

sullenly refuses to concede these patent facts.

It is useless to regret the past, but may be useful to consider it if thereby the one so doing may be constantly warned by his errors and keep steadily aloof from them thereafter. Spain's career has been so full of errors, ranging all the way from ordinary mistakes to extraordinary crimes, that it is not to be expected that she can effect a reformation altogether or at all so long as the present generation remains. But she can, by no longer being engaged in those occupations which furnish an opportunity for the commission of rank offenses, turn her attention to useful, honorable callings and at least lay a foundation for the Spain of the future to build upon. That is her chief if not her only chance.

A study of the history of that crime-stained, unprogressive land is of the deepest interest to those who concern themselves in the subject of ethnology and the growth and decadence of nations. Spain was once the most formidable power of the globe and in that day one of the most if not the most advanced. But she has not kept pace with the advance of mankind in his best estate. Her navy was and for over 300 years remained the terror of the seas, while her internal resources were so great that she had no reason to contemplate a decline, although the germs of decay had already taken lodgment in the body politic and the work of dissolution had commenced. The downward road was entered nearly 400 years ago, just after the victory which, jointly with the Venetians, she gained over Turkey in a great naval battle. It was the last fight of the kind she ever came out of victorious. After great preparation and the lapse of much time she endeavored to rehabilitate herself in her maritime prestige by crushing the naval power of England in a sea fight whose magnitude was to startle the world, and to this end the magnificent naval pageant known to history as the Armada went forth, met the enemy—and was crushed. Defeat followed defeat, decline increased in precipitancy, and from a first-class power the Spanish nation at the beginning of this century dropped into the second rank and by the middle of the century was still lower. Nothing then remained of her once vast American possessions but Cuba and Porto Rico, and now they are gone and she has no rating among the nations at all. Shorn of property, destitute of credit, with almost no navy with which to advance and defend her interests on the seas, with subjects ground to the dust and clamorous for an overturning of the political and social fabric, smarting under a defeat made all the more galling because of her great boasting and the rapidity and completeness with which the overthrow was accomplished—how could she obtain a classification?

There would be something in such a situation to excite sympathy and compassion were the demeanor of the Spanish in such an awful crisis almost anything but what it is. The more advanced peoples of the earth might for the time at least overlook the crimes and barbarities inflicted for centuries upon the natives of Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines until these have become degraded, spiritless and all but worthless animals; could pass by the deceptions, iniquities and oppressions practiced upon the people at home; could and would consider for a while at least the really gallant fighting qualities which the Spanish soldiers possess and have exhibited on every occasion—were it not for the repelling fact that the bruised, bankrupt remnant of a nation persists in carrying itself as proudly and acting almost as defiantly as though not crushed into

chaos and compelled to accept of such terms as an overly generous foe is willing to accord her.

The unfortunate we have always with us, this having reference to nations as well as to individuals. All make mistakes and all are subject to unlooked-for visitations of hard fortune. It is the frequency of such occurrences that makes the humane and the thoughtful lenient and forbearing even when great imprudence, lack of judgment and conduct amounting to criminal have been practiced. But all softness of feeling disappears when the vanquished one denies that he has done wrong or that by wrong-doing he has been brought to retribution. This is Spain's case, and a most forlorn one it is.

YELLOW FEVER.

The enemy which has all along been most dreaded of all in Cuba—the yellow fever—has come and is holding high carnival. All the precautionary measures which experience and skill could devise have been insufficient to keep the destroyer at bay, and the proposed return of the American troops to this country pending the sway of the scourge proceeds so deliberately if it proceeds at all that probably the ravages will be over for the season before all are brought away. In this connection it is proper to make mention of the gallant work performed by the soldiers of the Twenty-fourth regiment, which was formerly stationed at Fort Douglas; they have shown themselves to be brave men and true whether facing the muskets of the Spaniards or in contact with the Spaniards' most potent ally spoken of. They will not be forgotten.

It is not in comfortable quarters such as are had in the city of Santiago that the disease rages or obtains an easy footing, but in the damp trenches and swampy places which abound in that region. There the germination occurs and the microbes are diffused throughout the night air. Also in the higher places where there is little or no moisture of the soil except from rainfalls, there is much less infection and of course this safeguard is not overlooked; although, as previously stated, the malady has created and is still creating widespread havoc.

The situation has set the medical profession at work with renewed vigor for means of prevention and cure. A series of experiments have been going on recently at Swinburne Island, New York, and it is now claimed as a result of the experience previously had and the developments already brought about that a check for the scourge has been secured. It is accomplished by means of a toxin or serum by which the germs are destroyed. The discovery of the germ origin and the remedy are the work of Dr. Sanarelli, of Montevideo, and as shown by the New York Journal, has furnished a basis for our own physicians to work on.

It is now claimed that from a virulent form the physicians were able to transform it into the mildest and most innocuous form. Its animal victims, instead of becoming menaces to health, were changed into creatures whose blood and tissues were an absolute preventive of the disease. This was done by the same method as smallpox vaccine and diphtheria anti-toxin are obtained. The yellow fever germs were first grown in groups, or "cultures," as the bacteriologists say. The deadly stuff was then injected in graduated quantities into the smaller animals and horses. This produces all the symptoms of yellow fever without being

sufficient to kill. After a number of injections an animal becomes germ-proof. Then the scum drawn from the animal's veins becomes a preventive or cure of the actual disease. This remarkable medical work has been done in New York for the purpose of killing the dread disease on its occasional approach to New York by sea.

It is shown that since the discoveries were made there is a wider field for their employment, as it is understood they will be adopted by the United States government. It is to be hoped that too much deliberation will not characterize the proceeding, as yellow fever, like time and tide, waits for no man or class of men.

FOR A SOBER ARMY.

There is a movement on foot for the suppression of the so-called "canteen," or perhaps rather for the conversion of this institution into a temperance refreshment stand. It is believed that a petition to President McKinley, numerously signed, would have the desired effect. The petition is worded as follows:

To His Excellency, William McKinley, President:

We, as citizens of the United States, sharing with you the pride we justly have in the glorious achievements of our army and navy, respectfully petition that, as our commander-in-chief, you immediately consider the grave danger which threatens our soldiers by reason of alcoholic beverages which are now being sold at the Post Exchange under general orders No. 46, dated headquarters of the army, Washington, July 25, 1895. And in order that all ground of temptation or danger to the brave sons of the nation may be removed, we also respectfully petition that you, as their commander-in-chief, revoke the part of general order No. 46 above referred to and command that hereafter no beverages containing alcohol, or other, dangerous substance, shall be sold or dispensed to any soldier or sailor while he is in the service of the United States and on duty."

Any one interested in the movement is requested to copy this and sign name and full address and send it to E. C. Cleveland, 155 La Salle street, Chicago.

There is no doubt that reports from various army encampments are alarming to parents whose sons have gone out as the defenders of the nation's honor. In one single camp over thirty soldiers were arrested on one pay day for drunkenness, and it was proved that one regimental "canteen" took \$460 of the soldiers' money that same day. It is believed that the situation is so serious as to warrant the step taken with a view of obtaining a prohibition of the sale of intoxicants at army posts.

UTAH ENTERPRISE.

A special to the "News" yesterday announced the departure of a surveying party from Provo, having in view the eventual shortening of the way to Denver via Hobbie Creek and connection with a trunk line further along. The promised reduction of 200 miles between the metropolises of Utah and that of Colorado would be an immense advantage to both and to all points and places tributary or contiguous thereto. When one reflects upon the possibility of knocking that much travel out of the road between two great points, he is led to inquire how it was that so much superfluous space was put into it in the first place. Ten hours saved in these busy times means a whole lot