

United States, but if it is forced upon her, she is ready to defend herself. The Cuban question is looked upon as one of territorial integrity, and the crown of Spain will defend its domain at all times.

The minister stated that he thought the Spaniards were progressing fairly well in Cuba, the death of Antonio Maceo being a great victory, and he believed success would attend their efforts both in Cuba and in the Philippines. The honor of Spain compels her to restore order before granting any concessions to the colonies or to foreign countries.

This statement of the Spanish policy may be regarded as a reply to the action of the Senate committee on foreign relations in reporting favorably on the resolution to recognize the independence of Cuba. In effect it says that Spain will take no notice of such recognition unless followed by armed interference in behalf of Cuba; but in that case war is inevitable.

Unfortunately for the controversy between the United States and Spain—if it can be termed a controversy—the divergence of opinion commences at the fundamental principles involved. Here it is regarded as a self-evident truth that government has no just claim except as obtained from the governed. In Spain, as in monarchies generally, the view prevails that a colony is a "possession," the "domain of the crown," and that consequently any demand on the part of the governed for liberty is "rebellion." Here the people are considered the sovereign and the officers of the government the servants; there the government is the sovereign power and the people the servants, who can have no other liberty than that granted by the master. In speaking of the honor of Spain, the prime minister plainly alludes to the safety of the government. That is what demands that the rebellion must be crushed before concessions can be granted, for should it be demonstrated that a weak colony can compel the ruling power to grant reforms, it is not easy to foresee what claims might be made at home. The yielding to the demands of the Cubans might possibly mean the downfall of the government Canovas has built.

In Cuba the New World and the Old World theories of government once more meet, and the question to be decided is, which of them shall hold the battle ground?

STARVATION OR VIOLENCE.

The telegraphic account from Denver of a Sunday afternoon meeting in the Coliseum in that city presents a deplorable spectacle. It is stated that in the demonstration there it was shown that four thousand men, able and willing to work, were out of employment and on the verge of starvation. It is also said the speeches against members of the Denver city council were "red-hot," one clergyman, Rev. Thomas Uzzell, suggesting that the better way to improvement was to take out half a dozen members of the council and bury them; another, Rev. Myron W. Reed, reminded the assembly that they had the privilege of carrying arms and they might yet be called upon to exercise that

privilege," and the resolutions adopted by the meeting called for the "construction of city waterworks, street paving, viaducts, etc., anything to keep the unemployed busy, that the mouths of the hungry might be fed, instead of paying out the money in interest to bankers."

Perhaps Denver's municipal administration is so incompetent that a change to the policy outlined at the Coliseum meeting would be an improvement, and perhaps it is not. But the demand for employing workmen instead of paying out money in interest to bankers does not seem to contain much wisdom. Surely if Denver has money it is not paying it in interest except for indebtedness already incurred; and if further expenditures are to be made, the interest will still go on, with more for any further loan—interest-paying on debts cannot be stopped in the way proposed. As to the other part of the proposition, it is just possible that to assess the property holders for the proposed improvements to the extent that would give the unemployed remunerative work might reduce to the verge of starvation many taxpayers, making ultimate conditions still worse, and giving only temporary betterment at the most. If the proposed improvements were needed and there were funds on hand to pay for them, the starting of such public works would be in order; if not, they would but extend the range of calamity.

None will deny that the scene pictured at the Denver meeting ought to undergo a change; but the method proposed appears to be the reverse of effective. Neither is it made any better by the professed preachers of religion. That spirit which leads a clergyman to propose to an angered or excited multitude that they should murder half a dozen officials, or that suggests the probability of a crowd having to resort to mob violence and to invoke anarchy to gain relief is not the spirit that is going to alleviate the industrial ills in Denver or elsewhere. It is the antithesis of a religious or progressive influence.

But if the proposed methods are a mistake, what shall be done with the unemployed? Charitable institutions or public improvements in cities are at best but a temporary expedient. The trouble is that there are too many non-producers in the cities; and the cure for the evil lies in converting these persons into producers of the necessities of life. This cannot be done in the mines, for the silver producing portion of them are not to be operated more extensively, because of the situation of the white metal market. It cannot be done in the large cities, for all avenues of business and employment are overcrowded now. But it can be done in the smaller towns and in the country. If these people would only go out there. If they cannot be induced to do so, the conditions which each winter brings must go on from bad to worse.

Doubtless the situation in Denver is much the same as in this city. Many young, able-bodied men, without responsibility of family, and who ought to be possessed of a spirit of manly independence that would earn to potter around a city for a few days' labor in each month, are so wedded to city associations that they will not

assert their independence and stand out for themselves in a field that does offer encouragement to strong physiques, brave hearts, and clear heads. In the West the possibilities of production from the soil are not half touched; the fruits, the vegetables, the grains, the meats, and other supplies obtainable by tillers of the soil, are necessities of these unemployed people, and of the public generally. Their production may not promise wealth, or the associations of city life in loafing around saloons and street corners; but they do insure a manly independence from begging for food, and clothing and shelter; they do promise to those who clamor for "work, not charity," all the work necessary, and bread, too. Men who are advanced in years, who have families to support, may not be altogether able to avail themselves of these opportunities which the country offers; but if the unemployed not so situated would do so there would be a much better field for the others, and the relief would be felt all round.

Everybody cannot go to the country; everyone is not adapted to agricultural pursuits. Neither is everybody adapted to life in cities, and it would seem that those who crowd around in lack of employment are of the latter class. The pursuits of the country are mentioned because these offer the best avenue available now for an increased production and employment. Perhaps the wholly or partially unemployed hesitate at starting out for themselves, a little organization and practical assistance would aid them in that direction. It certainly would be much better than inciting them to riot and murder to secure food and clothing. There are plenty of resources in the West to support a vastly increased population if they are utilized properly; and under present conditions this is better accomplished now by rubbing out of the cities than by crowding into them. A little more of the adventurous spirit which two, three and four centuries ago caused the influx of settlers to this country from the Old World, and which in this century led to the opening up of a vast continent west of the Ohio river, would be a much more precious boon to unemployed men in crowded cities now than any amount of begging, and complaining, and threatening toward the population of those cities that does seem to be able to secure a livelihood by the means within reach. The choice of able-bodied men in the West has not yet come down to starvation or a resort to violence, as the proceedings at the Coliseum meeting would infer; but it does require some action to be taken to place these people in a situation to relieve their distress permanently.

Wasatch Wave: The first deed granting land for a right of way to the Rio Grande Western railroad company for their branch line through this valley was filed for record in the recorder's office last Tuesday. The grantors are J. W. Hoover and wife and the land conveyed lies near Wm. Wright's ranch below Charleston. This begins to look like there will soon be something of a more definite character concerning the intentions of the company to follow.