

might be a prospect of holding Cuba ever faithful.

"But even with those, I doubt her ability to control the island after the passage of a certain period. The sons of Spaniards coming in, after generations would be Cubans as devoted to their little island domain and with as much detestation for its enslavement as are the Cubans of today.

"Therefore, do as she may, Spain is destined to lose Cuba eventually, and could she hope for success in the present war, it would only be a matter of a few years when another rebellion would command her attention, entailing the loss of thousands of lives and the vast expenditure of money and with only the prospect of ultimate defeat.

"But for Spain the present struggle is a hopeless one. Two years ago the patriotic rebellion was inaugurated and the success attending our arms has been a surprise even to us, who were most hopeful and had most at stake."

Cisneros then gives details of the growth of the revolution through the island, the establishment of the various departments of government by which the insurgents collect taxes, maintain armies, carry mails, and concludes as follows:

"An important feature of the civil government has been the issuing of books and the establishment of schools. At an early period in the war the government took up the matter of education, realizing that knowledge meant strength and liberty.

"In various sections of Santiago and Puerto Principe school houses have been erected under the supervision of the government and native masters have been appointed. In a large majority of the schools already established the teachers hold their places by virtue of appointment by this government. Without further burdening you, I have the honor to say that every department of the government is in good working order and that unity of purposes pervades every branch, civil and military, while the people of the island as a whole are giving us their most earnest support.

"The army in the field, under the command of my brave and true friend, General-in-chief Maximó Gomez, is conducting a war of energy and mercy.

"The struggle may go on for years and Cuba may continue to fight the battle against fearful odds alone, but as long as there is a God to give us courage we will cling to the banner of right and freedom, and never falter until the victory is won.

"Assuring you of the honor I am am possessed in addressing you, and wishing you and your great Republic God speed, I am,

SALVADOR CISNEROS BETANCOURT,
President of Cuba,
Cubitas Mountain, Cuba,
March 22, 1897."

LONDON, March 31.—The Canea correspondent of the Standard will say tomorrow, describing the bombardment by the foreign warships of the position taken up by the insurgents on the hill to the south of Suda bay last evening:

When the Cretans began the attack, Col. Bor proposed to the admirals that they should land a mixed force of 500 men to dislodge the insurgents from

the positions that they occupied behind a strong wall along a ravine. The Austrian and French admirals were opposed to taking the offensive and they decided to confine their action to bombarding. By 8 o'clock in the morning the engagement was in full blast. The Turkish guns in fort Izzedin could take only a small part in the firing, as most of them were directed seaward, but a Turkish frigate shelled the insurgents freely, though with little effect.

An hour later the foreign man-of-war signaled their intention to bombard. The Groziastichy fired first, then H. M. S. Ardent, and finally the Austrian gunboat, Tiger. Each vessel fired in its turn, aiming chiefly at the Greek flag which was hoisted above the strong wall.

In spite of the heavy cannonade the Cretans held their ground stoutly, even throwing out skirmishers to repel the Turkish outposts, though they were compelled to abandon their own principal positions behind the stone wall.

At 8:45 a.m. H. M. S. Camperdown, the outermost of the ironclads, began firing six-inch shells. The Cretans thereupon retired slightly, but continued a heavy fire until 10 o'clock, when the Camperdown, at a range of 6,400 yards, fired her big guns. The effect was instantaneous. Three out of four of the shells burst directly in the center of the insurgents' position, and the Cretans fled helter skelter. The aim of the gunners was perfect, while the formidable noise of the enormous shells hurdling through the air was alone enough to frighten any enemy. Things were now getting too hot to last, and the insurgent flag was speedily lowered. At 10:15 the last shell fell.

Seeing that the object of the bombardment was accomplished, the Russian and Austrian warships steamed away for blockade service. The Ardent returned to Suda. The Turkish soldiers sailed quietly from the fort, occupied the positions held by the insurgents, hoisted the Ottoman flag with manifestations of delight, and even advanced across the open with coolness, though exposed to the continuous firing of the insurgent sharpshooters, who remained in the ravine up to the last moment.

At 11:30 a. m. the Turks were still pouring a rattling rifle fire upon the retreating masses of the insurgents, who replied with wonderful spirit. The splendid defense of the position excited the admiration of all. Until the Camperdown began to fire heavy shells the insurgents rather gained than lost ground, in spite of the tremendous fire of the Russian vessels. Altogether about 100 shells were fired.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 3.—The Richardson building, the largest in Chattanooga, was burned between 3:30 and 4 o'clock this morning. The fire caught from a furnace in the basement and ran up the elevator. When the fire companies arrived the building was a mass of flames.

The watchman warned a number of gentlemen sleeping on the sixth floor. All succeeded in getting out except Boyd Ewing, one of the wealthiest men in this section; and S. M. Patton, one of the most prominent architects of the South. Ewing attempted to

climb down the fire escape and fell from the top. His body was badly mutilated. Patton was cut off from escape on the stairs. His body is in the ruins. About 100 offices and four stores were in the building. The total loss is \$400,000; insurance, \$200,000.

Nothing was saved from the building. The loss on the contents is distributed among about 100 people.

A two-story building adjoining was destroyed. The Third national bank across the street was badly damaged. Among the heaviest losers are the American Investment company, the owners of the building and a large part of the contents; R. C. Kingsley & Co., merchants; Chattanooga Building and Loan association. Nearly all the lawyers in the city had offices in the building and many valuable papers which cannot be replaced were burned.

Frank Carter, a lawyer who attempted to save some papers from his office in the Third National building, fell from the ladder and was badly injured.

CHIPPEWA FALLS, Wis., April 3.—A jam containing 5,000,000 feet of logs came down the Chippewa river, causing the flood of the lower part of the town. A portion of River street was flooded and merchants on that street were compelled to make a hasty departure.

About seventy-five Jackson county, Or., farmers have agreed to put out a quarter of an acre each for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of beets the soil in that vicinity will produce, and also the amount of sugar the beets contain. Merchants of Medford have subscribed a sufficient amount to procure the necessary seed for making the test, so that the farmers will only be out the use of the land. If the test is favorable it is said there are those that stand ready to put in a factory of sufficient capacity to use all the beets produced in that valley.

A good many persons do not seem to understand why free irrigation or the spraying of trees with water protects against frost. The explanation is that the water is absorbed by the air, which becomes more damp. The more moisture in the atmosphere the higher the temperature at which rain will fall. If the temperature is below 32 degrees the rain becomes snow or hail or, if the amount of moisture in the air is small, frost results. But in the process of condensation whether into rain, hail or frost, a great deal of heat is set free which tends to raise the temperature of the air. Every one knows that heat is required to change water to vapor. When the vapor is condensed it sets free the exact amount of heat that was required to vaporize it. Few persons not accustomed to deal with these matters will realize how much heat will be made available by this process. It would require a good many hot fires to the acre to produce as much. The heat set free by the condensation of one pint of water would boil water enough to get supper and wash the dishes for an ordinary family. By moistening the air we raise the point of condensation, called for short the dew point. This liberates heat and the heat so liberated may prevent the temperature from ever falling to a dangerous point.