

spectacle of Cuba's suffering, the United States, the banner bearer of freedom, the world's great Republic, must conserve the interests of the money, power and stocks must go up, no matter how many lives go down.

As the red-winged thunderbolt leaps from the overhanging cloud and purifies the stagnant air, so God permitted the explosive thunder-bolt to burst in Havana harbor that it might vitalize the inert power of American manhood. With 900 pounds of deadly explosives in the infernal mine devised by Spanish treachery, a cable was connected to the land, by which the work of destruction was easily consummated. The American warship, its commanders, consorting congenially with dark-browed Spanish visitors, was towed into just the desired position over the concealed death-trap. The Spanish vessels were carefully stationed at a respectful distance. Then, in an instant, the torch was given, the spark applied, and the Maine burst asunder with frightful detonations and 258 American seamen were hurled mangled and torn in the swallowing waves. When in China two German missionaries were killed by heathen rabble, German warships entered Chinese port towns and demanded and received indemnity to the nation and punishment for the murderers. When, in Hayti, one pseudo-German citizen was wrongfully imprisoned, German guns were trained upon Hayti's capital, and the world was taught that it would cost an immense sum to interfere with German liberties. Had any vessel belonging to any European nation been ruthlessly destroyed in a foreign harbor, in twenty-four hours that nation's heaviest battle-guns would have startled the distant skies with their loud-voiced booming.

It is humiliating, but it is true, that frequent occasions have proven that the Stars and Stripes furnish American citizens abroad scant protection—and our murdered dead—our brave navy heroes—the waters chant their requiem; but how must the world have wondered while the days slipped by and the official head of the nation silently maintained his so-called "wise and firm conservative policy." How did the United States need to hang her head in shame, when through the ebb and flow of reports made current by themselves, senators and secretaries could so manipulate stocks as to refill the coffers exhausted in campaign wire-pulling! Oh, my country, how wert thou fallen from the sensitive honor of thy high estate, when one high in the White House could speak unrebuked of that unparalleled horror, as the "Havana incident!"

It needed no costly, long-drawn court of inquiry; the manner of the explosion, the condition of the wreck, proved in the very beginning that the explosion occurred from external rather than internal causes. There was no external cause possible but Spanish hatred. It belonged to Spain to discover the miscreants who did the abominable deed and deliver them to the just punishment of insulted America.

So only could Spain have vindicated her innocence before the world. In failing to do this, the Spanish government owned itself particeps criminis, itself the secret, deadly, malignant assassin; and yet a month afterward the President of these United States receives with distinguished honor the envoy of Spain and assures him that it is the desire of his heart to bring Spain and the United States into closer and more cordial relations! The survivors of the ill-fated Maine would readily aver that their relations with Spain have been quite as close as is consistent with health and safety. The heart of the people beats true to its old patri-

otic impulses. Who has heard one whisper of dissent when Congress appropriated \$50,000,000 to the country's need? But, oh for a statesmanship to guide the ship of the Union that measures altitudes by something more reliable than the interests of stock exchange! Oh, for a leadership whose heroism will not dissolve in any solution of gold and whose love of Fatherland means more than protection of gold deposits! But what of it all to Cuba?

Between the United States and Spain the end is not yet, but whatever the issue, in the tangle of conflict, Cuba slips the fetters from her limbs and arises from her degradation mangled and sore, but free! Can she govern herself wisely? Has she coherent force in her heterogeneous population to formulate laws, establish order and purify her desecrated borders? Doubtless she will blunder and doubtless turbulent elements will threaten the new found freedom with anarchy. But every attempt will develop new strength and, at last, out of her fires of purification, she will emerge in her own beauty—Cuba libre—Cuba libre.

Ensanguined with the crimson dyes Of her shed blood, see Cuba rise, And stretch her fettered hands to thee, Boasted republic of the free! How long, in cruel strength, she cries, Linger to watch my agony?

Was't not enough that day by day, Thou'st seen my life-blood ooze away, Measured foul murder's purple stains, Seen thresholds smeared with the cleft brains

Of babies? Yet could'st thou delay! Was't not enough? What more remains?

No war in Cuba? Said'st thou so?

What meant, then, the repeated glow That lit the lurid skies with fires, And made our homesteads funeral pyres?

No war? Whence, then, the awful woe Of ravished maids and butchered sires?

No war? And friendship's sliken chain Binding Columbia to Spain? Hark to that detonating peal!

The avenging Heavens would make thee feel Our woe, through thine own children slain,

Crushed 'neath the treacherous Spaniard's heel.

Was that dread mine, beneath the sea, Only an "incident" to thee, Dealer in stocks with heart grown cold

To all appeals but those of gold? Shall money chain thy suppliant knee, With honor, pride and country sold?

Nay, still the Stars and Stripes shall lead

Where freedom wins and tyrants bleed;

Thy martyrs, treacherously slain, Shall break fair Cuba's lengthened chain!

Burned in with fire, the Cubans creed— No vassalage to haughty Spain!

ORIELLE CURTIS.

EAST TENNESSEE CONFERENCE.

Salisbury, N. C., March 20, 1898.

But little has appeared in the "News" recently regarding the progress and development of the work of the Lord in East Tennessee conference. Our silence may indicate that we have learned and adopted the old rule that "example is better than precept."

I have been in the mission field just twenty-two months. During that time much of the experience which is invariably associated with missionary work has come my way.

We are at present meeting more opposition than for some time past. It is of a kind, however, which adds double diligence to our efforts and a corresponding increase to our success. Our Elders were all moved two hundred miles east, after our conference, held three months ago in Johnson City, Tenn. This move placed forty humble servants of the Lord, filled anew with the spirit of determination and love in half as many cities in this part of North Carolina. From one to four papers were published in each city and all had a good deal to say regarding our work. As the papers began to circulate from one city to another, our newspaper friends began to express the fear that the Mormons were about to execute one of their famous maneuvers with a vein of capturing several thousand fair females. These stories—always the production of an overworked imagination—are now dying out.

Elder D. W. Jeffs and myself are laboring among the Elders of this conference in their various counties.

We did some preaching here in Rowan county two months ago and upon our return recently found that the seed which we had sown had already brought forth good fruit. Just as we arrived the two leading deacons of the Baptist church were being tried and cast out for what was called "the infamous sin of having entertained Mormon Elders." Several others withdrew from their church and all of these have signified their determination to be baptized, each expressing joy and thanksgiving that the Lord had revealed to his mind concerning that straight and narrow path which leadeth unto life eternal.

M. H. WELLING.

CONDEMNATION OF UTAH FRUIT.

The State board of horticulture has issued a proclamation of warning and advice to Utah orchardists. Action in this particular is the result of the following letter received from the state horticultural inspector for district No. 7, Blackfoot, Idaho, under date of April 2, 1898:

Dear Sir—I wish to say something in regard to codling moth or worms in the apple. I find nearly all of your apples last year very wormy, from most places in Utah.

This year I shall inspect the fruit shipped in, and in cases where they are very wormy will be compelled to condemn, as provided by law. I do not wish to make any hardship, but will be compelled to do so if the nuisance is not abated. Kindly get this matter before your people in time to spray and use all means in their power to destroy the pest. Under separate paper I send you copies of the (Idaho) law. Please note sections 7 and 12 in regard to labeling boxes and trees with name of grower so that we can tell where to lay the blame, and in case fruit is condemned and destroyed we will know where to charge up the same, so that it will fall back upon the grower.

While I wish to make no hardship upon the grower, still self-protection is the first law of nature, and we will be compelled to protect ourselves and enforce the law. Yours truly,

O. F. SMITH.

Inspector Seventh District, Idaho. By way of explanation and advice the board issued the following:

The sections of the Idaho law referred to in the above letter read as follows:

"Section 7. The inspectors are hereby vested with all necessary authority to enforce quarantine against and infected fields, lots, orchards, nurseries, trees, plants, shrubs, vines, buds or scions, fruit, or any place or article within the state, when the same may be liable to