

WAR IS DECLARED!

On high prices and will continue in the future as in the past year, until every article in our store is cut in two. Our Cut Prices prevailing the past year have saved the people of Clackamas County many a dollar and our Court of Inquiry reports the following CUT PRICES:

	REGULAR PRICE	OUR CUT PRICE
Hood's Sarsaparilla.....	1 00	64c
Red Line ".....	1 00	60
Pierce's Favorite Prescription.....	1 00	65
" Golden Medical Discovery.....	1 00	65
Vaseline.....	10	05

	REGULAR PRICE	OUR CUT PRICE
Strengthening Plasters.....	25	10
Electric Bitters.....	50	35
Squirrel Poison.....	50	25
Epsom Salts.....	25	10
Ayer's Pills.....	25	15
Carter's Pills.....	25	15

	REGULAR PRICE	OUR CUT PRICE
Pinkham's Compound.....	1 00	80
Celery Compound.....	1 00	70

Every article we sell is fresh and genuine. No old, stale drugs. Special Soap Sale this week, all 25c Soaps cut to 15c, all 15c Soaps cut to 10c, and all 10c soaps cut to 5c.

We are Price Makers and Price Cutters
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Those that buy of us always get the lowest prices. Look out for our announcement next week.

CHARMAN & CO., Cut Cut Rate Druggist.

School Books and Stationery a Specialty.

Telephone 13.

PUBLIC OPINION.

Nicaragua Canal—Tax on Beer and Tobacco—Time Will Tell—Moody's Nomination.

The West:
The Oregon to reach her present destination must steam 14000 miles. If the Nicaragua Canal were completed the voyage would thereby be reduced to about 4000 miles.

Daily Statesman:
The beer and tobacco users can pay for a war and the Nicaragua canal on top of it, and not be injured.

Oregonist:
A Popocratic exchange makes the prediction that our Lord will give way to a King next June. We say not, so long as the republicans have as high gear as we now possess.

Exchange:
In case of war all those who have been shouting the loudest for the American flag may be the last to go and defend it. One wise man said that "patriotism is the first refuge of a scoundrel." Time will tell.

The Bulletin:
Two new warships have been named, respectively "Yankee" and "Dixie." The combination which will be hard to beat.

Union Republican:
Wonder if Charles A. Fitch will visit La Grande during his campaign for the office of State Printer.

Pendleton Republican:
By all means give us Geer. The Simon men want Lord. The people want Geer. Will the Delegates from this County stand by the choice of the people?

Clinton Herald:
The only way for war to be avoided is to remain to find an excuse to give up arms, and peaceably retire. We believe Geer will find the excuse.

Meado Blade:
Let us war or peace President McKinley James be trusted. He now stands between two fires, but the end will justify the conservative course he has taken.

Sunday Welcome:
None of the asses who bray jubilantly at Brann's violent death would have ventured to meet the Waco lion when alive in mental combat.

The Journal des Debats:
"If the jingoes continue their campaign it will prove that under the pretext of humanity they have only pursued their own aims and sought to attempt the spoliation of Cuba."

Oregonian:
A remarkably good day's work is the nomination of Malcolm A. Moody for Congress. He has always been right on the money question. As a republican he sought this honor two years ago, and as a republican he rallied to the support of his successful rival, Mr. Ellis. His personality and the political complexion of his district insure his election.

FOREIGN.

General Correa, the war minister, in his interview yesterday, said:
"Spain must not be alarmed, if war is declared, at the sinking of Spanish warships. What we must, at all cost, avoid, is a Spanish ship striking her colors to the American flag. She should rather explode her magazines. I wish to God Spain had not a warship from Cuba to the peninsula. We could then say to America, 'We are here, meet us when you please.'"

LONDON, April 9.—(Copyrighted, 1798, by the Associated Press.)—Mr. Gladstone passed a good night, got up earlier than usual and went for a walk during the afternoon.

Mr. Gladstone has finally become resigned to the abandonment of his literary work, and, though it has deeply grieved him, he will give up writing his biography.

A dollar saved is equal to two dollars earned. Pay up your subscription to the ENTERPRISE and get the the benefit of the reduction in price.

GREAT MESSAGE

Will Go Down Into History as Such.

May Result in Freedom of Cuba Without Necessity of War—Majestic Tragedy.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The President today sent the following message to the Congress of the United States:
Obedient to the precept of the constitution which demands the President to give from time to time the Congress information of the state of the Union and to recommend to its consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, it becomes my duty now to address your body with regard to the grave conditions that have arisen in the relation of the United States to Spain by reason of the warfare that for more than three years has raged in the neighboring island of Cuba.

I do so because of the intimate connection of the Cuban question with the state of our own Union and the grave relation the course, which is now incumbent upon the nation to adopt, must needs bear to the traditional policy of our Government, if it is to accord with the precepts laid down by the founders of the republic and religiously observed by succeeding administrations to the present day.

The present revolution is but the successor of other similar insurrections which have occurred in Cuba against the domination of Spain, extending over a period of nearly half a century, much of which, during its progress, has subjected the United States to great effort and expense in enforcing its neutrality laws, caused enormous loss to American trade and commerce, caused irritation, annoyance and disturbance among our citizens, and by the exercise of cruel, barbarous and unvindictive practices of warfare, shocked the sensibilities and offended the humane sympathies of our people.

Since the present revolution began, in February 1895, this country has had the fertile domain at our threshold ravaged by fire and sword in the course of a struggle unequalled in the history of the island and rarely paralleled as to the number of combatants and the bitterness of the contest by any revolution of modern times where a dependent people, striving to be free, has been opposed by the power of the sovereign State. Our people have beheld a once prosperous community reduced to comparative want, its commerce virtually paralyzed, its exceptional productiveness diminished, its fields laid waste, its mills in ruins, and its people perishing by tens of thousands from hunger and destitution. We have found ourselves constrained in the observance of that strict neutrality which our law enjoins and which the law of nations commands, to police our waters and watch our own seaports in prevention of any unlawful aid to the Cubans. Our trade has suffered, the capital invested by our citizens in Cuba has been largely lost, and the temper and forbearance of our people have been sorely tried as to beget a perilous unrest among our own citizens which inevitably found its expression from time to time in the National Legislature, so that it is wholly immaterial to our own body politic gross attention and stand in the way of that close devotion to domestic advancement that becomes a self-contented commonwealth whose primal maxim has been the avoidance of all foreign entanglements. All this must needs awaken in the mind of the American people a feeling of indignation and indeed aroused the utmost concern on the part of this Government as well during my predecessor's term as my own.

In April 1896, the evil conditions which our country suffered through the Cuban war became so onerous that my predecessor made an effort to bring about a peace through the mediation of this Government. In a speech he might lead to an honorable adjustment of the contest between Spain and her revolting colony, on the basis of some effective scheme of self-government for Cuba under the flag and sovereignty of Spain. It failed, through the refusal of the Spanish Government to be induced to consider any form of militia, or, indeed, any plan of settlement, which did not begin with the actual submission of the insurgents to the mother country, and then only on such terms as Spain herself might see fit to grant. The war continued unabated. The assistance of the insurgents was in no wise diminished.

The efforts of Spain were increased, both by the dispatch of fresh levies to Cuba and by the addition to the horrors of the strife.

The new and inhuman phase happily unprecedented in the modern history of civilized Christian people, the policy of devastation and destruction inaugurated by the Captain-General's hands of Oct. 21, 1896, in the province of Pinar del Rio was thence extended to embrace all of the island to which the power of the Spanish arms was able to reach by occupation or by military operations.

concentration, commenced within the immediate area of military control about the cities and fortified camps.

Reconcentration, adopted avowedly as a war measure in order to cut off the resources of the insurgents, worked its predicted result. As I said in my message of last December, it was not civilized warfare; it was extermination. The only peace it could beget, was that of the wilderness and the grave. Meanwhile the military situation in the island had undergone a noticeable change.

The extraordinary activity that characterized the second year of the war, when the insurgents invaded even the hitherto unharmed fields of Pinar del Rio and carried havoc and destruction up to the walls of the city of Havana itself had relapsed into a dogged struggle in the central and eastern provinces.

The Spanish army retained a measure of control in Pinar del Rio and parts of Havana, but under the existing conditions of the rural country without immediate improvement of their productive situation. Even thus partially restricted, the revolutionists held their own and their submission, put forward by Spain as the essential and sole basis of peace, seemed as far distant as at the outset.

In this state of affairs my Administration found itself confronted with the grave problem of its duty. My message of last December reviewed the situation and detailed the steps taken with a view to relieving its acute and opening the way to some form of honorable settlement. The assassination of the Prime Minister, Canovas, led to a change of government in Spain.

The former administration, which pledged submission without concession, gave place to that of a more liberal party committed long in advance to a policy of reform involving the avowal of the principle of home rule for Cuba and Puerto Rico. The overtures of this Government, made through its new envoy, General Woodford, and looking to an immediate cessation of hostilities, although not accepted to the extent of admitted mediation in any shape, were met by assurances that home rule in an advanced phase would be forthwith offered to Cuba, without waiting for the war to end, and that more humane methods should thenceforth prevail in the conduct of hostilities. In identical words these declarations, the new Government of Spain continued and completed the policy already begun by its predecessor, of testifying friendly regard for this nation by releasing American citizens held under one charge or another connected with the insurrection, so that by the end of November not a single person entitled in any way to our national protection remained in a Spanish prison.

While these negotiations were in progress the increasing destitution of the unfortunate reconcentrados and the alarming mortality among them claimed earnest attention. The success which had attended the limited measure of relief, extended to the suffering American citizens among them by the judicious expenditure through the consular agencies of the money appropriated expressly for their succor by the joint resolution approved May 24, 1897, prompted the humane consideration of a similar scheme for that great body of sufferers. A suggestion to that end was acquiesced in by the Spanish authorities. On the 24th of December last I caused to be issued an appeal to the American people, inviting contributions in money or in kind for the succor of the starving sufferers in Cuba. Following this, on the 31st of January, by a similar public announcement of the formation of a Central Cuban Relief Committee, with headquarters in New York City, composed of the members representing the American National Red Cross and the religious and business elements of the community. The efforts of that committee have been untiring and accomplished much good. Arrangements for free transportation to Cuba have greatly aided the charitable work. The president of the American Red Cross and representatives of other contributing organizations have generally visited Cuba and, in co-operation with the Consul-General and the local authorities to make an effective distribution of the relief collected through the efforts of the Central Committee. Nearly \$2,000,000 in money and supplies has already reached the sufferers, and more is forthcoming. The supplies are admitted duty free and transportation to the interior has been arranged, so that the relief, at first necessarily confined to Havana and the larger cities, is now extended through most, if not all of the towns where suffering exists. Thousands of lives have already been saved.

The necessity for a change in the condition of the reconcentrados is recognized by the Spanish Government. Within a few days past the orders of General Weyler have been revoked, the reconcentrados, it is said, are to be permitted to return to their homes and aids are to resume the self-supporting pursuits of peace; public works having been started to give them employment, and a sum of \$6,000,000 has been appropriated for their relief.

The war in Cuba is of such a nature that short of subjugation or extermination, a final military victory for the other side seems impracticable. The alternative lies in the physical exhaustion of the one or the other party, or, perhaps, of both—a condition which in effect ended the ten years war by the truce of San Juan. The prospect of such a protraction and conclusion of the present strife is a contingency hardly to be contemplated with equanimity by the civilized world, and least of all by the United States, affected and injured as we are, deeply and intimately by its very existence.

Realizing this, it appeared to be my duty, in a spirit of true friendliness, no less to Spain than to the Cubans who have so much to lose by the prolongation of the struggle, to seek to bring about an immediate termination of the war. To this end I submitted, on the 27th ult., as a result of much representation and correspondence through the United States Minister at Madrid, propositions to the Spanish government looking to an armistice until October 1, for the negotiation of peace with the good offices of the President.

In addition, I asked the immediate revocation of the order of reconcentration, so as to permit the people to return to their farms and to be relieved with provisions and supplies from the United States, co-operating with the Spanish authorities, so as to afford full relief.

The reply of the Spanish Cabinet was received the night of the 1st ult. It offers as the means to bring about peace in Cuba, to confide the preparation thereof to the Insular Department, inasmuch as the concurrence of that body would be necessary to reach a final

result is being, however, understood that the powers reserved by the Constitution to the central Government are not lessened or diminished. As the Cuban Parliament does not meet until the 4th of May next, the Spanish Government would not object for its part to accept at once a suspension of hostilities, if asked for by the Insurgents in the General-in-Chief, to whom it would pertain in such case to determine the duration and conditions of the armistice.

These propositions submitted by General Woodford and the reply of the Spanish Government were both in the form of brief memoranda, the texts of which are before me, and are substantially in the language above given. The function of the Cuban Parliament in the matter of "preparing" peace and the manner of doing so are not expressed in the Spanish memorandum; but from General Woodford's explanatory reports of preliminary discussions preceding the final conference it is understood that the Spanish Government stands ready to give the Insular Government full powers to settle the terms of peace with the insurgents, whether by direct negotiation or indirectly by means of legislation, does not appear.

With this last overture in the direction of immediate peace and its disappointing reception by Spain, the Executive was brought to the end of his efforts.

In my annual message of December last I said:
"Of the untried measures there remain recognition of the insurgents as belligerents; recognition of the independence of Cuba, and intervention to end the war by imposing a national compromise between the contending parties. I speak not of forcible annexation, for that cannot be thought of. That, by our code of morality, would be criminal aggression."

Thence I reviewed these alternatives in the light of President Grant's measured words uttered in 1874, when, after seven years of sanguinary, destructive and cruel barbarism in Cuba, he reached the conclusion that the recognition of the independence of Cuba was impracticable and indefensible; and that the recognition of belligerency was not warranted by the facts according to the tests of public law. I commented especially upon the latter aspect of the question, pointing out the inconvenience and positive dangers of a recognition of belligerency, which, adding to the already onerous burdens of animosity within our jurisdiction, could not in any way extend our influence or effective offices in the territory of hostilities. Nothing has since occurred to change my view in this regard.

I recognize as fully now as then that the issuance of a proclamation of neutrality by this process, so-called, recognition of belligerency is published, could, of itself and unattended by other action, accomplish nothing toward the one end for which we labor, the instant pacification of Cuba and the cessation of the misery that afflicts the island.

Turning to the question of recognizing at this time the independence of the present insurgent government in Cuba, we find safe precedents in our history from an early day. They are well summed up, in President Jackson's message to Congress, December 21, 1836, on the subject of the recognition of the independence of Texas, he said: "In all the contests that have arisen out of the revolutions of France, out of the disputes relating to the course of Portugal and Spain, out of the separation of the American possessions of both from the European governments, and out of the numerous and constantly recurring struggles for dominion in Spanish America, so widely consistent with our just principles has been the action of our Government: that we have, under the most critical circumstances, avoided all coercion and encountered no other evil than that produced by a transient estrangement of good will in the case against whom we have been, by force of evidence, compelled to decide."

It has been known to the world that the uniform practice and policy of the United States is to avoid all interference in disputes which merely relate to the internal government of other nations, and eventually to recognize the authority of the prevailing party with reference to our particular interests and views or to the merits of the original controversy, but in this, as in every other occasion, safety is to be found in a rigid adherence to principle.

Continued on Page 8.

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