

Senate are determined that history shall not, if they can help it, place the most glorious example of high-minded statesmanship in the world has ever witnessed to the credit of a Democratic executive. Such is the criminal stupidity of party prejudice! God help the country if the newly-installed President cannot exorcise the evil spirit from those who hail him chief.

Our next three illustrations convey some idea of the terrible ravages of the famine and plague which have prevailed in India for the last few months. The authorities are doing all that science and humanity can suggest to stamp out the death-dealing disease, and to relieve the distress of the millions of unfortunates who, for the time, at least, having escaped the plague, are yet so reduced from want of food as to present the appearance of

page 84 are human beings. How vast is the undertaking of the Indian Government may be gathered from the fact that

2,000,000 people, a number equal to the population of Ontario, are engaged on the specially provided Government Relief Works. One of the greatest difficulties the authorities have to contend against is the indifference, the fatalism, of the native population.

The history of India is marked by plague visitations at more or less regular periods, and the natives regard them as inevitable, and believe that any attempt to escape the scourge is simply a vain effort to cope with supernatural powers.

Hence they turn a deaf ear to pleas for cleanliness and

the observance of other hygienic laws; and they die by the thousands during the period of visitation; although the number of victims has been less in

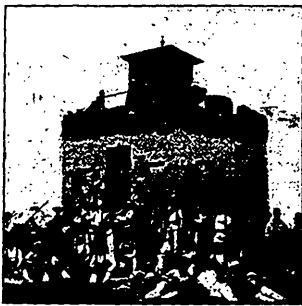
each succeeding epidemic during the last half-century, owing to the government's promptness to take advantage of the experience of the past.

It is a weird scene that is presented to us in our next illustration, a funeral procession at night in Bombay. The importance attached to the disposal of the dead, and the bewildering ceremonies in connection therewith, are in marked contrast to the apathy with which the natives regard all attempts on the part of the authorities to keep the number thus ceremoniously treated within moderate limits. A writer in the *Illustrated London News* says: "The Parsee mode of disposing of the dead is peculiar, and differs widely from almost all known methods of the present day. The teaching of Zoroaster prohibited the defiling of fire, earth, or water; and on this account

bodies cannot be burnt or buried, or even thrown into the water, as the Hindus are in the habit of doing with partly



FAMINE AND PLAGUE IN INDIA. SUPPLIANTS BEFORE THE SACRED BULL, NANDI.



A SPANISH FORT IN CUBA.

living skeletons. It is almost impossible to believe that the haggard, emaciated creatures seen in our first illustration on