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THE QUESTIONS OF THE DAY

The reports from China are such as to cause the greatest anxiety, and, if confirmed, an international war will be inevitable.

If the members of foreign legations have been massacred, the world will stand aghast. If the Ninth U. S. Infantry has been annihilated, there will be such another cry of "War" as swept over the Republic when news of the destruction of the Maine came over the wires.

The situation is a serious one, and cannot be regarded in too grave a light.

If the people of the United States demand vengeance for the destruction of their sons and brothers, the demand will take the form of an irresistible wave before which opposition will be useless.

A special session of Congress will issue a call for volunteers and, on the eve of our quadrennial internal struggle, our best energies will be required for the direction and maintenance of our end of a war which no living man can predict the length or ultimate result of.

Before this becomes an accomplished fact, before the waves of absolute beyond control, there will be desperate efforts to avoid the necessity for more war. Cool heads will attempt to guide the rushing waters of popular emotion into channels where they will be able to expand their force without injury to the landscape.

The United States is in no position to participate in such a war as this Chinese one will undoubtedly develop into, i.e., in

The whipping of China will in itself be no easy task, without any complications through interference of any power which might decide to join forces with her.

Russia is crafty and covetous, and should she succeed in obtaining guarantees of concessions which she wishes, there is no question but that her magnificent army and immense resources would go to the assistance of the Dervisher Empress.

France and Russia have been growing very intimate for several years, and Europe generally already believes in the existence of a secret alliance. The promise of equal territorial compensation from China, and of support in a war with England, would unquestionably cause France to ally herself with the Chinese Dragon and the Russian Bear.

Belief in a German-British Alliance is quite strong, but it is well known that Germany has been carrying on secret negotiations with Russia, and the ties there may be stronger than are those in England.

At any rate, Powers seems to be the only possible future, be the division of forces however it may.

Participation by the Union is undesirable, but the Administration will force it if present tactics are not abandoned. The Fourteenth Infantry has left Manila for China. If the Ninth is lost, Americans will begin to talk. If the Fourteenth shares the fate of the Ninth, our people will go wild.

The present policy of sending detachments is going to prove disastrous, and will cause bitter regret for heavy loss which could have been avoided.

If China openly declares war against the world the Powers will probably come to their senses and send armies instead of squads against the 400,000 fighters who must be faced.

And the United States will realize that a Brigadier General of volunteers is very small when he comes into contact with Major and Lieutenant Generals of Regulars, Field Marshals etc.

The Lucha of yesterday published an interview with Major Pitcher, who calls with his agent to oversee his general supervisor of Police by Major Cuartero.

Major Pitcher has evidently enjoyed his stay in Havana, and expresses himself as having done so.

The Lucha terminated the report of the interview with a well- deserved tribute to the man who has filled the most undesirable position on the island. In Havana, for many years, we will preserve souvenirs of Pitcher for the good he has done for the

THE LUCHA

A CUBAN-AMERICAN PAPER WITH THE NEWS OF THE WORLD.

Havana Cuba.—July 17—1900.

TEACHERS IN CUBA

The six weeks' term promises well at Harvard-Studies to be taken up

Cambridge, Mass. July 7 (Special).—Harvard University is now engaged in a six weeks' term of giving to 1,271 school-teachers from Cuba all the useful instruction that can be crowded into six short weeks. With the arrival of the *transports* *McClellan* in Boston Wednesday evening the difficult task of getting together these teachers from every part of the island and sending them to the United States was successfully completed, and on Thursday the various classes were organized for work. The Cuban visitors have entered into the Washington Elm, recently placing an immense wreath on the stone tablet underneath and shouting repeated "Vivas" for the Father of His Country.

Thousands of minor offenders have been pardoned, or sentenced to ten and ten, have served their terms, and been released. Formerly, they would have been bailed and pardoned if they had money and condemned to long terms if too poor or unwilling to satisfy the judicial greed.

Pitcher, wherever he may be, will always remember his experience here, and Havana, in gratitude, will always remember Master Peetch.

Excitement in Europe

Cabled last evening to *The Lucha*, London, July 16.

Great excitement has been produced in Europe by the news received from China confirming the barbarous massacres of European and Chinese Christians committed in Pekin.

All the powers interested in the East are very active in their preparations of their expeditions to the Empire.

Two Austrian Cruisers have been ordered to Chinese waters.

Prince Tuan has directed the assassination of thousands of Christians in Pekin and it was carried out in the midst of the most horrible tortures.

Troops to China. — New attacks on Tient-Tsin.

Cabled last evening to *The Lucha*, Washington, July 16.

The 5th Infantry now in Chicago has been ordered to leave Chicago for China.

The Cabinet is now studying the manner of sending more troops to China.

The President who was in Canton has been called precipitately to Washington.

General Wood will be consulted on the purpose of withdrawing all the troops to send them to China if deemed possible.

Admiral Remey reported to the Department of the Navy that on the morning of the 13th, 7,000 allied troops commenced offensive operations against the Chinese quarter of Tient-Tsin, defended by 20,000 Chinamen.

The allies were repulsed, suffering losses: 100 Russian, 40 English, 58 Japanese, 25 French and 30 Americans.

Among the latter are announced Colonel Liscov who commanded the 9th Regiment and Captain Davis of the Navy.

In the Evening, the allied troops attacked the positions again and were repulsed with great losses.

Cholera in India

Cabled to *The Lucha*, London, July 17.

During the past week the cholera caused 8,000 deaths in India.

Effects of personal bereavement in features and color they vary widely, some being of the purest Spanish blood; others, however, appear to have a considerable element of the African and of American Indian.

It is said that the latter case is the more frequent. There is a still wider divergence in their manner of dressing. Many have procured clothing of the ordinary American style, while others wear the characteristic southern attire which they brought from Cuba. The wide-brimmed sombreros is specially noticeable among the men.

On July 4, when nearly all appeared in their best, a visit to the college yard was as good as being in Cuba on a fine day. It was on the Fourth, too, that more than a thousand of the visitors formed in line and marched to the Washington Elm, recently placing an immense wreath on the stone tablet underneath and shouting repeated "Vivas" for the Father of His Country.

Among the women there are many of that peculiar type of beauty boasted by their race. They are modest and unassuming, and are spoken of in the highest terms by the Cambridge women who are taking care of them.

It is interesting to quote the words in which President Eliot welcomed the teachers in Sanders Theatre Thursday morning. "To you," he said, "the university represents the intelligence and goodwill of the American people and their accumulated resources in education. To the university you represent the intelligence and goodwill of the Cuban people, and their educational ambition and hope. Together we are going to try a unique experiment in mutual service. We are going to see how much we can enlarge each other's minds and sympathies and strengthen each other's sense of brotherhood in six weeks filled with common labors and delights." —Ex.

The number of subjects in which Harvard University could give the visitors instruction of great value is almost unlimited, but the number allowed by a six weeks' term is exceedingly small. Accordingly, only those which promise the best results have been admitted. Naturally, English stands at the head of the list, and in in this the visitors will be literally hustled, even one not already speaking the language having two recitations a day.

Indeed, they began to learn English as soon as the transports left Cuba, and are exceedingly quick to learn common words and phrases. The English department is directed by Professor E. C. Hills, of Rollins College, Florida.

Next in importance comes American history, which will be taught in a course of eighteen lectures, illustrated with lantern slides, by Professor P. B. Marquardt and Dr. J. D. M. Ford, both of Harvard.

In the teaching of history the aim will be to deal with more than mere historical facts.

Particular attention will be paid to the nature of American political institutions, with a view to showing that self-government is a matter of steady growth and must rest upon firm foundations. Here will be emphasized the function of the public school in fitting each citizen for his share of political responsibilities, and the high regard in which the schoolteacher's calling should be held.

Indeed, the attitude of the people of the United States toward the school will seem to them in marked contrast to that of the Spanish Government under which they suffered so long. The teachers say that in the time of the Spaniards school teaching was a woefully poor business, and the phrase "As hungry as a schoolmaster" was used to describe extreme poverty. One elderly woman has been teaching for twenty-five years for the love of it, those among her pupils who could afford it giving her something every month. Superintendents and teachers are not opposed to this course.

There are 80,000 Chinamen alone on a Chinese train, but he is only going to stay long enough to talk over the matter with Mr. Conger, and then return to send us guards, probably a battalion of marines.

Miss Condit-Smith of Washington is here, and there is no telling what she will do. She is a young lady of twenty-two, and has been all around the world. She may go on, even in the face of this great danger. I tell you the situation is very serious, and mother is already packing her trunk, so as to be ready to leave at a moment's notice. Mr. Conger would not hesitate to tell her to go at once, and he would expect us to leave, whether we thought we ought to remain or not, for the fewer women he has on his hands the better he will feel. Well, do not worry until you have more reason to, and if the worst comes and we are forced to leave, we will cable.

GENERAL WOOD, before embarking on Saturday, signed several orders on different matters.

IT IS PROBABLE that the Council of Insular Secretaries will not be convened until the return of General Wood.

MIR JOSEPH DE WYCKOFF leaves today for New York to be gone a month.

THE RESIDENTES of Ceiba Moch have filed a complaint against the school teacher of that town.

THE CENTRO DE VETERANOS and the new Ayuntamiento of Colon, have requested that Colonel Joaquin Pons be appointed Judge of that town.

BIGINIO BETANCOURT, a negro, was sworn guard in the Robi farm in Rio Seco had committed a robbery and having been captured by the police of San Nicolas, attempted to escape, whereupon, the police made use of their arms and he was killed.

SR AMBROSIO LOPEZ has addressed a petition to the Matanzas School Board requesting permission to deliver free lectures in that city.

THE RESIDENTS of Medina, in the Principio ward, complain that there is a band of thieves there that rob way fares. On Saturday, three robbers were robbed of their earnings and in the evening several cards were visited by the thieves.

THE cable has never been received. —Ex.

Value of Foreign gold and silver coins

in U. S. Ctry.

Centenes Spanish 5-00 Gold piece \$4-82

Louisian French 1-03 Gold piece \$3-66

Spanish Silver 1-00 piece \$0-60

20-50 " \$0-30

20-29 " \$0-12

1-00 " \$0-06

In Spanish Silver

Centenes Spanish 5-00 Gold piece \$6-25

Louisian French 6-29

\$5-00 Gold piece \$5-00

N.º 282

Havana, July 17, 1900.

The Military Governor of Cuba, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, directs the publication of the following order:

In order to extend the benefits contemplated by Order N.º 40, dated April 25, 1899 (modified by Order N.º 29, same series) continuing until May 1, 1900, the term fixed for the foreclosure of mortgages upon rural property, all transactions which may take place before the 1st of May, 1901, which are for the exclusive purpose of establishing new agreements between creditor and debtor for the payment of obligations already existing, are declared exempt from taxation.

J. B. HICKEY Assistant Adjutant General.

Earthquakes in Venezuela

Cable to *The Lucha*.

New York, July 17th

According to dispatches from Caracas, seven earthquakes occurred in Venezuela yesterday.

An American Girl in Pekin.

LETTER FROM MISS WOODWARD OF EVANSTON, ILL., WHO MAY HAVE PERISHED IN THE LEGATIONS.

Philadelphia, July 9.—A dispatch to the North American from Chicago says that Morgan S. Woodward of Evanston has received two letters, one from his wife and another from his daughter Miss Lone Woodward, aged seventeen, dated at the United States Legation, Pekin, May 28. It says:

"We are approaching a serious crisis. The Ministers met yesterday at the Spanish legation, and after having consulted together, told the Tsung-li Yamen that they must get the decree against the Boxers from the Emperor, which the Yamen have at last consented to do. Mr. Conger is very grave, and said it is a very serious time, and in a few days, perhaps tomorrow, will culminate in the Emperor quelling the forces of the Boxers getting more power and then Heaven help us! Mr. Conger says that if a person were not in Pekin, but in some town near Shanghai, there would be closed against artisans and others who can not possibly pay the exorbitant rents demanded. The meeting dealt at length on this all important matter though nothing definite has been resolved yet."

THE MEETING OF THE STRIKING WORKMEN of Havana Railway Co., that was to have taken place in the American Garden, was prohibited by the authorities.

Much comment has been made on said prohibition, the motives of which are unknown.

THE MEETING CONVENED in the el Paseo de Bolívar on Sunday afternoon, and was regularly attended. House renters are indignant against proprietors because house rents have been raised to an excess never known before in Havana and houses are practically closed against artisans and others who can not possibly pay the exorbitant rents demanded. The meeting dealt at length on this all important matter though nothing definite has been resolved yet.

A TRAIN RAN OFF THE TRACKS on the Vedado tramway on Saturday and communication was cut off during three hours between that ward and Havana. These accidents are of frequent occurrence and the public complaint of the negligence of the Company, and requests the authorities to compel that line to be better serviced.

A TRAIN RAN OFF THE TRACKS

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THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE, of the 12th instant, distributed yesterday, contains the following orders:

Order N.º 278 modifying some paragraphs of Order 265 on the appointment of a Board of Inspectors for the University.

Order N.º 279 containing the regulations of the Public Schools of the Island, very minutely dealing with Commisioner of Public Schools, the Board of Superintendents, classification of Districts, City Districts of 1st and 2nd Class, Reorganizations of Districts, Clerks, Reports, Provisions applying to all School Boards, Enumeration, attendants and Teachers Institutes.

Order N.º 280 confirming the professors stated therein in their Chair in the University of Havana.

Order N.º 281 authorizing the exchange of offices between two Recorders of Judicial Proceedings in this city.

THE CHIEF OF POLICE of Santa Cruz del Sur, had a fight with some smugglers in Boeza de Ricossa and a contraband of tobacco worth \$2,000 that the smugglers had hidden in some huts in the woods.

A VIOLENT FIRE BROKE OUT in Candelaria St Santa Clara, the 14th instant, and it was extinguished with great difficulty by the town people because there is no fire service in that city.

SIR HENANDEZ BARREIRO has issued an order directing that future executions of criminals shall be carried out privately, and within the jail, and that the only persons that can attend the same will be those who by reason of their charge are compelled to do so and those that the President of the Court may authorize.

THE "GAZETTE" of the 13th contains a list of the vacant Chairs of the University of Havana to be provided by competition.

SEVERAL MEN, WHO WERE GAMBLING in N.º 173 Martínez, surprised and captured by the police.

THE "ALMENDARES B. B. C." vanquished by the "Habana" in Vedado, on Sunday. Score 19 to 5.

THE ENTERTAINMENT given in the Centro Asturiano on Sunday night was largely attended and its organizers are to be commended for the brilliant success of the same.

WOMAN'S GUILD

The ladies of the American Episcopal Chapel have formed an Association under the name of "The Woman's Guild of the Episcopal Church of Havana."