

fact a comparison between the situation in Cuba now and that of the American colonies when the War of Independence was commenced is not uninteresting.

The Springfield Republican says the Cuban population at the commencement of the present war was 1,600,000, and from this small population Spain exacted a revenue of \$25,000,000 yearly, not counting the vast sums of which Spanish officials robbed the people for their own selfish purposes. And more than two-thirds of this sum was spent away from the island without any benefit whatever to the people. When the American colonists took up arms, the revenue derived by the British government from this side of the Atlantic was only \$400,000, while the population was 2,500,000, nearly a million more than the Cubans.

Is it to be wondered at if the patience of the islanders has been exhausted and that they are willing to strike for independence from a government that binds on them an intolerable burden? The cause of the Cubans is just. Even if we leave out of consideration the atrocities that form one of the blackest pages in modern history, the war which the United States is about to engage in will be pronounced righteous by impartial chroniclers of the events of this century.

#### NO DISLOYALTY HERE.

The Latter-day Saints, leaders and people, have ever believed that a time would come when it would be their proud honor to defend and maintain the Constitution of the United States. They have been taught, and universally believe, that high Heaven inspired the fathers of the Republic. They have had the most exalted conceptions of the destiny of the Nation, and of the profound and mighty part reserved to it among all the powers of the world. They are therefore absolutely loyal; their patriotism is not only a matter of practice and instinct—it is an essential feature of their religion, a part of their very life.

Where they will stand in any emergency where patriotism is called for in maintaining the Nation's honor, can be no subject of doubt. This is their country—they are a portion of it, and in its defense none will be more ready to die if need be. Of the government they are a part, and as they love its institutions so will they sustain those institutions against every foe. An insult to that government is an insult to every true American, and in these mountain tops there is no lack of sturdy, God-fearing men ready to do their full and valiant duty in any such crisis whenever the call shall come. Not lovers of war, nor given to blood-thirstiness, they are nevertheless firmly and steadfastly with and for Our Country in every just cause—and he but poorly knows their heart and spirit who utters a word or harbors a thought that they are lacking in any element of the purest, staunchest and most enduring loyalty.

#### A CHAPTER OF SPANISH HISTORY.

The warfare of the Spaniards in Cuba and the Philippines, where the bloodstained tracks of Gen. Weyler are seen in all directions, and the diplomacy of Sagasta, remind the world of some parts of Spanish history the hideousness of which even the veil of time has not been able to cover up. Centuries have passed and humane civilization has advanced; but Spanish methods remain much as they were when the early conquerors of the American continents spread consternation among the simple natives of the coveted country.

In 1532, Pizarro, the Weyler of his age, landed in Peru for the purpose of conquest. His messengers to the Inca, Atahualpa, were hospitably received and after some negotiations an interview was arranged between the representative of Spain and the ruler of the Peruvians. As to what followed, the accounts are chiefly, if not entirely, of Spanish origin and therefore colored accordingly; but even in this garb they reveal an instinct of treachery and cruelty almost incomprehensible.

According to appointment the Inca came to the public square of Cassamarca, accompanied by five or six thousand men, mostly unarmed. Pizarro had planted his soldiers in the streets opening into the square and under cover. The interview was conducted by a priest, Vicente de Valverde, through an interpreter. The ambassador stated briefly the doctrines of the Catholic faith and concluded by demanding that the Inca become a Christian, submit to the Roman church and give up his kingdom to Charles V to whom these lands had been granted. The Inca humbly pointed out that there were difficulties in the religion expounded to him which he failed to solve, and declined to accept as monarch of his own domains a man of whom he had never heard. He further upbraided the Spaniards with the cruelties they had perpetrated.

The priest then retired and a gun was fired. Suddenly the Spanish soldiers came from their hiding places. A panic ensued among the Peruvians, as the sanguinary work commenced. Hundreds were massacred with swords and spears, or shot down. Others were trampled to death. The noblemen threw themselves before their chieftain in order to protect his life with theirs. Every avenue of escape was closed. Finally Atahualpa was taken prisoner.

But more treachery was planned. The noble Inca was forced to pay an enormous sum for his ransom. The money was paid but he was still detained in prison. On some pretense or another he was placed on trial before a Spanish court which sentenced him to death by fire. In the last moment, however, he is said to have professed Christianity and received baptism, and the mercy of the Spanish emissaries was then exercised in his behalf to the extent that he was murdered by strangulation instead of by flames at the stake. Thus perished the last of the Incas. Spain had made a conquest in the new world.

#### HOW GREAT THE DIFFERENCE!

This is a great country, inhabited by a great people.

From the inception of the controversy with Spain that has led up to an open rupture followed by actual hostilities, those who have not kept pace with each development of the growing trouble and failed to appreciate its importance have been in the minority; this minority has become smaller in an inverse ratio to the increase of the war feeling, until at last those who do not know the present stage of affairs or don't appreciate its consequence are very few indeed. Even the infant of tender years, the veteran gray and palsied under the weight of years and cares, and all classes between, with only an exception here and there, know not only that the United States is at war with the Spaniards but that our ships have captured several of theirs and even that the first volley has been fired from Morro Castle.

The crowds which congregate daily, early and late, in front of the "News" and other bulletin boards in this city are not attracted by idle curiosity in most cases. They have learned to

read and write, whereby they have become acquainted with other things, among them a general knowledge of the characteristics of the country and its form of government. Education being the basis of genuine loyalty they are loyal, and being so are deeply concerned in all that affects the welfare of the country, particularly such momentous conditions as are now upon us. This leads them to seek for the latest information and they betake themselves to the most accessible and reliable places for obtaining it. They want to know, and knowing, they appreciate, they sympathize; their feelings, and in many cases their expressions and demonstrations barometrically indicate the good or bad fortune which may have come to our forces, our people or our places, and in no place is it more so than here in Utah. Out of 70,000,000 such as these, what an army could be raised up—powerful not merely in its numbers, its determination, its bravery and its devotion, but powerful because guided, guarded and led by the genius of enlightened civilization.

Mark the distinction. The Spanish forces are also loyal, in great measure, and they are not destitute of a certain quantity of prowess and ability. But it is the loyalty which darkness bears to light, one giving way as the other advances. Education is possessed almost exclusively by those who lead and control, and they thus become the moral force of the soldiery and giving to none of the rank and file the slightest degree of discretionary power, are responsible for all catastrophes if not creditable with all triumphs. Of an army of Spaniards as large as our President has just called to take the field—125,000—the number that could read and write would be represented by much less than the last five figures, and of these more than half would be in official or other important stations. Of the rank and file about one tenth would be possessed of the accomplishments spoken of, and probably one out of eight could do one or the other. Add to this the fact that nearly all are bound by the most complete superstition, are poverty-ridden and oppressed and taught to regard a small boy who has barely entered his teens as one whose right to rule may not be questioned, and we have the mainspring of the subservience which leads to crimes and cruelties unparalleled in the histories of modern nations.

Ours is a land to be proud of, our people are the kind that can prosecute to success any just war in which they may be engaged. When led by the common impulse of humanity, shielded by the eternal right and protected by the Providence that presides over the destinies of nations, there need be no fear as to the outcome.

#### PREACHERS AND THE PRESIDENT.

A few days ago there was held in New York City a conference of the Methodist Episcopal church at which there were present some 300 ministers of that denomination, representing, so it is claimed, a church membership of nearly 60,000. A part of the business of the session was the consideration and adoption of resolutions arraigning Spain for her treatment of Cuba. In an editorial treating of the incident the New York Mail and Express says:

"This arraignment is remarkable in its scope and the set terms in which it assails the Spanish government. It is remarkable in that it voices the sentiment of a body of men embracing a large number of distinguished and most conservative divines. It must be most welcome to the President, coming as it does from the representatives of that church to which he owes individual