

MESSAGE BY M'KINLEY.

Executive Asks Discretionary Power to Intervene.

DOES NOT CALL CUBA FREE.

He Opposes Recognition of the Insurgent Government.

EXHAUSTIVE REVIEW OF FACTS

Whole Perplexing Situation Is Laid Before Congress.

President Asks Authority to Take Measures for the Termination of Hostilities in Cuba—Would Use Army and Navy if Necessary—Only Hope of Relief from a Condition Which Can No Longer Be Endured Is Enforced Pacification of the Island—Maine Disaster Showed that Spain Cannot Protect Neutrals in Her Own Ports.

President McKinley on Monday sent his Cuban message to Congress. He favors intervention to terminate hostilities in the island and asks discretionary authority, but opposes recognition of present Cuban government. The full text of the message follows:

Obedient to that precept of the constitution which commands the President to give from time to time the Congress information of the state of the Union and to recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, I have duty now to address your body with regard to the grave crisis that has arisen in the relations of the United States to Spain by reason of the warfare that for more than three years has raged in the neighboring island of Cuba. I do so because of the intimate connection of the Cuban question with the state of our own Union and the grave relation the course which it is now incumbent upon the nation to adopt must needs bear to the traditional policy of our Government if it is to accord with the precepts laid down by the founders of the republic and religiously observed by succeeding administrations to the present day.

The present revolution is but the successor of other similar insurrections which have occurred in Cuba against the dominion of Spain, extending over a period of nearly half a century, each of which, during its progress, has subjected the United States to great effort and expense in enforcing its neutrality laws, caused enormous losses to American trade and commerce, caused irritation, annoyance and disturbance among our citizens and by the exercise of cruel, barbarous and uncivilized practices of warfare, shocked the sensibilities and offended the humane sympathies of our people.

Ravaged by Fire and Sword.
Since the present revolution began in February, 1895, this country has seen the fertile domain at our threshold ravaged by fire and sword in the course of a struggle unequalled in the history of the island and rarely paralleled as to the number of the combatants and the bitterness of the contest by any revolution of modern times where a dependent people, striving to be free, have been opposed by the power of the sovereign state. Our people have beheld a once prosperous community reduced to comparative want, its commerce virtually paralyzed, its exceptional productivity diminished, its fields laid waste, its mills in ruins and its people perishing by tens of thousands from hunger and destitution. We have found ourselves constrained, in the observance of that strict neutrality which our laws enjoin and which the law of nations commands, to police our own waters and watch our own seaports in prevention of any unlawful act in aid of the Cubans. Our trade has suffered, the capital invested by our citizens in Cuba has been largely lost and the temper and forbearance of our people have been sorely tried as to beget a perilous unrest among our own citizens, which has inevitably found its expression from time to time in the national legislature, so that issues wholly external to our own body politic engross attention and stand in the way of that close devotion to domestic advancement that becomes a self-contained commonwealth whose primal maxim has been the avoidance of all foreign entanglements. All this must needs awaken, and has, indeed, aroused the utmost concern on the part of this Government as well during my predecessor's term as my own.

Evils of Reconcentration.
In April, 1896, the evils from which our country suffered through the Cuban war became so onerous that my predecessor made an effort to bring about a peace through the mediation of this Government in a way that might tend to an honorable settlement of the contest between the Cuban colony on the one hand and the Spanish government on the other.

Reconcentration Order Revoked.
The necessity for a change in the condition of the reconcentrados is recognized by the Spanish government. Within a few days the orders of General Weyler, which had been issued, were revoked, and the reconcentrados were permitted to return to their homes, resuming the self-supporting life of the public works.

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isolated places held by the troops. The raising and movement of provisions of all kinds were interdicted. The fields were laid waste, dwellings unroofed and fired, mills destroyed, and, in short, everything that could desolate the land and render it unfit for human habitation or support was commanded by one or the other of the contending parties and executed by all the powers at their disposal.

Herded in the Towns.
By the time the present administration took office a year ago reconcentration—so-called—had been made effective over the better part of the four central and western provinces—Santa Clara, Matanzas, Havana and Pinar del Rio. The agricultural population, to the estimated number of 300,000 or more, was herded with in the towns and their immediate vicinity, deprived of the means of support, rendered destitute of shelter, left poorly clad and exposed to the most unsanitary conditions.

As the scarcity of food increased with the devastation of the depopulated areas of production, destitution and want became misery and starvation. Month by month the death rate increased in an alarming ratio. By March, 1897, according to conservative estimates from official Spanish sources, the mortality among the reconcentrados from starvation and the disease thereof incident exceeded 50 per cent of their total number. No practical relief was accorded to the destitute. The overburdened towns, already suffering from the general dearth, could give no aid. So-called zones of cultivation, established within the immediate area of effective military control about the cities and fortified camps, proved illusory as a remedy for the suffering. The unfortunate, being for the most part women and children, with aged and helpless men, enfeebled by disease and hunger, could not have tilled the soil without tools, seed or shelter for their own support or for the supply of the cities. Reconcentration, adopted avowedly as a war measure in order to cut off the resources of the insurgents, worked its predestined result. As I said in my message of last December, it was not civilized warfare; it was extermination. The only hope it could beget was that of the wilderness and the grave.

Meanwhile the military situation in the island had undergone a noticeable change. The extraordinary activity that characterized the second year of the war, when the insurgents invaded even the hitherto unharmed fields of Pinar del Rio, and carried havoc and destitution up to the walls of the city of Havana itself, had relapsed into a dogged struggle in the central and eastern provinces. The Spanish arms regained a measure of control in Pinar del Rio and parts of Havana, but under the existing conditions of the rural country, without immediate improvement of their productive situation. Even thus partially restricted the revolutionists held their own, and their submission, put forward by Spain as the essential and sole basis of peace, seemed as far distant as at the outset.

Promise of Autonomy.
In this state of affairs my administration found itself confronted with the grave problem of its duty. My message of last December reviewed the situation and detailed the steps taken with a view of relieving its acute and opening the way to some form of honorable settlement. The assassination of the prime minister, Canovas, led to a change of government in Spain. The former administration, pledged to subjugation without concession, gave place to that of a more liberal party, committed long in advance to a policy of reform involving the principle of home rule for Cuba and Puerto Rico. The overtures of this new government, made through its new envoy, General Woodford, and looking to an immediate and effective amelioration of the condition of the island, although not accepted to the extent of admitted mediation in any shape, were met by assurances that home rule, in an advanced phase, would be forthwith offered to Cuba, without waiting for the war to end, and that more humane methods should thenceforth prevail in the conduct of hostilities. Incidentally with these declarations the new government of Spain announced and completed the policy already begun by its predecessor of testifying friendly regard for this nation by releasing American citizens held under one charge or another connected with the insurrection, so that by the end of November not a single person detained in any way by our national protection remained in a Spanish prison.

While these negotiations were in progress the increasing destitution of the unfortunate reconcentrados and the alarming mortality among them claimed earnest attention. The success which had attended the limited relief afforded among them by the judicious expenditure through the consular agencies of the money appropriated expressly for their succor by the joint resolution approved May 24, 1897, prompted the humane extension of a similar scheme of aid to the great host of sufferers. A resolution to this end was acquiesced in by the Spanish authorities.

On the 24th of December last I caused to be issued an appeal to the American people, inviting contributions in money or in kind for the succor of the starving sufferers in Cuba, following this on the 8th of January by a similar public announcement of the formation of a central Cuban relief committee, with headquarters in New York City, composed of three members representing the American National Red Cross and the religious and business elements of the community. The efforts of that committee have been untiring and accomplished much. Arrangements for free transportation to Cuba have greatly aided the charitable work. The president of the American Red Cross and representatives of other contributory organizations have generously visited Cuba and cooperated with the Consul General and the local authorities to make effective distribution of the relief collected through the efforts of the central committee. Nearly \$200,000 in money and supplies has already reached the sufferers, and more is forthcoming. The supplies are admitted duty free, and transportation to the interior has been arranged, so that the relief, at first necessarily confined to Havana and the larger cities, is now extended throughout most, if not all, of the towns where suffering exists. Thousands of lives have already been saved.

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Realizing this, it appeared to be my duty, in a spirit of true friendliness, no less to Spain than to the Cubans, who have so much to lose by the prolongation of the struggle, to seek to bring about an immediate termination of the war. To this end, I submitted, on the 27th ultimo, as a result of much representation and correspondence, through the United States minister at Madrid, proposals to the Spanish government looking to an armistice until Oct. 1 for the negotiation of peace with the good offices of the President.

In addition I asked the immediate revocation of the order of reconcentration, so as to permit the people to return to their farms and the needy to be relieved with provisions and supplies from the United States, co-operating with the Spanish authorities so as to afford full relief.

The reply of the Spanish cabinet was received on the night of the 31st ultimo. It offered as the means to bring about peace in Cuba, to confide the preparation thereof to the insular department, inasmuch as the concurrence of that body would be necessary to reach a final result, it being, however, understood, that the powers reserved by the Cuban parliament were not to be exercised in any case, and that the Spanish government would not object, for its part, to accept at once a suspension of hostilities, if asked for by a chief of whom it would pertain, in such case, to determine the duration and conditions of the armistice.

The propositions submitted by General Woodford and the reply of the Spanish government were both in the form of brief memoranda, the texts of which are before me, and are substantially in the language above given. The function of the Cuban parliament in the matter of "preparing" peace and the manner of its doing so are not expressed in the Spanish memorandum; but from General Woodford's explanatory reports of preliminary discussions preceding the final conference it is understood that the Spanish government stands ready to give the insular congress full powers to settle the terms of peace with the insurgents, whether by direct negotiation or indirectly by means of legislation does not appear.

With this last overture in the direction of immediate peace and its disappointing reception by Spain the executive was brought to the end of his effort.

Three Measures Left.

In my annual message of December last I said:

"Of the untold measures three remain: Recognition of the insurgents as belligerents; recognition of the independence of Cuba; neutral intervention to end the war by imposing a rational compromise between the contestants and intervention in favor of one or the other party."

These three measures, which I speak of as manifest and avowed, are the only ones that can be thought of. That, by our code of morality, would be criminal aggression. Thereupon I reviewed these alternatives, in the light of President Grant's measured words, uttered in 1875, when, after seven years of sanguinary struggle, the Spanish government, in the name of the United States, reached the conclusion that the recognition of the independence of Cuba was impracticable and indefensible; and that the recognition of belligerence was not warranted by the facts, according to the tests of public law. I commented especially upon the question of recognition, pointing out the inconveniences and positive dangers of a recognition of belligerence which, while adding to the already onerous burdens of neutrality within our own jurisdiction, could not in any way extend our influence or effective action in the territory of hostilities.

Nothing has since occurred to change my view in this regard, and I recognize as fully now as then that the issue of a proclamation of neutrality, by which process the so-called recognition of belligerence is published could, of itself and without any other act, be a step toward the one end for which we labor, the instant pacification of Cuba and the cessation of the misery that afflicts the island.

Jackson on Recognition.

Turning to the question of recognizing at this time the independence of the present Cuban government in Cuba, we find safe precedents in our history from an early day. They are well summed up in President Jackson's message to Congress Dec. 31, 1836, on the subject of the recognition of the independence of Texas. He said: "In all the contests that have arisen out of the revolution of France, Spain and Portugal, out of the separation of the American possessions of both from the European governments and out of the numerous and constantly occurring struggles for dominion in Spanish America, so wisely consistent with our just principles has been the action of our government that we have, under the most critical influences and consequences of the struggle, countered no other evil than that produced by a transient estrangement of good will from those against whom we have been by force of evidence compelled to declare war."

"It has thus made known to the world that the uniform policy and practice of the United States is to avoid all interference in disputes between nations, and to leave the government of other nations, and eventually to recognize the authority of the prevailing party without reference to our particular interests and views as to the merits of the controversy."

"But on this, as on every other trying occasion, safety is to be found in a rigid adherence to principle."

In the contest between Spain and the revolted colonies we stood aloof and waited, not only until the ability of the new States to protect themselves was fully established, but until the danger of their being subjugated by the old powers was removed. Then, and not until then, were they recognized. Such was our course in regard to Mexico herself.

Case of Texas.
"It is true that in regard to Texas the civil authority of Mexico has been expelled, its invading army defeated, the chief of the republic himself captured and all present power to control the newly-organized government entirely in the hands of a neutral. But, on the other hand, there is, in appearance at least, an immense disparity of physical force on the side of Texas. The Mexican republic, under a despotic ruler, is recognizing its forces under a new leader and menacing a fresh invasion to recover its lost dominion."

Upon the issue of this threatened invasion the independence of Texas may be considered as suspended; and were there nothing peculiar in the situation of the United States and Texas, our acknowledgment of its independence at such a crisis could scarcely be regarded as consistent with that prudent reserve with which we have hitherto held ourselves bound to treat all similar questions. It is, however, in this case, that we are called upon to consider the risk that there might be to the United States motives of selfish interest in view of the former claim on our part to the territory of Texas and of the avowed purpose of the Texans in seeking recognition of independence as an incident to the incorporation of Texas in the Union, concluding that, therefore, seems to dictate that we should still stand aloof and maintain our present attitude, if not until Mexico itself, one of the great foreign powers, shall recognize the independence of the new government, at least until the lapse of time or the course of events shall have proved beyond cavil or dispute the ability of the people of that country to maintain their separate sovereignty and to uphold the government constituted by them. Neither of the contending parties can justly complain of our course, by pursuing which we are but carrying out a long-established policy of our government, a policy which has secured to us respect and esteem abroad and inspired confidence at home.

Evils of Reconcentration.
In April, 1896, the evils from which our country suffered through the Cuban war became so onerous that my predecessor made an effort to bring about a peace through the mediation of this Government in a way that might tend to an honorable settlement of the contest between the Cuban colony on the one hand and the Spanish government on the other.

The necessity for a change in the condition of the reconcentrados is recognized by the Spanish government. Within a few days the orders of General Weyler, which had been issued, were revoked, and the reconcentrados were permitted to return to their homes, resuming the self-supporting life of the public works.

possessed of the elements of stability," and "the fact that the left-hand side of the nations, reasonably capable of discharging the duties of state," has imposed for its own grievance in dealing with Cuba the further course of that "recognition of independent statehood is not due to a revolted dependency until the danger of its being again subjugated by the power of the present government is removed. The extreme test was in fact applied in the case of Texas. The Congress to whom President Jackson referred the question as one "probably leading to war," and therefore a proper subject for a "previous understanding with that body by whom war can alone be declared, and by whom all the provisions for sustaining its perils must be furnished, left the matter of the recognition of Texas to the discretion of the executive, providing merely for the sending of a diplomatic agent when the President should be satisfied that the republic of Texas had become "an independent state."

It was so recognized by President Van Buren, who, commissioned a charge d'affaires at Mexico, sent him to that country, and an attempt to reconquer the Texan territory, and when there was at the time no bona fide contest going on between the republic of Texas and its former sovereign, Grant favored intervention.

President Grant, in 1875, discussing the phases of the contest as it then appeared, and its hopeless and apparently indefinite prolongation, said:

"In such event I am of opinion that other nations will be compelled to assume responsibility which devolves upon them, and to seriously consider the only remaining measures possible, mediation and intervention. Perhaps the only large question of water separating the island from the peninsula, the contending parties appear to have within themselves no depository of common confidence, to suggest a plan upon which they can have their way, and assume the part of peacemaker."

"In this view, in the earlier days of the contest, the good offices of the United States, by whatever exterior cause, is a patient without any selfish purpose, in the interest of humanity and in sincere friendship for both parties, but were at the time declined government cannot assume responsibility that at a future time they would be indispensable. No intimation has been received that in the opinion of Spain that time has been reached when the achievement of her object, all its dread horrors and all its injuries to the interest of the United States and of other nations. Each party seems quite capable of working great injury and damage to the other, and to all the relations and interests dependent on the existence of peace in the island; but they seem incapable of reaching any adjustment and both have the readiness of Spain to submit to a whereby one party shall possess and control the island to the exclusion of the other. Under the circumstances, the agency of others, either by mediation or intervention, seems to be the only alternative which must, sooner or later, be invoked for the termination of the strife."

Quotes Grover Cleveland.

In the last annual message of my immediate predecessor during the pending struggle it was said:

"When the inability of Spain to deal successfully with the insurrection has become manifest, and it is demonstrated that her sovereignty is extinct in Cuba, and that she poses of its rightful existence, and when a hopeless struggle for its re-establishment has degenerated into a strife which means nothing but the useless sacrifice of human life and the utter destruction of the very subject matter of the conflict, a situation will be presented in which our obligations to the sovereignty of Spain, and the interests of our country, will be so clearly defined by higher obligations, which we can hardly hesitate to recognize and discharge."

In my annual message to Congress December last, speaking to this question, I said:

"The near future will demonstrate whether the indispensable condition of a righteous peace, just alike to the Cubans and to Spain, is not equitable to all our interests, and intimately involved in the welfare of Cuba, is likely to be attained. If not, the exigency of further and other action by the United States will remain. When that time comes that action will be determined in the line of indisputable right and duty. It will be faced, without misgiving or hesitancy, and our government will continue its watchful care over the rights and property of American citizens, and will abate none of its efforts to bring about by peaceful agencies a peace which shall be honorable and enduring. I am hereafter appear to be a duty imposed by our obligations to ourselves, to civilization and humanity to intervene with force, it shall be without delay and without hesitation because the necessity for such action will be so clear as to command the support and approval of the civilized world."

Recognition Not Necessary.

"It is to be seriously considered whether the Cuban insurrection possesses heretofore disputed the attributes of statehood which alone can demand the recognition of belligerence in its favor." The same requirement must certainly be no less seriously considered in the grave issue of recognition of independence is in question, for no less positive test can be applied to the greater act than to the lesser, while on the other hand, the influence and consequences of the struggle upon the internal policy of the recognizing state, which form important factors when the recognition of belligerence is concerned, are secondary, if not rightly discarded, when the real question is whether the community claiming recognition is or is not independent beyond peradventure.

Nor from the standpoint of expediency do I think it would be wise or prudent for this government to recognize at the present time the independence of the so-called Cuban republic. Such recognition is not necessary in order to enable the United States to intervene and pacify the island. To commit this country now to recognition of any particular government in Cuba might subject us to embarrassing conditions in international obligation toward the organization recognized. In case of intervention our conduct would be subject to the approval or disapproval of such governments; we would be required to submit to its restrictions, to assume to it the mere relation of a friendly ally. When it shall appear hereafter that there is within the island a government capable of performing the duties of a nation, and that the United States is in a position to assume the functions of a separate nation, and having as a matter of fact the proper forms and attributes of nationality, such government can be recognized and its recognition will be a recognition of the relations and interests of the United States with such nation adjusted.

There remain the alternative forms of intervention to end the war, either as an impartial neutral by imposing a rational compromise between the contestants or as the active ally of the one party or the other. As to the first, it is not to be forgotten that during the last few months the relations of the United States have virtually been one of friendly intervention in many ways, each not of itself conclusive, but all tending to the exertion of a potent influence toward an ultimate pacific result, just and honorable to all interests concerned. The spirit of all our acts hitherto has been an earnest, unselfish desire for peace and prosperity in Cuba, untroubled by differences between us and Spain and unstained by the blood of American citizens.

Grounds for Intervention.

The forcible intervention of the United States as a neutral to stop the war, according to the large dictates of humanity and following many historical precedents where neighboring states have interfered to check the hopeless sacrifice of life by internecine conflicts beyond their borders, is a justifiable on national grounds. It involves, however, hostile constraint upon both the parties to the contest, as well to enforce a truce as to guide the eventual settlement.

The grounds for such intervention may be briefly summarized as follows:

1. In the cause of humanity and to put an end to the barbarities, bloodshed, starvation and horrible miseries now existing there, and which the parties to the conflict are either unable or unwilling to stop or mitigate. It is an answer to the cry of all another country, belonging to no nation, and is, therefore, none of our business. It is especially our duty, for it is right at our door.

2. We owe it to our citizens in Cuba to afford them that protection and indemnity for life and property which no government there can or will afford, and to end to the conditions that deprive them of legal protection.

3. The right to intervene may be justified by the very serious injury to the commerce,

trade and business of our people and by the wanton destruction of property and devastation of the island.

Fourth.—And which is of the utmost importance. The present condition of affairs in Cuba is a constant menace to our people, and entails upon this government an enormous expense. With such a conflict, waged for years in an island so near us, and with which our people have such trade and business relations—when the lives and liberty of our citizens are in constant danger, and their property destroyed and themselves ruined—where our trading vessels are liable to seizure and are seized at our very door by war ships of a foreign nation, the expeditions of filibustering that we are powerless to prevent altogether, and the irritating questions and entanglements thus arising—all these, and others that I need not mention, with the resulting strained relations, are a constant menace to our peace and compel us to keep on a semi-war footing with a nation with which we are at peace.

Destruction of the Maine.

These elements of danger and disorder already pointed out have been strikingly illustrated by a tragic event which has deeply and justly moved the American people. I have already transmitted to Congress the report of the naval court of inquiry on the destruction of the battle ship Maine in the harbor of Havana during the night of the 15th of February. The disaster to the noble vessel has filled the national heart with unexpressed horror. Two hundred and fifty-eight brave sailors and marines and two officers of our navy, reposing in the security of a friendly harbor, have been hurried to death—grief and want brought to their homes and sorrow to the nation.

The naval court of inquiry, while it is needless to say, commands the unqualified confidence of the government, was unanimous in its conclusion that the destruction of the Maine was caused by an exterior explosion, that of a submarine mine. It did not assume to place the responsibility. That remains to be fixed.

In any event the destruction of the Maine, by whatever exterior cause, is a patent and impressive proof of a state of things in Cuba that is intolerable. That condition is thus shown to be such that the Spanish government cannot assure safety and security to a vessel of the American navy in the harbor of Havana on a mission of peace and rightfully there.

Further referring in this connection to recent diplomatic correspondence, a dispatch from our minister to Spain of the 20th ultimo contained the statement that the Spanish minister for foreign affairs assured him positively that Spain would do all that the highest honor and justice require in the matter of the Maine. The reply above referred to of the 31st ultimo also contained the statement that the Spanish minister would submit to an arbitration of all the differences which can arise in this matter, which is subsequently explained by the note of the Spanish minister at Washington of the 10th inst., as follows:

Asks Authority to Use Force.

In view of these facts and these considerations, I ask Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between the government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes.

And in the interest of humanity and to aid in preserving the lives of the starving people of the island, I recommend that the distribution of food supplies be continued and that an appropriation be made out of the public treasury to supplement the charity of our citizens.

The issue is now with the Congress. It is a solemn responsibility. I have endeavored every effort to relieve the intolerable condition of affairs which is at our doors. Prepared to execute every obligation imposed upon me by the constitution and the law, I await your action.

COAL OUTPUT FOR THE YEAR.

Statistics for 1897 Show Increased Tonnage and Value.

From a preliminary statement compiled by E. W. Parker, statistician of the United States geological survey, it is shown that the total output of coal in the United States in 1897 amounted approximately to 198,250,000 short tons, with an aggregate value of \$198,100,000, a fraction less than \$1 per ton.

Compared with 1896 this shows an increase in tonnage of 6,270,000 tons, or about 3.3 per cent. The increase in the value of the product was only \$1,700,000, a little less than .9 per cent. In twenty out of the twenty-nine States producing bituminous coal, the average price per ton in 1897 was less than it was in 1896, the general average for the United States being 83 cents in 1896 and 81.6 in 1897.

The decline of 1.4 cents on a total product in 1897 of 146,000,000 tons represents a decrease of something over \$2,000,000 from what would have been the value if the price had been the same as it was in 1896.

Considering the industry by States, Pennsylvania holds her usual position. The combined product of anthracite and bituminous coals from the Keystone State amounted to 106,000,000 short tons, nearly 54 per cent of the total output. Pennsylvania's percentage of the total bituminous output was 37 per cent, her output of soft coal being 54,000,000 tons.

Illinois remains in second place, with a total of over 20,000,000 short tons. West Virginia comes third, having increased her output nearly 7,000,000 tons over 1896 and leading Ohio, which comes fourth, by nearly 1,250,000 tons. Alabama reached her maximum output of 5,893,770 tons and stands fifth. Iowa, sixth, lacked only 85,000 tons of reaching 5,000,000 tons. Maryland produced 4,442,000 tons and Indiana a little over 4,000,000 tons.

Reports received from the interior valleys of California confirm previous reports that severe frosts have done irreparable damage to fruit. Apricots and nectarines have suffered most severely, and in many places the crop has been entirely destroyed.

SHOULD BE PREPARED.

Rheumatism and La Grippe Prevalent and Prompt Treatment Necessary.

Every family should have a bottle of "5 Drops" on hand, especially at this season of the year. Changes in the weather are so liable to cause rheumatism, la grippe and many other diseases that the "5 Drops" cure.

Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., Chicago: "5 Drops" promptly received. That is the medicine we want. My wife would undoubtedly have been a cripple if it had not been for your "5 Drops." We would not be without it. Yours truly, John G. Martin, Wellsville, Mo. Feb. 16, 1898.

This is one of many testimonials which the manufacturers of "5 Drops" have received.

During the next thirty days they will send out 100,000 of their sample bottles for 25 cents a bottle. Write to-day to the Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., 147 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill. This company is reliable and promptly fill every order.

Penetration of Water by Light.

The depth to which the sun's rays penetrate water has been recently determined by the aid of photography. It has been found that at a depth of 533 feet, the darkness was, to all intents and purposes, the same as that on a clear but moonless night. Sensitive plates exposed at this depth for a considerable length of time gave no evidence of light action.

It Will Pay.

It will pay to carefully read the descriptive advertisement of Alabastine appearing in this paper, explaining the difference between these goods and kal-somines.

Consumers should bear in mind that Alabastine is unlike all the various kal-somines sold on the market under different names. Alabastine stands pre-eminent and alone as a durable wall coating. All consumers in buying should see that the goods are in packages and properly labeled.

Perhaps That Was the Reason.

He—I love you, Miss Peach, ardently, passionately, madly.

She—Nonsense, Mr. De Sever; you are hardly acquainted with me.

He—I know, but then—why, perhaps that's the reason, don't you know?—Boston Transcript.

Shake Into Your Shoes.

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting feet and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight-fitting or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous and hot, tired, nervous, aching feet. Try it today. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores. By mail for 25c in stamps. Trial package FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

"An hour in the morning is worth two in the afternoon."

Have the routine work in your stock out of the way before trade commences or you will be behind all day.

There is a Class of People

Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains, that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over one-fourth as much. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15c and 25c per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.

In the Klondike region in midwinter the sun rises from 9:30 to 10 a. m., and sets from 2 to 3 p. m.

Blood Is Life Pure Blood Is Health.

Without blood circulating through your veins you could not live. Without pure blood you cannot be well. The health action of every organ depends upon the purity and richness of the blood by which it is nourished and sustained. If you have salt rheum, scrofula sores, pimples, boils or any kind of humor, your blood is not pure. If you take Hood's Sarsaparilla it will make your blood pure, promptly relieve all these troubles, and the spring the blood is loaded with impurities. Hence, all those unsightly eruptions, that languor and depression, the danger of serious illness. Hood's Sarsaparilla is needed to purify, enrich and vitalize the blood and protect and purify the system.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is America's Greatest Medicine. Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Get only Hood's.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"A Perfect Type of the Highest Order of Excellence in Manufacture."

Walter Baker & Co.

Breakfast Cocoa

Absolutely Pure, Delicious, Nutritious. Costs Less Than ONE CENT a Cup.

Be sure that you get the Genuine Article, made at DORCHESTER, MASS., by

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ESTABLISHED 1790.

The original copy of the Declaration of Independence in Jefferson's own handwriting has just been found among the archives of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia.