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The Shackles of the Middle Ages Are Broken.

THE time assigned by Cubans for the performance of everything is "manana"—to-morrow. For centuries Cuba has lived in yesterday. It is today in only a few hours of its history. It is truly a country of to-morrow.

General Calixto Garcia promises that Cuba's manana will be a very bright one, a real cloudless Cuban day, that begins with a pink and gold sunrise. And Garcia ought to know. He is a thorough Cuban if there ever was one. He comes to New York now direct from a journey that began at Cape Maisi and ended in Havana, in which he visited every city and Cuban encampment of any importance.

In the following he tells over his own signature what will be done in Cuba after the dawn breaks.

THE world has yet to realize the wonderful resources of Cuba. The island is as large as Great Britain without Wales. Every foot is habitable, which is more than can be said of some of the northern portion of the United Kingdom.

What we need most is immigration, and we are making every preparation to encourage it. It is all a mistake to suppose that immigration from Spain will stop after Spanish sovereignty has ceased in the island. On the contrary, we have every reason to suppose that it will greatly increase. The laboring classes of Spain are familiar with Cuba and have friends and relatives living there, as they have not in any other country. The Spanish language is an inducement which will far counterbalance any prejudice which may exist against the Cuban Government, but for my part I do not believe that there will be any such prejudice. The Spanish Government has always robbed its own colonists as much as native-born Cubans in the island. Prospective Spanish emigrants will, I believe, be far more likely to settle in Cuba now under a fair, just government than under corrupt, ridiculous rule of their own country, with which they are only too familiar.

I prefer Spaniards and Canary Islanders to any other class of immigrants. They are industrious, honest, and as a rule law-abiding.

CUBA'S "MANANA," BY CALIXTO GARCIA.

Will Take Her Place Among Modern Republics.

The climate of the Canaries is quite similar to that of Cuba, a fact which lessens the possibility of their getting yellow fever. Spaniards from the Province of Galicia make admirable immigrants, and we hope to have a large number of them settle in the interior of the island. Next to Spaniards I prefer Germans. They are a sturdy, adaptable people who, I think, would amalgamate very well with the Cubans.

We realize the remarkable success that the United States has had in taking care of and distributing its immigrants. We shall try to imitate it by free homestead grants and the placing of a merely nominal price on the agricultural land in the interior.

Next to immigrants we want railroads, and we are going to have them. The Spanish system of obtaining and maintaining a railroad was so complicated and burdensome that very few capitalists ever cared to go into it. We shall do all we can to have a railroad built soon from Cape Maisi to Cape San Antonio.

If you look at a map of Cuba you will see that the route of the railroad will naturally suggest itself.

The interior of the provinces of Puerto Principe and Santiago de Cuba is an exceedingly fertile country, capable of producing almost everything from winter strawberries to tobacco, yet there is absolutely no means of getting anything to the coast. It is proposed to run the railroad through the cities of Puerto Principe and Holguin and make them the centers of the railroad systems of their respective provinces.

Puerto Principe can be easily connected with Nuevitas on the north coast and Santa Cruz del Sud on the south. In the same way it will be an exceedingly easy matter to run a line from Holguin north to Gibara and southwest to Manzanillo.

Cuba will never attempt the "silver basis" of Mexico and other Spanish-American countries.

The money of Cuba has so often been tampered with and depreciated by outrageous fluctuations of the Spanish Treasury that Cubans are distrustful of any kind of money except gold. They will never consider any other standard. Gold is the standard of Cuba to-day and is used far more than it is in Spain. The reason silver is so much depreciated is only because there is more of it in circulation than the country can use and no way of getting it out. The Cuban system of

moneys and coinage will be practically that of the United States.

The banking system of Cuba is very bad; in fact, there is not much system of any kind. In Havana the Banco Espanol is so completely under Government control that its entire assets can be seized or removed by the Government at any moment that they see fit. In other places the banks are run by private individuals, who are responsible to nobody.

I expect that in a few months we shall have arranged a system of banks that we think will be an improvement on the American national bank system.

The mineral resources of Cuba have never been developed; in fact, little attempt has been made to even discover them. We hope to let the world know of their existence and invite capitalists into Cuba to work them. Nearly all of our sugar is at present refined in the United States. There is no reason why the refineries should not be in Cuba, and give employment to hundreds of men there.

The legal system of Cuba will have to be changed from top to bottom. We have men already at work devising a system of jurisprudence for the new government. In some ways it will be patterned after the United States, but it cannot be

an exact copy of it, because the Anglo-Saxon ideas of law are so entirely different from those with which the Latin races are familiar that it would, in my opinion, be

ing of the kind; we shall obliterate it and start over again, as though it had never existed. One radical change that we shall make will be the introduction of the jury system. While the idea of trial by jury began in England, it has spread all over the Continent. Even in Spain a most trials are now heard before a jury.

That we appreciate our need of education is proved by the fact that in the Eastern part of Cuba where our government has been in control for some time, we have already a system of public schools, crude and elementary to be sure, but nevertheless the foundation of a system of free public education which will be as nearly like that of another Catholic country in the world as we can make it.

There is scarcely any subject in which the Cubans take such universal interest as the education of their children. The idea is so new to them and the need of it is so apparent that it pos-

sesses a fascination which nothing else does. Already a perfect scheme of graded schools has been devised, and in some places is in partial operation. It begins with the primary school and ends with the Instituto, which corresponds to the American high school. At present there is no government fund with which to support public schools, so we have been compelled to charge a small matriculation fee to all pupils entering any one of the different grades. If possible we hope to have a fixed revenue for education from government lands on the school township principle of the United States. Some Cubans think that every foot of our land will be needed by the food of immigration which we expect will pour in upon us during the next few years. In that case we shall have to support the schools by a per capita tax, which I believe the people will gladly pay for this object, which is so near to them. We shall undoubtedly make compulsory education laws and enforce them more strictly than is done in the United States. In our school there will be absolutely no distinction of race. In Cuba the prejudice against the negro is nothing like as strong as it is in this country. No white father will object to having his children educated at the same school with black children.

Another source of revenue from which we hope to get funds for schools will follow the readjustment of the Church lands and properties. We are not going to wage a war against religion or the Church; in fact, I am not sure that the Church will be disestablished in Cuba, but we are determined that the Church shall not collect such a vast amount annually as it does now and become thereby an incubus on the people. In Havana, for example, there are not only a great many more churches than the population would warrant, but altogether too much land and property around them goes to swell the revenues of the Bishop. We shall also completely do away with the "capellanias," a complicated and burdensome system of mortgages interest upon which is collected by the Church from all families whose sons are educated for the priesthood. I do not know of another Catholic country in the world where the Church collects such a vast amount of money as we do. I do not know of another Catholic country in the world where the Church collects such a vast amount of money as we do. I do not know of another Catholic country in the world where the Church collects such a vast amount of money as we do.



"Our Commercial and Financial Success Depends Entirely Upon Our Relations with the United States." (General Garcia—Photographed Yesterday for the Journal.)

All About What the Fine Folk Are Doing.

THE opera is now the all important topic in society. We always make a great fuss about the Horse Show and such other diversions as may come up from time to time, but when all is said and done the opera is really the thing. It is not so much the thing because it is the opera as it is because it affords an opportunity to display the gowns and the jewels of the 400.

Mr. Maurice Grau, the impresario, is, of course, an important factor in the opera. He it is that furnishes us with the music. He it is that has invested his money to import the greatest singers—Melba and Calve and Sembrich and Nordica and Jean de Reszke and Edouard de Reszke and Van Dyke and all the others that have brought the world of music lovers in admiration to their feet. He it is that promises to give us some new scenery this year, and a new ballet girl or two.

Therefore it will be seen that Mr. Grau is of some consequence in the opera scheme. For what he has done and what he promises to do we are sincerely grateful. But with all his achievements and with all the hope of new scenery and a younger ballet that he holds out, his enterprise is only a means to an end.

If we couldn't show our clothes and our jewels we wouldn't go to the opera. We would give private concerts in the Waldorf-Astoria and have Melba and Calve and the adorable Jean and such of the others as we wished to come and entertain us there. But fortunately we are permitted to display everything we have, or at least as much of it as we can, at the opera, and thus we entertain ourselves by inspecting and criticizing ourselves with the best music to be had as an incident to the entertainment.

That the opera season this year will be brilliant there can be no doubt. The Horse Show is always an indication of what the opera will be. An indifferent Horse Show is always followed by an indifferent opera season. Success at the Horse Show is followed by success at the opera. This year's Horse Show was one of the most successful on record. This year's opera season will be one of the most successful on record. Quod erat demonstrandum, as we used to say of the pons asinorum, whether we had demonstrated it or not.

Just the same, the Metropolitan Opera House will be ablaze with diamonds next Tuesday night. The millionaire set will be out in full force, and with the present craze for display in dress there can be no doubt that the famous horseshoe will present as gorgeous a spectacle as it has ever known.

The box list shows that we shall then see the Astors, the Morgans, the Belmonts, the Vanderbilts, the Sloanes, the Iselins, the Webbs, the Burdens, the Whitneys, the Pagets, the Goetts, the Twomblys, the Mackays, the Goetts, the Goulds, the Brices, the Cuttings, the Barbyses, the Fishes, the Phelps-Stokeses and so on until one gets tired of naming plutocrats.

If some enterprising individual were to undertake to figure out the value of stocks, bonds, real estate and personal property represented in the Metropolitan Opera House on Tuesday night he would probably discover an aggregate that would make King Solomon in all his glory look like thirty cents.

Jewels were selected for her with the greatest care by her father, Cornelius Vanderbilt. A general knowledge of this fact will make Mrs. Whitney's box the focus of all the opera gossips and loggornets in the Opera House.

The fact that we are familiar with the jewels of Mrs. Astor, Mrs. Pierpont Morgan, Mrs. Luther Kountze, Mrs. Henry Sloane, Mrs. Ogden Mills, Mrs. Robert Golett, Mrs. Calvin Brice and Mrs. Frederic Nielson does not diminish our interest

Some of the wild guesses made by the people in the orchestra stalls as to the identity of the occupants of the boxes are extremely ludicrous, but it is seldom that a mistake is made about Mrs. Astor. This is because she and her mother-in-law are so constant in their attendance that the public has come to know them, although they are both striking enough in features and carriage not to be forgotten after having once been seen.

Among other interesting people that will be in evidence is Miss Susan de Forest Day, who owns the steam yacht Scythia, and who flies the pennant of the

New York Yacht Club. Miss Day is as independent in social practices as she is in aquatic, and therefore will not escape the bombardment of the bluecoats. Yerkes, the multi-millionaire from Chicago, has a box in the grand tier, and so has Mrs. John H. Hall, who will be present with her daughter, an heiress to a tremendous fortune.

The spinsters will be well represented this year. In addition to Miss Day there will be Miss Eloise Lawrence Breeze, who is also a member of the New York Yacht Club; Miss Caroline De Forest, who is never for a moment without Miss Callender—and therefore Miss Callender will also be present—and Miss Julia Deland.

Miss De Forest is one of the few women who go to the opera purely for the love of music. Music is her fad. She has plenty of money, and she indulges her taste by giving operatic musicales herself.

Miss Deland, while she is not a great yachtwoman like Miss Day, nor a daring cross-country rider like Miss Breeze, nor music mad like Miss De Forest, has her own distinguishing characteristics. She has taken a grand tier box at the opera in order that she may entertain her nephew and niece, on whom she fairly dotes. She makes her home with her brother, Ma-

ture Livingston Deland, and devotes her life to his children.

Of these four celebrated spinsters of the 400 Miss Deland is the least conspicuous, but not by any means the least interesting or the least attractive.

There are other people and other matters gossiped about in connection with the opera, but it is enough now to say that in the person of the attendance as well as in the gorgeousness of apparel and the splendor of the display of jewelry the opera season of 1908-09 bids fair to equal any of its predecessors.

CHOLLY KNICKERBOCKER'S SOCIETY CHATTER.

Everybody Who Is Anybody Talks Opera.

With fashionable folk, has been rehabilitated. The success of last season is likely to be duplicated if not augmented this season.

The date for the ball has been fixed for January 31, which will fall on Tuesday night. The place of the ball, as heretofore, will be the Waldorf-Astoria. There will be three orchestras for the dancing, one in the personnel of the attendance as well as in the gorgeousness of apparel and the splendor of the display of jewelry the opera season of 1908-09 bids fair to equal any of its predecessors.

The Charity Ball, which at one time seemed in a fair way to die of disfavor

Nursery and Child's Hospital, to which the profits of the ball will be devoted.

Major George H. Dyer has gone back to Cuba, after a short stay in New York on official business.

In the uniform of an officer of the United States Army, Major Dyer presents a fine figure of a man, and all the chappisettes declared with enthusiasm and unanimity that he was "simply grand."

Major Dyer is rather pleased with himself as a soldier. He likes military life, is not afraid of hardships or dangers, and is in the game to stay until Uncle Sam plays his string out against the bull-fighters.

But the greatest pleasure that Major Dyer takes in his military success is that he now has an individuality of his own, and has been freed from that awful incubus of being always referred to as "the brother of Elisha Dyer, Jr., the cotton leader."

With George it is "arms and the man" with Elisha it is "legs and the man."

Of the approaching wedding of Miss Elizabeth Lee Ernst and Mr. William Morton Grinnell, which will be celebrated on December 6 in Washington, I hear that the bride has a most elaborate trousseau. She and her mother have but just returned to Washington from New York, where they have exhausted the resources of the metropolis in their preparation for the coming event.

The Rev. Dr. McKay Smith will officiate at the ceremony and will be assisted by the Rev. Dr. Stafford, of West Point, where the bride's father, General O. H. Ernst, was for such a long time Superintendent. The wedding celebration will be quieter than was at first intended, because General Ernst, who got home from Porto Rico three weeks ago, is very much run down in health and has been in bed until two or three days ago.

The bride will be attended by her sister, Miss Helen Amery Ernst, as maid of honor, while Mr. Grinnell's brother will act as best man. Only the relatives and immediate friends of the families have been asked to the wedding breakfast, dinner. After the honeymoon trip Mr. and Mrs. William Morton Grinnell will reside in this city in a Madison avenue apartment, which has already been prepared for them.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay are now settled in the house they have leased from Mrs. Richard Irish, No. 12 West Thirty-sixth street, and gave their first dinner party there last Tuesday night. The dining room and table were decorated with purple orchids, and the general effect was such as might have been expected in the home of people of such wealth and taste.

Among the men guests were Sidney Smith, Herman Duryea and Craig Wadsworth, who, after dinner—O shame to gallantry!—left the ladies and went to the Sharkey-Corbett fake fight.

A paragraph current in the newspapers is to the effect that Mr. and Mrs. J. Hooker Hamersley, having sold their former residence at No. 414 Madison avenue, are now located in their new house at Fifth avenue and Eighty-fourth street.

As a matter of fact, Mr. and Mrs. Hamersley ate their Thanksgiving turkey at their cottage in Ridgely, Conn., the Fifth avenue house being unfinished. It is a question whether or not the Hamersleys will get into the new mansion before Christmas. Much of the flooring has not yet been laid, and the proceeds will go far toward meeting the expenses of that admirable charity, the



STREET COSTUME OF GREY VELVET AND GREY EMBROIDERY - MRS. OGDEN MILLS

LONG STREET COAT FOR MISS ANNA SANDS BORDEAUX RED CLOTH EMBROIDERED IN BLACK

STREET COSTUME MRS. HENRY SLOANE PALE GREY CLOTH EMBROIDERED IN STEEL BEADS AND SILVER ORNATE

STREET COSTUME FOR MISS MORTON GREY HAT WITH GREY PLUMES

STREET COSTUME OF MISS VIRGINIA FAIR PALE GREY AND BLACK

STREET COSTUME MRS. CASS CAMPFIELD BLACK CLOTH AND BLACK VELVET

Some Fine Feathers Seen Last Week Among Our "400."