

the women of the Suffrage association, with the World's Fair work, and in that union of all ties, the National Council, and in each capacity they have demonstrated their earnestness and ability.

The Woman's Tribune then goes on to say that there is something of poetical justice that the right of Utah women should be accorded them while as yet there are some to enjoy it who helped to lay the foundations of their prosperous commonwealth. In all that has gone to making the desert blossom like the rose, it says, the women of Utah have borne their full share as workers, and that larger share of endurance and sacrifice which in one shape or another has always been the lot of woman. "Think of it!" exclaims that paper: "there are some still left to exercise their tardily acquired rights who pushed their handicarts with their babies and their bundles in them those weary miles across the Great American Desert! The early Mormon women were very largely of New England birth, and they have gloried in emulating the exile and privations of the Pilgrims for the same cause, namely freedom to worship according to their conscience."

Our esteemed cotemporary is quite enthusiastic in its anticipations of what the Utah women will do; and we doubt not they will perform their full share in giving to the new State the best governmental administration of which its people are capable.

OUR INADEQUATE DEFENSES.

Rumors of war between the United States and Great Britain are again spreading like wildfire from east to west. This time the cause belli is supposed to be furnished by Cuba. It may not, therefore, be uninteresting to recall a statement made by Grand Duke Alexis during the fete at Kiel. The grand duke is the head of the Russian navy. Like other officers he was a frequent visitor on the American men-of-war. One day on board the Columbia he said to the captain: "Do you know what most impressed me when I visited your country? The first thing was your wonderful natural wealth; the second, the absolutely inadequate means at your disposal for national defense. Twice in my career I have heard the project of capturing one or two of your great cities and holding them for ransom deliberately discussed by officers of European fleets."

Can it be possible that Great Britain will endeavor to carry out this plan which the grand duke says he has heard discussed by European officers?

THE CUBAN INSURGENTS.

There now appear strong possibilities of an early recognition by this country of belligerent rights of the Cuban insurgents. Notwithstanding the fact that there is a marked objection in some quarters to such recognition, there is a still stronger sentiment in this country which demands it, and to which the President is likely to hearken. It makes little difference that the Cuban leaders are not the typical patriots that we look upon the

founders of this Republic as being; the common feeling is that they are struggling to throw off a foreign yoke, and that is sufficient to enlist sympathy for them in this country.

One point of objection to recognizing the belligerent rights of Cubans is that the principal leaders of the movement are either citizens of the United States or of other countries than Cuba; and that for the President to recognize the belligerency of a party of our own citizens engaged in an attempt to destroy the government of a colony of Spain would be just about as bad as to declare war against Spain itself. To this the reply is made that as Americans are not prohibited from settling elsewhere, if they become so numerous that they can work out a successful revolution in Cuba, their American birth or citizenship should not be a bar to the recognition which would be given persons who never saw American soil; and while the President might not feel justified in recognizing the Cuban representative, T. E. Palma, while he enjoys the protection of this country both by residence and citizenship, the rule in his case is not applicable to those who are doing the actual fighting in Cuba.

It is a fact that most of the Cuban leaders are not citizens of Spain, or of Cuba under Spanish rule; at the same time, they are nearly all of Spanish or Cuban extraction, or of long residence on the island, and their American citizenship was acquired at a time of their enforced exile from the country they are endeavoring to free from Spanish domination. On this point the following statement of the citizenship of the Cuban leaders is of interest:

Salvador Cisneros Betancourt, who was formerly known as the marquis of Santa Lucia, he dropped his title when he became president of the Cuban republic, has been a naturalized citizen of the United States since 1878, and has never renounced his allegiance.

Rafael Portuondo, the minister of foreign affairs, who is seeking the recognition of the President for the provisional republic, was naturalized in New York about the same time and his family have collected \$80,000 indemnity from Spain through our government for injuries inflicted upon them as citizens of the United States by the Spanish authorities.

Carlos Roloff, the secretary of war, was a subject of the czar of Russia, and a native of Poland. He is a nihilist of the most pronounced type. He resided in the United States for a number of years, and became a citizen. It is said he had to leave Russia because of complicity in nihilist conspiracies.

Maximo Gomez, the general-in-chief of the revolutionary army, is a citizen of Santo Domingo and is employed upon a salary by the Cuban patriots to command their armies.

Jose Maceo, the second in command, is a negro exile from Porto Rico, and being expelled from that country some years ago, took refuge in Cuba, where he has been a sort of black terror—a bandit king. It was he who plotted the capture of John Sherman, while that gentleman was making a tour through Cuba some years ago. It was intended to seize him, carry him off into the mountains and hold him for ransom, with the expectation that the government of the United States would pay a large sum of money for his release.

Thomas Estrada Palma, the envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from the Cuban republic to this

government, is also a citizen of the United States, and has resided in this country continuously for nearly twenty years.

Mr. Quesada, Palma's secretary, and the active leader of the Cuban propaganda in the United States, has been a citizen for nine years.

But after all, these men are more strictly Cubans than they are Americans, both by association and sympathy. The recognition of their rights as belligerents would be a parallel with that of Texas in 1846, so far as mere recognition goes, for many of the leaders there were or had been citizens of the United States; and it is not unlikely that the success of the Cuban revolutionists means that the island soon would be largely peopled by citizens of this country and in time would become a part of this nation.

SHOULD RECOGNIZE TRUTH.

There is published in Pennsylvania a paper called the Christian Statesman, whose editor-in-chief is Rev. David McAllister, D. D., LL. D.; the publication has for its motto: "Christ and Country." But notwithstanding the series of initials to indicate the editor's erudition, and the idea expressed in the motto, the columns of the paper indicate that its writers have not yet learned to recognize the facts of ancient American history as they are being constantly demonstrated by archaeological research, or the great truth that Christ manifested any particular interest in the inhabitants of this half of the world at the period of His appearance in the meridian of time; nor does its assumption of patriotism approach that recognized in the Book of Mormon by a European writer who remarked concerning it, that "it has one distinctively American feature in claiming for Christ a better reception on that continent than was accorded Him on the Eastern hemisphere; for when He visited America, He was received and worshipped as the risen Lord instead of being sentenced to hang upon the cross."

In its issue for January, 11th the Christian Statesman makes some comments upon the admission of Utah as a State, and refers to the publication in the DESERT NEWS of a discourse, delivered by a Mormon Elder in this city, in which "the claim is made that the Book of Mormon is the Bible or the American continent." Then our Pennsylvania cotemporary proceeds:

The preposterous claim rests on this myth which it seems strange that any set of men and women can be induced to credit: "When our Savior had performed His mission in the land of Judea, He came over to this land of America. He told the people of Jerusalem that He had other sheep that were not of that fold; and that He must visit them also, that they might hear His voice and He would bring them and they should become one people. So He came over here and held several notable conferences with the people. He taught them the same Gospel that He had taught in the land of Jerusalem. He appointed twelve disciples here, and gave them instructions, endowed them with the Priesthood, etc. In the course of time, when the people became wicked again, after having had a long period of