

BRIGANDS IN CUBA.

A Strange State of Things Within a Day's Journey of the United States—Half Wild Peasants and Town Roughs Taking to Brigandage.

Tales of brigandage in Cuba during the past few years have reached New York from time to time, but the true situation is not known save to those who live on the island itself, and it has become so familiar to these as to have little novelty. It is largely the result of the present almost bankrupt condition of the once proud and wealthy Queen of the Antilles. Poverty is now almost universal save among the planters and merchants in the cities, and, unable to obtain a livelihood save by the precarious and scarcely remunerative occupations of cock fighting and lottery ticket selling, which appear to the tourist to be the main occupations of the Cubans, many of the half wild peasants of the interior and roughs of the towns have taken to brigandage. They are most numerous in the central part of the island, between Matanzas on the north and Cienfuegos on the south, making their lairs in the woods and hills of the center of the island and operating on the roads every place where there is any chance of wealthy persons passing.

The eastern end of the island has been singularly free from bandits, and travel through its still virgin forests and lofty volcanic mountains is comparatively safe. The Guardia Civil, as the Spanish soldiery is called, make periodical incursions against the bandits, but as a rule these raids have little result. It is more than hinted that there is an understanding between the soldiers and the bandits. The Spanish government is always behind-hand in its payment of its Cuban soldiers' wages, and there is a general impression that the soldiers make up for deferred or unpaid wages by a share in the ransom paid by some wealthy planter for his release from captivity. Not that the Guardia Civil are always unfaithful!

A DREADED BANDIT CHIEF.

"Matanzas," said our informant, "is now the bandit chief most feared. He is a mulatto and rules his followers absolutely. He changes his location constantly and has been rather quiet of late, but we may hear of him at any time. He has placed a price of \$50,000 on the persons of the Messrs. Stewart, who own the well known sugar plantation, 'La Carolina,' near this city, and these gentlemen have been obliged to use much caution in going to and from their plantation on their visits to the city."

"Tell us about Senor Casanova," we asked. "Well, Senor Casanova was driving through the back country one afternoon in a volante, over a rough and lonely road, when the bandits suddenly appeared from the chapparal. They surrounded the volante so quickly that he could do nothing but surrender at once. They ordered him to mount a mule, and at his protestations that he was suffering from a bladder complaint and that it would kill him to ride they only laughed. They carried him off to a little hut in the mountains and kept him there a week. The old gentleman, from the complaint above described, could only subsist on milk, and as the bandits could not furnish this he nearly died before he was ransomed."

"How did they ransom him?" "The bandits had a note conveyed secretly to his friends demanding \$8,000 for his ransom within a week. This his friends raised and sent by a trusted messenger to a place agreed upon. Senor Casanova was produced, the money paid over and the bandit who received it disappeared as suddenly as if the earth had swallowed him. Casanova says that he was not treated badly during his short captivity, but imagine his state of mind and suspense during the days he was a captive!"

"Has no concerted action been taken to apprehend these bandits throughout the island?" "No. It is a sort of local option with different places whether they can drive them away or not. We're all growing so poor, however, that unless your good and great Uncle Sam will pity and annex us the bandits will soon suppress themselves for want of prey."

HEAD THEM A LECTURE.

"One place, however, has rid itself of the pest, and in this way. You know it is very rarely that a Cuban becomes an officer in the Spanish army. The position is not considered worthy of ambition by a Cuban, and will not be as long as the two peoples dislike each other as they do now. But in this place a son of a well known Cuban family was an officer in the Guardia Civil. He pursued and caught a body of bandits, Cubans like himself. Then he read them a lecture in this wise: "You know me and you know I understand your position. I sympathize with your poverty and know the wretched government has made your calling possible, but I do not sympathize with your lawlessness. I'll release you now only on your solemn oath that you'll leave this district at once. If I hear of any of you here again I'll show you no mercy." He meant what he said, and that district was troubled no more."

"How are these bandits armed?" "Very poorly as a rule. They have old fashioned muskets and now and then a rifle. It is not their weapons, but their familiarity with the country and its hiding places and the fact that they have relatives and friends and sympathizers in most of the villages, and even in the cities, that make them at all formidable with the wretched soldiery we have. A squad of United States cavalry could probably rid the island of them in two months' time."

"Does not their presence make it unsafe for Americans to visit Cuba?" "Not in the least. These bandits do not interfere with the railroad traffic, on which a squad of soldiers always travel, more as a matter of form than anything else, and the bandits are not to be feared on the beaten lines of travel. Besides, they do not live in vast herds as they generally do, but keep all about their man, his wealth and whence his friends will or will not be likely to ransom him,

before they prepare to capture him. They would not be likely to attack a traveler simply on the chance of securing a roll of bills and a watch. They have also, strange to say, a high regard for Americans. Like all Cubans, they look to the United States as a possible protector and ruler some day, and, perhaps, too, they've heard of six shooters and Yankee pluck. An American consular agent was caught by bandits some time ago, and as soon as he announced his position they released him immediately and apologized for what they said was a mistake."—Cuba Cor. New York World.

Simple Case of Blackmailing.

Not long ago a man well known in social, business and club circles had trouble with his wife, a beautiful and accomplished woman, and they separated, the intention being to eventually become divorced. So quietly was the affair managed that none but their most intimate friends knew that they had disagreed, and the acquaintances of the couple only know that the wife was visiting friends and relatives in New York. In an evil moment the young wife employed a private detective to shadow her husband, daily reports to be sent to her. These reports were sent, and the wife was astonished. She didn't have any idea before what the life of a club man might be. Then, woman-like, she determined to win her husband back. She wrote him, the quarrel was patched up, and the pair lived together again.

Their home was a happy one. The husband forsook his gay companions and compromising associations of both sexes and became domesticated. One night there was a knock at the door. The husband responded; it was a visitor for his wife. When the lady entered the parlor she recognized the private detective. She had been foolish enough to write him two or three letters, and these he had, together with copies of letters he had written her concerning the private life of her husband. The wife had paid the agency by which this man was employed, but this made no difference. What the man wanted was a loan, and he got it. He has solicited several loans since then, and has never been refused. In the meantime the husband remains in ignorance of the drains on his wife's purse, but cheerfully foots all bills.—Chicago Cor. New York Herald.

Percentage of Blondes and Brunettes.

In the course of fifteen minutes' walk on Broadway the other day a reporter counted 200 women, young and old, with hair ranging from a medium brown to the darker shades which all but artists call black. Only thirteen women were passed who were of the pronounced blonde order. Three of these were of the reddish class and the hair of two had apparently been bleached. At the theatre, the same evening, of fifty women within easy range, six had fair skins, blue eyes and light hair. They sat surrounded by a levy of dark women, who gave its prevailing tone to the complexion of the house. Interest in the result observed led next morning to a public school. One class of eighty girls had eight blondes to seventy-two average browns and brunettes. Another of sixty-five girls had sixteen fair haired pupils to fifty-five standard brown heads and darker. In a third class the proportions were seven light to fifty dusky and dark. The statement may be hazarded that not above 8 or 10 per cent. of New York women are blondes. Go anywhere where pretty girls congregate and you meet tall, striking looking figures with dark hair and big, dark eyes. Is the blonde type disappearing, and if so why?—New York Mail and Express.

Various Railway Signals.

One pull of the bell cord signifies "stop." Two pulls mean "go ahead." Three pulls mean "back up." One whistle signifies "down brakes." Two whistles signify "off brakes." Three whistles mean "back up." Continued whistles indicate "slanger." Short rapid whistles, "a cattle alarm." A sweeping parting of the hands on a level with the eyes means "go ahead." A slowly sweeping meeting of the hands over the head signifies "back slowly." A downward motion of the hands, with extended arms, signifies "stop." A heaving motion with one hand indicates "back." A red flag waved up the track indicates "danger." A red flag by the roadside means "danger ahead." A red flag carried on a locomotive signifies "an engine following." A red flag raised at a station means "stop." A lantern swung at right angles across the track means "stop." A lantern raised and lowered vertically is a signal to "start." A lantern swung in a circle signifies "back the train."—Scientific American.

Funeral Ceremonies in Madagascar.

The funeral observances are very ceremonious, as might be expected in a country where the worship of ancestors has so long been a part of its religion, and the graves and vaults are revered as sacred places. They are usually only shapeless mounds of earth or stone, near which are erected wooden stakes, eight or nine feet high, with skulls and horns of oxen fixed or impaled on the wood. These are objects of worship, or at least of special veneration, for they are the heads of bullocks sacrificed in honor of the dead at the time of burial. It is usual to inter the dead near the dwelling house, but only families of high rank build houses or raise any structure over their tombs. The finest tomb in the country is that of the prime minister, now prince consort. It is situated at Isotry, near the capital, and is very large, probably the best piece of native masonry in the island. It somewhat resembles the monuments of Assyrian art, although of modern construction. Here are interred the sister and other relatives of the prince consort.—Demorest's Monthly.

A Lucky Food.

Customer—Waiter, I had a hair in the soup. Waiter—Yes, sah! I guess it belongs to Vanderbilt's \$10,000 bet. Customer—Is that so? I'll give you a bit of paper, its worth preventing.—The Epoch.

Leezer & Kuebler, DRUGGISTS. The largest and most complete stock of Drugs, Medicines, CHEMICALS, Toilet & Fancy Articles in Eastern Oregon. GIVE US A CALL. Despain Block - Pendleton.

IF YOU WANT THE EARTH TAKE THE WORLD. It is almost the same thing. No Premiums; No Special Offers; No Cut Rates; But THE BEST AND BIGGEST NEWSPAPER. On The North American Continent. 12 Large Pages and 84 Long Columns. A POPULAR NOVEL.

Published in and given with each issue of the weekly edition. Beginning Aug. 1, and continuing thereafter, The World will print with each issue a complete novel by a popular author. Among the writers will be: Walter Besant, John Galsworthy, Mrs. Alice Sanders, John S. Winler, Henry Wood, M. E. Braddon, Florence Warren, Mary Cecil Hay, Bertha M. Clay, Annie Edwards, Rhoda Edwards, P. C. Phillips.

FOR SALE. On and after this date, as administrator of the estate of the late William Ross, I offer for sale the live stock owned by the deceased, consisting of: Thoroughbred Hereford Bulls, Short-horn Cattle, Grade Cattle, and Grade Stock Cattle, Thoroughbred Spanish Merino Bucks and Ewes, Registered, Grade Bucks and Stock Sheep. Also a large number of Horses and a quantity of Hay.

Sanitary and Heating Engineers. Manufacturers of Steam and Hot Water Heating Apparatus, FOR DWELLINGS OR PUBLIC BUILDINGS. Specifications and estimates furnished for heating buildings in any section of the country. Correspondence solicited. OFFICE: 134 THIRD STREET, Portland, Oregon. THE O. K. DAIRY. Formerly run by John Kehlert, has changed hands, and is now run by...

Are You Protected? Those who believe so thoroughly in protection should not go any longer without insurance on their property, of whatsoever kind; and nearly everyone believes that a policy in a good, Reliable Insurance Co. Is worth every time what it costs, and procrastination should not be indulged in when it comes to taking out a policy. In the first place, pick out competent and RELIABLE AGENTS, With whom to do your business—those who represent none but the best insurance companies—and go straightway and insure. When in search of such agents, don't fail to turn your "peepers" in the direction of the office of Clopton & Jackson, Located in the EAST OREGONIAN building, Pendleton, where you can have any kind of insurance, whether Fire, Marine, Accident or Life insurance, done up in

Reliable Insurance Co. Is worth every time what it costs, and procrastination should not be indulged in when it comes to taking out a policy. In the first place, pick out competent and RELIABLE AGENTS, With whom to do your business—those who represent none but the best insurance companies—and go straightway and insure. When in search of such agents, don't fail to turn your "peepers" in the direction of the office of Clopton & Jackson, Located in the EAST OREGONIAN building, Pendleton, where you can have any kind of insurance, whether Fire, Marine, Accident or Life insurance, done up in

APPLE-PIE ORDER! It is well to remember that to be secure you must insure in one of the Thirty-Reliable Companies represented by Clopton & Jackson, with a combined capital of more than \$100,000,000!

Clopton & Jackson, Pendleton, Oregon. If you contemplate insurance, call on them and get posted and it will cost you nothing. Remember their office is in the EAST OREGONIAN building, or address ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN. They do happen every day, and when you are insured in the TRAVELERS INSURANCE CO. THE TRAVELERS' policies are the best that even go of raising money to pay claims, without a second thought, and with a receipt of a satisfactory proof. You'll receive millions in all its policies. Ten Millions of A. S. S. Two Millions of S. U. S. PAID POLICY HOLDERS \$1,000,000. Clopton & Jackson, Resident Agents, East Oregonian building, Pendleton.

OREGON RAIL AND NAVIGATION COLUMBIA RIVER. Tickets To and from points in the United States and Europe. Elegant Pullman Palace Emigrant Sleeping Cars run through press Trains to OMAHA, COUNCIL BLUFFS AND... Free of charge and without... Close connections at Portland for San Francisco and Puget Sound... East bound messenger arrives at... parts at 6:30 p. m. West bound passenger arrives at... parts at 4:15 p. m. Walls Wallis and Pendleton... Leaves at 6:00 a. m. for Walls Wallis... rives at 7:30 p. m. from Walls Wallis... To San Francisco, To Portland... State, May 12, Oregon, May 16... Columbia, May 20... State, May 24... Columbia, June 1... State, June 5... Oregon, June 9... Columbia, June 13... State, June 17... Oregon, June 21... Columbia, June 25... State, June 29... Oregon, July 3... Leave steamship wharf, Portland... night. Leave Spear St. wharf, San Francisco... a. m. Rates of Passage, Including meals and berth... Cabin, Storage, Round Trip, Unlimited... For further particulars inquire of the Company, or A. L. Maxwell, & T. A., Portland, Oregon. A. L. MAXWELL, General Manager. W. H. HOLBROOK, General Manager. W. C. ALLOWAY, Pendleton. Great Rock Island AND ALBERT LEA ROUTE. The direct and popular line from Portland to the Northern Pacific... From St. Paul and Minneapolis to Chicago and the East. To St. Louis and the South. To Des Moines, Leavenworth, Atchison and Kansas. The Only Line Connecting Oregon with Chicago and All Points CHICAGO AND ALL POINTS Pullman Palace Sleeping Palace Dining Cars Accompany all through Express on this Route. Tickets for sale by all connecting lines and connections made in union of rates. For full information regarding rates, apply to any coupon agent of the Northern Pacific, or to Ticket Agent, W. C. ALLOWAY, Chicago, Ill. CHAS. KENNEDY, Gen. Agt. No. 2 Washington St., - - Portland. E. A. HOLBROOK, Gen. Agt. and Pass. Agt. C. R. I. & N. P. R. R. S. F. RYAN, Gen. T. and P. Agt. M. S. S. Minneapolis, Minn. GREAT OVERLAND ROUTE THE Northern Pacific RAIL THE ONLY LINE HUNTING Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars Magnificent Day Coaches Elegant Emigrant Sleeping Cars With Berths Free of Charge From Oregon and Washington to the East. Via St. Paul and Minneapolis. The line running Palace Dining Cars (Meals 75 cents). Fastest Time Ever Made From Coast Over the Northern Pacific Railroad. To Sioux City, Council Bluffs, St. Atchison, Leavenworth, Kansas, Burlington, Quincy, St. Louis, Chicago, all points throughout the East and east via St. Paul and Minneapolis. EMIGRANT SLEEPING CARS Are hauled on regular express trains the entire length of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Leave Wallula Junction 8:10 a. m. Leave Portland 3 p. m. daily, except Minneapolis or St. Paul 12:30 p. m. fourth day. Connection made at St. Paul and Minneapolis to all points East, South and West. PACIFIC DIVISION. Train will leave Portland daily at 11 a. m., connecting with O. R. & N. Co. to all points on Puget Sound. A. D. CHARLTON, General Western Passenger Agent, Washington St., Portland. W. C. ALLOWAY, Pendleton.