

DISALLOWANCE.

Our contemporary preaches a sermon on "disallowance" from a text whose meaning is purposely perverted, and which it quoted in part only from an editorial in the Times of last evening. Here are the two opening sentences of the sermon:

"The Times thinks that the disallowance of the British Columbia Southern charter extension would simplify the situation. In this placing of the record in favor of the proposed usurpation of power by parliament, the Times has departed from the record of the party with which it pretends to be affiliated."

To halt quote is to misquote, and that is what our contemporary has been guilty of. The Times said:

"The disallowance of the British Columbia charter, a drastic remedy proposed by Mr. McInnes, would simplify the situation; and if that remedy can be justified on grounds of public policy, British Columbia will be in a position to act consistently with a Crow's Nest Pass railway having its terminus at the Pacific Coast."

There seems to be, on the part of the organ as well as of the premier, a determination to misrepresent the utterances of the Times. We were not discussing the question of disallowance and nothing that was said could be interpreted as an honest and unprejudiced reader as approving of disallowance per se, or even as giving a qualified assent to the proposition to disallow the B. C. Southern charter. We had hoped that the practice, of misrepresentation, so long followed by the Colonist, had been abandoned, but it seems that we were mistaken.

It is a curious spectacle to see a former champion of the party of disallowance lecturing a Liberal journal on the question of provincial rights. We have some recollection of the policy of the Macdonald government, and of the unanimity with which the disallowance of provincial legislation, upon the advice of that government, was endorsed by the Conservative press of Canada from Victoria to Halifax. How often and how vigorously did the Colonist protest against the disallowance of Manitoba railway acts, which were passed and re-passed by the Manitoba legislature until the enemies of the provincial rights, alarmed at the storm they had raised, dare go no farther? Enactments by the Ontario legislature, and by the legislatures of other provinces also, were repeatedly disallowed by the Conservative government, but the Liberal press stood alone in condemning those infringements on the legislative rights of the provinces. Conservative newspapers, like the Colonist, were then advocates of centralization of power and influence at the Dominion capital; but since those days a new party has come into power at Ottawa and it is now no longer in the interest of their party that the Conservative press should advocate disallowance. Hence its change of front.

There is no doubt that the federal government has the power to disallow provincial acts, just as there is no doubt that the Governor-General has the power to reserve for imperial approval acts passed by the Dominion parliament, or the Queen has the power of veto of imperial acts of parliament. It is a power seldom exercised, it is true, but it exists and for a wise purpose. The Dominion government have a constitutional right to advise the Governor-General to disallow the British Columbia Southern charter, and if they believe it to be sound public policy that it should be disallowed, that it will be to the advantage of the country as a whole and especially in the interest of the public of British Columbia, whose legislature granted the charter, it will be their duty to so advise His Excellency. But they would assume in so doing, we are bound to admit, a great responsibility, and they would be called upon to justify to parliament and to the country what would most unquestionably be a limitation of provincial legislative power. The question to determine are: Is this a case where disallowance may be properly exercised? Will it be to the benefit of this province that a charter to a railway company should be cancelled with a view of permitting the construction of a railway to assist in the development of the country? Can a privilege or franchise granted by the province be taken away by the Dominion when being used simply as a block to progress? Does public opinion demand this interference with a "provincial right" to incorporate a railway company and create a monopoly? If the answers to these questions are in the negative, then it would be clearly an arbitrary exercise of constitutional power for the Dominion government to disallow the British Columbia Southern Railway charter. But if in the affirmative, then what?

TURNER'S TRIADE.

Mr. Turner's remarks on a question of privilege yesterday were those of a political charlatan, who tries to explain his own peculiar position by finding fault with some one else. The premier's explanation was well supplied with abuse directed against the Times, the words "lie" and "falseness" being uttered frequently. Hon. Mr. Turner should be careful that in impugning the veracity of others he does not leave himself open to a similar accusation. If the Times wished to reply in the premier's language it would be an easy matter to show that the premier is not above the utterance of a deliberate untruth. Deliberate it must have been, because the premier's mean-

or is not so defective that he cannot remember what he said some two or three days ago. When the petition which evoked this controversy was before the house, Mr. Turner said that he was or had been intimately connected with one of the petitioners (Mr. Beeton) for a number of years. Yesterday Mr. Turner said that he never heard the name of Mr. Beeton connected with the petition. The latter statement may be a satisfactory explanation to Mr. Beeton of Mr. Turner's cavalier treatment of his petition, but when Mr. Turner must contradict himself in order to explain his conduct he should be less ready to charge others with falsehood. Mr. Turner yesterday volunteered the information that although he did not hear the name of Beeton he heard the name of Wilkinson. This sentence contains the explanation of Mr. Turner's motive for opposing the petition, and clearly bears out the view the Times held when the paragraph objected to was written. Hon. Mr. Turner's antipathy to Mr. Wilkinson was evidently stronger than his friendship for his old partner, Mr. Beeton. This was the reason the Times had for saying Mr. Beeton was treated rather shabbily by Mr. Turner.

The premier would be quite willing to assist his old partner, but he was more anxious to get even with Mr. Wilkinson—and for what reason? It will be remembered that about twelve months ago Mr. Wilkinson wrote a series of letters in which he severely criticized the finance minister for his part in the floating of the last provincial loan. The finance minister was not spared; neither was the agent-general in London. Mr. Turner felt keenly Mr. Wilkinson's criticisms, and on the floor of the house characterized them in about the same language as he directed against the Times yesterday. Mr. Wilkinson replied and politely informed the premier that he (the premier) was misinformed. Mr. Turner considered Mr. Wilkinson's letters as a personal affront and refused to see that gentleman. When he heard the name "Wilkinson" in the house on Friday it was to him what a red rag is to a bull, and it looked as if he wanted to get even with the man who dared to criticize his ability as a financier and borrower. This was the reason the Times had for writing the item. It did not for a moment suppose that Mr. Turner's reasons were personal ones against Mr. Beeton. The firms of Turner, Beeton & Co. and H. C. Beeton profited from their close connection in the past and the premier no doubt fondly hopes that they will do so in the future. If the premier expects, however, to retain the confidence of one who materially assisted him in the past, he should not allow the love for revenge to work against his interests.

A disinterested observer of the legislature cannot accept the conclusion that it was Mr. Turner's sense of public duty that led him to oppose the Wilkinson-Beeton petition. This year two or three other petitions were received late and the premier offered no objection. Last session several petitions were received after the allotted time, and the voice of the premier was not raised against them. Will the premier or the Colonist, who comes to his rescue, inform us when Mr. Turner ever before objected to a private petition because it came in late? Whether the refusal to receive the Wilkinson-Beeton petition was in the public interest or not does not concern us at this juncture, but we are anxious that Mr. Turner, who occupies the responsible position of premier, should not be actuated by personal motives, but should treat all petitions alike, and we are also anxious that he should not indulge in Billingsgate when his little foibles are disclosed. The premier, with that cowardice for which he is remarkable, refrained from directly criticizing the Speaker for his remark about the petition, but through abuse of the Times he insinuated that what the Speaker said was absolute nonsense. Notwithstanding further insinuations from the premier that the Speaker was trying to bulldoze the house into receiving the petition, the latter had the courage and manliness to stick to his statement that if the house had followed the example of Quebec the members could have gone home two weeks ago. That was all the Times credited the Speaker with saying, Mr. Turner's object to distort the paragraph in the Times so that it would credit the Speaker with stating something he did not say were the efforts of a political trickster, whose only object is to endeavor to find excuses for his own misconduct.

It is obvious to the most unprejudiced observer that the Turner government is in the last stage of decay. Except for the forbearance of the Opposition party and the half contemptuous support of a portion of its own party the government would have been buried ere now in an inglorious grave. It is probable that the government will outlast the present session and doubtless face parliament again in the session of 1898. The golden opportunity for administering the coup de grace in the debate upon the address was lost by the opposition party, and the guerilla warfare now carried on is scarcely likely to result in the serious discomfiture of the party in power. There will be a little skirmishing during the discussion on the estimates, but the government are wary enough to "secede" through the devious ways of their financial maze. The real battle, therefore, is to be

ought in the interim between the sessions of 1897 and 1898. If the opposition party means to change its position and to become the dominant party, then it behooves it at once to take such steps as to secure the desired end. To that party, and especially to the leaders of that party, we would say, "Organize, organize, organize." The country is ripe for a change. From every part, every section, every municipality, comes the cry for the removal of the present administration. Disaffection exists on every hand. The lumberman, the farmer, the merchant, the laborer, and the laborer, all loudly demand that the present government shall be relieved of the cares of office. Saving only the monopolist, the seeker after privileges at the expense of the general weal, the unpopularity of the present government is well nigh unanimous. There are, however, many old supporters of the Turner government, in this city and elsewhere, who, although desirous of a change, are anxious to find out whether the change will be for the better or not. The government is a failure—the present opposition is any better? To this the inevitable reply is that it is impossible to go "one way or the other" under the present rules. The present rules, and the mismanagement, the incapacity, the inaction and indifference, with a result that is appalling to any true citizen. Yet we confess that the present opposition has not as yet formally enunciated its principles and laid down its platform, so that a complete, practical and triumphant reply can be made to those would-be detractors of Mr. Semlin and his colleagues. The Times cannot be charged with any lukewarmness in its support of the opposition party. For many years we have been ardent advocates of pure government and honest administration, and have had no doubt that the present members of the opposition party would give such government to the province. But the people of the province need to be equally assured of this. Let, therefore, the leader of the opposition—who, if his life is spared, will be the Premier of the province in 1898—summon a caucus of his supporters before the close of the session, and at such meeting let arrangements be made for a large representative convention to be held in the near future, at which a broad-minded, progressive, statesman-like platform can be adopted acceptable to all classes of the province. Then let the work of organization begin, let a vigorous campaign be instituted, let representative men be chosen as candidates in every constituency, let suitable literature be flung broadcast in every section of the province, and when the ballot shall be counted in the general election of 1898, it will be found to result in the complete rout of the Turner government.

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whole expense, seems to be out of the question. There must be some limit to the enrichment of private individuals at the expense of the state.

CARELESS LEGISLATION.

Reference is made elsewhere in this issue to a bill which confers most remarkable powers and privileges on a company intended to operate within an area defined as having a radius of 50 miles. This is a large extent of country, embracing a number of the most important towns in West Kootenay and East Yale. The provisions of the bill are examined in detail in another column, and nothing more need be said here as regards the powers and privileges to be handed over to the company "omnibus" fashion. The extraordinary feature of the whole affair is that the members of the legislature should be so ready to pass a measure of this character whenever they are asked to do so. They are supposed to be the guardians of the public interest, and such incidents as this may well cause the people to ask the old stock question: Who is there to guard the guardians? It appears that several of the members did not appreciate the extent of the concessions conveyed in the bill, but their ignorance of its character can hardly be excused. The private bills committee in particular should have been possessed of accurate knowledge concerning this and the other bills by which companies are to secure extraordinary privileges at the expense of the public. A nice state of affairs it is when members of the legislature vote a measure through the house without understanding its provisions. A mere accident prevented the bill from going through its final stages with all its objectionable clauses unchanged, a fact which does not speak well for the house and the government. It is worthy of note that some of the provisions are in actual conflict with the public statutes, as well as with constitutional principles, and yet the attorney-general seems to have paid no attention to the matter.

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HUNDREDS IN DANGER.

The Frightful Johnstown Disaster May Be Repeated at Greenville, Miss.

Many New Breaks in the River's Banks—The Suffering is Intense.

Greenville, Miss., March 30.—At 3 o'clock this morning another crevasse occurred about Morand's Landing, 15 miles north of this city. At 4 o'clock yesterday morning a break occurred near Anstralia, Miss., 12 miles north of Rosedale, in Bolivar county. This, with the Crevasse at Lake Lee, 10 miles below Greenville, will deluge the entire great Mississippi delta. Nearly all of Washington and Bolivar counties will go under the next two days. All of Issaquen and parts of Sun Flower and Sharkey will also be flooded. Live stock and dwellings in great numbers and people are fleeing to railroad embankments and levees for safety. It is impossible to estimate the amount of property which will be destroyed. Suffering will be intense. Greenville, Rosedale, Stonerville, Atchicola and in fact all the delta towns south of Rosedale to Vicksburg, will be under water soon. The greatest excitement prevails all along the line. Greenville levees are getting mushy. Thousands of men line the embankments north and south of Greenville working like demons. All business is suspended and people are fighting for their lives.

A NICE PROGRAMME.

The Colonist favors the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, by the Dominion government. It is also in favor of allowing the B. C. Southern land grant, including the great area of coal lands, to remain in the private hands into which it passed by virtue of provincial legislation. The Dominion government would surely be taking a most remarkable course if it followed out this choice programme. The idea that the public should bear the whole cost of building a road to connect with the coal lands held by private individuals, at the expense of the treasury, cannot commend itself to any real friend of the country. If the government is to build the road the land grant must be made in some way to contribute to the cost. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that the provincial legislature would do anything to further that arrangement. There is no other way out except by disallowance, and that is a course which the Lanier government would certainly not like to adopt. Under these circumstances construction by the government, the country bearing the

cost, is the only course that can be adopted. The Dominion government would surely be taking a most remarkable course if it followed out this choice programme. The idea that the public should bear the whole cost of building a road to connect with the coal lands held by private individuals, at the expense of the treasury, cannot commend itself to any real friend of the country. If the government is to build the road the land grant must be made in some way to contribute to the cost. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that the provincial legislature would do anything to further that arrangement. There is no other way out except by disallowance, and that is a course which the Lanier government would certainly not like to adopt. Under these circumstances construction by the government, the country bearing the

ISABEL MURPHY'S DEATH.

Due to a Disease Caused by Chronic Alcoholism. London, March 30.—A large crowd of curious people attended the funeral today of Miss Isabel Murphy, youngest daughter of the late Daniel Murphy, a California millionaire. An inquest was held yesterday, and a verdict rendered setting forth that death was due to a disease caused by chronic alcoholism. One of the sisters of the deceased had been erroneously said to be the wife of Viscount Wolsey, commander-in-chief of the forces. Lady Wolsey was Miss Erskine. Two sisters of Miss Murphy, however, married English baronets.

Chicago, Burning Skin Disease Cured for 35 Cents.

Dr. Agnew's Ointment relieves in one day, cures forever, "scurf," "eczema," "itch," "scald head," "eczema," "burning skin," "dandruff," and all eruptions of the skin. It is soothing and healing, and acts like magic in the cure of all baby humors. 35 cents. Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

Letter From the Insurgent Leader to the President of the United States. Chicago, March 31.—The Record contains a letter from General Gomez, written to President McKinley, and containing a copy of one written on Feb. 9 to President Cleveland. The Record's copy was sent by C. E. Crosby, the correspondent reported killed during a battle near Arroyo Blanco. The original letter to President Cleveland either went astray or was suppressed by the recipient. To President McKinley General Gomez says: "In the field, near Sancti Spiritus, March 1, 1897. "The Hon. William McKinley, President of the United States of America. "General Weyler has arrived in the district of Sancti Spiritus with a numerous army. He comes not to fight nor oppose his strength to the forces with which I defend these parts, but as a sanguinary and cruel general, who will avoid combat and spread crime and murder the peasants in the fields, to kill the children and to drive our persecuted and outraged women to the woods, leaving their homes to be burned, and their gardens destroyed. This is how General Weyler pacifies Sancti Spiritus, or wherever he may be. Then he authorizes those who ask him for bread for their children, and alleviation for their miseries to go out into the country to steal and destroy whatever they may find. "With this permit me to send you a copy of a letter which I had the honor to send to your predecessor in office, Mr. Grover Cleveland. It is in the hope that it may move you to sacred action, that induces me to take up my pen to trouble you. "The letter to Mr. Cleveland is very long, and is an earnest appeal for the intervention of the United States in behalf of unarmed men, women and children, who are represented to be ruthlessly slaughtered by the Spanish soldiers. "Look upon the world and you will see how all people with the possible exception of the Americans, contemplate with indifference, or with sentimental platitudes, the war which makes red the beautiful fields of fertile Cuba, as if it were a thing foreign to their interests and those of modern culture, as if it were not a crime to forget in this manner the duties of social brotherhood. "But you know it is not Cuba alone; it is all America; it is all Christianity; it is all humanity that sees itself outraged by Spain's horrible barbarity. "Ah, sir, the vicissitudes of this cruel struggle have caused much pain to the heart of an old and unfortunate father, but nothing has made me suffer so much as the horrors which I receive, unless it is to see that you remain indifferent to them. "Say to the Spaniards that they may struggle with us and treat us as they please, but that they must respect the rights of the defenseless, and that they must not outrage women nor butcher innocent children. "You have a high and beautiful precedent for such a action. Read the sadly famous proclamation of the Spanish general, Balmeaceda, of 1893, proclaiming practically the reproduction of this war, and remember the honorable and high-minded protest that the secretary of state formulated against it. "The American people march legitimately at the head of the Western continent, and they should no longer tolerate the cold and systematic assassination of defenseless Americans, lest history impute to them a participation in these atrocities. "Imitate the high example that I have indicated above. Your conduct, furthermore, will be based, solely on the Monroe doctrine, for this cannot refer only to usurpation of American territories, but to the defence of the people of America against European ambitions. It cannot mean to protect American soil and leave its helpless dwellers exposed to the cruelty of a sanguinary and despotic European power. If it must extend to the defence of the principles which animate modern civilization, and form an integral part of the culture and life of the American people. "Crow your honorable history of statesmanship with a noble act of Christian charity. Say to Spain that cease, and put the stamp of your authority on what you say. Thousands of hearts will call down eternal benedictions on your memory, and God, the supremely merciful, will see in it the most meritorious work of your entire life. I am your humble servant, M. GOMEZ."

HE ENCLOSES A LONG UNANSWERED LETTER WHICH WAS SENT TO EX PRESIDENT CLEVELAND.

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The Frightful Johnstown Disaster May Be Repeated at Greenville, Miss.

Many New Breaks in the River's Banks—The Suffering is Intense.

Greenville, Miss., March 30.—At 3 o'clock this morning another crevasse occurred about Morand's Landing, 15 miles north of this city. At 4 o'clock yesterday morning a break occurred near Anstralia, Miss., 12 miles north of Rosedale, in Bolivar county. This, with the Crevasse at Lake Lee, 10 miles below Greenville, will deluge the entire great Mississippi delta. Nearly all of Washington and Bolivar counties will go under the next two days. All of Issaquen and parts of Sun Flower and Sharkey will also be flooded. Live stock and dwellings in great numbers and people are fleeing to railroad embankments and levees for safety. It is impossible to estimate the amount of property which will be destroyed. Suffering will be intense. Greenville, Rosedale, Stonerville, Atchicola and in fact all the delta towns south of Rosedale to Vicksburg, will be under water soon. The greatest excitement prevails all along the line. Greenville levees are getting mushy. Thousands of men line the embankments north and south of Greenville working like demons. All business is suspended and people are fighting for their lives.

A NICE PROGRAMME.

The Colonist favors the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, by the Dominion government. It is also in favor of allowing the B. C. Southern land grant, including the great area of coal lands, to remain in the private hands into which it passed by virtue of provincial legislation. The Dominion government would surely be taking a most remarkable course if it followed out this choice programme. The idea that the public should bear the whole cost of building a road to connect with the coal lands held by private individuals, at the expense of the treasury, cannot commend itself to any real friend of the country. If the government is to build the road the land grant must be made in some way to contribute to the cost. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that the provincial legislature would do anything to further that arrangement. There is no other way out except by disallowance, and that is a course which the Lanier government would certainly not like to adopt. Under these circumstances construction by the government, the country bearing the

cost, is the only course that can be adopted. The Dominion government would surely be taking a most remarkable course if it followed out this choice programme. The idea that the public should bear the whole cost of building a road to connect with the coal lands held by private individuals, at the expense of the treasury, cannot commend itself to any real friend of the country. If the government is to build the road the land grant must be made in some way to contribute to the cost. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that the provincial legislature would do anything to further that arrangement. There is no other way out except by disallowance, and that is a course which the Lanier government would certainly not like to adopt. Under these circumstances construction by the government, the country bearing the

ISABEL MURPHY'S DEATH.

Due to a Disease Caused by Chronic Alcoholism. London, March 30.—A large crowd of curious people attended the funeral today of Miss Isabel Murphy, youngest daughter of the late Daniel Murphy, a California millionaire. An inquest was held yesterday, and a verdict rendered setting forth that death was due to a disease caused by chronic alcoholism. One of the sisters of the deceased had been erroneously said to be the wife of Viscount Wolsey, commander-in-chief of the forces. Lady Wolsey was Miss Erskine. Two sisters of Miss Murphy, however, married English baronets.

Chicago, Burning Skin Disease Cured for 35 Cents.

Dr. Agnew's Ointment relieves in one day, cures forever, "scurf," "eczema," "itch," "scald head," "eczema," "burning skin," "dandruff," and all eruptions of the skin. It is soothing and healing, and acts like magic in the cure of all baby humors. 35 cents. Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

Description of the Assault and Capture of the Fort by an Eye-Witness. London, March 31.—S. R. Burleigh, a special correspondent, writing from Caracas, gives the following account of the capture of the fort at Malaxa: "I was an eye witness of the assault and capture of the fort at Malaxa by the insurgents. The insurgents bravely faced the fire of the Turks and showed no fear when bombarded by the foreign warships. "I went through the Turkish line to Malaxa village on Wednesday, and that night the Greek officers, who are serving with the Cretons, planted a battery of Krupp guns a little over a mile from the Turkish garrison. The Cretons began firing at 8 a.m., and at 3 p.m. I saw a white flag floating from the fort. The Turks from around Malaxa in Suda bay had, previous to the raising of the white flag, tried to relieve the fort, but were driven back by the Cretons. When the white flag was raised a thousand Cretons swarmed about the walls of the fort. I rushed down the hill where I had been watching the combat, and reached the entrance of the fort. The position was packed with Cretons, shouting to the Cretons to enter the door, half a dozen Greek officers and volunteers, holding the door and trying to save the garrison from the mob, with the carriage of battle. The Turkish commander, Binbaschi, through the door, requested me to interfere. I advised Binbaschi to open the door, saying I would do the best I could to save him. "Bombardment from the Turkish gunboats passed with dreadful thunder over the Cretons and the fort. The crowd bent to the earth in hushed silence as the death-bearing missiles came by them. They were soon up again and rushed for the door of the fort. The door was opened, and I entered with four officers. There were forty-five men still living in the fort. In spite of every effort to hold the door, the Cretons kept forcing their way in to take the rifles. Just then the whole European fleet at Suda opened fire on the Cretons crowded about Malaxa. The third shell knocked in one corner of the fort. The dust, stones and flames filled the air. "Turkish officers lunged to my arms, and with difficulty I dragged them to the door. Just then an enormous shell burst open the door and the wall fell in. I escaped with the Turkish officers to the outside air, and, yellow with dust and smoke, and with shells bursting in every direction, everyone took flight. "The European bombardment lasted only fifteen minutes, and only four Creton insurgents were killed, and twenty wounded. The number of Turks killed is unknown, but it is believed to be the debris of the fort. Thirty-nine Turkish prisoners were taken to Col. Vass's camp. "The Cretons fought recklessly and behaved humanely, considering the custom for ages of killing the vanquished. "The Turkish garrison had a good fence at first, but got demoralized in the afternoon. There was in the fort plenty of ammunition, food and water. "The details of every man place the powers in a decidedly unfavorable light. Instead of sending a soldier with the notification of the admiral's forbidding the Cretons from attacking the fort, a native was sent, who, when questioned, became entangled in contradictions. The notification was written on a dirty sheet of paper, and the Cretons thought it might be a trick of the Turks to prevent them from taking Malaxa. "There is also a disagreement as to the neutral zone. The Cretons declare that Malaxa was outside the neutral zone proclaimed by the admiral. "I have seen two witnesses who declare that many Moslems resented the Europeans from Candahar have been armed by the Turks here and sent out to fight the Christians. This is a breach of the agreement made by the consuls with the insurgents. "Letters from the chiefs at Miraliba in the east of the island, declare that the admiral sent messages to them, saying it was useless to resist any longer, that the rest of Crete accepted autonomy, and that the admiral would give them autonomy. This was either a misrepresentation or a gross mistake. The chiefs answered that the rest of the island might accept autonomy, but they would not accept it. "There was another bombardment yesterday of Malaxa by the European fleet. An officer on board one of the monitors described it to me as follows: "The Turkish authorities say that they would send 3,000 men to occupy Malaxa. The bombardment was to clear the way for them. I was looking at the insurgents through a glass. They were sitting around in large groups, smoking and expecting nothing, and looking calmly down on Suda. The first shell fell about them, and when the smoke cleared away not one was to be seen. All had been killed. No Turkish troops went toward Malaxa. "The admiral assures the Cretons that they are friendly, yet they deliberately drop shells among them. This is nothing less than war by Europe against the Cretons. That the blockade is purely against the Christians is proved by the fact that a Turkish transport has been landing arms, ammunition and cannon in Canes all day. "I know that the insurgents intend to attack Perivolia and drive the Turkish troops off the heights. All about Canes the insurgents remain firm, and should the powers persist war will sweep the island from end to end. "A small fort above Palaidda was attacked by the Cretons yesterday, with the same cannon used against Malaxa, but without result. The English admiral, Harris, who was going in a steamer launched to watch the attack, was fired on by the insurgents."

HE ENCLOSES A LONG UNANSWERED LETTER WHICH WAS SENT TO EX PRESIDENT CLEVELAND.

Chicago, March 31.—The Record contains a letter from General Gomez, written to President McKinley, and containing a copy of one written on Feb. 9 to President Cleveland. The Record's copy was sent by C. E. Crosby, the correspondent reported killed during a battle near Arroyo Blanco. The original letter to President Cleveland either went astray or was suppressed by the recipient. To President McKinley General Gomez says: "In the field, near Sancti Spiritus, March 1, 1897. "The Hon. William McKinley, President of the United States of America. "General Weyler has arrived in the district of Sancti Spiritus with a numerous army. He comes not to fight nor oppose his strength to the forces with which I defend these parts, but as a sanguinary and cruel general, who will avoid combat and spread crime and murder the peasants in the fields, to kill the children and to drive our persecuted and outraged women to the woods, leaving their homes to be burned, and their gardens destroyed. This is how General Weyler pacifies Sancti Spiritus, or wherever he may be. Then he authorizes those who ask him for bread for their children, and alleviation for their miseries to go out into the country to steal and destroy whatever they may find. "With this permit me to send you a copy of a letter which I had the honor to send to your predecessor in office, Mr. Grover Cleveland. It is in the hope that it may move you to sacred action, that induces me to take up my pen to trouble you. "The letter to Mr. Cleveland is very long, and is an earnest appeal for the intervention of the United States in behalf of unarmed men, women and children, who are represented to be ruthlessly slaughtered by the Spanish soldiers. "Look upon the world and you will see how all people with the possible exception of the Americans, contemplate with indifference, or with sentimental platitudes, the war which makes red the beautiful fields of fertile Cuba, as if it were a thing foreign to their interests and those of modern culture, as if it were not a crime to forget in this manner the duties of social brotherhood. "But you know it is not Cuba alone; it is all America; it is all Christianity; it is all humanity that sees itself outraged by Spain's horrible barbarity. "Ah, sir, the vicissitudes of this cruel struggle have caused much pain to the heart of an old and unfortunate father, but nothing has made me suffer so much as the horrors which I receive, unless it is to see that you remain indifferent to them. "Say to the Spaniards that they may struggle with us and treat us as they please, but that they must respect the rights of the defenseless, and that they must not outrage women nor butcher innocent children. "You have a high and beautiful precedent for such a action. Read the sadly famous proclamation of the Spanish general, Balmeaceda, of 1893, proclaiming practically the reproduction of this war, and remember the honorable and high-minded protest that the secretary of state formulated against it. "The American people march legitimately at the head of the Western continent, and