

others besides negroes, will be admitted before long. Further than this, it shows that the insurgents are not being placed hors du combat with very great celerity. In fact it may be concluded that Spain has a good sized contract on her hands in restoring order and her own supremacy in Cuba, and that her military representatives have not been very successful as yet in carrying out the government desires.

If it should be true that a filibustering expedition of 15,000 or more men from Florida and adjacent states is soon to be landed on the disturbed island, the crown authority there is seriously threatened by overthrow; and if the scheme be carried out the national title to Cuba is not likely to repose in Spain much longer. At the same time the United States government ought to take effective measures to prevent citizens of this country committing such a gross violation of international law as that proposed by the Florida expedition. If sentiment in this country justifies support of the insurgent cause, it should come in square, manly fashion. To be entitled to the respect of other nations our government ought to sit down very hard upon filibustering expeditions. Whatever merits the Cuban uprising has, the filibusterer is an outlaw who should be promptly squelched in the country where he resides.

UNCIVILIZED AND LAWLESS.

An extensive collection of cliff dweller relics is now being exhibited by the Durango Archeological society, at Durango, Colo., and the *Herald* of that city says that from the display a good idea can be gathered of the manner of life of these extinct peoples, as their cooking utensils, household implements, weapons of war and the chase, tools, musical instruments, clothing, ornaments, etc.; the mummies also show their method of disposing of their dead. In this connection it may be remarked that for purposes of information and instruction to the present and coming generations, in view of the fact that cliff dwellers' habitations are being looted of all their valuable contents, Salt Lake City might have a collection of antiquities, both of cliff dwellers and other prehistoric inhabitants of the country. West, second to none in the country. But if possessed, it should be purely for purposes of good, that the evidences of ancient life on this continent may not be, in the near future, confined to books and photographs through the destruction of the remains themselves.

In the paper quoted from there is a statement of the ownership referred to use of the collection for serious that suggests a subject for serious thought, and for some action to put a stop to a ghouliness all too common. The exhibit at Durango is there temporarily, being a feature of a traveling show in which the antiquities are merely used for the purpose of money making; it was collected at the cost of destroying much of the work of the cliff dwellers in the ruthless search for their utensils and bodies.

In the vicinity of where Utah, Colorado and New Mexico come together there is the richest country for American antiquities that has been

explored; perhaps the adjacent section of Arizona is equally rich, but its reservation for the Indians has precluded thorough investigation. In the country described prehistoric ruins are found by thousands—not a few isolated remains here and there. In consequence of their abundance there are numbers of people who make a living by gathering mummies and other antiquities and disposing of them to curiosity exhibitors. To make these collections it is found convenient to tear down structures erected by the cliff dwellers, and thus a most valuable and interesting feature of the country is being rapidly destroyed.

It is a common thing for a number of persons to start out for a few weeks' trip in this region and to return laden with remains of the ancient inhabitants and their earthenware, weapons of war, clothing, ornaments, etc. When brought in these are sold for a good price for traveling show purposes. It is not an unusual thing among the people who reside in that locality to speak of persons on these expeditions being out "Aztec digging," just as if the looting of graves was a reputable business, to be carried on with the full approval of civilized people.

When individuals go to modern cemeteries for the purpose of "body snatching," their act is horrifying to modern civilized sentiment. Imprisonment is thought almost too good for those who would desecrate the grave by removing therefrom a human body for medical purposes. How much better are those who rob the graves of an extinct people, that human bodies may be hawked over the country for mercenary purposes? The difference in time of burial does not make the desecration less reprehensible. If the tomb where relatives and friends have laid the casket of a loved one is too sacred to be unnecessarily disturbed, when the shades of the first night come on, it is as sacred in a year, or in a thousand years, and it is as uncivilized an act to disturb one as the other without good cause. This being the case, civilized public sentiment in the localities referred to should put an end to the "Aztec digging" which is a vulgar term for the ghouliah business of grave robbing.

So far as Utah is concerned, the officers of San Juan county and of the Territory should take a hand in this matter if this relic hunting for base purposes is not stopped by other means. It has been permitted to go all too far already, notwithstanding that it has been a subject of frequent comment, and at one time of special attention in a gubernatorial message to the Legislature. There is a law on the statute books of this Territory which ought no longer be left a dead letter if its violation is persisted in. Chapter VI. of the compiled laws deals with violating sepulchres and remains of the dead, making no distinction as to their antiquity. It provides that every person who mutilates, disinters or removes from the place of sepulture the dead body of a human being without authority of law, or who removes any part of the dead body of a human being from any grave or other place where the same has been buried or deposited, with intent to sell the same, is punishable by imprison-

ment in the penitentiary not exceeding five years; and the punishment of misdemeanor is provided for those who remove or deface any tomb, monument, wall or memorial appertaining to the place of burial of a human being.

This amply covers the grave robbery that has been and is being indulged in in San Juan county, Utah, at least, and should be used as a means to check further vandalism. Some persons may have followed the business thoughtlessly, and ignorant of the fact that it was lawless. If it is pursued in future, however, there ought to be an example made to bring about a change.

In connection with prehistoric remains, there is an illustration near Bluff City which should serve for other localities. Opposite the city is a large cliff dwellers' cave, with its various rooms and ruins in fair state of preservation. The good people of that locality have removed the debris, and have cleaned and oared for the place until it is now an object of interest and veneration as the ancient home of human beings. This is as it should be. Preservation has been the object, not destruction; and the same rule would be commendable to collections of antiquities or in the idea often advanced but not yet adopted of establishing a prehistoric park where Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona come together. Such proceedings for the general good and the preservation of antiquities for educational purposes meet with approval; but let us have an end to the ghouliah and uncivilized business.

THEORIES OF THE FLOOD.

Recently some attention has been given in the literary world to explanations of the great deluge with which Bible readers are familiar. The fact itself is attested no less by traditions among nearly every known race of people than by the Moslem account. In the Babylonian account, dating, it is supposed, from the year 660 B. C., or earlier, the hero of the deluge is ordered to build a "ship" and to put into it his household and his wealth and the beasts of the field. Rain then fell and a flood came that destroyed all life from the face of the earth. At last the ship stranded on a mountain and the sailors were rescued. In all essentials this narrative agrees with that of Moses. Among Egyptians, Indians, and various other branches of the human family allusions and traces of an original account of a deluge may be found, proving its propagation from a common source of information which must rest on some fact that has impressed itself indelibly on the minds of our race. In Egyptian mythology Ra, the creator, being disgusted with the wickedness of mankind, resolved to exterminate the race. When this was nearly done he repented and swore not to destroy the human family again. Other mythologies contain similar striking allusions.

The question whether this flood was universal or partial is again brought up. A writer in a Leipzig journal, Herr F. von Schwarz, claims to have made a discovery during a recent ex-