

years did not correspond by a score at least, was to give the mind of the listener an experience at once novel and instructive. Nobody ever saw him in a bad humor, his broad smile was perennial and he had a word of kindly greeting for every friend, meaning all who knew him. He was a member of our Constitutional Convention. He had a wife from whom he had been separated several years, and a son and daughter who still live. Notwithstanding his three-fourths of a century of life, death was at last the result of an accident, a bicycle collision. The remains are in charge of the G. A. R.

PEACE SLOWLY COMING.

The negotiations of the peace commissioners at Paris are proceeding slowly. The discussions have not yet covered the first article of the protocol, declaring that Spain agrees to relinquish all claim of sovereignty over and title to Cuba. The question of the Cuban debt is the bone of contention. This debt amounts to about \$400,000,000.

The Spaniards want to know who is going to assume the sovereignty over Cuba in order to be able to saddle this debt, or part of it, on somebody. They argue that there can be no interregnum and that, therefore, sovereignty over the island cannot be relinquished until there is somebody to hand it over to. The reply to our commissioners, that the question of sovereignty will be decided by those concerned in the matter as soon as Spain has withdrawn her forces, does not satisfy the representatives of Spain.

It would be unjust to blame these gentlemen for endeavoring to obtain the best possible terms for their country, although their argumentation may be weak and wearisome; still, they must be bound to respect the terms of the peace protocol. By these terms, Spain simply agrees to leave her West Indian possessions, unconditionally. The indebtedness is her own affair. The American people do not want it and the Cubans cannot in justice be required to pay it. Let Spain leave Cuba as she found it, the property of its inhabitants. That will settle all questions of sovereignty and interregnum. Then the United States government will see to it that peace and orderly conditions are established, in accordance with the declaration of Congress previous to the war.

Probably the negotiations will proceed more satisfactorily, as soon as the first article of the protocol has been disposed of. By that time Spain's representatives will understand that the Americans are no oriental merchants with whom they can drive a bargain by persistently refusing to accept the terms first offered. They will have learnt that American statesmanship is conducted on the basis of an honest statement of the price of peace. When they realize this, they must also realize that nothing is gained by unnecessary delay. They will understand that our commissioners did not go to Paris to play a game of diplomacy but to arrange in a business-like manner for a treaty of peace.

FOR THE BOYS AT MANILA.

Mr. C. C. A. Christensen, writing from Ephraim under date of the 22nd, makes some inquiries regarding the sending of delicacies and needed articles to the boys at Manila, and as the subject has a more or less general interest, the questions and answers are given publication:

1. Is the report of such a move by the quartermaster's department a fact or not?

2. If it is, when and to what address must such packages or boxes be directed?

3. What is the limit in weight and bulk allowed for each man?

4. Must all presents for each man be in one parcel, or can several parties send each their own to him, if they choose to do so?

5. In cases where a number of men are from the same city or settlement, would it be of any advantage to the senders of such articles to join together and have the articles sent in one box, but marked for the several parties on the articles in the box, to save freight on the railway?

6. Is there any regulation about what is allowed to be sent—for instance, books, stationary, papers, sweetmeats, candies, or the like?

1. It is a fact.

2. To whoever they are designed for, giving as full directions as possible regarding the command and company, addressed to Manila, Philippine Islands, and sent in care of the quartermaster, U. S. A., San Francisco, with all charges for transportation to that point fully prepaid.

3. There is no special amount, but the less the better after a reasonable limit has been reached. Perhaps ten or fifteen pounds to the man would not be considered too much.

4. They should as nearly as possible, be in one parcel, or at least together, in order that the whole amount for one person may be readily determined.

5. Several can be sent together and the plan suggested is a good one; each should be separately addressed so that nothing like unfairness or favoritism can be practiced.

6. There is not, except that articles likely to be injurious are not favored. In this class are candies and sweetmeats, of which but a small amount will be allowed to each person.

It is quite necessary that haste be an element in the dispatching of the presents, for reasons which are obvious. There is but another week of this month and all the articles should be at San Francisco ready for shipment when the last day comes. The steamer may not leave for some days later, but of course the cargo must be in place before the sailing time comes.

THE FASHODA AFFAIR.

The Fashoda incident seems to be one of the troublesome ghosts that refuse to remain below. The English people, if the press voices the general sentiment, persists in demanding the retreat of the French from that position, and the French reply is that they are not willing to recall Marchand, as that would be a humiliation for the flag which he hoisted at the express command of the French government.

To understand the reason why public opinion on both sides of the channel is in a state of ferment on account of an apparently trivial question, it must be remembered that the real territory in dispute, Bahr-el-Ghazal, is about five times the size of England. It was formerly an Egyptian province. It is well watered and has an abundance of fertile soil. Fashoda is the key to the entire region. Sir Samuel Baker once conquered the country as far south as Uganda and General Gordon appointed a governor over it. But when the Egyptians were expelled, the French obtained the right of way through Bahr-el-Ghazal. In 1894 the French appropriated \$400,000 for the formation of a column to protect French interests there and an expedition was organized under the direc-

tion of Colonel Mortell. A governor commissioner was also appointed. In 1896 Captain Marchand was sent to add this commissioner and arrived with his forces within easy distance of Fashoda.

When General Kitchener with the British forces came to Fashoda he found Captain Marchand there, who claimed for his government the right of prior occupation.

The news, as will be remembered, created intense excitement in Great Britain, and the suggestion was made that the French government either repudiate Marchand or explain that his expedition is only in the interest of science. So far, however, the French authorities have shown no disposition to act on the suggestions. On the contrary, they are putting the French army on a war footing and Great Britain seems to realize that the danger of an interruption of friendly relations between the two countries is possible. In the meanwhile it is earnestly hoped that some way can be found out of the dilemma, other than an appeal to arms, which might be disastrous to the best interests of both countries.

INDUSTRIAL DEPRESSION.

A goodly number of our population, nationally considered, hold to the doctrine that it is not tariff tinkering nor the national system of finance that is the real foundation for depression in business and trade, but something further reaching and deeper rooted. They insist upon it that these evils which afflict the body politic continually and almost unrelentingly are the direct offspring of the industrial systems in vogue, by means of which mechanism steadily encroaches upon the domain of operations in which the mind, the hand, the foot and the muscular system generally have been trained and to which they have looked for the returns which keep humanity supplied with daily necessities. Those who so hold are not limited in number and their ranks continue to swell. The subject has attained to such importance that the last session of Congress found it necessary to order a thorough investigation and this has just been completed. The results of the inquiry appear as the thirteenth annual report of the commissioner of labor and it is quite exhaustive, showing the effects of machinery on labor and incidental questions connected therewith. It shows among other things that in small-grain harvesting the self-binder has reduced the time for cutting, binding and stacking to one-eighth of what hand-labor required, while in threshing the ratio is 32 to 1 in favor of the machine, meaning that six men with a machine are equal to thirty-two without—a displacement of twenty-six men.

A great array of figures is given of which a few are selected as fair samples of the whole:

"One of the comparisons shows the manufacture of 1,000 one-pound loaves of bread is reduced in cost from \$5.59 to \$1.55, and in time from 28 to 8 hours; axle clips, 1,000 in quantity, from \$233.33 to \$4.27 and from 666 to 23 hours. In making 500 pounds of dairy tub butter machinery cut the cost down from \$10.66 to \$1.78 and from 125 to 12 hours. In diamond cutting machinery has reduced the time for four three-carats from 132 to 39 hours, but increased the cost from \$14.81 to \$26.25.

"In lithographing the cost is out from \$92.87 per 1,000 copies of a specified size to \$8.75 and the time from 166 to 30 hours. In making matches the time is cut from 259 to 29 hours and the cost from \$24 to \$3. In printing and publishing magazines—10,000 copies—the labor reduction cited is from 3,170 to 14 hours and from \$302.50 to \$4.62."

The statement is quite diversified, ex-