

MESSAGE BY M'KINLEY.

Executive Asks Discretionary Power to Intervene.

DOES NOT CALL CUBA FREE

We 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 to the Congress information of the state of the Union and to recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, it becomes my 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 human sympathies of our people.

Ravaged by Fire and Sword.

Since the present revolution began in February, 1895, this country has seen the sterile down 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 held a once prosperous community reduced to comparative want, its commerce virtually paralyzed, its exceptional productiveness 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 so sorely tried as to our people have been so sorely tried as to be 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 to an end of the contest between the colony on the part of self-government and the

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, Havanna and Pinar del Rio. The agricultural population, to the estimated number of 300,000 or more, was herded within the towns and their immediate vicinage, 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 thereto incident exceeded 50 per centum 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, encumbered 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 peace 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 desolation up to the walls of the city of Havanna 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 Havanna, 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 acuteness 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 wider principle of home rule for Cuba and Puerto Rico. The overtures of this 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, 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 continued 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 entitled in any way to our national protection remained in a Spanish prison.

While these negotiations were in progress the increasing number of the unfortunate reconcentrados and the alarmingly portentous among them claimed urgent attention. The success which had attended the limited measure of relief 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 body of sufferers. A suggestion 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 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 co-operated 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 belief, at first necessarily confined to Havanna and the larger cities, is now extended through most, if not all, of the towns where suffering exists. Thousands of lives have already been saved.

Reconcentrados Order Revoked.
For a reconcentration for a charge in the conduct of the reconcentrados is recognized by the Spanish government. Within a short time the orders of General Weyler, which had been issued to return to the interior, were revoked, and the reconcentrados were permitted to resume the self-government which they had been employing. The Spanish government has been

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, propositions 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 need 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 offers, 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, but being however understood that the powers reserved by the constitution to the central government are not lessened or diminished. As the Cuban parliament does not meet until the 4th of May next, the Spanish government would not object, for its part, to accept at once a suspension of hostilities, if asked for by the insurgents from the general in chief, to 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 untried 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. I speak not of forcible annexation, for that is not of me 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, destructive and cruel barbarities in Cuba, he 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 latter aspect of the question, pointing out the inconveniences and positive dangers of a recognition of belligerency which, while adding to the already onerous burdens of neutrality within our own jurisdiction, could not in any way extend our influence or effective offices 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 belligerency is published could, of itself and unattended by other action, accomplish nothing 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 insurgent 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 revolutions of France, out of the disputes relating to the crews of Portugal and Spain, out of the recognition of America, out 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 circumstances, avoided all censure and entanglement in other evil, which was concluded by a transient estrangement of good will in those against whom we have been by force of evidence compelled to decide."

"It has thus made known to the world that the uniform policy and practice of the United States to avoid all interference in the internal affairs of other nations, and to disputes which relate to the internal 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 original controversy.

"But this is, as on every other trying occasion, safety to be found in a rigid application of the principles of justice."

"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 again subjugated had entirely passed away. Then, and not until then, were they recognized. Such was our course in regard to Mexico herself.

Case of Texas.

"It is true that with regard to Texas the authority of Mexico has been expelled, its insurrectionary leaders taken, the chief of the republic himself captured and all present power to control the newly-organized government annihilated within its confines. But, on the other hand, there is, in appearance at least, an immense disparity of physical force on the side of Texas. The Mexican army is small and disorganized, leaving 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 they might be in a position to assert their independence, or an acknowledgment of its independence at such a crisis could scarcely be regarded as consistent with that prudent reserve with which we have hitherto held our selves bound to treat all similar questions."

Thereupon Andrew Jackson proceeded to consider the risk that there might be in a prolonged contest with the rebels, and of such 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 thus:

"Prudence therefore seems to dictate that we should still stand aloof and maintain our present attitude, if not until Mexico itself, or 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 Texas to sustain a government of their own.

"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 daily committing or threatening to commit on rational grounds. It involves, however, hostile constraint upon both the parties to the contest, as well as a truce as to guide the events of an eventual settlement.

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

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

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

possessed of the elements of stability," and forming de facto, "if left to itself, a state among the nations, reasonably capable of discharging the duties of state" has imposed upon the further condition that recognition of independent statehood is not due to a revolted dependency until the danger of its being again subjugated by the parent state has entirely passed away. This extreme test was in fact applied in the case of Texas, the language of the President being, "The Texan independence is not to be recognized until the Texan people are in a state of rebellion."

Fourth—And which is of the utmost importance, 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 their citizens are in constant danger, 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 expeditors of filibustering who are powers to prevent altogether, and the irritating questions and engagements which result from the action of the Texan government.

These are the resulting strained relations which we keep up with our neighbors, and which are a constant menace to our peace and com-

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

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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., 162 Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill. This company is reliable and promptly fills 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 and 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 kalsomines.

Consumers should bear in mind that Alabastine is unlike all the various kalsomines sold on the market under different names. Alabastine stands 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 25¢ 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 few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over one-fourth as much. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15¢ and 25¢ 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 blood you cannot be strong. 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, pimpla, boils or any kind of humor, your blood not pure, if you take Hood's Sarsaparilla it will make your blood pure and promptly relieve all these troubles.

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 \$33 in 1896 and \$16 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.