

SPAIN IN THE PHILIPPINES.

HER EXTORTIONS AND CRUELITIES DESCRIBED BY A SPANIARD.

Sources of Weyler's Fortune—The Tax-Burdened Natives—Blanco's Fanaticism of a Wholesale Murderer—Tragedy of Dr. Rizal—Ducks' Eggs Hatched by Natives.

Dr. Pinto de Guimaraes, a Spaniard and resident of Manila, prints in the Revue des Revues de Paris an article on "The Spanish Reign of Terror in the Philippines." In it he says:

"No stranger can form any idea of vexations, formalities and regulations so ruinous to private and public interests as those which the Spanish officials have invented and put in force in the Philippines. These gentlemen have but one object in life, to make as large a fortune as possible during their terms of three or six years in the archipelago and then return to Spain to escape the curses of the unhappy natives. The notorious Gen. Weyler was Governor-General of the Philippines for three years and was a shining model of well-regulated economy. His annual pay was \$40,000. Out of this custom compelled him to disburse large sums for his personal expenses and to subscribe generously to various public works and charities. Notwithstanding all these demands upon his purse this prudent General contrived to economize and deposited in bank, at London and Paris, an amount which his own compatriots estimated at from \$2,500,000, to \$3,000,000. The conduct of his successor, Des-pajol, gives a clue to the mystery of the General's economy. On the day of the arrival of this new Governor-General at Manila one of the richest Chinese merchants of the city offered him a present of

\$10,000 AS A TRIBUTE of respect and esteem and was struck in the face for his pains.

"The officers composing the central Government at Manila are many and well paid. The islands are divided into military, civil and mixed provincial Governments. Each is composed of a Governor and a numerous staff, all paid, from the revenues of their Governorships. This system gives ample opportunity for fiscal malversation and oppression which fall upon the unhappy natives. Under Spanish law every inhabitant of the colony is compelled to carry a personal card which answers the purpose of a passport. No one can travel without one. Its cost varies from \$2.50 to \$25 and it must be renewed annually. Those who pay less than \$3.50 are compelled to give their personal labor to the Government for fifteen days or pay an additional tax of \$7.50. As the daily wages of workers ranges from 5 to 20 cents, the severity with which this tax weighs upon the masses can be imagined.

"Throughout all the islands the taxes are uniform and innumerable. Every native, who keeps and fastens an animal for food is taxed; if he has a horse or some coconut trees he is taxed for each. If he wishes to make the coconut oil he is again taxed for the privilege. There are taxes on weights and measures, on stores and shops; a tax on land, on all kinds of manufactures and on alcoholic spirits. Native tax collectors are made responsible for the collection of the total taxes in their districts. At Siquijor forty-four of these native functionaries were exiled to Bohol after their houses, land and cattle had been confiscated, because they had not been able to make good the arrears due by their fellow countrymen.

THIS IS THE PRICE which the natives of the Philippines pay for their Government on "Christian principles."

"And yet, owing to the marvellous fertility of their soil, the oppressed, tortured, ruined islanders manage to exist. A primitive system of cultivation has produced, in one year, eight millions of dollars' worth of hemp, six of sugar and four of tobacco. Gold, iron, copper and coal are found on the islands. The exactions of Spanish functionaries and the vexations of the fiscal agents so hamper all foreign merchants and those who come to engage in business that they finally give up the attempt to do any profitable trading and leave the country.

"Such was the state of the colony when as suddenly as a flash of lightning, the result of speeches made by Spanish officers at an army reunion and banquet, and declared that they would give no quarter; but slaughter these rascals to the last man." At first the insurgents were checked by want of arms and supplies, but the first detachment of Spanish troops which opposed them were so few and behaved in so cowardly a fashion that they were easily cut to pieces, and the rebels secured several hundred rifles and thousands of cartridges.

"The memory of the Death Hole at Manila will never be effaced while the present generation of natives and their children live. The Death Hole was a noisome dungeon, built in the foundations of the rampart, on the River Pasig side of Manila. This prison had been unused for more than 100 years. It was half full of foul water, the home of rats, snakes and all kinds of vermin. One hundred natives were shut in it. During the

Was Very Weak

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"After being in the hospital for a long time I was very weak and hardly able to walk. My blood was thin and I was as pale as death. When I reached home I was told about Hood's Sarsaparilla, and procured five bottles and began taking it. In a few months after I began its use I found I had gained twenty pounds in weight, and I felt so much better that I continued the use of the medicine until I was as well as ever. I believe Hood's Sarsaparilla saved my life." Arthur Mills, Dresden, Ont. Remember

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night they were heard shrieking and begging to be knocked on the head or taken out. The Spanish Lieutenant in charge, annoyed by their groans and complaints, stopped up the only opening by which fresh air could reach them.

ALL WERE FOUND DEAD in the morning. Gen. Blanco, was then Governor-General of the Philippines. When he heard of this atrocity he summoned the butcher Lieutenant before him, and, after upbraiding him for his cruelty, kicked him downstairs. The General knew that if he had court-martialed this officer the latter would have been acquitted.

"As shocking was the fate of Dr. Rizal. This enthusiastic patriot was an intelligent, learned man, who had been educated in Spain and France. For writing a book against Spanish oppression he was exiled to the island of Dapitan. There he met a young woman of Irish parentage, with whom he fell in love. They were engaged to be married when, in some pretext, the doctor was brought back to Manila, sent to Madrid to be tried, and from Madrid sent back to Manila. The unhappy girl to whom he was betrothed tells the rest of the story:

"Every one knew that Dr. Rizal was innocent. All that could be brought against him was the publication of his book, and the Spanish officials who tried him had never even read it. Nevertheless, he was condemned to death. I then asked permission to be married to him, and he granted my request, thinking to add to the horror of his martyrdom. The marriage was celebrated by a friar the same day on which he was sentenced. I passed that whole night on my knees in prayer before the prison door which shut my husband from me. When morning dawned the doctor came on surrounded by soldiers, his hands and behind his back. They took him to the Luneta, the fashionable promenade of the city, where all military executions take place. The Lieutenant in command of the firing party asked my husband where he would prefer to be shot. He replied, "Through the heart." "Impossible," said the Lieutenant. "Such a favor is granted only to men of rank. You will be shot in the back." A moment after my husband was dead. The soldiers shouted

"HURRAH FOR SPAIN," and I, "Hurrah for the Philippines and death to Spain." I asked for the body. It was refused me. Then I swore to avenge his death. I secured a revolver and dagger and joined the rebels. They gave me a Mauser rifle, and the Philippines will be free."

"An execution at the Luneta was considered in the light of a spectacle. It usually took place in the cool of the early morning. Hundreds of women of the upper classes were present. The spectators stood up in their carriages and drank champagne while waiting for the appointed hour. When the officer in command of the firing party lowered his sword and the shots rang out the women waved their handkerchiefs and sunshades joyously. The firing squads for these barbarous executions were each made up of five men placed about ten paces from the condemned and were composed of native troops. It was found, however, that their sympathies were with the insurgents: not wishing to inflict mortal wounds on their fellow countrymen they aimed at the arms or legs of the victims, thus adding to the horror of these scenes. On one occasion thirteen men were led out to be shot at the same time, all members of a secret revolutionary society called the Catapanan. Not one of these unfortunate was killed at the first firing. Most of them did not die until the third or fourth round. When all was over a military band played lively airs.

"After learning these facts no one will be surprised at the manner in which the natives have welcomed the success of the Americans. For centuries Spain has treated the natives of these unfortunate islands with such ferocity that she can never make adequate atonement. The United States may not annex Cuba, but she will find ample compensation in taking possession of the Philippines."

In Dr. Guimaraes' description of the city of Manila one of its industries is worth noting.

"Ducks are very industrious in all the islands, especially in that of Luzon, where thousands of them are to be seen disporting themselves in the river Pasig. The eggs of these ducks are not hatched by female ducks, but by Tagal Indians, many of the males making it their sole occupation. The eggs are placed in large nests of wood ashes and the Tagals sit on them for hours. The banks of the river are lined with these queer human incubators, who eat, drink, smoke and play cards, but always hatch out their eggs. During the last few years artificial incubators have been introduced and are now displacing the picturesque Indians in Manila, but in the interior of the islands Tagals are preferred because they do not less."

PEEPS INTO THE FUTURE.

Forecasts of Noted Men and What Became of Them.

Just previous to the assassination of the Empress of Austria the emperor was heard repeatedly to remark, "I fear something awful is about to transpire. I wish the jubilee year were safely over." This brings to mind other instances of forecasts fulfilled, says the London Mail.

Just over thirty years ago a visitor to Edinburgh was being shown over the High Court of Justiciary. He made some remark concerning the dock and its duties, and in reply the official jokingly said the visitor might one day be sentenced to be hanged in that very room. The sightseer was the notorious Dr. Pritchard; two years had barely passed when in the dock he had so closely inspected he was doomed to death for poisoning his wife and mother-in-law.

To many watchers of the political weathercock the rapid rise of Mr. Asquith to renown as a statesman was little short of miraculous; to the late home secretary himself, however, it was but the natural outcome of his own resolve. When a youth at the city of London school he informed all and sundry that he meant to take high honors at Oxford, enter the house of commons, and become an influential member of the cabinet.

The Earl of Rosebery, so it is historically recorded, while passing his boyish years at Eton, foretold that in the coming years he would win the Derby, and more important still, be prime minister. Both Lord Rosebery and Mr. Asquith prophesied the things whereof they knew.

A gentleman conceived the idea that he would only live a certain time, so he made a nice calculation of his foretold life, which he so apportioned as to last just the same period as he guessed his life would extend to.

Strangely enough his calculations came correct to the letter, for he died punctually at the time he had previously reckoned; he had so far exhausted his estate that, after his debts had been discharged, a solitary pair of slippers represented the entire property he left.

His relatives buried him, and a representation of the slippers was carved on the tomb; to-day in a churchyard at Amsterdam his grave may be seen, the only inscription on the stone being two Flemish words: "Effen nyt," i.e., "Exactly."

The late George Moore came to London from Cumberland a poor, friendless boy. He entered a great commercial house, and from the beginning declared he would eventually marry his employer's daughter and become his employer's partner. He accomplished both his ambitions, became very wealthy and a man of whom his generation might well be proud.

When Warren Hastings was a lad his great grief was that his family had lost their paternal estate at Daylesford, and he was constantly heard to say: "I will buy it back." He grew up to make both history and a famous name, and he died at Daylesford.

Among the many records of Harrow school is that of a boy, the son of a poor local tradesman in a very small way of business. His schoolfellows often taunted him about his family poverty; their thoughtless jeers, although hurting his feelings, drew from him the retort: "I intend before I die to ride in a coach and four."

The boys slid by and lo and behold! the poverty-stricken youngster of Harrow had developed into Dr. Parr, the greatest scholar of his time, whose customary and favorite means of locomotion was a coach and four.

The seventh child of the German emperor and empress is a daughter, their six being sons. The house of Hohenzollern has a tradition that in one year three emperors of that house will reign in Germany the third will have seven sons and will bring ruin to the nation as well as the empire to an end.

This direful prophecy has seen the fulfillment of its first part; whether the arrival of a seventh son will bring the calamities predicted the future will show.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Money is the root of the manufacturing plant.

But few women have time to look like their portraits.

Gossip is always short lived unless it is properly ventilated.

Wise is the famous man who doesn't overwork his popularity.

The present is the child of the past and the father of the future.

When the king loses he always comes within an ace of winning.

It's never too hot in summer or too cold in winter for the ice man.

The more vanity some people possess the easier it is to make them happy.

Satan never gets tired of jollying people who imagine they are prize beauties.

Time may be a success as a wound-healer, but it seldom removes the soars.

An old bachelor says the average wait of women is until they are asked to marry.

Money brings happiness to some men because of the interest they derive therefrom.

We never heard of husbands and wives quarrelling about which loved the other most.

The bigger the bore a man is the smaller the hole he leaves when his days are numbered.

Beauty may be only skin deep, but it invariably makes you get a seat in a crowded car.

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It's always tough on the tight rope walker when he steps from the straight and narrow path.

Some actors are like some eggs—they go upon the stage when they are no good for anything else.

It is said that sunlight is of less benefit to a growing crop of wild oats than the electric light.

The courting of an heiress is a business suit, but the courting of a flirt is merely a masquerade suit.

Probably the happiest day in the average farmer's life is when his best pig takes a \$3 prize at the county fair.

A scientist has discovered that thirst drives 90 per cent of mankind to drink. Science is a wonderful thing.

Whenever a girl begins to lecture a young man on financial economy, he can safely ask her to name the happy day.

Many a man who wouldn't think of making a wife of his cook has no scruples about making a cook of his wife.

Nothing disconcerts a girl more than to brace herself to meet the shock of a marriage proposal and the shock fails to materialize.

TO THE EDITOR. Many readers have Catarrh, irritable throat, bronchitis etc. We desire to send them a free sample of a remedy absolutely sure to cure. It is neither a snuff, nor a wash, nor an ointment, but a pleasant remedy which is carried by atmospheric air to every part of the throat, lungs and nasal passages. For a short time we shall gladly send to any address a trial outfit of this famous preparation pre-paid. Address N. C. Polson & Co. Kingston Ont.

UNABLE TO SAY. Which side does that speaker belong to? asked a latecomer at a political debate.

I don't know yet, I've only been here fifteen or twenty minutes, and I haven't heard him mention any names. I'm waiting till he gets through telling what good people his party is

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore require constitutional treatment. It is Catarrh Curative, discovered by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally, in doses from 40 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circular and testimonials. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 7c.

A curious incident occurred during a game of golf which was being played on the St. Duthus course. Tain, the other day, a ball struck by one of the players, coming into contact with a bird perched on a neighboring hillock, and killing it instantly.

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