mr. George A. Coffin, for capturing a number of secret Spanish documents at Calma-nera. While charging with the Rough Riders near Playa del Este, Edward Marshall, one of the Journal's correspondents, was shot by Spanish soldiers and very badly hurt. On June 29 the editor in chief of the Journal went to Cuba to send from Cuba vivid accounts of the condition of the fighting line. The next day Vice-President Hobart, Secretary Long, General Miles and many others commented publicly upon the enterprise and nerve shown by the editor of the Journal. On July 3 James Creelman, one of the Journal's war correspondents, was shot while getting news for the Journal. On July 7 Douglas White, correspondent of the Journal, presented to Admiral Dewey at Manila, a beautiful flag, the gift of the Journal to the Admiral. The crown was put upon the many enterprises when, on July 30, the Journal printed a newspaper of an American newspaper.