

annoyances are as naught when one considers the glorious tropical panorama provided in this trip across the island. The loneliness of the northern coastwise country disappears on leaving Matanzas, and of a sudden your train is whirling through a veritable nature's garden. Great orange groves are as common as pine woods in Maine. Vast pine-apple plantations fill the space between.

Here the view sweeps across river, valley and vast reaches of cane-grounds, the last cutting being hurried to the massive and groaning machinery with the splendid villas behind, the whole surrounded by stately cocoa-trees and the lordly palm. There, for miles, stretches another valley, a plain of puce and yellow where the "last cut" of tobacco is being piled by the operarios upon cujes or curing-racks, or carried from these before the dew falls at three o'clock, to the great casas de tabacas, where are other noble houses, palms and fruits and flowers untellable. Here and there, are ranches and herds like the shining-horned hosts of Camaguay, with mounted vanqueros and monteros and their wonderful dogs, in picturesque groups, with the great palmetto-palisaded corralles for the "round-ups" and again by these, porticoed houses and quintas, like palaces.

Upon every stream, at the mouth of flower-embedded canyons, or set like brown Gipsies upon mountain-side, are the poor guajiros' palmthatched cabins, and everywhere are such luxuriance in soil and forest, vine and flower, that when you reach the splendid city of Cienfuegos as the shadows fall, and the moonbeams begin to dance upon its matchless bay, one feels as though the day had been a vision of some dream-land isle where the weird in men and the glowing in nature have blended in magical spell with indescribable bloom and song.

E. L. W.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1893.—The first week of the new administration has been much like the first week of other administrations, crowding, bustle and more or less confusion everywhere. The President and members of his cabinet have been given time to do little else than receive the thousands who have called on them, some merely to pay their respects and offer congratulations, others, probably a majority, to put in a good word for themselves or friends who want office.

The chances of C. W. Edwards, of Wilmington, Delaware, who was reported to have been slated for government printer, are believed to have been reduced to the zero point, by the relegation of Union printers which came here early in the week and presented to President Cleveland, in the name of organized labor, a protest against his appointment, because of his being opposed to labor unions and having himself been at one time a "rat" printer.

The silver Democrats are already accusing President Cleveland of making war upon them because of their financial opinions, and some of Mr. Cleveland's injudicious friends are largely responsible for the accusation. They have told it everywhere that it was the views of ex-Governor Campbell, of Ohio, on silver that prevented

his being a member of the cabinet, and some of them do not hesitate to say that it is the intention of the administration to use the patronage at its disposal to make votes in Congress for the repeal of the Sherman silver law; and others assert that the fight that is now going on among the Democratic senators to prevent Senator Vorhees getting the chairmanship of the finance committee, to which he is by all the rules of precedence clearly entitled, was instigated by the administration. There may be no truth in these accusations, but they are made and discussed among men who are in positions to know what they are talking about. That's why I repeat them.

The widow of General Grant evidently is not superstitious even a little bit. Having sold her New York house and made up her mind to make her permanent home in Washington, and liking the location of the house in which Mr. Blaine died, which has been the scene of so many sad occurrences, she has made Mrs. Blaine an offer for the property. There are lots of people in Washington who would not live in that house if it was given to them.

Some comment has been made on account of the manner in which the Democratic senators have treated the Populist senators. Some time ago when it looked as though the vote of the Populists would be necessary to control the Senate they were the recipients of constant attention, but now the Democrats have enough votes of their own, and they did not hesitate to slight Senators L'effler, Kyle and Allen by not extending them the courtesy of an invitation to attend their caucus. It is doubtful whether either of these gentlemen would have attended the caucus, but they would have appreciated the courtesy of an invitation. Senator Martin of Kansas attended the Democratic caucus. He classes himself as a Democrat with Populist sympathies, and the Democrats have accepted that classification.

There is a disposition to "poke fun" at the host of Democratic office seekers now in Washington, because of the fact that the first man appointed to a minor position by the Cleveland administration was a negro. The negro in question was appointed door-keeper to the office of the President's private secretary. He held the same position during the first Cleveland administration, and his reappointment is very cheering to the "back numbers," as the applicants who held office under Mr. Cleveland before have been jokingly named. They retort by calling the new applicants "tender feet." The crowd has up to this time been in a jolly, good humor, but what it will be later remains to be seen.

The Hawaiian business took on a fresh complication with the arrival of Princess Kaiulani, this week, but everybody is still in the dark as to the position of the new administration towards Hawaii.

If anyone expected any definite information as a result of the investigation made into the condition of the treasury, present and prospective, by the House committee on ways and means they were badly disappointed with the two reports presented by the majority and minority of that com-

mittee, early this week. It would have been difficult for the reports to have been wider apart in the conclusions drawn, the Democrats expressing the belief that the close of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1893, will find the treasury \$30,000,000 or \$40,000,000 in debt, and the Republicans that there will neither be a deficit nor a surplus large enough to cause any inconvenience. Between these two reports the unprejudiced public, which does not look at the matter through partisan political spectacles, may take its choice or make its own guess.

DEATH OF ELIZABETH HOWARD.

Sister Elizabeth Howard died at the residence of Mrs. Mary Ann Hunter at Grantville, Tooele county, Utah, Sunday morning at 2 o'clock, having been suddenly stricken down with paralysis Saturday morning. Sister Howard had gone there to attend the Sisters' Conference of that Stake. She was a woman greatly beloved and highly respected by all who knew her.

Sister Howard's parents were Robert and Lucretia Anderson, and she was born at Carlow, Carlow county, Ireland, July 12, 1823. Mrs. Howard's father was a reformer, a man of means and influence in his country, and suggested several governmental and social innovations that were afterwards adopted by the government and the people. Her parents were Presbyterians, and she was brought up strictly in that faith. She was married to Wm. Howard, the oldest son of Stott and Catharine Howard, June 9, 1841. In 1851 she heard of the Gospel and embraced it and came to America in 1853 with her husband and family, arriving in Utah in September of the same year, residing the first few years in the Thirteenth ward in this city.

When the Relief Society was organized in Big Cottonwood she was chosen secretary, which office she filled until she accompanied her husband on a mission to England in 1863. During her sojourn in Great Britain she was frequently called upon to speak upon the principles of the Gospel and subjects of that nature. Divines and men of learning found her quite equal to answer them on every point, and her part of the mission has often been spoken of as very creditable and important, for it was at a time when women had scarcely been heard to speak publicly on our faith except at home.

In 1871 Mrs. Howard was chosen counselor to Mrs. M. I. Horne in the General Retrenchment association, in place of Mrs. M. A. Smoot, who had moved to Provo; soon after she was elected president of the Relief society of Big Cottonwood ward, but resigned a few years ago on account of other duties. When the Relief society of Salt Lake stake was organized Sister Howard was appointed secretary, which position she held at the time of her demise.

Mrs. Howard was for one year, from October, 1891, to October, 1892, president of the Woman Suffrage association of Salt Lake county. She had traveled very extensively in the interest of woman's work from the time this sort of missionary work commenced, and was a very sincere and