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TROUBLE IN SPAIN.

There seems to be serious trouble in Spain, in the district of Catalonia, where for years the smoldering embers of dissatisfaction have caused anxiety at Madrid. Spain has a problem in this mountain region which demands attention.

The Catalonians are about one-fifth of the entire Spanish population. They occupy eight provinces which are among the most beautiful in the entire peninsula. They have numerous large cities of which one, Barcelona, is almost as large as Madrid and more important as a business center. The people speak a dialect somewhat different from that of Castile. They are nearer French than Spanish.

This district has never been completely conquered by the Castilians. In 1714 the Catalonians told the Madrid government that they were prepared to defend themselves against the armies of the Convention, and from 1808 to 1812 an insurrectionary junta governed all parts of the district which were not occupied by French troops. Gradually the Catalonians learned to love French ideas. They brought back their university which had been moved to Cervera. They rebuilt their harbors, developed their industries, built up their cities and became prosperous.

But this life meant a hunger and thirst for liberty. Valencians and Barcelonians are cities with republican tendencies. Three years ago a procession marched beneath the trees of one of the principal public places to attest the city's respect and affection for Dr. Rodriguez Mendez. Twenty associations of workmen, representing 6,700 members were represented, and they came to thank the Doctor for what he had done for popular education and general enlightenment. Seven thousand pupils from the schools for workmen followed their banners and flags. Dr. Vargas made a splendid speech, and then Dr. Mendez rose. He closed his oration as follows: "Today's demonstration shows that, if the country is oppressed, its ruin is not traceable to the humble classes, but to those in the highest authority." The enthusiasm with which this speech was received was, as stated in reports published at the time, almost frantic.

The ruling classes have sought to embarrass this liberty loving people, by saying upon it, keeping a despotic hand over its civil life, and looting its markets. They have forbidden the use of the Catalan dialect in the schools and the courts, and even persecuted writers for using that language. A judge once insulted a Catalanian by asking him to have the goodness to address him "in a Christian tongue." Commerce and industry have suffered under Spanish tyranny. Under that regime blackmail is common. Political rights are shamelessly assailed. Elections are conducted under a system of bribery and the majority have but a poor chance of winning against the agents of the government.

That is the Catalanian problem. The people, as a rule, are attached to Spain, notwithstanding all injustice, but they demand local self-government. "We suppose that is what they are fighting for now. They will obtain it some day. Spanish statesmen would prove their wisdom by adding them to obtain local autonomy. If they have to fight for it, they may not, in case of victory, stop at local self-government. They may demand complete separation from a country that does not care to understand them, and has no sympathy for them in their struggle for freedom and advancement. Spain, with a little war in Morocco, cannot afford to make war upon a third of its best citizens at home."

PRESIDENTS TO MEET.

Definite arrangements have now been made for a meeting between Presidents Taft and Diaz, during the western trip of the Chief Executive of this country. Naturally there is some speculation as to the purpose of this meeting.

Mexico and the United States are neighbors and members of the same family of American republics have many common interests, and it is conceivable that the two Presidents may deem it necessary to have an understanding on some questions in which both are concerned. Besides, American capital is invested in Mexican enterprises and an anti-American sentiment has been manifested at times among a certain class of Mexicans, which American investors cannot but view with apprehension. Neither of the two Presidents can make treaties, but they can come to an understanding and make agreements that will influence the treaty making bodies of the respective countries, and thus accomplish a great deal of good. It is certain that something must be done to prevent the anti-American sentiment from spreading from the lower strata of society upward.

Diaz has a wonderful hold upon the Mexican people. He first became president in 1877. He was re-elected in 1884 and has held the office ever since, the constitution permitting re-election without restriction. Mexico has advanced during his administration. The people are better educated than their

forefathers were. They know the blessings of peace and stability in government. They are trained in business and agricultural pursuits instead of in wars and internal broils. They know that Diaz is "the father of his country," as it is today, and his influence is almost unlimited. For that reason, a friendly conference between him and the Chief representative of this country will not be without good results.

THE KNOCKER CAUGHT.

There is not an interest in this State that the Tribune does not attack at one time or another. In harmony with its established policy of "knocking" Utah, it had the other day an article in which it was alleged that Southern Utah is being depopulated by some kind of a fever. This falsehood is met by the Lone Cedar, published at Kanab, as follows:

"The Salt Lake Tribune, in its capacity as Lyre-in-chief of the Utah press, published an article last week on 'goat fever,' so-called.

"According to that sheet, Southern Utah will soon be depopulated by that 'mysterious' fever. The truth is that no man, woman nor child has ever died of 'goat fever.'

"The extremely unsanitary conditions in and around the kidding pens every spring has given many Kanab herders a severe variation of typhus. It is only reasonable to believe that sheep and goats in the same manner that goats are kidded would cause the same disease. That goats alone are responsible is only the imagining of some mental slouch who does not know the terrible danger of decaying filth.

"The Tribune says men are dying of this fever all through the towns of Orderville, Glendale, etc., in Kane County, all through Washington County and over the line in Arizona. That is a straight lie, made up by a man too lazy to hunt news for his paper. There isn't a goat owned in Washington County nor anywhere else in Southern Utah except in Kanab and Johnson, and one herd in Cedar City; nor has there been a case of 'goat fever' outside of those two towns since named.

"To make the Tribune complete, it should state that Joseph F. Smith imported the 'goat fever' to kill off the male population of Southern Utah so he could have all their women and wealth for himself. The Tribune claims to be an authority on mining, and we hasten to suggest that it confine itself to its specialty."

A contributor to the same number of the Lone Cedar takes up the same question. He observes that "there are only two ways in which to account for the origin of this foolish [Tribune] writing: viz: the person or persons that made the so-called complaint was an enemy to the goat industry and simply sought to revive the old fight between the livestock men; or else the complaint was exaggerated beyond all bounds of reason by the Tribune itself, as is often the case with that paper, with no other motive than to make its columns newsworthy and sensational." Then he says:

"The Angora goat industry is in its infancy and so few people understand the value and real worth of this animal that a blow such as was given it by the Tribune, may suffice to discourage many who were otherwise intending to invest. It cannot be questioned that the Angora is a money maker along with other live stock, and is a growing industry in Utah; therefore, if the Tribune were a friend to its subscribers, it would have endeavored to procure the facts instead of telling such outlandish lies. The facts are, there hasn't been a goat man or any employee die with any fever."

Of course not. Whenever it is in the Tribune, it is not so.

The Lone Cedar, by the way, is a lively and vigorous little paper published at Kanab. It represents that section of the State very well, is devoted to its interests, stands for purity in morals, and deserves support.

TRUSTS IN ENGLAND.

The United States does not have a monopoly of the trust business, by any means, though in this country the trusts are able to raise their prices far more than the trusts of Europe are able to do.

An eastern contemporary calls attention to the fact that the whole overseas trade between England and South Africa, is in the hands of a combination of ship-owners, whose methods are similar to the trust-practices so familiar in this country.

This English combination restrains combination and fixes the rate which shippers shall pay. It also requires of the shippers that they shall keep a substantial deposit in its hands as a guarantee that they will not take their business elsewhere.

The British government has not undertaken any steps thus far to prosecute this combination, but it has done what it may, after all, be better for the public. A royal commission, after investigation, has been content to make recommendations, of which the most important is that the shippers in various lines should organize for their own defense and then deal with the organized ship-owners.

The ocean tonnage of all the nations of the world is thirty-eight millions. Of this total British shipping carries nearly one-half, or eighteen millions. From these totals it would appear that the abuses of the English shipping combinations must fall far short of charging exorbitant or unusual rates for freight shipments; otherwise the amazing total of British foreign commerce could not long be maintained.

There are various trusts in England. It is said that steel trusts exist there, but English market prices for these commodities are the lowest in the world. A sugar trust is said to flourish in Britain, yet sugar commonly retails there at less than \$2 per hundredweight. The English copper trust is said to undersell in England the American copper market with copper imported from America; and so it goes.

We suppose it is for these reasons that so little attention is paid to the trusts in England. The English trusts seem to undersell all competitors in trade; and as long as they do so, it will probably be difficult to arouse very much popular indignation about them.

book form, that the French are both decadent and decrepit. He says that France is being devastated by seven plagues—religious infidelity, depopulation, immorality, alcoholism, materialism, anti-militarism, and political corruption. He adds that the national policy has abjured the Christian faith; that military prestige has vanished and the navy is a wreck; that French literature, art and drama have gone to moral decay, and that race suicide threatens the very existence of the nation.

Undoubtedly there is some truth in this indictment. But the French cannot be as morally shipwrecked as this author would make the world believe. There is another side to France. The French are an industrious and frugal people. The French housewife is faithful and clever. The French could not hold their place in literature, in the arts, in the world's work generally, and especially not in political influence if they were decrepit. It may be true that they are no longer as enthusiastic as they were during the Napoleonic era about military matters; they may care less for that kind of glory, but if so, that is not proof of decadence but of increased intelligence and maturity.

That France has its share of infidelity, depopulation, immorality, alcoholism, materialism, and political corruption will not be denied. But which of the civilized nations has not? These evils are not distinctively French. Our entire civilization is affected by these plagues. And so general are they that there is no escape except in a complete reconstruction, such as has been forecasted by the Seers who have predicted a Millennium.

Alfonso can say with Iago, "I hate the Moor."

Most city councilmen have more resolution than backbone.

People who have troubles to air should use an alrhip.

A man who cannot realize his mistakes cannot realize his hopes.

While the Moors are flushed with victory their faces do not show the flush.

For Spain the battle of Melilla may be almost as disastrous as was the battle of Manila.

Those who do not draw prizes in the Idaho Indian reservation land drawings, will draw wry faces.

The big white, beautiful cumulous clouds do not have a silver lining, while the fleecy ones have been fleeced of theirs.

President Taft positively refuses to stand on a platform made of lumber datable at more than a dollar and a quarter a thousand.

A professor of the University of California says that the California flea has eyes but sees not. A good many people are built the same way.

There is no getting around the fact that calling a negro a "black dog" is abusive language though a United States senator does use such language.

The price of milk is to be raised, that is sure, but is it at all certain that purer and better milk will be furnished, and that customers will get honest measure?

President Taft's ultimatums do not arouse anger and bitterness in any one but they carry conviction and acquiescence to most. He proceeds along the line of least resistance.

The late Count Lowensplein left a quarter of a million pounds of original manuscript of French poets of all ages to the French nation. Poetry by the pound is at least a variation from poetry by the yard, not an improvement.

A couple of Piove's oldest and most prominent citizens were thrown out of a buggy and more or less injured by being hit by an automobile. The chauffeur explained the buggy and not the machine was at fault. And the lamb down stream was guilty of muddying the water for the wolf above stream.

If Mr. Bryan moves to Texas it will almost certainly remove him from national politics so far as again being a candidate for the presidency is concerned, for there is little or no likelihood that the Lone Star state, or any other southern state as for that matter, will furnish his party a presidential candidate for years to come. But his career has been so unique that it is difficult to make any prediction as to what it will be in the future. He is sui generis.

THE NEGRO AND CIVILIZATION.

Life.

Nobody can guess, as yet, what is to be the destiny of the descendants of the ten million negroes now in the United States. They are, we suppose, by all odds, the ablest, most civilized and competent ten million lot of negroes in the world. They are all at school, in a great school, kept somewhat reluctantly, by white men. Somehow and some time those negroes are going to have something like a fair show. Civilization will have a job for them, and it will not be the worst job that they can live by, but the best of which they are capable.

Troy Press.

Negro-hating whites should stop to consider that there is no race-suicide problem with that race, and men, unjust laws aimed at these wards of the nation will return to plague the children of those who enacted them. The time will soon be here when lynching bees cannot be held, and other indignities visited upon the downtrodden race with impunity. God created the blacks, no less than the whites, and the foolish are they who believe that any one race can monopolize His protecting care.

BACON WAS NOT SHAKESPEARE.

San Francisco Argonaut.

But the strongest appeal of all is not to scientific analysis or to the peculiar product of scholarship, but rather to the broad sign-manual that both Shakespeare and Bacon have stamped indelibly across their respective pages. The individuality of Shakespeare has never been more pronounced, the inherent differences between two styles has never been more accentuated. Making

all allowances for the divergences in subject matter and for varying styles necessitated by themes, it seems impossible to believe that the same hand wrote the plays and essays. They are both pure gold, but it is not from the same crucible nor of the same vintage. A sentence from Shakespeare appears transplanted to a page of Bacon, however cleverly cemented to the context, would yet stand out as boldly as though written in red ink. It is because the real Shakespearean scholar knows these things, because he is familiar with the whole field, that he refuses to waste his time over a few childish coincidences or to bandy words with those who are not Shakespearean scholars at all and who allow a few infantile puerilities to occupy their whole vision.

JUST FOR FUN.

"Jack gave me the loveliest birthday present."

"Oh! What was it?"

"He returned my photograph."—Cleveland Leader.

"Did he say I was lantern-jawed?"

"Not in those words, but it meant practically that."

"Tell me exactly what he said!"

"He said your face lighted up when he proposed to you."—Houston Post.

"You are all the world to me," said the man who had been twice divorced.

"Yes," replied the pretty grass widow, "and if I married you, it wouldn't be long before you would be looking around for new worlds to conquer."—Chicago Record Herald.

"So you think that woman's first husband treated her badly?"

"I should say so," answered Mrs. Plimmit. "He employed lawyers to cut down her alimony in a way that was positively niggardly."—Washington Star.

"Your daughter, madam, is suffering from a bad attack of constitutional inertia."

"There, ma! And you declared I was simply lazy!"—Baltimore American.

She—Marry you! Didn't hear me vow that I wouldn't marry the best man on earth?

He—That's all right. We can be married up in a balloon.—Boston Transcript.

Jack—I can't tell you how much I love you.

Nellie—Can't you? Well, perhaps it's just as well. You see, I'm engaged to Dick.—Chicago News.

"Anyway," she said, "your heart is in the right place."

"Well, I hope it is," he rejoined. "By the way, did you put it?"—Boston Transcript.

"But sometimes it's right to tell a white lie, isn't it?"

"Perhaps. But I notice that when a man gets that idea once, it isn't long till he becomes color blind."—Cleveland Leader.

"Do you believe in long engagements?"

"Not in the summer time. I never accept the proposal of any man whose vacation lasts longer than two weeks."—Detroit Free Press.

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