

Annual Report

OF

BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES H. WILSON, U. S. V.,

COMMANDING THE

DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

TO WHICH IS APPENDED

SPECIAL REPORT

**ON THE INDUSTRIAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
EXISTING IN THE DEPARTMENT AT THE DATE
OF AMERICAN OCCUPATION, AND AT
THE PRESENT TIME.**

**MATANZAS, CUBA,
Aug. 1st-Sept. 7th, 1899.**

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U.S. Army, Dept. of Matanzas and Santa
Clara.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS
AND SANTA CLARA.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 1st, 1899.

*To the Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.
(Through Military Channels.)*

SIR:—

In compliance with letter of instructions from your office, dated July 18th, 1899, I have the honor to submit the following report:

I arrived at Matanzas, with my staff, on January 10th, 1899, and assumed command the same day of the Department of Matanzas. On April 25th, 1899, I assumed command, in addition, of the Province of Santa Clara, relieving General J. C. Bates, U. S. V.

I had assumed command of the First Corps at Lexington, Ky., on the 13th of October, and I desire to call special attention to the fact that during the movement of the Corps from Kentucky to Georgia, and from the latter place to Cuba, the health of the command continued remarkably good. For this satisfactory result, I am greatly indebted to the Division Commanders, Major General John C. Bates, Major General William Ludlow, and Brigadier General Joseph P. Sanger, who succeeded General Ludlow in command of the 2nd Division.

Great credit is also due to Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Aleshire, Chief Quartermaster, for the admirable management of his department, which enabled these changes to be made without friction or the loss of life or property, and with the greatest regularity and promptitude.

General Sanger commanded the District of Matanzas

from January 13th to May 23rd. His administration thereof was eminently successful, and it affords me pleasure to make this public acknowledgment of the value of his services. He has shown very great ability in the instruction of his command, in laying out his camps, and in devising measures for their sanitary regulation.

The last Spanish troops left the Province of Matanzas January 12th, 1899, and the Province of Santa Clara, February 6th, 1899,— 13,000 men sailing from Matanzas and 26,954 from Cienfuegos.

The U. S. forces in the two provinces comprised on March 20th:

PROVINCE OF SANTA CLARA.

General Officers and Staff.....	23
Hospital Corps.....	133
6 Troops 2nd U. S. Cavalry.....	632
4th Tenn. V. I.....	1,189
6th Ohio V. I.....	1,139
31st Michigan V. I.....	1,070
16th Co. U. S. V. Signal Corps....	51
2nd Bat. 3rd U. S. V. Engineers....	412
Attached, (Staff and Clerks).....	25
<i>Total</i>	<u>4,674</u>

PROVINCE OF MATANZAS.

General Officers and Staff.....	15
Hospital Corps.....	65
6 Troops 2nd U. S. Cavalry.....	612
12th Co. U. S. V. Signal Corps....	52
3rd Bat. 3rd U. S. V. Engineers.	367
10th U. S. Infantry.....	1,223
8th Mass V. I.....	1,213
12th N. Y. V. I.....	1,007
160th Ind. V. I.....	1,067
3rd Kentucky V. I.....	1,047
Attached, (Staff and Clerks).....	68
<i>Total</i>	<u>6,736</u>
<i>Total for two Provinces</i>	<u>11,410</u>

On May 6th the last of the volunteers were sent back to the United States, and the forces on June 30th, 1899, were:

General Officers and Staff.....	106
Military Hospital.....	30
2nd U. S. Cavalry.....	1,149
2nd U. S. Infantry.....	1,308
10th U. S. Infantry.....	950
Attached, (Staff Officers).....	8

Total..... 3,551

A. A. Surgeons..... 30

At the present time the troops are comfortably quartered, some of them in barracks formerly occupied by the Spanish troops, and others in frame buildings which have been erected for the purpose and which, although cheap and of a temporary nature, are quite comfortable.

The number of officers absent on various duties from the regiments serving in this Department seriously affects the instruction and efficiency of these regiments. The number of officers authorized for regimental and company duties is none too liberal, and to detach large numbers of these from the regular organizations in time of war, cannot but have an injurious effect. It cannot be questioned that the officers in the regular establishment should be materially increased, or that proper provision should be made to supply their places, when, during war time, many are required for the duties pertaining to the muster-in, equipment, transportation and instruction of the volunteer troops. This subject deserves the serious consideration of Congress.

It has been necessary to detach many officers for work of a civil nature, and it affords me pleasure to say that those duties, often of the most delicate character, have been performed in a manner which reflects credit upon the officers concerned and upon the country they serve. They have thereby contributed in no small degree to render their employment in a strictly military capacity unnecessary.

So far as the climatic conditions and the nature of the country in the vicinity of the various camps and barracks permitted, military instruction has received due attention. It is intended to carry on small arms practice during the months of September, October, and November, making the course as complete as the climate and the ranges that can

be procured will permit. Upon the completion of this duty, and upon the approach of cooler weather, other military instruction will be taken up.

The various military posts, as well as the cities throughout the Department, have been thoroughly inspected by officers of the Inspector General's Department. About the middle of July two of these officers left these Headquarters for an extended inspecting tour throughout the Department, with orders not only to inspect the troops as is usual, but also the sanitary conditions of the towns, to make an examination of the business of the municipalities, to investigate the relations between the civil and military authorities, and to look into and report upon the efficiency of the means adopted along the southern coast for quarantine against yellow fever. It may be added that weekly reports are required from the several post commanders, which keep these Headquarters informed as to their special needs, and the existing sanitary conditions.

The behavior of our troops has been generally excellent. Whatever friction has occurred has been due to the fact that some of our less intelligent soldiers and our camp followers (teamsters, packers, etc.) came here without a proper conception of our friendly and conciliatory mission, and with the idea of Americanizing the country and imposing their ways and wishes too much in the manner of conquerors.

While there have been a good many courts martial of enlisted men, generally for minor offenses, due, in a great measure, to the large number of recruits in the early part of the year, when the volunteers were occupying the Island, the work arising from purely military sources has formed but a small part of that devolving upon the Judge Advocate of the Department. The larger portion of the work has consisted of the determination of questions arising under Spanish criminal and civil law, and the amendments thereto made since January 1st, and now in force in the Island. By close application the present Judge Advocate has made himself familiar with the laws mentioned, and has conducted his office in an eminently satisfactory manner.

Upon arrival in Cuba, the Medical Department was well organized and in excellent condition. Prior to leaving the United States, such ample provisions for the care of the sick were made that probably no troops were ever more completely equipped in this respect. The typhoid fever from Chickamauga had been eradicated by the several re-

movals, and by careful sanitation in the new camps at Lexington, and by still further care at the camps in Georgia.

Owing to the complete tranquillity of these provinces it has not been necessary to scatter the troops to any great extent; and the most constant care has been exercised from the beginning as to cleanliness, in the belief that when this could be secured good health would follow naturally.

These efforts have been so successful that there has not been a single death from local causes among the troops in the province of Matanzas, and but one in the province of Santa Clara.

Early in the season grave fears were entertained that an epidemic of yellow fever would break out in Cienfuegos. This has been the case in former years and the general condition of the city was favorable to such an epidemic, but by constant and intelligent labor on the part of the Post Commanders, Lieut. Colonel Dempsey and Major Bowman of the 2d U. S. Infantry, assisted by Major Hysell, Surgeon U. S. Volunteers, Sanitary Inspector, and with the cordial support of the municipal authorities, this dread disease has so far been prevented. This result is most creditable to all who have been charged with the sanitation of the city.

Owing to the development of yellow fever in Santiago, which had assumed an epidemic form, and also to the fact that Havana is a well known center of infection, it has been necessary to adopt measures to prevent the importation of the disease into this Department from those places. Besides the quarantine measures which have been adopted on the southern coast, the trains entering this Department from the west are now inspected by a competent medical officer, with orders to prevent the railroad from introducing infectious diseases.

We are now well advanced into the unhealthy season, and everything points to the conclusion that the present favorable conditions will continue. Camp sites have, however, been selected near each garrison, into which the troops can be promptly moved in case of an epidemic.

While the health of the troops in this Department has been exceptionally good, there can be no question that this, in a great measure, is the result of the thorough sanitary regulations which have been enforced, and I desire to express my full appreciation of the labors and constant attention given to this important subject by Major Frank J. Ives, Chief Surgeon, and by all the officers connected with this work.

The disbursements by the Quartermaster's Department for the needs of the troops and for sanitation of the towns, have incidentally operated as most effective means of relieving distress. And while some of the funds so disbursed were derived from the revenues of the Island, yet a large amount came from the United States; and to this must be added the money spent here by our troops.

In the matter of clothing, great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining khakie uniforms. The troops of this Department are not yet fully supplied.

I strongly recommend that all barracks which can be conveniently lighted by electricity, be so lighted. This will encourage the men to remain in their barracks during the evening, which is desirable as a safeguard against disease. Lamps are objectionable on account of the heat they throw out, and because of the prevailing high winds in the vicinity of many of the posts.

Frame barracks have been constructed at Cienfuegos and at Matanzas; besides the Spanish masonry barracks at Matanzas, Cienfuegos, Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus, Santa Clara and Cárdenas have been renovated and remodeled, making them cool, comfortable and healthful.

The Quartermaster's Department has at times been hard pressed by the amount of work devolving upon it, and has had to work its clerks and office force in and out of hours, but has succeeded in meeting the extraordinary demand upon it.

Upon the consolidation of the Department of Santa Clara with that of Matanzas, Major W. H. Miller, the Chief Quartermaster of the former department, was made Disbursing Quartermaster, relieving Major Aleshire of that part of his duties, and later becoming Chief Quartermaster on the departure of Major Aleshire for the United States on sick leave.

Major George S. Cartwright, the Depot Quartermaster at Matanzas, has worked unremittingly, and has successfully handled all the work that has come his way. These three officers have displayed the highest character and ability in the performance of their various duties.

The disbursements of insular funds for the six months ending June 30th, were as follows:

For Barracks and Quarters.....	\$ 133,861.19
For Sanitation.....	100,695.35
For Rural Guard and Administration, nearly all in the Province of Santa Clara.....	87,322.89
For Public Works, Harbors and Ports.....	30,595.00
For Charities and Hospitals.....	36,326.42
For Miscellaneous Purposes.....	2,081.46
For Civil Government.....	71,695.58
For Municipalities (Deficits).....	126,122.24
For Aid to Destitute (exclusive of rations and medical supplies).....	1,055.01
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 589,755.14</u>

While this sum seems to be large, it must be remembered that all sources of revenue were cut off from the provincial government, and that the receipts of the municipalities were greatly reduced by changes in the tax laws.

It may be observed in this connection that the customs receipts of the two Provinces, for the same period, greatly exceed the amounts allotted from the Insular Treasury to cover these expenditures, having amounted in six months to \$1,062,267.65.

The affairs of the Subsistence Department under the management of Major E. F. Taggart, and of his successor, Captain M. R. Peterson, Commissary, U. S. A., Chief Commissaries of the Department, have been managed in a most satisfactory manner. The principal, and in fact almost the only cause of complaint, has arisen from the uncertainty and insufficiency of the ice supply. Notwithstanding strenuous efforts, the troops have not received a sufficient quantity of this article, so necessary in the tropics, and it is feared that this unsatisfactory condition will exist until more ice plants have been constructed by civil enterprise, or by the Government. Refrigerators are now en route for each of the posts in the Department, with sufficient capacity to hold fresh meat and perishable articles to supply the several commands, but without ice they will be of no value. I regard a liberal supply necessary, both for sanitary and economical reasons.

The work properly belonging to the Subsistence Department has been greatly increased by the demand made upon

it to supply food for the destitute. Between January 1st and June 30th, there have been issued to the destitute of the various cities and towns of the Provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara, 1,930,130 Cuban rations (worth about \$193,000.) The number of destitute has greatly diminished since last January, and now the distribution of rations is principally confined to hospitals and orphan asylums.

Many surveys, examinations and reports, and several important improvements have been made under the direction of the Chief Engineer of the Department, Lieutenant Colonel (now Captain) John Biddle, U. S. Corps of Engineers, who speaks highly of the work done by a battalion of the 3rd U. S. Volunteer Engineers, which arrived at this place on December 22nd, 1898. When this battalion returned to the United States for muster-out, a number of its members elected to remain here, and in one way or another have been useful in assisting in the cleaning and repair of streets, and in directing the sanitary and civil work undertaken by the military authorities.

The water supply of many of the important cities is a most difficult subject to handle satisfactorily. At Sagua la Grande, Sancti Spiritus and one or two smaller towns or cities, it seems sufficiently good; at all other places and towns, the supply is insufficient or the quality poor, and in several cases both. At Matanzas, it is good but insufficient. At Cárdenas, of doubtful quality. At Cienfuegos, very insufficient and of doubtful purity. In other towns, except Sagua and Sancti Spiritus, it comes from wells or cisterns. An artesian well under construction at Cienfuegos had to be abandoned at the depth of 275 feet without reaching water. One at Matanzas, at which work is still being done, has reached a depth of 500 feet, and 400 feet below the sea level, without finding sufficient water. On the other hand, one well at Paso Caballo, only 75 feet deep, yields an excellent supply. For the smaller towns, wells and cisterns will probably meet all the requirements for some time. At Bolondrón there is a driven well which delivers water into a tank and distributes it throughout the town. At most of the railroad stations and sugar mills, there are wells pumped by steam or ox power.

Estimates and projects for various public works have been submitted by the Engineering Department, but generally speaking the estimates have not been approved, nor have the projects themselves been considered as of such pressing importance as to justify their urgent advocacy.

These estimates include repairs of the principal forts, survey of harbors, for improvement either immediately or later, surveys for study of the drainage of low lands, building high-ways, development of water supplies, continuation of repairs of city streets and roads, building and renewal of certain important bridges and repair of governmental railroads. This Department has also made extended reconnaissances throughout both provinces.

The Civil Department of Public Works has been able to accomplish but little on account of lack of funds.

Such ordnance and ordnance stores as were turned over and abandoned by the Spanish forces upon their departure from these provinces were listed by a Board of Officers; the inventory so made shows four bronze mortars, some 29 bronze and 31 iron cannon, varying in calibre from 12 to 21 centimeters, some 4,000 unserviceable breech-loading rifles and carbines, and about 4,000 spherical and conical shells. The field pieces and larger cannon are all muzzle loaders, and while many are rifled, they are not serviceable, modern weapons. The bronze pieces were manufactured in the last and early part of the present century, the oldest dating back to 1721. Several are of fine workmanship and are handsomely engraved, and can properly be used for ornamental purposes.

The manner in which the Signal Service, under the direction of Lieutenant Colonel (now Captain) Samuel Reber, has been performed at these Headquarters is entirely satisfactory. Lieutenant Colonel Reber joined as Chief Signal Officer of the 1st Corps at Lexington, Ky., on November 8th, 1898, as Chief Signal Officer, U. S. V. He accompanied the movement of the Corps to Macon, Ga., and from Georgia to this Island, and has shown energy and good judgment in all matters pertaining to his Department. Upon arrival in Cuba, it was found the telegraph lines erected and operated by the Spanish Government in this Department were in bad condition, and operated in a manner entirely foreign to American practice. These lines have been gradually repaired and the system of operation changed to one sanctioned by our usage. During the late war in the Island, the telegraph lines received but little repair, and their condition in this Department is now such as to require complete reconstruction within the next year or so. Nearly all the wire is old and rusty, and frequently breaks during high winds. The introduction of an accessory system of telephone lines will greatly facilitate the trans-

action of business, and augment the usefulness of the police.

The Cuban people in these provinces have received us everywhere, and at all times, with every evidence of friendship, and in most localities with a cordiality that indicates genuine gratitude. The Cuban Army has given no trouble; it maintained order in the various country towns until relieved of the responsibility by the arrival of our forces or the organization of the local police; its members had generally been disbanded and gone to work, before the United States sent out its paymasters with the money allotted to them from the Treasury.

One newspaper at Cienfuegos, claiming to speak for the Cuban Army, but actually the mouth-piece of a few dissatisfied officers, has been at times incendiary in its utterances; but the Department is absolutely tranquil, life and property are safe, and there is probably less crime and disorder here than in any State of the Union.

I have personally visited every town, and most of the villages, as well as the principal sugar estates, in the two provinces, once at least and many of them several times, and have made the acquaintance of the officials and of the leading people.

The towns in the interior, as well as on the seacoast, were fortified with block-houses, trenches and barbed wire entanglements. The details of these defences will be found in my report on the Province of Matanzas of February 16th, 1899. The country outside of these fortified zones had been devastated, scarcely a farm-house or hut having been left standing. Some of the larger sugar estates had escaped, as the owners had the means to employ armed garrisons and to pay one or both sides for the protection of their property.

The destruction of the property is properly attributable as much to the insurgents as to the Spaniards, if indeed not more to the former than to the latter. It is asserted that it was the settled policy of the insurgent leaders to drive the Spanish from the country by destroying the improvements and all sources of revenue, so, as to render the Island worthless, and that they confidently expected to accomplish this before the United States should intervene.

The policy of reconcentration had been so thoroughly carried out that the cultivation of gardens was in most cases impossible, and the reconcentrados became at once starving beggars. To make the policy of starvation more effective, the Spanish troops had begun the slaughtering of cattle,

hogs and poultry, and in this they were soon aided by the insurgents and by the owners themselves, and the crops, fruits and vegetables were also destroyed.

Many villages of 500 inhabitants had their population increased to 5,000, and the result of this general policy has been a loss in the last three years of about one-third of the population of the Province of Matanzas, and about one-seventh of that of Santa Clara. The difference in the loss in these two provinces may be attributed to the difference in the nature of the country as affecting the degree of concentration that could be enforced by the Spaniards.

The province of Matanzas consists mostly of level plains, in which the sugar estates are found, broken in the north-western part by rugged, rocky hills. Between the Provinces of Santa Clara and Matanzas lie "savannas" of palmetto which are unsuitable for sugar cultivation, but in many places afford good grazing and banana farms. Then proceeding eastward, we reach the rolling country and find again sugar estates; and further on, grassy, rolling hills, similar to those in Montana and Nebraska. This is the tobacco region. The southeastern portion of the Province of Santa Clara is broken by hills or mountains rising some 3,000 feet, adapted to coffee growing. This and the neighboring district formerly raised great numbers of cattle, but is now almost unoccupied, the stock of all kinds having been killed off.

The ports in this Department are, Matanzas, Cárdenas, Sagua la Grande and Caibarién, on the northern coast; and Cienfuegos, Casilda—the port of Trinidad—and Zaza,—the port of Sancti Spiritus, on the southern coast. The Bay of Cochinos, but little known, may contain good harbors with good country adjacent.

I would refer for details as to wood, water, natural and military features, etc., to my reports on Matanzas and Santa Clara, already forwarded.

The roads have been so long neglected that they are nearly useless. In the rural districts they are generally nothing more than bridle paths, the stones, vegetation and mud-holes making them impassable for all wheeled vehicles except the ponderous ox-cart of the country, and even these are often wrecked in being dragged through by the main strength of three or more yokes of oxen.

There are in Santa Clara 272 miles of standard gauge railroad, and in Matanzas 445 miles. Much work has been done by the companies controlling these lines in repairing

roadbeds; and the rolling stock, though of old pattern, has been gradually put in condition to meet present needs.

The rates for freight are from $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 21 cents per ton-mile, and for first-class passengers are from 6 to $6\frac{1}{4}$ per mile.

Two important towns, Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus, suffer from isolation due to want of railroad communication, and in my report on Santa Clara of June 30th I have indicated other railroad connections that would be of great utility in the development of the country.

By far the most important product of these two provinces is sugar, of which they made together in 1898, 91%, and in 1899, 79%, of the total product of the Island; the amount in 1898 being 1,743,801 bags, and in 1899, 1,538,413 bags, of 330 pounds each.

As an evidence of the extent to which the sugar interest has suffered, it must be noted that while the production in 1894 was 1,054,214 long tons, it fell in 1895 to 1,004,264; in 1896 to 225,221, or to less than one-quarter of the normal production. In 1897 the production was only 212,051; in 1898, 305,543; and in 1899, 300,000, approximately.

The war resulted in the destruction of more than one-half of the sugar-mills, and some of those left standing have not operated this year, either for want of cane, capital or modern machinery. The plantations belonging to these destroyed mills will, when they are again brought under cultivation, ship their cane by rail to the large "Centrals," still in running order, whose capacity will be sufficient for all the cane that can be raised in the next two or three years. The sugar-mills in these two provinces are owned as follows: 50 by Cubans, 21 by Spaniards, 11 by Americans, 2 by Germans, 1 English, and 1 French, from which it will appear that the popular idea that the sugar business and plantations of the Island are controlled by Spaniards and foreigners, has but little foundation in fact.

The value of sugar lands varies from \$3 to \$6 per acre, and the farms vary in size from the single caballeria (33 acres) to "Colonias" and "Ingenios" of many thousand acres.

The average cost of making sugar may be taken as 2 cents per pound. With more capital and improved methods this cost can be materially reduced. It is believed, however, that but little is made under that figure at the present time.

It should, however, be remembered that this cost will certainly be greater next year; labor will be dearer as the demand for it will have increased without any correspond-

ing increase in the supply, machinery and buildings which during the war have been neglected must be repaired, and the fields will require replanting, ditching, weeding and fencing; all of which must necessarily, for the time, tend to increase the cost of sugar production.

Tobacco is grown in the Remedios and Manicaragua districts in Santa Clara, where the leaf has something of a reputation. The crop of Santa Clara for 1899 will, it is estimated, reach 88,207 bales of 130 pounds each. In the Province of Matanzas the crop will be very much smaller, and is entirely consumed at home.

Coffee was formerly grown, and there are indications of the revival of this interest, to which the hilly lands of parts of Santa Clara province seem especially adapted.

The soil of the two provinces is generally fertile, and under favorable economic conditions will support a dense population.

We have found the climate similar to what it is generally in spring and summer in the United States. While there has been no means of measuring the actual rain-fall, it has been no greater than in our own country, and the proportion of perfectly clear days has been much larger than usual in our Atlantic States. The rain-fall has not been great enough at any time since our arrival here to interfere with military operations, had they been necessary, in any part of these two provinces.

The daily pay of labor on sugar estates varies from forty cents in the field to \$1.75 for skilled labor in the mills. The field hands are Cubans, colored or white, and the skilled laborers generally Spaniards or foreigners, who are docile, industrious and patient to an unusual degree.

Garden produce is raised in quantities sufficient for local supply, but on account of the lack of organization in the system of marketing the produce, the prices of vegetables in the towns are high. Fruits are scarce, and fowls and eggs excessively dear.

The area of the Department is about 12,307 square miles, and the population, as near as it can be obtained, is 500,000. Except in the large cities the people are engaged in farming and sugar making, and in certain districts—like that of Remedios and Manicaragua—in the culture and manufacture of tobacco. Both provinces of this Department before the late war supported great numbers of cattle. Matanzas had about 300,000 head, and Santa Clara about 966,587. They now have about 17,000 and 66,000 respectively, of which

8,896 have been imported into Matanzas Province and 24,179 into Santa Clara, since the first of January.

The revival of agriculture has proceeded to that point where it is being checked by lack of implements and work animals, the need of which is the most urgent one now felt by the Cuban people. The heavy plowing is generally done by oxen, though in the less stony districts American mules, it is believed, would prove more useful on account of their faster work.

The War Department authorized the sale of 250 mules which were surplus after the return of the volunteer regiments to the United States. These animals brought at auction an average of \$98.00 each; in addition to these some 38 others, unserviceable for army use, were sold at an average of \$22.00. The animals have evidently proved useful in the fields, as the purchasers are inquiring about the possibility of buying more of them.

The complete rehabilitation of these two Provinces finally hinges upon the re-establishment of agriculture and cattle raising. The development of communications, the sanitation of the towns, the reorganization of the police and the judiciary, the opening of schools, hospitals and asylums, may all be carried out without removing the radical and most pressing trouble.

In the consideration of this important subject, I suggested in my report on Santa Clara province, and in various communications and endorsements, an allotment of funds from the Insular Treasury, and that from these funds loans should be made directly to the small farmers and planters, or indirectly through an agricultural bank. These loans to be secured by chattel mortgages, and to bear a small rate of interest, the money on repayment to go into the bank as part of its capital, where it would be continuously available for the assistance and stimulation of the agricultural and pastoral interests.

I believe that these advances can be made with perfect safety, with the assistance of local committees composed of bankers and business men, and I do not see that it would involve the Insular Government in the meshes of paternalism, populism, or even of statesocialism.

I regard the measure as one of pure business, which should be undertaken by the Government to meet an extraordinary condition of affairs caused by the devastation of war and an unprecedented destruction of property. No private individual has the money in sufficient quantities,

or can be expected to invest it in this manner in view of the unsettled political condition of the Island. The private banker has not the same inducement, and possibly not the same security for such investments.

The school system as established by Spanish law is theoretically both ample and excellent, but as practically administered by Spanish officials it was but another instrument for robbing the people and continuing them in subjection. Its reorganization should receive early attention.

The number of widows and orphans left helpless by the war, from the best information that can be obtained, is estimated as follows:

	<i>Santa Clara.</i>	<i>Matanzas.</i>
Widows.....	22,000	12,000
Orphans.....	36,000	22,000

This has made necessary the establishment and maintenance of asylums in all the principal cities and towns of the provinces. This has largely increased the municipal expenses and deficits, and the funds therefor, amounting in the aggregate to June 30th to \$36,326.42, have been supplied by donations from the Insular Treasury.

The number of sick requiring shelter and care is also very large, due to the weakness caused by starvation and exposure, and consequent susceptibility to disease. For the accommodation of these unfortunate people there were in existence 17 hospitals, 21 asylums, 3 dispensaries, and 9 lazarettos: these were put in order and 28 more dispensaries and 5 asylums were established under military supervision, with the cheerful assistance of the municipal officers and citizens of the towns. The expenses of these institutions are to be met by the municipalities, which, at the same time, are providing for sanitation, schools, repair of roads and police. When it is considered that the revenues under the new laws are for the present considerably less than under the old, it will be seen that the deficits arising will have to be met by the Insular Treasury.

The issue of rations to the destitute has been rapidly decreasing, and it is believed that it can be soon entirely suspended, leaving the food for the sick and for the inmates of asylums to be supplied by the municipalities and covered by their municipal budgets, as are their other expenses.

No money had been expended since the beginning of the

revolution by any of the towns, either upon their streets or upon their outlying connections, and sanitary precautions had been unknown, except in one or two of the more modern cities. There are no sewers; privies and cess-pools were seldom cleaned; and the habits of the common people are a menace to good health.

Since assuming command the sanitation of the cities has been pushed with unremitting energy, first by the Military Commanders and latterly by the Alcaldes, still under the supervision of line officers and surgeons of our Army.

As a general thing the cleaning up has now proceeded as far as it is possible to carry it without disturbing the soil by laying sewers or digging deep trenches, a course which would involve great danger at the season when yellow fever is to be specially feared. The total expenditures for sanitation have been \$100,695.35.

The organization and character of the Provincial and Municipal government, the administration of justice, and the system of taxation have been fully described in my reports on the Provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara, to which reference is made for details.

In my report on Santa Clara province, I called attention to the delay in the administration of justice in criminal cases resulting from an insufficient number of courts, lack of jurisdiction, lack of means for securing witnesses, and from the centralizing of all trials for crimes in the Audiencias, which are often distant and to which communication is bad and expensive. I have submitted urgent recommendations, the substance of which is as follows:

1st. That Municipal Judges be given salaries to enable them to devote all of their time to their office and to the end of securing better judges, and that the duty of Judges of Instruction as to investigating crimes be imposed upon them.

2d. That Judges of Instruction, District Judges, be relieved of their present duty as to investigation of criminal cases and be made trial judges for the less grave crimes committed within their jurisdiction.

3rd. That duly summoned witnesses be given cost of transportation in advance and be subjected to both fine and imprisonment in case of unjustified failure to obey the summons.

4th. That special effort be made to clear the now overcrowded jails of those held for trials, which will either never occur or result in failure from inability to find witnesses.

In the reorganization of the state the greatest care should be taken in the selection of persons for judicial offices. So far as I have taken any part in this important matter, there has been the most careful scrutiny of the character of the persons recommended. Investigation of cases reviewed at these Headquarters, shows that in many instances judges and magistrates appointed under the Spanish administration of the Island have not possessed judicial character. Unless men of rigid and incorruptible honesty can be found to fill their places, judicial reconstruction in the country will make but slow progress.

When the fountain of justice is corrupt, the interests of the people must necessarily suffer, and the tendency must be irresistibly towards a low standard of personal and commercial honesty.

I have from the first given the municipalities of the provinces within this Department my special attention and support, for, in the disorders through which the Island has passed, whatever was left of government near the people would evidently be found in municipal rule. Obviously, well organized and properly administered municipalities form the essential basis for the reconstruction of provincial and insular civil government.

At present there seems to be a growing belief that the necessities and interests of these municipalities are essentially different, calling for special laws instead of uniform Insular laws. Heretofore, under Spanish rule, local authority as to taxation and business management of affairs was unknown and the general Insular municipal laws now in force were more applicable than at present. In different localities industries have varying degrees of importance; hence uniform rules of taxation may not result in the proper amount of municipal incomes, or may bear more or less harshly on local interests.

I am inclined to the opinion that any changes in municipal law which have for their object remodeling or changing the present laws so as to give uniform Insular supervision or control, should be cautiously undertaken, and that the requirements of the various localities should receive careful attention. Due consideration should be given to the relative importance and conditions of the different municipalities with a view to classifying them as to their duties and responsibilities, somewhat after the system now in force in the state of New York.

In the Province of Santa Clara the maintenance of order

is intrusted to the municipal police, assisted by the Governor's police and the Rural Police.

The "Rural Police," has an authorized strength of 500 privates and 95 officers and sergeants under the order of one Chief and four Assistant Chiefs, to maintain order throughout the province. Under the present organization the province is divided into four districts, each under an Assistant Chief. The district is sub-divided into "zones," each under a Captain, and the zones again into "lines" under a Lieutenant. Together, there are 94 posts, the number of men at each post varying from 15 at Cienfuegos, to 4 or 5 at the less important places. This police in its present organization is similar to the "Guardia Rural" formerly maintained by the Spanish. Under the Spanish regime the guard constantly patrolled the country, but this is not deemed necessary now, profound peace existing, and there being no bandits to cope with.

In the Province of Matanzas the police force consists of the Municipal and Governor's police, no rural guard having been organized. It is worthy of note that this province is even more free from disturbance than Santa Clara.

I reiterate the opinion that all authority, as well as responsibility for the police, should be in the hands of the Mayors. The system of rural police under the direct orders of the Commander of the Department is Spanish rather than American, and I have recommended in my report on Santa Clara province the consolidation of the rural police of that province with the municipal police, by keeping the best of the men and putting the entire force directly under the orders of the municipalities, with a civil inspector whose supervision should extend over both provinces.

Under existing laws private guards are employed on many of the estates, in all parts of the Department.

	<i>Santa Clara.</i>	<i>Matanzas.</i>
Rural Police.....	595	
Governor's Police.....	37	6
Municipal Police.....	336	348
<i>Total</i>	968	354
Approximate monthly cost.....	\$ 33,842	\$ 15,000
Private Guards employed.....	322	298

The decree of March 25th, 1899, of the Governor of the Island radically changed the system of municipal taxation,

abolishing some largely productive taxes, notable that derived from slaughtering beef, and substituting 6% and 8% taxes on urban property. It cannot yet be said that the effect of these taxes when fully enforced and collected will result in smaller revenues than under the old system, but the immediate and present effect has been a serious reduction of the income of the municipalities, while their expenses for repairs, street cleaning, sanitary work, charities and corrections have been materially increased. The reduction of revenue and increase of expense has resulted in deficits which have been met by allotments from the revenues of the Island. (For the amount of these allotments, see page 7.)

A condition of complete tranquillity continues to prevail in the provinces under my command. The disorders are no greater than might occur in any well governed country. They are mainly due to poverty and want, or to a lack of profitable occupation for the people. The remedy for this is obviously the relief of agriculture and industry, and the re-establishment of commerce on a profitable basis. This may be greatly facilitated by direct advances from the Insular Treasury to the farmers, cattle breeders and planters, or indirectly by the establishment of a good government which should lighten the burthens of taxation, enter into commercial treaties with the United States and other neighboring countries, and open profitable markets for the productions of the Cuban people. Obviously the problem is economic rather than political.

It is well known that the Island has been suffering for many years from the combined effects of a commercial war between beet and cane sugar, and the excessive taxation and exactions of the Spanish Government.

I have discussed this question fully in my report on the Province of Santa Clara, and since rendering that report further information has only confirmed my conclusions.

I am persuaded that the feeling of political unrest in these two provinces is due mainly to the suspicion that we do not intend to live up to the voluntary pledge contained in the Joint Resolution of Intervention.

This feeling is perhaps on the increase, and is encouraged by political agitators and newspapers. So far as I can discover, the Cuban people in the provinces of this Department are now as ready for self-government as they are likely to be at any time in the near future.

The recent orders looking to the taking of a formal census

have been well received. They have encouraged the people to believe that a constitutional convention may be assembled at an early day, and that a workable government will be organized and be placed in charge of Cuban affairs in a reasonable time thereafter.

A government having been inaugurated, a treaty of alliance and friendship, covering all subjects of common interest between the United States and Cuba, would naturally follow as soon as the details could be agreed upon.

It is my deliberate judgment that any other course will involve unnecessary delay, and will be accompanied by a further decrease of that feeling of friendship and gratitude which the Cuban people now entertain towards the United States, as well as by a lack of confidence in the business future, and by a continuance of the depression in the agricultural and commercial interests of the Island, if not, indeed, by an actual increase of local disorder. It will be observed that I have not discussed the objections that may be raised to suggestions either for the assistance of agriculture, or for the formation of a government, as these objections will doubtless be fully presented by those whose interests may be adversely affected.

For information as to such matters as may appear to have been slighted in this report, or for further details of any subject touched upon, I would again refer to my reports upon the Provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara, copies of which are forwarded herewith.

The following named officers have served as members of my staff:

Lieutenant Colonel George R. Cecil, Assistant Adjutant General, U. S. V., Captain 13th U. S. Infantry, was Adjutant General of the First Army Corps in Kentucky and Georgia, and of the two departments in Cuba, serving with me from October 18th, 1898, to May 23rd, 1899. He performed his duties in a competent and satisfactory manner, and, as a recognition of his merit, upon being relieved from duty at these headquarters, he was recommended for and detailed to the position of military attaché at Berne, Switzerland.

Captain William B. Allison, Jr., Assistant Adjutant General, U. S. V., was attached to my staff from the beginning of the Spanish war, and was on duty at headquarters Department of Matanzas from January 12th to April 3rd. He showed unusual ability, energy and zeal in the discharge of the various duties entrusted to him. By close application

he thoroughly mastered the duties of the Adjutant General's Department, and rendered valuable assistance in other departments.

Captain James K. Thompson, Assistant Adjutant General, U. S. V., Captain 15th U. S. Infantry, was on duty at the headquarters of the two departments from January 22d to April 30th. This officer was honorably discharged from the volunteer service March 3rd. He performed his duties while with me most intelligently and successfully.

Lieutenant Colonel Timothy E. Wilcox, Surgeon U. S. V., Major, Medical Department, U. S. A., was Chief Surgeon of the First Army Corps in Kentucky and Georgia, and of the Department of Matanzas from my arrival here until March 21st, 1899. This officer, like others connected with the Medical Department, labored industriously and successfully to promote the health of the troops, to stamp out disease and to alleviate suffering among the inhabitants, and to place the sanitation of the department in its present satisfactory condition.

Lieutenant Colonel Frank D. Baldwin, Inspector General U. S. V., Major 5th U. S. Infantry, was on duty with me as Inspector General of the First Army Corps, and at the Headquarters of the Departments of Matanzas and of Matanzas and Santa Clara. He was honorably discharged from the volunteer service May 12th. He performed a great amount of labor as Inspector General of the two provinces, and discharged all duties in connection with his position in a sympathetic and kindly, as well as an energetic and comprehensive manner.

Lieutenant Colonel John A. Kress, U. S. V., Major, Ordnance Department, U. S. A., reported to me as Chief of Ordnance at Macon, Ga., and served as such until February 22nd. His service was in every way competent and satisfactory.

Captain Arthur Murray, 1st U. S. Artillery, served with me as Judge Advocate from January 12th to April 26th, and as Provost Marshal from January 20th to February 2nd. Captain Murray is an officer of unusual ability, integrity and learning, and it is difficult to overestimate the value of his services while with me. He is one of the many officers of the regular establishment capable of carrying through with credit any duty which may be imposed upon him.

1st Lieutenant Cecil Stewart, 4th U. S. Cavalry, served with me as Aide-de-Camp from November, 1898, to February

2nd; 1899, when, at his own request, he was relieved from duty and ordered to join his regiment. I desire to thank him for the efficient manner in which he performed the various duties which were assigned to him.

1st Lieutenant John W. Black, 3rd U. S. V. Engineers, served as Aide-de-Camp on my staff from July 20th, 1898, but was relieved from duty April 14th, 1899, because of the order for the muster-out of his regiment. Lieutenant Black, coming as he did from civil life, had much to learn in the performance of his duties, but he studied industriously and acquitted himself in a creditable manner.

Major Eli D. Hoyle, U. S. V., Captain 1st U. S. Artillery, was Provost Marshal from February 2nd to April 26th, and Chief Ordnance Officer from February 29th to April 26th. Major Hoyle is an officer of the highest character, intelligence and worth. He rendered most valuable services in the investigation of economic and sociological questions, and it is confidently believed that he will always acquit himself creditably in whatever position he may be called upon to fill, whether in the staff or line of the Army.

Major Louis V. Caziarc, Assistant Adjutant General, Captain 2nd U. S. Artillery, was mustered out of the volunteer service on May 12th, but was continued on duty at these headquarters with his rank in the regular service. He acted as Assistant Adjutant General and Adjutant General at these headquarters from April 25th to June 9th, and performed his duties in an entirely satisfactory manner.

Captain F. J. Kernan, 2nd U. S. Infantry, from April 25th to July 8th, performed the various duties of Judge Advocate, Engineer Officer, Ordnance Officer and Provost Marshal, and in these several positions acquitted himself with credit.

The personal and department staff on July 31st was as follows:

1st Lieutenant William J. Glasgow, 2nd U. S. Cavalry, A. D. C., Acting Ordnance Officer, and Inspector of Small Arms Practice.

Lieutenant Colonel Edward J. McClernand, Captain 2nd U. S. Cavalry, A. A. G., U. S. V., Adjutant General.

Major J. H. Dorst, 2nd U. S. Cavalry, Acting Inspector General, and Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

Major Harvey C. Carbaugh, Captain 4th U. S. Artillery, Judge Advocate, U. S. V., Judge Advocate.

Major James B. Aleshire, Captain and Assistant Quarter-

master, U. S. A., Q. M., U. S. V., Chief Quartermaster, on leave of absence.

Major W. H. Miller, Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. A., A. Q. M., U. S. V., Disbursing Q. M. for civil business, Acting Chief Quartermaster during absence of Major Aleshire.

Captain M. R. Peterson, Commissary of Subsistence, U. S. A., Chief Commissary.

Major Frank J. Ives, Captain Medical Department, U. S. A., Surgeon U. S. V., Chief Surgeon.

Major J. H. Hysell, Surgeon, U. S. V., Sanitary Inspector.

Major Lewis Balch, Surgeon, U. S. V., Sanitary Inspector.

Captain John Biddle, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., Chief Engineer.

Captain Samuel Reber, U. S. V., 1st Lieutenant Signal Corps, U. S. A., Chief Signal Officer.

Captain Charles J. Stevens, 2nd U. S. Cavalry, Provost Marshal and Inspector of Police.

Captain Frederick S. Foltz, 2nd U. S. Cavalry, Assistant to the Acting Inspector General.

This constitutes, in my judgment, an exceedingly able staff, though its efficiency has been somewhat interfered with by frequent changes. The gentlemen composing it are officers of unusual experience, in the prime of life, of the highest personal and official character, and of unusual professional attainments. They are one and all capable of performing similar duties with an army in the field, or with a politico-military department of any size. These officers were detailed to my staff, in most cases, without special request on my part, and I desire to extend my thanks not only to them for their valuable and efficient services, but to the War Department for the discriminating judgment with which they were selected for their places.

It would be improper to close this report without calling attention to the provincial governors and governments of the Department. When I arrived at Matanzas I found the affairs of the province in charge of Doctor Eduardo Diaz, Civil Governor, a gentleman of the highest character and intelligence, who had been appointed by the acting Governor General after the protocol of peace and before the Spanish evacuation. He and his secretary had done most excellent service in maintaining tranquillity, in relieving the sufferings and distress of the people, and in aiding the

alcaldes and ayuntamientos in their important work. It is but due to the governor, secretary, mayors, councilmen, judges, magistrates, clergy and school teachers to say that with but few exceptions, they displayed the greatest fidelity and industry, as well as the greatest anxiety, in cooperating with the intervening authorities, in the performance of their various duties, and in adapting themselves to the new condition of affairs. These officials were, with scarcely an exception, native Cubans, and without reference to their past political associations, were intelligent and faithful in their various stations.

A part of the Autonomous Civil Government authorized by Spain during the revolution was a body of representative citizens known as the Diputacion Provincial. It was in office when I took command, and although its duties might have been important in connection with a more liberal Spanish policy, it was soon found that its functions as defined by the organic law, were not of sufficient utility to justify the continuance of the body or of the expense of maintaining it, and on my recommendation it was abolished by the Division Commander on the 24th of February. The change, which was made in the interest of simplicity and efficiency of administration, as well as of economy, has been fully justified by the results which have followed.

Finding the office of Civil Governor incompatible with his duties as president of the Matanzas Institute, the highest school of the province, Doctor Díaz tendered his resignation as Governor, and on my nomination General Pedro E. Betancourt, of the Cuban Army operating in this region, a citizen of Matanzas and a gentleman of American and European liberal education, was appointed to the office. He was inaugurated on the 22d day of April, since which time he has devoted himself with great assiduity, intelligence and public spirit to the various duties of his position. He has personally visited all the cities and towns of the province, in company with me or alone, and has constantly exerted his great influence for the maintenance of tranquillity, the promotion of good relations between Cubans and resident Spanish subjects, the reestablishment of agriculture and commerce, and the creation of a good understanding between the people and the military authorities of the United States. To his counsel and example, no less than to the natural docility and industry of the people, is due the greatly improved condition of affairs which exists throughout this

province, and for which he is entitled to my thanks, as well as those of his countrymen.

When I took command of the Province of Santa Clara on the first of June I found the civil affairs in charge of General José Miguel Gómez, late of the Cuban army. He had but recently received the appointment of civil governor, and at my request joined me at once in a careful inspection of the towns and cities of the province. From that time to the present he has been unremitting in his efforts to establish and maintain good government in that region. He is a vigorous and intelligent man of affairs, and shows the most lively concern in the restoration of the agricultural and pastoral interests of the people, and especially in the organization of banks, for the aid of farmers, planters and cattle men, in the reconstruction of their homes and the reestablishment of their ruined business. He has given me his most cheerful and loyal cooperation, and in turn, he has been in every way supported and sustained in all the functions of his office. As a rule all business pertaining to the civil government of the province has been transacted through him and his office. It is both my duty and my pleasure to add that both Governor Betancourt and Governor Gómez have shown themselves to be in every way worthy of their high positions, and on the assumption that when left free to choose for themselves the Cuban people will select such men as these for their highest offices, I see no reason why we may not confidently count upon their showing themselves fully capable of carrying on an orderly, enlightened and progressive local government, especially if the economic and commercial conditions of the island, and of its relations with the United States and the neighboring countries, are arranged on a basis which will give it the advantages of its position and of its extraordinary natural resources.

Very respectfully,

JAMES H. WILSON.

Brigadier General, U. S. V.

APPENDIX "A."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS,

Matanzas, Cuba, Ferbruary 20th, 1899.

To the Adjutant General,

Division of Cuba, Havana.

SIR:—

I transmit herewith by the hand of my Aide-de-Camp, Lieutenant John W. Black, Third U. S. V. Engineers, my report upon the condition and requirements of the Province of Matanzas.

It is as full and complete as circumstances, and especially the short time at my disposal, would permit me to make it.

It is accompanied by sub-reports as follows:

1. Report on Railroad System, by Captain J. C. Hand, Third Volunteer Engineers.
2. Report on Barracks, Blockhouses, etc., by Major E. H. Eldridge, Eighth Massachusetts Volunteers.
3. Report on area of Province and its Population, by Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle, U. S. V.
4. Report on Sugar Mills, by Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle, U. S. V.
5. Description of Country along Railroads, by Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle, U. S. V.
6. Sample of Records kept in a Termino, by Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle, U. S. V.
7. Sketch Map of Railroad System, by Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle, U. S. V.
8. Report on Water System in City of Matanzas, by Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle, U. S. V.
9. Report on Transportation, Wood, Water, etc., by Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Aleshire, U. S. V.
10. Statement showing Capacity and Number of Barracks, by Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Aleshire, U. S. V.
11. Report on Condition of the People, by Lieutenant Colonel G. R. Cecil.
12. A Report on Post-Offices and Telegraphs was forwarded by Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Reber, U. S. V., on January 31st, 1899.

13. Report on Custom Houses, etc., by Captain W. H. Hay, U. S. V., Collector of Customs for Matanzas.

14. Report on the Condition of the Country, by Lieutenant Colonels F. D. Baldwin, U. S. V., John Biddle, U. S. V., and T. E. Wilcox, U. S. V.

15. Report on Sugar Mills, etc., by Lieutenant J. J. O'Rourke, U. S. V.

16. Report on Street Cleaning, etc., by Lieutenant Colonels John Biddle and J. B. Aleshire, U. S. V.

17. Report on Issue of Rations, by Captain H. S. Bean, 8th Massachusetts Volunteers.

18. Scheme for Reorganization of the Police of the City of Matanzas, by Brigadier General J. P. Sanger, U. S. V., and endorsement thereon by me.

19. Report on Cárdenas, by Major J. D. Glennan, Brigade Surgeon, U. S. V.

20. Resignation and papers connected therewith of Governor Eduardo Diaz.

21. Price Paid Labor on Sugar Estate of Santa Gertrudes, by Señor Miguel Mendoza.

22. Report by the Mayor of Alfonso XII of number of Deaths between the years 1895 and 1898 in that termino.

23. Report on Salaries and Allowances paid the Priests in this Province, by the R. R. Braulio de Orue y Vivanco.

24. Report on Fire Organization and its Charities, by Chief of Matanzas City Fire Brigade.

25. Report on Provincial Police, by Captain Arthur Murray, U. S. Army.

26. Report on the Present and Proposed Organization of the Audiencia Territorial, by Captain Arthur Murray, U. S. Army.

27. Report on Present and Proposed Organization of Juzgados Primera Instancia, by Captain Arthur Murray, U. S. Army.

28. Estimates for and Plans of Barracks at Matanzas, Cárdenas, Colon and Corral Falso, by Lieutenant Colonel J. B. Aleshire, U. S. V.

29. Report by Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle U. S. V., on Street Cleaning of Cárdenas: also Report by Captain Westerfield, 3rd U. S. V. Engineers, on Cárdenas.

Very respectfully,

JAMES H. WILSON,

Major General Volunteers.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS OF THE PROVINCE
OF MATANZAS.

Area, 8640 square kilometers, or about 3,300 square miles.

Population in 1894 was 271,960: number of souls per square mile about 83.

Population in 1899, from the best obtainable data at hand, is 190,560; number of souls per square mile about 57.

Births in the Province from 1895 to 1899 cannot be stated at present.

It will be seen from the above figures that about one-third of the population has died.

	1894.	1899.
Horned Cattle owned	298,391,	about 8,800
Horses owned.....	102,268,	about 3,700
Mules owned.....	7,725,	about 803

Sugar mills operated in 1894, about.....	108
Sugar mills not destroyed and left standing, 1899.	55
Sugar mills now in operation.....	42
Sacks of sugar exported in 1894	2,471,000
Sacks of sugar exported in 1898.....	920,000

Pay for unskilled labor about 40c silver per day.

Cost of living; rice 6c lb; corn meal 4c lb; beans 7c lb; dried meat 25c lb.

Hospitals in province 5; homes for girls, orphans and old people 4.

	<i>Miles.</i>
RAILROADS { Matanzas.....	190
{ Cárdenas & Júcaro.....	180
{ Habana United.....	75
<i>Total</i>	445

Note:—This does not include numerous branches belonging to the various plantations.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS.

Matanzas, Cuba, February 16th, 1899.

Adjutant General Division of Cuba.

Havana, Cuba.

SIR:—

I have the honor to submit the following report:

I arrived at Matanzas, with my staff, January 10th, 1899, and assumed command the same day.

From January 10th to 24th I was engaged in meeting and making the acquaintance of the civil and ecclesiastical officers and the leading people of the province and city, and in inspecting the city and its environments.

From January 20th to January 22nd a fiesta was held in the city celebrating the return of the Cuban Army to Matanzas, and the expulsion of the Spanish Army from the Island.

The Spanish Army began evacuating the interior towns of the province about November 15th, and by December 28th all had left for the sea-coast. The last Spanish troops under the command of Generals Castellano and Marina sailed from Matanzas January 12th, 1899, at 5:30 P. M.

All the interior as well as the sea-coast towns are entrenched camps, fortified by from two to twenty-five block houses, connected by well constructed rifle trench or parapet. Each blockhouse is a small square or round structure pierced with one or two rows of loop holes, and having a small watch tower on top, the line of loop holes frequently faced with railroad iron. The ordinary blockhouse is surrounded by a barbed wire fence, a parapet of stone or a ditch. As a rule they are well placed and afford excellent protection against infantry fire, but would afford no protection against mountain guns or field artillery.

The average strength of garrisons placed in interior towns was from 50 to 250 Spanish soldiers, and frequently a company of guerrillas and volunteers.

At present 350 Cuban soldiers, or from five to twenty-five at each place, are performing the police duty of the towns.

In addition to the blockhouses surrounding the towns, many sugar mills had from two to ten blockhouses for their protection. There are some 55 sugar mills still standing in the province; it is therefore estimated that the Spanish had no less than 500 of these small blockhouses in the province.

No place was small enough or insignificant enough to escape the attention of the Spanish. The country people living in the vicinity of towns or sugar mills were driven into these fortified camps. These people constituted the reconcentrados and they were huddled together in palm-thatched huts so closely that the cultivation of gardens became in most cases impossible. Without work or other means of support these victims of Spanish cruelty became at once starving beggars.

In order to make the policy of starvation more effective, the Spanish troops, aided by the insurgents and afterwards by the proprietors and the people themselves, killed and ate the cattle, hogs and poultry, burned the crops and gathered the fruits and vegetables which the more enterprising tried to cultivate.

Into the limits of many villages containing 500 or 600 inhabitants there were driven from 3000 to 4000 country people, many of whom sickened and died.

The results must have far surpassed the expectations of the Spanish authorities. The greatest number of deaths occurred in the small villages from starvation and disease. For example, Mocha, a village on the railroad to Havana, contained 600 inhabitants in 1895. The Spaniards concentrated there some 4500 people, of whom only 1280 are left alive today. In 1897, 1212 died from starvation and diseases incident thereto.

From the best evidence which I and my staff have been able to gather, it is believed that about one-third of the people of the province have died from starvation and sickness since the beginning of the war. The intervention of the United States came at the right time. Had it been deferred till now, three-quarters of the people would have been dead; and had it been put off another six months, it is believed by intelligent and observing people, that all except a moiety of those living at Matanzas and Cárdenas must have succumbed.

CHARACTER OF THE COUNTRY.

Most of the fertile land of this province, it is said, was originally planted in coffee, but it is now devoted to cane, the hill-sides and less productive portions being used for pasturage.

To the west of Matanzas there are small mountains with large fertile valleys lying between them. To the south and east there is a narrow stretch of hill land, and close to the northern coast, the country is nearly a level plateau, with a gentle slope southward to the Hatiguanico river, which forms the southern boundary of the province. In the southeast it is fairly well wooded.

COUNTRY ROADS.

The roads near the principal cities look as though they had been good in the past, but having been neglected for several years, they are at present overgrown and rough. In the rural districts they are as a rule merely bridle paths.

It does not seem necessary at present to expend any of the public money on improving the country roads.

WATER.

The country seems well watered, but as a rule the water in the smaller towns and villages is obtained from wells varying in depth from 20 to 150 feet. While the shallower wells are reported dangerous, the deeper wells, as a rule, are said to contain good water.

GRASS.

Parana and Guinea grass are plentiful everywhere, but are generally not found together.

WOOD.

In the southeastern portion of the province wood is plentiful, while in the other parts they have only a local supply. The following varieties are found in this province: oak, royal palm, palmetto, mahogany, cocoa, orange, lime, caña-brava, ceiba, salvedera, pine, güira, mango, mamey Colorado and mamey Santo Domingo.

Fire-wood can be obtained at from \$2.65 to \$6.00 per cord. In addition to the above-named there are many useful bushes such as the guayaba.

RAILROADS.

At present there are 445 miles of railroad in the province:

Matanzas	190
Cárdenas and Júcaro R. R.....	180
Havana United R. R.....	75
<i>Total.....</i>	<i>445</i>

This does not include the side-tracks running to the various sugar mills, some of which are narrow gauge.

The rolling stock, which is of old pattern with link and pin couplers, seems ample, such as it is, for present needs.

The freight equipment especially is in bad condition. Wrecks and derailments are frequent. Much work in cleaning and repairing tracks is being done. As a rule the road-bed is good, but for lack of work the rails are out of alignment, and are in bad condition.

It is estimated that the main line of the railroads in the province can be put in thorough repair, according to modern practice, at a cost of something less than \$6,000 per mile, a part of which money can be spread over three years.

The rates for both freight and first class passengers are high as compared with those in the United States.

The net earnings under normal conditions are such as to enable the companies to pay excellent dividends. The Matanzas and Cárdenas roads, after deducting contributions to both sides, have it is said, earned and paid fair dividends even during the war.

All the principal cities and towns are situated on and are well served by the railroads.

POST OFFICES.

The present system is most unsatisfactory, and it needs thorough reorganization by the U. S. Postal Authorities.

Special attention is invited to the report of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Reber, U. S. V., and my endorsement on the same dated January 30th, 1899.

TELEGRAPH.

The telegraph was in a most unsatisfactory condition when I took command of this department. It is now undergoing thorough reorganization under the supervision of Lieutenant Colonel Reber, Chief Signal Officer.

PUBLIC WORKS.

There are none needed at present except a light house at Cárdenas, to replace one which was destroyed during the war. This should be rebuilt at the expense of the customs service.

HARBORS.

There are two harbors in the province, Matanzas and Cárdenas. Matanzas harbor is good, and will accommodate any vessel; Cárdenas is an open bay and cannot accommodate vessels of over sixteen feet draft.

A system of wharves and docks should be ultimately constructed at Matanzas, but they are works for national or private enterprise rather than for the province or its military commander.

The landing pier between the mouths of the San Juan and Yumurí rivers is used by the Commissary and Quartermaster department, and also by the custom house for the unloading of all dutiable merchandize. It is in a dangerous condition and needs immediate repair. To put it in shape so that it can be used at once, will cost about \$4,000.

MANUFACTURING.

Manufacturing is limited principally to sugar making. There are 55 ingenios (sugar mills) left standing in the province, of which 42 are now grinding or expecting to grind a part of the current season. Their ultimate capacity is much in excess of this year's crop. They draw their supplies of cane not only from the surrounding plantations to which they belong, but from the "colonias" throughout the province, in some cases as far as 60 miles distant, and thus afford the basis for about all the employment the country population finds. These mills are generally modern establishments with improved machinery and processes, which survived the sharp competition of the business, and became rich enough to pay contributions to both sides, or to employ soldiers for their own defence. Had they also been destroyed it is believed that this province could not have been restored to prosperity in less than from 10 to 15 years. As it is, if the means can be had with which cattle can be bought in sufficient quantities to cultivate the land and haul the crops to the railroad cars and the mills, the normal production

of sugar will be reached in three or four years, when prosperity will be fully re-established.

In addition to the ingenios, there are three refineries in the province, 2 at Cardenas, neither running, but one expecting to start shortly; 1 at Matanzas, not running, but also expecting to start shortly.

The Matanzas and Cardenas Railroads maintain the usual machine shops in which rolling stock is repaired and cars are built. There are besides two gas works and two ice factories, one of each at Matanzas, and one at Cardenas; a number of foundries for the repair of sugar mill machinery and several wheel-wright and blacksmith shops. There are also at least 12 distilleries for the manufacture of rum and alcohol, 3 at Matanzas, 5 at Cardenas, 1 at Cuevitas, 1 at Limonar, 1 at Union and 1 at Colon. Some are at work and others expect to resume operations this season.

SANITATION.

Almost all the villages and towns, especially those situated in flat sugar districts, have only surface drainage, and are therefore exceedingly dirty, and in the wet season must become unhealthy.

Some work has been done by the Mayors towards cleaning them, but the sanitary condition of the whole province is at present comparatively bad, and will become worse when the rains begin.

An effective method of disposing of night soil and garbage must be devised and adopted for each city, town and village. Perhaps the best is that of dry closets used in most of the military posts throughout Texas. Common metal buckets or wooden boxes, which can be emptied daily, may be substituted in especial cases, and if properly looked after, cannot fail to prove satisfactory.

Meanwhile until a definite scheme is adopted and carried into effect, the people will be required when necessary in the larger cities and towns to dig privy vaults and use them, instead of using the public streets and by-ways, as is common at the present time.

The sanitary condition of Matanzas, Cardenas, Union, Corral Falso and Colón is treated separately in this report.

POPULATION, ETC.

The area of Matanzas province is 8,640 square kilometers, or about 3,300 square miles.

The population in 1894 was 271,960. In 1899, from data obtained from the various alcaldes during the recent inspection of the province, it is believed that the population is about 190,500. Allowing for about half the normal birth rate during the three years of the war, it will be seen that approximately one-third of the population has died.

An inaccurate census taken January 1st, 1898, gives the population at 191,114, but from the fact that this province was at that time occupied by a large force of Spanish soldiers, and each town and village in their possession, and the further fact that the Cuban forces occupied the open country, it is not at all likely that this census is in any degree trustworthy.

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

Except in Matanzas and Cardenas, the inhabitants are engaged in farming or manufacturing sugar from the sugar cane. In addition to the cane, a local supply of corn, sweet potatoes, yams, yuccas, beans, bananas, oranges, pineapples, garlic and other garden produce is raised. A very small supply of the foregoing garden truck is sent to the Havana market, but none is exported at present, though the business is susceptible of easy development.

LABOR, WAGES, ETC.

The daily pay of the laborers in the sugar mills and field varies from 30 cents for unskilled labor to one dollar and seventy-five cents for skilled labor, and the average field hand gets about 40 cents per day in silver.

Most plantations and ingenios have a company store at which their laborers trade. The cost of rice at these stores is about 6c per pound, corn meal 4c, beans 7c, and dried meat 25c. From a comparison of these two scales it will be readily seen that a field laborer cannot support himself and family on his wages alone, but must have the help of a small tract of land. Notwithstanding the great decrease of population and the destruction of cane fields and farm houses, the supply of field hands is not greatly in excess of the demand. With the return of prosperity, and the restoration of the farms to their original condition, there must necessarily be an increased demand for labor, and a corresponding rise in wages.

DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES.

To rescue the people of this province from want and suffering is a difficult task. If they are not relieved promptly many of them will die from the effects of previous starvation. Hence the problem is to feed the poor without making professional beggars of them. I estimate that there are in this province more than 35,000 destitute, many of whom are sick, or are widows and orphans, without male support. They will necessarily require clothing, food and medicines until they can be made self-supporting. But neither their number nor relative condition is accurately known, hence a careful census should be taken. As this class is also found throughout the island, the census should be general and not local. I have for this and other reasons recommended the taking of a general census to the consideration of the Major General Commanding the Division.

In order that the people of this province shall be restored to their normal prosperity, some effective plan must be devised by which a sufficient supply of cattle and agricultural implements can be obtained to put the farms and plantations speedily under cultivation. This is a subject of vital importance. Work cattle are indispensable for breaking and cultivating the land. Cows are needed for milk and for breeding. Carts, plows and hoes are required for their appropriate uses. But as nearly all the live stock and agricultural implements have been swept away and destroyed, immediate and effective measures should be adopted to replace them.

From data obtained in the office of the civil governor and elsewhere it appears that in 1894 there were 4928 farms, "colonias" and plantations, besides 5341 city and town houses. There were 298,391 head of horned cattle. 102,268 horses, 7725 mules, 208 asses, 16,932 sheep and 38,344 hogs.

From the best information obtainable during my inspection of the province, there are now no sheep, but few hogs, hardly any poultry, and only 800 mules, 3700 horses and about 8,000 head of cattle. Most of the latter have been imported since the cessation of hostilities, from México, Central and South America.

Until the present time there has been no necessity for importing cattle; all the provinces have hitherto raised enough to supply their own wants, and Puerto Principe has produced a surplus. An American at Cárdenas is con-

sidering the relative usefulness of mules, and the advisability of importing them for sale. He calculates that three mules, with a number 4 plow, can be made to do the work of four oxen. It is believed that this estimate is too low, and that three spans of sugar plantation mules, such as are used in Louisiana, can break and cultivate twice as much land per day as three yoke of oxen.

Horses which are small and admirably gaited are used for saddle and pack purposes, except in the cities and larger towns, where they are used for carriages.

The mules in Cuba are generally much below the standard size in the States, but both they and the horses are perhaps better adapted to the climate than the larger American animals.

It is estimated that a caballeria (33 acres) of the best cane land with a growing crop is worth \$2,000, but lands of inferior quality can be had from that price down to \$100 per caballeria. Many farms of this size, or even less, have hitherto been owned and cultivated in this province, but they, together with the larger farms and "colonias", have been laid waste. The houses and crops have been burned, the banana patches have been cut down, the cattle and poultry have been killed and eaten, and the carts and agricultural implements have been mostly broken up and destroyed.

Before there can be a complete restoration of prosperity, some effective arrangement must be made by which oxen, cows, carts, plows and hoes can be supplied in reasonable quantities to such smaller proprietors and their tenants as have been reduced to destitution by the war.

It is estimated that one cow, one yoke of oxen, a cart, a plow, a bill-hook, and the necessary hoes and machetes, with \$85.00 in money, would enable an industrious man to support his family, and raise enough cane to sell to the ingenios to refund the cost of these articles in three, or at most four years.

In this connection, it is suggested that after paying the necessary expense of the civil government of the island and the provinces, and rendering such assistance as may be found to be necessary towards carrying on the various municipal governments till their revenues can be restored, a considerable surplus from the customs revenues of the island will remain which might properly be divided between payments on account to the disbanded Cuban troops, and advances to the small proprietors and farmers.

Work cattle are most imperatively needed, and it is believed a feasible plan could be devised by which a considerable number could be imported and sold to the most needy and trustworthy, upon easy terms, secured by chattel mortgages, which could be foreclosed in cases of improvidence. The cattle would generally improve in condition and value, and could, when the circumstances seemed to call for it, be resold to other purchasers. A similar plan might be devised with reference to carts and agricultural implements,

At all events, I submit the suggestion with confidence, that if it can be promptly worked out and applied in this province, where agriculture is the only great interest, under such safe-guards and conditions as prudence combined with the necessary benevolence would call for, it cannot fail to produce most beneficial results.

The five cities and towns in the Province of Matanzas that are of the most importance from a military standpoint are Matanzas, Cárdenas, Colón, Corral Falso and La Unión. Matanzas and Cárdenas are sea-ports.

MATANZAS.

Matanzas is 54 miles east of Havana. The houses as a rule are built of stone and are one story high. The city is divided into three parts by two rivers, the San Juan and the Yumuri. Both rivers flow into the harbor, which is deep enough to accommodate all kinds of vessels. Vessels drawing more than ten feet must be unloaded by lighters. Smaller vessels can navigate the San Juan river for a distance of about one mile. Water is brought to the city in an aqueduct from Bello Springs, a distance of seven miles. The supply is abundant, but the mains are not laid to supply all the streets, and the head is not sufficient to supply those in the higher parts of the city. The quality is excellent. The water concession was granted by the Spanish Government to the German firm of Heydrich and Co., and is called La Empresa del Acueducto de Matanzas. Its exact terms are not known, but measures have been taken to obtain a copy of the original grant, and of all subsequent modifications, with a view to rigid enforcement of all proper requirements.

At the point where the aqueduct crosses the San Juan river there is an ice machine that seems able to furnish all the ice required for the troops at this place at present. The ice is of excellent quality and is furnished at about one-

third of a cent per pound, which, under the circumstances, is regarded as reasonable.

In the better houses cess-pools are dug as a receptacle for excreta. Some of these are lined with cement, others are not. The sub-stratum of rock is sedimentary carbonate of lime and magnesia, and unless cess-pools are lined with cement there is much seepage. In some of the poorer houses there are ordinary privies, while others have nothing provided. There are some wells in the city, but all are considered dangerous.

Most streets are paved, but in the secondary and remote streets they are badly paved or not paved at all, and are generally very rough.

The population in 1895 after the reconcentration was about 60,000. At present it is estimated by the city authorities at about 40,000, but I think this is an over-estimate. Deaths in 1895 were about 1,500; births about 700.

The city is considered as healthy as any in the island. If cleaned and proper sanitary rules enforced, epidemics should be prevented and ordinary sickness reduced to a normal ratio. Natural drainage is excellent. I do not advise the construction of sewers at the present time, but some simple plan should be adopted for the disposal of fecal matter and other refuse. For example, all houses might be forced to have privies that should be cleaned at certain set times, or to use buckets for fecal matter, which, as well as garbage, could be hauled in covered carts to dump boats. These dump boats when loaded should be towed a suitable distance outside the harbor, and dump emptied. In this connection attention is invited to report of Lieutenant Colonels Biddle and Aleshire, U. S. V.

There are two lines of railroad entering the city of Matanzas—the Matanzas and the United Railroad of Havana.

The Santa Cristina Barracks, originally owned and occupied by the Spaniards, can be thoroughly renovated and repaired for \$15,000. When made habitable this barrack will accommodate an infantry regimental headquarters and six hundred men. For \$14,000 a cavalry barrack and corral sufficient to accommodate two troops can be thoroughly renovated and repaired. If no cavalry is retained at Matanzas, the cost of placing the cavalry barracks in proper health condition would be \$10,000, instead of \$14,000.

This apparently large sum is named for the reason that 4,000 feet of sewer must be constructed from this barrack to the bay. To be healthful the buildings must be well

and thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, floored and remodeled.

The Chief Quartermaster, assisted by the Chief Engineer and the Chief Surgeon, under my instructions, prepared plans and estimates for these and other barracks in the province. They are forwarded herewith. Attention is invited to them for further details.

CÁRDENAS.

Cárdenas is 25 miles east of Matanzas, and is situated on the harbor, which will accommodate vessels of 16 feet draught. A vessel drawing more than nine feet must unload by lighters. The Cárdenas and Júcaro Railroad enters Cárdenas. It connects with the Unidos de la Habana Railroad at Jovellanos, and with the Matanzas Railroad at Navajas and to Guareiras, and in connection with them affords ample railroad facilities for the province.

The water is obtained from a well in a cave, at the edge of the city. This well (cave) is some ten feet below the sea level and is reported dangerous by Major J. D. Glennan, U. S. V., Brigade Surgeon, who made an inspection of Cárdenas on February 2nd, 1899. There are some private wells in town, all of which are reported dangerous.

A site five miles outside the city exists where as many as 10,000 troops could be encamped. The water here is obtained from wells from 175 to 250 feet deep. It is believed to be abundant and of excellent quality. This site is too far from the city to be suitable for a garrison in time of peace.

There are no sewers in Cárdenas and a wretched sanitary condition exists. It would be difficult to construct ordinary sewers for want of proper fall.

The force working on the streets should be increased at once. A plan for cleaning this city and making it healthy, similar to that for Matanzas, is being prepared and will be carried into effect as speedily as possible. Sanitary Inspectors have been appointed, and the city authorities under their direction have begun the work of cleaning houses, yards and streets. In this connection attention is invited to report of Major J. D. Glennan. The streets are generally paved or macadamized, but are badly drained. Population in 1895 was 20,000; in 1898, 18,000. Deaths in 1898, 2,132; births in 1898, 215.

Houses as a rule are built of stone, and are one story high. The city is ordinarily considered healthy by the inhabitants. If cleaned and proper sanitary rules are

observed, epidemic sickness should be eradicated, and the general sickness reduced to a normal rate.

For \$4,500 the infantry barracks, sufficient for the accommodation of three companies, can be thoroughly renovated and repaired, and this will afford proper protection for all the troops required at that point.

COLON.

Colón is the most important inland town in the province, and is situated on the railroad, 35 miles south of Cárdenas, and 57 miles south of Matanzas.

It is in the centre of the flat sugar cane district. The houses as a rule are one story high, and are built of stone.

The water is obtained from wells from 40 to 50 feet deep, and is only sufficient for local supply.

One and a half miles north of the town there is water which is reported as coming from a spring, but that is not at all certain, and will be investigated farther before troops are stationed at this point.

There is no plan in force for disposing of the city refuse. The population in 1898 was about 6,500. The health in ordinary times is reported good. There is no drainage; the country is flat. For \$2,600 the infantry barracks, sufficient for one company, can be thoroughly renovated and repaired, and will afford shelter for all the troops required at this point.

CORRAL FALSO.

Corral Falso is on the railroad 40 miles southeast of Matanzas, and is in the centre of the flat sugar cane district. It is admirably situated as a strategic point, but as the barracks are not at present habitable, and the available sites for camps are but poorly drained, it has not been occupied by United States troops.

The houses as a rule are one story and are built of stone. Water is obtained from wells from 40 to 50 feet deep. It is plentiful and thought to be of good quality. There is no effective plan in force for disposing of the city refuse. The population in 1898 was about 2,800. The health in ordinary times is reported good. There is no drainage; the country is flat. For \$2,900 the infantry barracks, sufficient for one company, can be thoroughly renovated and repaired.

LA UNION DE REYES.

La Unión de Reyes is situated on the railroad 22 miles south of Matanzas. It is an inland town in the centre of the flat sugar district.

It has no natural drainage, and cannot therefore be put in proper sanitary condition for the occupancy of troops during the wet season. It is now garrisoned by one battalion of the Third Kentucky Infantry under the command of Major Saffarrans. The force is encamped on an excellent site near the town and is supplied with water from a well about 250 feet deep. The water is excellent, and the camp can be kept in good sanitary condition during the dry season.

There are no barracks at this place, but it is possible that a large machine shop can be utilized for this purpose, and that it can be obtained at a reasonable rent, and put into proper condition at reasonable cost. Estimates will be prepared and submitted at an early date.

The population in 1898 was about 4,000.

The houses as a rule are one story and are built of stone. There is no effective plan in force for disposing of the city refuse. There is no drainage; the town is very flat.

GOVERNMENT.

The Province of Matanzas is divided into 24 municipal terminos.

Each termino is divided into a number of districts, or of barrios.

The termino of Matanzas is divided into 5 districts, and each of those into 5 barrios; the termino of Cárdenas into 5 districts. The other terminos are divided into a number of barrios, depending on the population.

In the Province of Matanzas there are 24 municipal districts and 69 barrios. The administrative authorities of the province under Spanish rule were as follows:

- 1.—A Civil Governor.
2. A "Diputacion Provincial."
- 3.—A "Comision Permanente," or executive committee of the Diputacion.

The Civil Governor was appointed by and held office at the will of the Governor General, during good behavior. His salary was fixed at \$6,250 per year. This and all other salaries were payable in Spanish gold. The duties of the

Civil Governor are set forth in the "Leyes Provincial," page 83 et seq; briefly they are:

- 1.—To preside over the Diputacion and Comision.
- 2.—To approve the acts of these bodies.
- 3.—To execute the acts promptly.
- 4.—To uphold the reputation of the province in all his duties.
- 5.—To supervise the affairs of the province.
- 6.—To suspend the assessments of the Diputacion when necessary.
- 7.—To suspend officials in cases prescribed by law.
- 8.—To act for the Diputacion and Comision in certain cases, etc.

The members of the Diputacion were elected by popular vote and held office for a term of four years. Their duties related to charities, sanitation and public instruction. They were also advisers of the Governor in such matters pertaining to the administration as originated in the province and required the approval of the Governor. Semi-annual sessions were held at Matanzas, beginning in November and April, and lasting at the will of the Diputacion, which also had the power of convening extra sessions. The deputies, excepting those belonging to the Permanent Commission, received no pay.

The Permanent Commission was composed of five members of the Diputacion selected by the Governor. This commission met weekly, and as much oftener as it thought necessary. It represented the Diputacion when it was not in session, and was also an advisory body for the Governor in matters which the Diputacion was not by law required to consider.

The salary of each member of this commission was \$1,200 per year. The clerical force, books, stationery and house rent of the Permanent Commission cost \$14,138 for the fiscal year 1898-99.

The government of a termino or municipality consists of a mayor, an ayuntamiento and a término council or executive committee. The mayor is appointed by the Governor General of the island, and holds office for the term of two years. The salaries vary from \$500 up to \$2,500 per year.

The members of the ayuntamiento were selected by popular vote, and held office for four years. Vacancies are now filled by appointment of the Governor, the appointees holding office until the next ensuing election. Their duties relate to the current business and improvement of the ter-

mino. They are also the advisers of the mayor in all questions connected with the administration and welfare of the termino.

The termino of Matanzas is divided into five districts and twenty-five barrios. The Ayuntamiento of the Termino of Matanzas consist of:

The Mayor;

Five Deputy Mayors;

Twenty-two Aldermen, (Ten vacancies);

Two Syndicos (Legal Advisers);

One Secretary;

The Mayor and the Secretary are the only salaried members of this body.

The Termino of Cárdenas is divided into five districts, and the Ayuntamiento consists of:

The Mayor;

Twenty-four Aldermen, (2 vacancies at present);

The Termino Council or Executive Committee.

This Council consists of five members of the ayuntamiento, including the Mayor, who is the president. The members of the council other than the Mayor are nominated by the Mayor, and appointed by the Governor of the Province for a term of two years. The council represents the ayuntamiento when it is not in session. This council holds weekly sessions, and more if the occasion demands.

The clerical force of the Termino of Matanzas (consisting of the employees in the secretary's office, accountant's office and collector's office) costs \$25,408.40; of a small termino like Canasí it costs about \$2,000 per year.

Each district in the Termino of Matanzas is presided over by a sub or deputy mayor who has no executive function, but acts merely as an inspector of municipal matters for his district.

BARRIOS.

Each barrio (ward) is presided over by an alcalde de barrio (mayor), who acts as inspector for his barrio. He keeps a register of all horses, mules and cattle, and certifies to the paupers and indigent sick. During the rainy season when the roads are impassable he keeps a record of deaths and births in the barrio, reporting them to the Juzgado Municipal when practicable.

JUDICIARY.

The courts of the Province of Matanzas consist of:

1.—Audiencia Territorial.

2.—5 Juzgado Primera Instancia (2 in Matanzas and one each in Colón, Alfonso XII and Cárdenas.)

3.—29 Juzgados Municipales (2 in Matanzas and one each in Camarioca, Ceiba Mocha, Manguito and Amarillos, and one in each of the other terminos.)

A Juzgado Municipal, or Justice of the Peace, has criminal jurisdiction over minor crimes, and civil jurisdiction in suits involving \$200 or less. He also decides cases of evictions relating to small houses, and is registrar of deaths, births and marriages, making returns of same to the governor.

He is nominated by the Juzgado Primera Instancia, and is appointed by the president of the Audiencia for two years. Each is allowed a secretary and messenger. They receive no fixed salary, but are paid by fees which are generally small.

JUZGADO PRIMERA INSTANCIA.

Cases decided by the Juzgado Municipales may be appealed to the Juzgados Primera Instancia for final decision.

A Juzgado Primera Instancia acts as investigator in graver criminal cases. If a prisoner is committed, he must be sent, with all evidence taken, for trial before the Audiencia within a month.

Civil suits exceeding \$200 are brought before the Juzgado Primera Instancia, and decided by him, but may be appealed to the Audiencia.

The Juzgados Primera Instancia also act as probate judges. They are appointed by the Governor General of the Island, and hold office during good behavior.

The salary is \$2,250 per year, or 11,250 for the five. A Juzgado is allowed two clerks at a salary of \$360 each per year.

AUDIENCIA TERRITORIAL.

This court has both criminal and civil jurisdiction. It has civil jurisdiction in cases appealed from the Juzgados Primera Instancia in its judicial district. This district for civil cases embraces both the provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara, but the court holds sessions in the city of Matanzas only.

Under the Spanish rule, civil suits could be appealed from the Audiencia to the Supreme Courts of Spain.

In criminal cases the jurisdiction of the Audiencia embraces only the Province of Matanzas, and in this territory it tries all graver cases. Appeal, under Spanish rule, could not be taken to the Supreme Court of Spain except on the ground of errors of law or form of procedure.

For the trial of civil suits the court must be composed of five members. In criminal suits the court may be composed of three members, except in capital cases or cases involving life sentence. In such cases the court must be composed of five members.

The Court is organized with,—

1. President of the Audiencia, whose salary is \$5,000, and allowance of \$500 for ceremonial expenses;
2. President of the Sala, whose salary is \$5,000 per year;
3. Four Judges with a salary of \$4,250 per year each;
4. Fiscal, whose salary is \$5,000 per year;
5. A Deputy, whose salary is \$3,500 per year;
6. An Abogado Fiscal, whose salary is \$2,700 per year;
7. A Secretary of the Audiencia, whose salary is \$2,250 per year;
8. A Secretary of the Sala, whose salary is \$2,250 per year; besides a number of other employees.

The salaries of the personnel of the whole Audiencia, together with allowance for stationery, etc., amounts to \$55,120 per year.

There are nine vacancies in the Audiencia:

1. Magistrado.
2. Teniente Fiscal.
3. Abogado.
4. Juez de Primera Instancia del Mercado.
5. Juez „ „ „ „ Palacio.
6. Juez „ „ „ „ Alfonso XII.
7. Juez „ „ „ „ Colón.
8. Juez „ „ „ „ Cárdenas.
9. Oficial de Sala.

I am engaged in endeavoring to find suitable persons to be nominated for these vacancies, but so far have not succeeded in finding such men as will properly fill all the necessary conditions.

The bar of the city and province has the reputation of being largely composed of tricky and dishonest men, Hence great circumspection is necessary in making selections for these vacancies.

POLICE.

At present throughout the interior of the province the police duty is done by Cuban soldiers, some 350 being thus occupied.

They consider themselves exclusively under the control of the military chiefs, not subject to the Alcalde or other civil authorities. So far they have maintained perfect order. No crimes are reported.

This state of affairs should exist the shortest possible time. All Cuban soldiers should be deprived of all their military equipments, and if still retained as policemen should be required to take a new oath, and be subject to civil authority only.

Under Spanish rule the police of the province were divided into two classes—the provincial police and the municipal police. The duties of these two classes were practically the same, except the provincial police brought criminals from a distance to the City of Matanzas for trial before the Audiencia Territorial.

The provincial police consisted of one chief, eight lieutenants, sixty policemen and two clerks, with a total cost (including stationery and rental) of about \$37,000 per year. On February 1st the provincial force was reorganized and now consists of one chief, two lieutenants, and four guards, at a total cost of \$3,648, making a saving of \$34,352 in this item.

Brigadier General Sanger, U. S. V., is engaged in making a plan for reorganizing the police force of the city of Matanzas; summarized, his plan, which is at present in partial operation, is as follows: A Board of Police Commissioners composed of the Mayor and two Councilmen, has general charge of appointments, supplies and discipline of the force. This force is to be appointed as far as possible from Cuban soldiers under 45 years of age. who can read and write, and who can pass a proper physical examination. It will consist of:

- 1 Chief;
- 1 Inspector;
- 1 Captain;
- 75 Patrolmen;
- 1 Detective Sergeant;
- 2 Detectives;
- 3 Lieutenants;
- 1 Hdqrs. Sergeant;

- 6 Station Sergeants;
- 9 Roundsmen (Serg'ts)
- 1 mounted Sergeant;
- 18 Mounted Patrolmen;
- 3 Patrol Wagon Drivers;
- 3 Clerks;
- 3 Janitors;
- 2 Grooms;
- 1 Stenographer;
- 1 Medical Officer;

at a total monthly cost of \$5,565. In addition to salaries it would be necessary to pay for the rent of two station houses, rent of telephones, keep of two horses, lights, stationery and incidental expenses to the sum of \$355 per month, making a monthly cost of \$5,920, or \$71,040 annually, for running expenses. It is estimated that for \$10,768 the necessary equipment, horses, etc., can be furnished ready for efficient service. The above figures do not include uniforms, horses for mounted men and insignia, which each member of the force must furnish at his own expense. A detailed report with the recommendations of General Sanger was approved by me Feb'y 19 and is attached hereto. In addition to the police forces there are a number of jail guards. In the city of Matanzas they consist of a warden and 15 other employees, costing \$6,528 per year. The cost of the penal establishment for the province is \$17,000 per year. The city police and jail guards were nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by the Ayuntamiento. They held office during good behavior. Since January 1st, 1899, the police in the termino of Matanzas have been appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the Governor.

TAXES.

Taxes were collected under the Government of Spain as follows:

- 1.—At the Custom House, on imports; with an export duty on cigars, cigarettes and tobacco.
- 2.—By seal and stamp duties.
- 3.—On city real estate.
- 4.—On country real estate.
- 5.—On Industry and Commerce.
- 6.—On Professions, Arts and Manual Occupations.

1.—The tax from customs was collected according to tariff.

2.—The seal and stamp tax duties were paid in all judicial business, bills, accounts, and on all kinds of petitions and claims presented to official corporations. They were represented by stamps on official paper, and this paper cost from 35 cents to three dollars per sheet.

3.—Tax on real estate was collected by inspectors who could fix at will the amount of rent a city property ought to bring. From this sum 25 % was deducted for repairs, and on the rest a tax of 12 % was assessed for the general government, then on the sum thus obtained an 18 % tax was imposed for the municipality. These two sums were then added together, and 6 % thereof was assessed for the collector of taxes. During the war a further tax of 20 % on the total above given was added. The 18 % tax was set aside for public instruction.

The following example will illustrate:

Annual rent of house fixed at...	\$ 400.00
Less 25 % for repairs.....	100.00

Net amount to be taxed..... \$ 300.00

12 % of \$ 300.00.....	\$ 36.00
18 „ of „ 36.00... ..	6.48
6 „ of „ 42.48.....	2.16

Total Tax... .. \$ 44.64

20 % of \$44.64 for War Tax.... 8.92

Aggregate Tax on \$ 300.00 rent.. \$ 53.56

4.—Tax on Country real estate was collected as follows: Country property was divided into two classes:—Sugar estates or grazing and truck farms.

Tax on sugar estates is assessed by an inspector calculating the crop, then, according to the distance from the railroad, deducting from 50 to 60 % for expenses. On the sum thus obtained 2% is taken for the government and 2 % for the municipality; on the total thus obtained 6 % is taken by the collector. On smaller farms calculation is made as above, deducting from 30 % to 40 % first, and then assessing a tax of 3 % for the government and 3 % for the mu-

nicipality, and on the sum thus obtained 6 % for the collector's fee.

The following example will illustrate:

Estate making 10,000 bags of sugar at \$8 per bag.	\$	80,000
Deduct 60 % for expenses.....	,,	48,000

Net amount to be taxed..... \$ 32,000

For the Government 2 % on \$ 32,000.....	\$	640.00
For the Municipality 2 ,, on ,, 32,000.....		640.00
For Collection 6 ,, of ,, 1,280.....		76.80

Total tax on estate producing 10,000 bags of sugar.. \$1,356.80

Example illustrating tax on smaller estate:

Farm produces yearly..	\$	600.00
Deduct 30 % for expenses.....		180.00

Net amount to be taxed. \$ 420.00

For Government 2 % on \$ 420.00..	\$	8.40
For Municipality 2 ,, on ,, 420.00.....		8.40
For collection 6 ,, on ,, 16.80.. .....		.97

Total tax on farm producing \$600 yearly..... \$ 17.77

5.—The tax on industry and commerce was collected from business houses of all kinds, according to tariff, but favoritism made it very heavy on the Cuban and light on the Spaniard. The tariff was nominally 25% on assessed profit for municipal tax and 6% on the sum thus obtained for collection.

Lately a war tax of 20% has been laid on the total sum thus obtained.

6.—The tax on professions, arts and manual occupations was collected according to a fixed tariff, and paid by Lawyers, Doctors, Attorneys, Notaries, Dentists, Brokers, Agents, etc.

The tariff was 25% on assessed value of income, and was a municipal tax.

The collector received 6% of this sum for collecting.

In addition to the regular taxes, there is in this province an imposition on the people arising from the slaughter of cattle for the market.

It seems that this privilege is sold at auction by the ayuntamiento of each termino to the highest bidder, with the result that a tax is assessed upon all animals slaughtered.

A further result is that the cost of meat to the consumer is increased to a still greater extent.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the entire system of taxation is arbitrary and unscientific, and under the presumption that it applies to all the provinces in the island, it is recommended that it be re-arranged at the earliest possible date on a fair basis applicable to the changed conditions and the new order of affairs existing in Cuba.

In connection with the subject of taxes by the General Government, the question of stamped paper required to be used for all documents, under Spanish rule, deserves consideration.

In all criminal cases this paper was furnished by the Government; in civil suits, parties involved were compelled to use paper varying in price, according to the amount in question, from 35 cents to three dollars per sheet.

In a case now reported to be before the Audiencia Territorial, where the amount is about one hundred thousand dollars, about three hundred sheets of this paper at \$3.00 per sheet are said to have been used.

For deeds, wills and other like documents, a still higher priced paper was necessary. This paper varied in price from 35 cents to \$37.50 per sheet, according to the value of the real property transferred. Paper used by notaries, 50 cents per sheet.

This stamped paper was kept for sale by authorized agents of the government who drew the amount desired from the aduana. What returns they made and what commission they were allowed are unknown.

Government officials inspected the paper used by notaries, registrars and other public officials. The fines imposed by law for the use of improper paper were so heavy that in cases where it was used the inspectors have been said to have been bought up and hence fines seldom made. A neglect to use even the lowest priced paper rendered the offender liable to a fine of about \$50.00.

The use of this paper is said to have been discontinued throughout the province on January 1st, 1899, but by what authority is not known.

REMISSION OF BACK TAXES.

Attention is called to the fact that the remission of all municipal taxes due under Spanish laws and unpaid on January 1st, 1899, will cause a deficit in the municipal budget, and render it necessary to devise means to carry on municipal business.

The method or scheme determined upon should be made uniform throughout the island. The necessity for the adoption of some plan by which the municipalities may raise funds is all the more apparent when their general unhealthy condition is considered in connection with the fact that the rainy season is fast approaching, and that sanitary measures should be taken at once.

Besides this question of the necessity of funds for necessary current expenses of the municipalities, another matter thought to be especially deserving of consideration in connection with this remission of taxes is the subject of the proportionate share of the amount due from the municipalities to the Diputacion Provincial for payment of the amounts due on December 31st, 1898, to the employees of the Institute of Higher Education, the Public Board of Instruction, the Fire Department, the Asylum for Old Men and other like institutions, formerly controlled by the Diputacion, and paid by assessments on the municipalities.

The Fire Department of Matanzas city is a volunteer establishment mainly supported by contributions from the citizens. Now and then it receives the money collected from certain fines levied by the Civil Governor.

Necessarily in future the main expense of this organization will fall upon the city treasury, and to that amount enlarge the deficit now assured for the current six months.

CUSTOM HOUSES.

During the representative year of 1893 there entered the port of Matanzas 116 sailing vessels and 262 steam vessels. These vessels carried 109,219 tons of cargo, and 128 of them were American. The rest were English, Spanish, Italian and Norwegian.

Total duty collected.....	\$ 566,834.93
Total fines collected.....	123,269.88
Total taxes on property, liquors, etc, collected by the Custom House.....	<u>1,252,452.15</u>

Making a total of \$1,942,556.95 collected by the Custom House.

Number of sacks of sugar exported:

	<u>Matanzas.</u>	<u>Cárdenas.</u>
1894.....	1,371,000	1,100,000
1895.....	1,341,000	.....
1896.....	108,000	.....
1897.....	294,000	303,000
1898	470,000	450,000
1899, estimated.....	450,000	500,000

There was no important amount of sugar carried out of the province on the railroads.

Net balance on hand at Matanzas Custom

House Jan., '99..... \$ 14,725.07

Net balance on hand at Cárdenas Custom

House January, '99..... 12,000.00

Total collections at Matanzas Custom House

January, '99..... 27,886.34

The collector at Matanzas estimates the average receipts for 1899 will be from \$30,000 to \$40,000 per month, and will not fall below \$400,000.00 for the year.

Total net collections, Cardenas Custom House, Jan. '99, \$12,000.00, and the average monthly collections will probably equal that amount, or \$144,000 for the year.

If \$400,000 is realized for Matanzas the total collections for the province will be \$544,000. It seems probable from all the information I can gather that the collections will reach the latter sum.

BARRACKS.

The Spanish owned barracks at Sabanilla, Corral Falso, Colón, Cárdenas and Matanzas.

The barrack at Sabanilla is made of stone, and is built in the usual manner with the interior patio. It is large enough to accommodate one company of infantry, but at present it is in a very dilapidated condition.

The Mayor used this building as a small-pox hospital after the evacuation of the Spaniards, but as this town is not so situated as to require a garrison, it will not be necessary to repair the barracks.

The barrack at Colón is made of stone and is built in the

usual form around a patio, but having houses on only two sides. The other two sides of the square are enclosed by a fence six feet high.

It is large enough to accommodate the officers and men of one infantry company, and can be put into habitable condition for \$2,600. This town should be occupied by a small garrison of not exceeding one company.

The barrack at Corral Falso is of stone, and is built in the usual form.

It is large enough to accommodate the officers and men of one infantry company, and can be put into habitable condition for \$2,900. It should be occupied by a garrison of one company.

The barrack at Cárdenas is built of stone, in the usual form. It is large enough to accommodate the officers and men of three infantry companies, and can be put into habitable condition for \$4,500.

The city is now occupied by one battalion of the 3rd Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, which is encamped at the base-ball grounds.

The Santa Cristina barrack at Matanzas is built of stone and in addition to the usual form it has an L-shaped annex in the rear. The front of the barrack is two stories high, but the rest has only one story.

It is large enough to accommodate the officers and men of an infantry regimental headquarters, and six full companies.

If officers do not live in the barrack it is large enough to accommodate regimental headquarters and eight full companies. It is located in Versalles, on high ground, some thirty-five feet above and six hundred feet distant from the harbor. It can be put into habitable condition for \$15,000.

The cavalry barrack at Matanzas is built of stone, one story high, in the usual form. It will accommodate the officers and men of two full troops of cavalry, or the officers and men of two companies of infantry.

If cavalry is to occupy this barrack, stables, just west of it, on a lot belonging thereto, will have to be constructed for the horses.

It is located in Pueblo Nuevo, on high ground, some 20 feet above and four thousand feet distant from the harbor. It can be put into habitable condition for \$5,600, but a sewer costing \$4,200 will have to be built, making the cost for the barrack some \$9,800.

If cavalry stables are added this last sum will have to be increased \$4,000, making a total of \$13,800.

SCHOOLS.

The public schools are maintained by municipal taxes collected under control of the Diputación Provincial.

They are divided into two classes, elementary and superior. The teacher is paid a salary and receives in addition an allowance for stationery and house-rent. The smallest salary is as follows:

Pay \$30 per month;

Stationery Allowance, \$75 per year;

House rent, \$100 per year. (House occupied by teacher and school).

While the largest salary received by the principal is as follows;

Pay \$125 per month;

Stationery Allowance, \$375 per year;

House rent, \$714 per year. (House occupied by principal and school).

Boys and girls attend separate schools and receive somewhat different instruction. Both boys and girls are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography and history of Cuba. In addition the boys are taught agriculture, linear drawing and some elements of natural science. Girls are taught domestic economy and needle work.

The yearly nominal cost of schools in this province is at present \$106,977, but when compulsory attendance is enforced this amount will probably have to be much increased.

The teachers have not been paid for fourteen months or more. Education by law is compulsory, but this law has not been enforced. Few of the poor people know how to read and write.

The condition of all the schools is bad as judged by our standards. The methods of instruction are obsolete, the apparatus and books are deficient and the text books unsuitable. The text books having been selected for the inculcation of ideas favorable to the Spanish nation, are unsuitable to the present conditions, and should be changed as soon as possible.

Some uniform scheme should be devised for the whole island. For instance, a board composed of say, one leading educator from each province should meet and devise some

proper modern scheme for public education, and all matters relating thereto.

Attention is invited to the rolls, report of enumeration of school children and the recommendations made by Professor Claudio Dumas.

Before any action is taken on these further than to authorize the payment of the teachers, the report now under preparation by Major Eli D. Hoyle, U. S. V., member of my staff, should be taken into consideration.

In addition to the public schools, there is in this province an "Institute of Higher Instruction" called the *Instituto de Segunda Enseñanza*.

Up to 1892 this institute was supported by the general government, but since that date it has been under the control of the *Diputacion Provincial*, which has failed to conduct its affairs well. No taxes for this institution have been collected for some two years, and in consequence the deficit was, December 31st, 1898, \$28,430.28. The budget prepared for next year shows that the expenses for maintaining and conducting this institute will be \$19,600.

I recommend that this institution be encouraged and supported by the insular government, at least until the general scheme of higher education for the province and island is perfected.

CHURCHES.

According to the report of the Right Reverend Braulio de Orue y Vivanco, this province is divided into four vicarages or parishes.

There are 31 priests officiating, whose annual salaries and allowances are as follows:

Pay.....	\$ 23,300
Repairing allowance.....	7,400
Emoluments.....	4,100
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 34,800</i>

The budget paid in December, 1898, would indicate that the total yearly salaries were about \$16,889.52.

Some of the priests are much liked, some are indifferent and others are totally unfit for their calling.

There are in addition eight Paulist and eight Carmelite fathers living in the city of Matanzas.

The first gain their living by teaching, the second by

voluntary contributions from the poor, the sick and the inmates of the jails whom they visit. All of these priests have been notified that their salaries from the government of Spain will be no longer paid, and that inasmuch as it is not the policy of the United States to support any religious denomination they will necessarily be compelled to carry on their churches under the voluntary parochial system.

They received this information kindly and will doubtless adapt themselves with fair success to the changed condition of affairs.

CHURCH PROPERTY.

In some cases the churches and cemeteries have been badly neglected, and under the parochial system must necessarily be brought into harmony with the people.

If will be necessary, however, for the civil government of the Island or the municipal authorities to adopt a uniform rule in reference to church and cemetery administration.

The church can no longer maintain its position as an agency of Government, and must become the friend rather than the master of the people.

Manifestly the church property, consisting of churches and cemeteries, cannot be removed, and must therefore ultimately come under the control of the municipalities or the people of the parish.

Under the Spanish rule taxes on burials were as follows:

For an adult	\$7.50
For a child.....	6.25

Cemetery fees collected by the keeper:

For burial in the pantheon.....	\$20.00
For burial in a niche.....	30.00
For burial in the second pantheon	10.00
For reserving ground above grave for five years	3.50
For burial of poor in the common cemetery.....	1.00

After five years a further rent was demanded, and if not paid the bones were removed and the ground again sold. It is understood that these taxes were kept by the church authorities as their pay and allowances. They made once every five years a general settlement or accounting with the government.

Since the municipality has assumed control of the cemetery at Matanzas the charge for a burial has been reduced to \$4.35, or, if the person is poor, no charge is made.

CHARITIES.

An approximate enumeration has been made of the destitute of this province.

A full report submitted by Lieutenant-Colonels Baldwin, Inspector General, Biddle, Chief Engineer, and Wilcox, Chief Surgeon, on January 20th, shows that in 22 términos outside of

Matanzas and Cárdenas, there are 18,920 destitute;	
while information from Cárdenas	
shows.....	4,000 destitute,
and from Matanzas.....	12,000 destitute.

Total	34,920
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Investigation made during my inspection increases this number by 2,375, making a total of 37,295 destitute, the larger part of whom are widows, girls and orphans without male support. An exact enumeration cannot be made until a complete census is taken, but it is believed that the above is a close approximation.

Every effort is being made to supply these people with rations and medicines, and to limit assistance to those who have no other means of support, or to disbanded Cuban soldiers and laboring men who are returning to their farm occupations, and to such persons as are sick in hospitals and asylums.

HOSPITALS, ETC.

Matanzas :

Santa Isabel Hospital for men; capacity, 60; present inmates, 103.

San Nicolas Hospital for women; capacity, 250; present inmates, 122; widows, 11; orphans, 30.

Beneficencia Home for girls; capacity, 100; present inmates, 121; orphans, 121.

Asilo, Home for Orphans; capacity, 193; present inmates, 193; orphans, 112, of whom 72 are girls and 40 are boys.

Iren Ancien, Home for old people of both sexes; capacity, 60; present inmates, 30, 15 of whom are men and 15 women.

Cárdenas:

Santa Isabel Hospital, capacity 150; present inmates 200.

Home for Aged, present inmates 22; 11 of whom are men and 11 women.

Cuartel, Home for destitute children; capacity 400; present inmates 350.

Under the Spanish rule the annual nominal cost of the civil government of the province is as follows:

Audiencia Territorial.....	\$ 63,535.32
Gobierno Civil.....	54,107.52
Clero Ecclesiastical.....	16,889.52
Correos and Comunicaciones	28,373.04
Sanidad	6,649.68
Expended under Diputacion Provincial	59,499.00
Public Schools.....	106,977.00
Higher Institute	19,600.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 355,631.08</i>

It is thought this budget can be much lessened:

First, by reducing the salaries of some members of the Audiencia Territorial, and by dispensing with the services of officials not needed to carry on the court.

Second, by reducing the provincial police force; (this has already been done).

Third, by not paying the church authorities; (this has been put into effect).

Fourth, by disbanding the Diputacion Provincial, as has been recommended in letter of Feb. 2, and in telegram of Feb. 15th.

With the reforms already carried in effect, and those recommended, the table below shows a saving of \$112,740.52, and leaves the probable cost of administrating the province, \$242,890.56.

Audiencia Territorial.....	\$ 20,000.00
Gobierno Civil.....	33,352.00
Clero Ecclesiastical.....	16,889.52
Expended under Diputacion Provincial	42,499.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 112,740.52

Present Budget.....	\$ 355,631.08
Proposed Reduction.....	112,740.52
Budget as it should be with reforms.....	242,890.56

If compulsory education is enforced the expense of schools will probably be materially increased, but until the census of the school children now being taken is completed an exact estimate cannot be submitted.

The entire subject of school teachers, children and attendance has been placed under the immediate investigation of Major Eli D. Hoyle, U. S. V., of my staff. He will submit a detailed report with recommendations at the earliest possible date.

On February 9th, Doctor Eduardo Díaz, the Civil Governor, tendered his resignation, explaining at the same time, the work he had accomplished, and submitting a statement of all monies received and expended by his administration.

I replied on the same day declining to accept his resignation on the ground that he had been confirmed in his office from January 1st, 1899, by the order of the Major General Commanding the Division; and also on the additional ground that the latter would not consider for the present any recommendations for governors, and that the present incumbents were not likely to be removed at this time.

A few days later, about February 13th, the "Cuba," a newspaper of Matanzas, published an article, the purport of which was to cause the removal of Governor Diaz and the appointment in his stead of General Betancourt. Apparently under the influence of this article, the Governor on February 14th again tendered his resignation and urgently requested that it should be accepted. This letter of resignation; the newspaper clipping, the original letter, and a copy of my reply to it, are forwarded with this report.

In view of the faithful service, the high character and the experience of Doctor Diaz, I cannot recommend the acceptance of his resignation, but if it is, for any reason, considered advisable to relieve him from the high office he holds, I recommend Senor Don Nicolás Heredia and General Pedro Betancourt, in the order named, for the consideration of the Major General Commanding as proper persons to fill this office. They are both gentlemen of the highest character, excellent education and of undoubted patriotism. Their relative merits and suitability for the office of Civil Governor can be readily ascertained from the Insular Cabinet.

In conclusion, I beg to say a perfect state of peace exists at present in this province. No crimes are reported and the bearing of the people is most orderly, well-behaved and friendly.

The desire to re-establish the industries and prosperity of the province seems to be uppermost in the minds of the inhabitants, and all are working to that end.

My constant aim has been to so instruct and assist the people in the transition from the Spanish rule as to promote local self-government which shall be republican in form. This, it is obvious, is more of a civil than a military problem. I therefore renew my former recommendation concerning the number of troops required to garrison this province.

At present I believe one Signal Company, one Battalion of Engineers, two Infantry Regiments, (the Twelfth New York and the Eighth Massachusetts) and six Troops of Cavalry will form a sufficient force for all possible purposes.

When the Cuban troops are entirely disbanded, and further progress is made in the organization of the Municipal Police, I think this force can be still further safely reduced by one regiment of infantry and two troops of cavalry.

Accordingly I renew my recommendation that the Third Kentucky and One Hundred and Sixtieth Indiana Volunteers be relieved from duty in this province, and that they be ordered home for muster-out. This will simplify the question of sheltering the remainder of the command and protecting it from disease after the commencement of the rainy season.

Very respectfully,

JAMES H. WILSON.

Major General Volunteers.

APPENDIX "B."

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS OF THE PROVINCE OF

SANTA CLARA, CUBA.

Area, 8,773 square miles.

Population in 1897, 354,000.

Population in 1899, from best obtainable data on hand, is 310,000; number of souls per square mile about 35.

Births 1897 and 1898, 6,400. Thus one-seventh of the population has died.

	1896.	1899.
Horned cattle.....	966,587	about 66,000
Horses	99,286	about 19,000
Mules	10,292	about 8,000

Number of cattle imported into Province of Santa Clara in first 6 months of 1899.....	24,179
Number imported into Province of Matanzas in same period	8,896

Sugar mills operating in 1896	159
Sugar mills not destroyed but idle in 1899.....	31
Sugar mills in operation, 1899.....	41

Of the 26 principal sugar estates, one is owned by a Spaniard, four by Americans and twenty-one by Cubans.

Sacks of sugar produced in 1898, 729,000,	
value.....	\$ 5,708,070
Sacks of sugar produced in 1899, 715,000,	
value.....	6,120,010

Tobacco produced in 1899 estimated at 85,000	
bales of 130 lbs. each, value.....	\$ 3,187,500

Coffee produced in 1898-9, estimated about 500 bags.

Pay of unskilled labor 40 c. in silver per day.

Cost of living; rice 6 c. per lb, corn meal 4 c. per lb, beans 7 c. per lb, dried meat 25 c. per lb.

Hospitals in Province 14; Homes for Girls, Orphans and Old People, 11. Total capacity, 2,150.

RAILROADS	{	Cárdenas & Júcaro R. R.....	62 miles.
		Sagua la Grande R. R.....	84 „
		Cienfuegos & Santa Clara R. R.....	59 „
		United Railway of Caibarién.....	33 „
		Zaza R. R. (narrow gauge).....	22 „
<i>Total</i>			260 miles.

Note:—This does not include the numerous branches belonging to plantations.

SCHOOLS	{	Number of schools.....	164
		Capacity	11,000 children.
		Number of school age.....	24,000 „

Number of rations issued to destitute, January 1st to June 30th.....	854,000
Number of destitute.....	44,050
Number of helpless requiring indefinite support....	4,500
Number of orphans in asylums	1,134
<i>Total to be supported</i>	5,634

Number of inmates of hospitals and asylums.....	2,200
Number for whom extra accommodations are needed	3,434

U. S. FORCES IN THE PROVINCE.

The 2nd U. S. Infantry.....	1,261 men.
The Headquarters and 6 troops of 2nd Cavalry.	612 „
<i>Total</i>	1,893 men.

In the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara:

Number of armed private guards employed.....	620
Number of arms in hands of other private citizens....	231
Number of arms in hands of municipalities.....	3,533
<hr/>	
<i>Total number of arms.....</i>	<i>4,384</i>

(Matanzas, 2,146. Santa Clara, 2,238.)

The proportion of Blacks and Mestizos to Whites is
between 28 and 35 per cent.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS
AND SANTA CLARA.

Matanzas, Cuba, June 20th, 1899.

*Adjutant General, Division of Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.*

SIR:

I have the honor to submit the following report:

I assumed command of the Province of Santa Clara on April 25th, 1899, relieving General J. C. Bates, U. S. V.

Between April 29th and May 6th I made a tour of inspection of the Province accompanied by:

General José M. Gómez, Civil Governor, Santa Clara Province.

General Monteagudo, Chief of Rural Guard, Santa Clara Province.

General Pedro E. Betancourt, Civil Governor, Matanzas Province.

Captain John Biddle, Chief Engineer.

Captain Samuel Reber, Chief Signal Officer, an interpreter, and the Department Commander's Secretary.

Later, between May 11th and May 24th, I made a second tour of remote parts, accompanied by:

General José M. Gómez, Civil Governor, Santa Clara Province.

Captain John Biddle, Chief Engineer.

Captain Samuel Reber, Chief Signal Officer; an interpreter and the Department Commander's Secretary.

During this same time my Inspector General, Lieutenant Colonel Frank D. Baldwin; Major Lewis Balch, Brigade Surgeon and Sanitary Inspector; Captain Charles J. Stevens, 2d U. S. Cavalry, Inspector of Police; and the Reverend (late Chaplain) Sam W. Small, Supervisor of Public Instruction,

made a tour of inspection of the Terminos of the Province.

The towns were found defended by trenches, obstructions and block-houses, as in the Province of Matanzas.

The country outside of the towns has been devastated—not one farm-house or hut, as far as my observation goes, has escaped destruction. Horses, cattle, pigs and fowls were driven off or killed, and the people herded into the towns.

Some of the large sugar «Centrals», or mills, were preserved, due to the owners having the means to pay one or both sides to protect their property.

The mortality, due to reconcentration and consequent starvation, appears to have been in the Province about one-seventh of the population, as compared with a loss of one-third of the population of Matanzas Province.

This difference, it is believed, should be attributed to the difference in the character of the country, and the more widely scattered population which enabled more of the inhabitants to evade strict compliance with the orders of reconcentration.

CHARACTER OF THE COUNTRY.

The Province, with the exception of the swampy peninsula of Zapata, is generally of a rolling surface, with here and there small, rocky hills projecting above the general level. South-east of the centre, and east of Cienfuegos, there is, however, a group of hills or mountains of considerable elevation, some reaching to nearly 3,000 feet.

The plains of the western section are devoted to sugar, of which some is also raised in the level part near the north coast; some, also, near Placetas and Yaguajay in the north-east, and some in the San Luis Valley near Trinidad.

Tobacco is grown in the broken country in the «Remedios» district between Cifuentes and Placetas, in the north, and also between Cumanayagua and Manicaragua south of the centre, while the hilly and broken country to the east and south is devoted to cattle raising.

Much coffee was formerly produced, but its cultivation was abandoned generally some years ago. There are now indications of a revival of interest in this culture, for which much of the hilly land seems especially adapted.

This land is generally fertile, and properly farmed will support a dense population.

WATER.

The Province is fairly well watered by the running streams. The population is not so dependent upon wells as in the Province of Matanzas. The deeper wells, when they have not been filled with refuse, are believed to furnish good water.

GRASS.

Grass is everywhere abundant; the two varieties «Parana» and «Guinea» are held in about equal estimation as forage. Hay is not made, as the growing herb is available all the year round.

WOOD.

Fire-wood is sufficiently abundant everywhere for local wants and sells at from \$2.50 to \$6 per cord. The trees found are the palm, palmetto, cocoa, mango, ceiba, canabrava, orange, lime, mamey, pine, salvadera, oak and occasionally mahogany.

The plains as a rule have but little timber, it having been cleared out for cultivation. The mountains are usually densely covered with trees and undergrowth—in some places the brush rises so high and thick on both sides of the narrow trail as to shut off the air from a man on foot, and makes these districts impracticable for any troops but cavalry.

COUNTRY ROADS.

Near the cities the roads have once been good, but have been absolutely neglected for so long that they are nearly useless as means of communication. In the rural districts they are generally nothing but bridle paths, the stones, vegetation, difficult crossings and hills making them impassable for all wheeled vehicles except the ponderous ox-cars of the country, and in many cases even for them.

Up to the date of my inspection, no work had been done upon the roads, even in the immediate vicinity of the largest towns.

Owing to the pressure of more urgent matters it will be some time before any part of the municipal revenues will be available for road making, necessary as it is to improve the means of internal communication.

A railroad is greatly needed to connect Sancti Spiritus

with Placetatas. A wagon road would be very expensive, and would not in the end be sufficient. A railroad could be put though (40 miles) at a cost of say \$10,000 per mile for grading.

A macadamized road is needed from Santa Clara to Camajuaní, 21 miles, especially the five miles near Santa Clara over which the greater part of the market supplies must come, and upon which work was begun by the Spanish administration.

A third road is needed from Vueltas to Vega de la Palma, a distance of about two miles. This road is of prime importance to the town of Vueltas, which grows and ships much tobacco and corn, all of which has to be carried by carts over this very bad stretch.

The fourth road needed is one from Caibarien to Remedios. This road is necessary to facilitate intercourse between these two towns, which are separated by but a few miles and are interdependent.

The above-mentioned roads are those specially recommended as immediately necessary by the Civil Governor, whose report is appended. Estimates for other road work made by the Chief Engineer have been forwarded, and a copy of these estimates is hereto appended,

BRIDGES.

A highway bridge is required over the river Demuji. This is one of the largest rivers of the province, and is navigable between Rodas and the bay of Cienfuegos. Rodas is separated from a great part of the district naturally tributary to it by this river, and it is much desired to cross this river by a bridge, so as to bring this place within reach of Cienfuegos, and to facilitate communication between Rodas and the region north and west of the river.

HARBORS.

The harbor of Cienfuegos is first-class in every respect. It is the only good harbor on the southern coast west of Manzanillo, unless another should be found in the Bay of Cochinos. Boats drawing over nine feet of water cannot come up to the docks, but have to be unloaded by lighters. This harbor can be improved at a moderate cost, so that the largest boats may be able to come to the docks.

The harbors of Casilda and Las Tunas do not accommodate boats drawing over seven feet of water. The usual

practice for foreign boats is to be unloaded at Cienfuegos, and the cargo for those two points to be carried on in coasting vessels.

The two harbors on the northern coast, Isabela and Caibarien, are very shallow, and steamers are obliged to anchor a number of miles out and be unloaded by lighters.

Estimates, prepared by the Chief Engineer for surveys of the harbors of the Province, have been forwarded.

CUSTOM HOUSES.

The Province has Custom Houses at Cienfuegos, Trinidad, Zaza, Sagua la Grande and Caibarien, at which it is estimated that the duties will in 1899 aggregate over a million and a half of dollars.

RAILROADS.

Sagua Grande R. R.	{ Cruces to Isabela de Sagua, Sitiecito to Camajuaní.....	{ 84 miles.
Cienfuegos & Santa Clara R. R.....	{ Cienfuegos to Sta. Clara, Palmira to Congojas....	{ 59 "
United Rwy. of Caibarien	{ Placetas to Caibarien via Camajuaní.....	{ 33 "
Zaza R. R. (narrow gauge).....	{ Placetas to Caibarien direct.....	{ 22 "
Cárdenas & Júcaro R. R.....	{ Alvarez to Esperanza..... Sagua Chica to Yaguaramas.....	{ 50 "
Sancti Spiritus R. R....	Sti. Spíritus to Las Tunas...	24 "

TOTAL272 miles.

The branch lines owned by the sugar plantations are not included in the above table.

The three first mentioned lines have recently been bought by an English syndicate, and are to be put in order, and will be called "The Cuban Central Railway"—though it is noted in recent press dispatches that the purchasers state that little can be done until the "fate of the Island" is definitely decided.

This is the attitude of capital upon all subjects connected with the province, and refers not so much to sovereignty

as to the economic advantages depending upon the future government, and upon the commercial relations which may hereafter be established between Cuba and the United States. It is believed that fear of disorder has little or nothing to do with the reluctance of investors to begin work, though this apprehension is constantly urged by the advocates of annexation.

The rolling stock, though antiquated, answers present needs.

The road beds are generally good, grades light, and curves easy. The rails are fair but out of line. It will cost some \$6,000 per mile to put the lines and rolling stock in thorough repair, according to the American standard.

The rates for freight and first class passengers are high, and the roads under normal conditions pay excellent dividends.

Two important towns, Trinidad and Sancti Spíritus, are isolated for want of railroad communication.

I regard the finishing of the railway from Sancti Spíritus to Placetas as of the first importance.

Connection should be built by the railway company of Matanzas, which already has the franchise, from the town of Esles or Vernerio to Rodas, 20 kilometers; and the partially built road between Rodas and Cienfuegos should be completed by the Cienfuegos and Santa Clara R. R. This will give a shorter connection from Cienfuegos to Matanzas and Havana.

The following railroads would, in addition, be of great utility in developing and enriching the country:

Manicaragua to San Juan de las Yeras, 20 miles.

This is most important for the reason that the Manicaragua Valley is destined at an early day to produce large quantities of tobacco, as it did in the past. No wagon roads exist and pack trails are almost impassable from neglect since the outbreak of the last revolution.

Santa Clara to Granadilla.....	33 miles.
Jicotea to San Diego del Valle.....	6 „
Camarones to San Fernando about.....	4 „

From what I can learn the most economical route and the easiest, for a railway, to connect the east and west of the Island, would be through Morón and Caobillas, rather than through Ciego de Avila and San Jerónimo.

Attention is invited to the recommendations as to railroads in the appended communication from the Civil Governor.

MANUFACTURING.

The manufactures of the Province are sugar, alcohol and tobacco. Of these by far the most important is sugar, of which the Province in 1899 furnished 42% of the total export from the Island.

The Provinces of Santa Clara and Matanzas together furnished in 1898, 91%, and in 1899, 79%, of the total sugar produced, as shown in the subjoined table:

	1898.		1899	
Havana.....	163,473 bags		186,015 bags	
Matanzas.....	1,014,893 "		822,526 "	
		1,743,801		1,538,413
Sta. Clara.....	728,908 "		715,887 "	
Santiago de Cuba.....	20,277 "		192,455 "	
Total.....	1,927,551 bags		1,916,883 bags	
Value.....	\$15,092,724		\$16,389,349	

The war has left in operation 41 sugar mills and 21 others not operating but in working order; the number destroyed being about 87. Many of the mills destroyed, or lying idle, did not have the modern machinery now necessary, and had been largely driven out of business by the competition between beet and cane sugar. These plantations, as they are again brought under cultivation, will ship their cane by rail to the large «Centrals».

The tendency of sugar making is towards concentration of the work at large «Centrals», and the mills now operating are supplied with the best modern machinery, employing modern scientific processes. Their capacity will be sufficient for all the cane that can be raised in the next two or three years, and it is believed by experts can be enlarged to accommodate any probable increase of production in the near future.

The ownership of the Centrals in operation is divided as follows: 4 American, 1 Spanish and 21 Cuban.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the popular idea that the sugar business and plantations of the Island are controlled by Spaniards and foreigners is, so far as this Province is concerned, without foundation.

POPULATION.

The area is 8,773 square miles, and the population in

1897 was 354,000; in 1899, 310,000 or 35 souls to the square mile. The births in 1897 and 1898 having been about 6,400, it will be seen that about one-seventh of the population has been killed or died of starvation.

An approximate estimate of the people needing assistance to a greater or less degree at the time I took command, April 25th, is as follows:

Widows.....	22,000
Orphans.....	33,000
Sick.....	2,600
Helpless, requiring support.....	4,500
Destitute, requiring temporary or partial support...	44,000

Of the total population, 102,000 are children, under eighteen years of age.

OCCUPATIONS.

Except in Cienfuegos, the population is engaged in farming and in the manufacture of sugar. Some cigars are made, but not many more than are required for local consumption—the tobacco from the Remedios and Manicargua districts being largely shipped to Havana to be made up, or to be thence exported as Havana tobacco. The crop for the year 1899 will amount to 85,000 bales of 130 lb each, cured tobacco.

Garden produce is raised in quantities sufficient for local supply, but the prices in the towns are high, due to the lack of organization and system in marketing the produce. Fruits are not plentiful. Fowls and eggs are excessively dear, owing to the destruction of all poultry during the war.

LABOR AND WAGES.

The daily pay of laborers on the sugar estates varies from 40 cents for unskilled labor to \$1.75 for skilled labor in the sugar-making and machine shops. The daily wages must necessarily rise as new work is undertaken, since it is evident that the supply of native labor will not be sufficient to meet the demand under normal conditions.

The skilled laborers are generally Spaniards or foreigners. The field hands are Cubans, colored and white. Many Chinese are employed about the sugar mills in positions requiring close attention rather than mechanical skill.

DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES.

The revival of agriculture has already progressed as rapidly and as far as possible with the limited supply of oxen, implements and food. In those parts of the country where the soil is stony, the plowing must be done with oxen, three yokes of powerful animals being required on each plow; but in other districts it is believed that mules would prove more useful, as when the pulling is within the limit of their strength they work two or three times as fast as the horned cattle.

The grazing lands of the Province formerly supplied all the cattle required, but in three years the number of cattle has fallen, according to the best obtainable data, from 304,000 to less than 66,000, the number estimated as on hand at present, of which 21,574 have been imported since the first of January. Horses have been reduced from 96,000 to 19,000; mules, from 18,000 to 8,000. Pigs, sheep and fowls have disappeared.

The small native horse has a fine saddle gait, and travels over the rough, stony trails at a sustained rate of six miles an hour, where the American horse, on account of the footing, cannot break his walk of three miles per hour. When roads are made passable for wheels, American animals will be in demand for draught purposes.

The same remarks apply to the native mule, a very small pack animal.

The value of sugar lands varies from \$3 to \$60 per acre; of tobacco lands from \$5 to \$50 per acre. The farms vary in size from a single *caballería* (33 acres) to "*colonias*" and "*ingenios*" of many thousand acres.

The foreign investor will be at a disadvantage in the examination of titles, until responsible companies are established to look up deeds and grants and to guarantee titles.

This province is largely agricultural; it produced in 1898, and again in 1899, more than one-third of the total sugar of the Island. Matanzas and Santa Clara together produced in 1898, 1,743,801 bags, or 91%, and in 1899, 1,538,413 bags, or 79% of the total.

All improvements in the condition of the Province must eventually depend upon the re-establishment of agriculture.

The development of communications, the sanitation of the towns, the reorganization of the police, the purification and vitalizing of the judiciary, the opening of the schools,

hospitals and asylums, and the reorganization of the personnel of the municipalities, may all proceed in the most satisfactory manner without alleviating the radical trouble—stagnation of agriculture.

While we are fostering a habit of dependence upon paternal government by actual charity or by employment in public works, we are at the same time weaning the laborer from his habits of toil in the fields, and taking from him the independence whose benefits we are constantly preaching.

I am so convinced of the futility of approaching the problem of reconstruction from any other direction that, although the Division Commander has deemed it impracticable at the present time, I must again urge the necessity of some action to relieve the wants of the agricultural population, and to put agriculture on a sound basis with the least possible delay. Many of the small farmers, and some of the owners of "colonias" and larger sugar estates, are unable to begin work or to carry it on successfully for want of the necessary capital, which they cannot borrow in the ordinary way. I am convinced, however, that a large portion of the capital required to enable them to re-establish themselves on the land can be safely loaned from the Insular Treasury, with practically no loss, and that the allotments made can be secured on the property of the borrower. They might even be considered as subscriptions by the treasury, to the stock of an agricultural bank, and thus become continuously available, on repayment, for the further support of agriculture.

The inauguration of such a system of agricultural assistance will immediately effect an immense saving in money now necessarily disbursed for rations and charities, and for the preservation of public order.

I am satisfied that I can select in each municipality a committee of reliable citizens to revise and certify applications for loans, which in each case should be small and secured by chattel mortgages, and should bear a rate of interest of not more than 6%, preferably 4%. I would not, however, limit the loans to those required by single families, but would extend assistance, as the means became available, to the owners of "colonias," or of larger estates whose buildings, machinery and cattle have been destroyed by war; as only in this way could employment be afforded to a large class of laborers which has never been educated to anything but plantation work, and has not at present the means with which to work small farms independently.

In my letter of May 9th, and in the plan of reorganization advanced by Civil Governor Gómez, which I forwarded June 17th, will be found a more detailed discussion of this suggestion.

SCHOOLS.

There are in the Province 164 schools, capable of accommodating 11,000 children, which is about the number borne on the rolls. The capacity should be increased to accommodate 24,000, which is approximately the number of children of school age.

The schools are usually in the same houses used as residences by the school teachers. This system is pernicious; it is unsanitary and unbusiness-like, and should be changed as rapidly as possible. It is, however, to be noted that during the war, when the teachers received no pay, many of them held their positions and fulfilled their duties as best they could. In some cases this was doubtless done to retain possession of the residences, but in many others from the higher motives of fidelity to the charge which had been bestowed upon them.

I submit herewith a report of the Rev. Sam W. Small, (late Chaplain, 3rd Volunteer Engineers) Supervisor of Public Instruction, but the subject is so important that I have recommended, in a special communication, dated May 25th, 1899, that a school commissioner be allowed on the staff of each civil governor, and have taken steps to secure the services of competent men if they are authorized for these places, with a view to the reorganization of the entire system in accordance with modern requirements.

POST OFFICES.

Under the U. S. Postal System, the postal service of the Province is being brought into an efficient state.

TELEGRAPHS.

The lines are being extended and service perfected under the U. S. Signal Service, and the system will soon be in efficient condition.

A system of telephone communication should be established between the municipal centres and their outlying barrios, which, in conjunction with the telegraph, would place all parts of the Province in close communication with the capital and facilitate the prompt suppression of disorder.

A project and estimate of the cost of this necessary improvement has been prepared by the Chief Signal Officer and will be forwarded herewith.

BARRACKS.

The barracks of the Province occupied by the Spanish troops were, in general, good stone buildings in a fair state of repair, but in a very bad condition from a sanitary point of view. Those that have been put in condition and are occupied by the American troops, are in every way satisfactory. (See report of Major Miller, Chief Quartermaster, appended).

CHARITIES.

The number of widows and orphans left helpless, makes the establishment and maintenance of asylums imperative at all the important towns in the Province. The expenses of these institutions must be met by the municipalities, which at the same time meet the other expenses of sanitation, schools, and repair of roads and the establishment of an efficient police to maintain order.

To meet these heavy expenses, they have only the revenue arising under the new laws, which as before stated, will be smaller at first than that derived under the old. It will be necessary, therefore, to make up these deficiencies in the municipal budgets from the general revenues of the Island, until the normal conditions can be re-established, and a proper adjustment of expenses to revenues can be effected. The deficits of the 28 municipalities for the six months from January 1st to July 1st, amount to a total of \$134,382.37, the details of which are shown in the tabulated statement prepared by Captain Kernan, appended.

The condition of the buildings used as hospitals and asylums is, in some cases, deplorable, and the health of the population cannot be secured until these institutions are put on a proper footing.

Much has been done by public spirited individuals in some localities, and much personal assistance is expected from these people in caring for the helpless.

There are in the Province 16 hospitals, 10 asylums for women and orphans, one asylum for the aged, three for destitute, 14 dispensaries and 14 lazarettos. The total capacity of all these institutions is 2,150, but they are generally badly in need of repair and equipments.

The total amount required for repairs and equipments is estimated at \$72,554, and the monthly expenses at \$12,656.

Attention is invited to the report of the Chief Surgeon with its tabular statement of hospitals and asylums appended hereto.

The appended report of the Chief Commissary shows the issues of rations to the destitute, which, for the first six months of the year have aggregated 854,000. The quantity required and issued is gradually decreasing, and it is hoped that few more will be needed, except in a few remote districts, where the relief work has not been closely supervised or systematized.

CHURCH.

The Church in the Province is not in a flourishing or satisfactory condition; this is largely due to the severance between it and the government of Spain, by which it was formerly supported. Many of the priests do not command the respect of the people, and having been independent of public opinion, on account of their support by the state, they have cared but little for approval of their parishioners.

The people are not naturally highly religious, but they still hold to the observance of their church customs. It is believed that the authorities of the church will now appreciate that the time is close at hand when they must become the friends and servants of the people, rather than instruments of civil government.

SANITATION.

Up to the date of my inspection, no money had been expended since the beginning of the revolution by any of the towns either upon the streets or upon their outlying suburban connections.

The dilapidated condition of the paving made it impossible to enforce cleanliness.

Generally, sanitary precautions have been unknown in the cities and towns, except in the more modern cities. There are no sewers; privy vaults and cess-pools are seldom cleaned, and the habits of the common people are far from such as are conducive to good health.

I have given close personal attention to this subject, and through the Chief Engineer and Chief Surgeon of the Department, have submitted plans and estimates for cleaning and repairing streets, emptying cess-pools, and generally

for securing such thorough cleansing of the cities and towns as will reduce the danger of infection and epidemic diseases to a minimum. The necessary work has been started and carried on by the municipal authorities of Cienfuegos, Santa Clara, Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus, Sagua la Grande, Remedios, Caibarién, Placetas and Yaguajay, under the supervision of officers of the army, and has been paid for by special allotment of funds (\$55,846) from the Insular Treasury. It is believed that by the end of the present month this work will have been sufficiently systematized to be turned over to the management of the municipal authorities, with the understanding that any deficit arising from the increased expense, or the insufficiency of municipal revenues, will have to be met by future allotments from the Insular Treasury.

The water supply of nearly all Cuban cities and towns is defective, and large expenditures will be necessary in the future to enlarge the works, in some cases, and to establish new works in others.

In connection with sanitation, the water supply of these towns is a matter of prime importance. The same, in a less degree, is true of the repairing and paving of the streets. It is to be observed that no work of this sort has been done in any of the cities in this Department since the last revolution.

Estimates for sanitation and water supply, prepared by the Chief Engineer, have already been forwarded.

GOVERNMENT.

The Province is divided into twenty-eight municipal terminos, and each termino into a number of districts or barrios—depending upon the population.

The termino of Cienfuegos has 29 barrios, while the smaller terminos have but three.

The civil administration includes the Civil Governor.

The government of a termino or municipality consists of:

A Mayor,

An Ayuntamiento, or Council,

An Executive Committee of the Council.

The barrios (or wards) of the terminos are presided over by Lieutenant Alcaldes, or Assistant Mayors, who keep the records of the barrios and act as Inspectors.

The Judiciary within the Province consists of:

1. The Audiencia,
2. The Judges of First Instance,
3. The Municipal Judges.

There are six judicial districts in the Province.

The details of government of this Province are similar to those of the Province of Matanzas, and will be found described minutely in my report on that Province.

Attention is invited to the appended report of the Judge Advocate of the Department, showing the causes for delays in the administration of criminal justice, which, in general, result from an insufficient number of courts of competent jurisdiction, from lack of effective methods of securing the attendance of witnesses, and from the centralizing of all trials for crimes in the Audiencias, which are often distant from the place of the commission of the crime and to which travel communication is bad and expensive.

TAXES.

The Municipalities of the Province of Santa Clara, 28 in number, reported deficits aggregating \$69,482.93 for the third quarter of the present fiscal year. Of this, about \$50,000 was made good out of the customs of the Island. The deficits for the 4th semester, ending June 30th, aggregate approximately \$72,427.20.

March 25th, 1899, the decree of the Military Governor of the Island changed radically the system of municipal revenues. And while the productive taxes were largely abolished, the eight and six per cent. taxes on urban property for the present quarter was not permitted to be collected before June 20th, 1899. It is the general opinion of the municipal officials that the taxes under the decrees now in force will not produce sufficient revenue to meet the actual and necessary expenses of the various municipalities, but an accurate comparison can only be made after the quarterly collections for this quarter are made. Estimates already called for from the municipalities will afford a basis of comparison by showing the deficits in the fourth quarter, which are estimated at \$72,427.20, and for which requisitions have been duly made.

POLICE.

The maintenance of order in the Province is entrusted to the municipal police in each término and barrio, assisted by the Governor's Police and the Rural Police. The Rural Police, as organized before I took command, consists of 45 officers, 50 sergeants and 500 mounted men.

The Police is composed mostly of discharged Cuban sol-

diers organized by authority of the Military Governor of the Island. While required to assist the Mayors of the Districts in the maintenance of order, the guard is independent and receives its orders from the Commander of the Department.

It is believed that the best system would be to place all the authority, as well as the responsibility, directly in the hands of the municipalities, and assign the whole force to duty under the immediate orders of the mayors where they are serving.

I have given the question of police organization, for the two provinces under my command, the most careful consideration. I find but little to justify an independent organization of rural police. The system is Spanish and not American. I do not doubt that the proper authority for the control of the police of every kind, whether mounted or dismounted, is the municipality, under the supervision of a provincial inspector.

Inasmuch as a rural police of 595 men, officers, noncommissioned officers and privates, at a cost of \$21,000 per month, has been allowed and organized for the Province of Santa Clara, and as the Major General Commanding "thinks the matter of disbanding the Rural Guard in Santa Clara had better be deferred for the present", I am decidedly of the opinion that the best possible disposition to make of the organization is to consolidate it with the municipal police, as proposed in the plan herewith. (Report of Captain Stevens appended.)

If this proposition is approved, the result will be:

1. To reduce the Governor's guard from 37 to 9 mounted men.
2. To transfer 367 selected men and officers, or about two-thirds of the present rural police, to the municipal police, thus making a total not exceeding 740 officers and men for police duty in the Province of Santa Clara, 9 of whom would be under the control of the governor and 731 divided up between and under the authority of the various municipalities.
3. To reduce the police expense of the province from \$33,842 per month, to a total of \$24,809 per month, and possibly less.

In order that the reorganized police should be brought to the highest state of efficiency, I recommend the retention of one civil inspector (General Monteagudo), it being understood that his functions at the same time should be extended to the Province of Matanzas, at his present salary

of \$300.00 per month, with one secretary at \$100.00 per month.

It will be observed that this is exactly the plan of organization which has been adopted for the Province of Matanzas, and which works with fair satisfaction.

By reference to the enclosed copy of communication prepared by the Judge Advocate of the Department, under my direction, it will be seen that the proposed plan is strictly in accordance with the law, as it now exists.

If this project receives the approval of the Division Commander, sufficient time and discretion should be allowed to carry it into effect without unnecessary friction, and to vary the proportion of mounted and dismounted policemen in the several municipalities, and also to increase or decrease the allotment to each, without increasing the total for the Province.

The discharged men, if otherwise entitled to it, should receive their share of the three million dollars allotment.

The troops now serving in the Department of Santa Clara are the Second Infantry, 1281 men, and the Headquarters and six troops of the Second Cavalry, 612 men. The remaining six troops of this regiment, 573 men, are at Matanzas. This force is of ample strength.

CIENTUEGOS.

Cienfuegos is situated on the south coast, and has a population, including that of the outlying districts, of about 40,000. The streets are generally wide, paved usually with macadam, but need considerable repair. There are no sewers. The public buildings, theatre and clubs are all fine buildings; it also has a handsome plaza.

There is a general hospital, an orphan asylum, an asylum for the aged and one for destitute. The hospital and orphan asylum are overcrowded—the latter institution is located in a building inadequate for the purpose and a new building, the foundations of which have already been laid, should be completed. (See report of Chief Surgeon.)

The water comes from the Jicotea river, 11 kilometers distant, and from Calabras Springs, 3 kilometers from the city. It is pumped into tanks and distributed by gravity. The supply is insufficient and unsatisfactory, but measures for its improvement have been taken and estimates have been submitted by the Chief Engineer Officer.

TRINIDAD.

Situated near the south coast, has a population of about 20,000.

Trinidad is one of the very old towns of Cuba. Its streets are narrow and generally more or less crooked. They are in bad condition and will require considerable repairs. The town was formerly one of the great sugar centres and still shows signs of its former grandeur. There are many private residences, which while now old and broken, indicate the presence of great wealth in days gone by. There is a pretty plaza, somewhat out of the usual run of such squares, but it has suffered with the general decay consequent upon the insurrection. The city is located four miles from Casilda, the port of Trinidad, and the road connecting the two is in great need of repair. The only means of communication between Trinidad and the other cities of the Province is by water, or over bad country roads. The railroad between the port and the city has been allowed to fall into a state of disuse and the cars and other rolling stock are destroyed or unfit for use. There was another railroad projected through the San Luis valley, which runs north from Trinidad. This road was commenced, built for a short distance, and then allowed to fall through. It was the property of the Spanish government. The valley of San Luis as seen from the high hills back of Trinidad presents one of the most beautiful sights in the province. It is not wide, but it is level and very fertile, and formerly produced a great amount of sugar cane. However, all the fields have been burnt off, the houses destroyed and the valley generally devastated by the war. As yet no effort has been made at its reconstruction, except in the region adjacent to the American Sugar Company's «Central», which is in good condition and turned out 42,000 sacks of sugar for the current year.

I found that matters here had been considerably complicated by the assumption of civil functions by the American officers formerly in command at the town. This was rectified, and the civil functions restored to the civil authorities.

The devastation of the sugar fields in the San Luis valley, and the neglect of the coffee plantations formerly existing on the hills, leaves this town in a very impoverished condition.

The garrison of U. S. troops is one company of the 2nd

U. S. Infantry, under the command of Captain Abner Pickering.

This city has no inland telegraphic connection, but is compelled to use cable for all urgent business with the Department or Provincial Headquarters, which is necessarily expensive. I have recommended the immediate construction of a telegraph line via Fomento or Sancti Spiritus to connect with the government telegraph system.

The jail of this city is crowded with persons waiting for trial. Lack of jurisdiction on the part of the local courts, and the distance by sea and rail to Villa Clara, render the transportation of witnesses and prisoners to the latter place for trial costly and almost impossible.

I brought this matter to the attention of the Division Commander by telegram of May 24th, 1899.

The water supply is unsatisfactory. Some water is pumped up from the river just below the town and distributed by carts, but the dependence is mainly upon rain-water. Estimates have been submitted for a line of 8-inch pipe from the San Juan Springs, and this work of construction should be begun at the earliest possible date.

There is a general hospital which is badly in need of repairs and equipment, and is overcrowded. A female hospital, with a capacity of 200, is now vacant, but could be put in condition for \$2,000. There is also a female orphan asylum in very fair condition, but needing equipment.

SANCTI SPIRITUS.

Situated in the south-east part of the Province. Population 23,000.

Sancti Spiritus is one of the oldest towns in Cuba, said to have been founded in 1510. The houses are generally one story, although there are a number with two stories, and half a dozen with three stories. Like all Cuban towns it has no suburbs, and its limits are clearly defined. The streets are narrow and crooked. There are very good water works, a fine market house and an ice plant sufficient for all purposes. There is no railroad communication with the rest of the island, except to Tunas de Zaza and thence by boat, although there is telegraphic communication over inland wires via Placetas. There is one company of the Second Infantry stationed here under command of Captain F. P. Fremont, 2nd Lieutenant Frank W. Rowell; no other officers, excepting Acting Assistant Surgeons Law-

rence and Herman. Both of these physicians have had experience in yellow fever epidemics, and both served at Siboney during the Santiago campaign in 1898. From the earliest part of its history, Sancti Spíritus has been the centre of the exclusively cattle raising district. All of its cattle having been destroyed during the war, either by insurgents or Spanish, and practically no new cattle having been brought in, this part of the country is in a deplorable condition of poverty.

I was unable to find any reason for the destruction of the convent at this place. I could not learn that it had been used for infectious cases, nor that it was a menace to the public health. I authorized the mayor to clear the ground of the débris, and to use the standing portion of the building and the site for any necessary purpose.

The districts tributary to Trinidad and Sancti Spíritus, owing to their isolation, are in a greatly impoverished condition, which made necessary extraordinary efforts to relieve distress and send the farming population back to the land.

Five thousand machetes, four hundred hoes and six thousand pounds of seed corn, total value \$687 American, were furnished to the people at Sancti Spíritus to enable them to make a start in field work and to remove their families from the city and re-establish them upon the land. The result is so satisfactory as to fully justify further measures of the same sort.

This place has sufficient water-works for present needs, taking water from the Yayabo river, a short distance above the town. There are here two hospitals and an orphan asylum, all in good condition.

SAGUA LA GRANDE.

Sagua la Grande is located on the northern coast of the Province and has a population of about 20,000. It lies about nine miles from the sea on the Sagua la Grande river, this being the nearest point to the coast where firm foundation and high ground could be obtained. Its port is called Isabela de Sagua, and is built practically upon piles, the country between the two being low and marshy.

The Sagua river is navigable for small schooners as far as Sagua. The town has water-works and sewers for rain water, but none for house discharges. The streets are generally paved with macadam, and are in fair condition.

There is a good bridge across the Sagua river. Water is obtained from a large spring about six miles from the town and is distributed by pipes.

The hospital is overcrowded and requires extensive repairs and equipment throughout.

The orphan asylum, which is the largest in the Province, also requires thorough overhauling.

SANTA CLARA.

Santa Clara is situated in the center of the Province, and has a population of about 12,000. It is surrounded by a district which resembles the buttes and rolling country of Nebraska. It was considered by the Spanish as a very healthy place, and was used for acclimatization, and also as a convalescent station. It has a larger number of hospitals and barracks than any other town of a similar size.

The streets are mostly narrow, are badly paved, and have received no repairs since the beginning of the last revolution. The town itself is situated on a knoll sloping down on all sides, and well adapted for drainage. The water supply is quite unsatisfactory, mostly from wells and cisterns.

The most conspicuous building of the town is a handsome theatre, erected by Doña Marta G. Abreu de Estevez, the receipts of which are devoted to charitable purposes. This same lady has also done much for the town in building a fine hotel, a hospital, and other buildings for the public benefit.

The town would be greatly benefited by the construction of a railroad via Calabazar to Cuncunú on the north coast, and by the construction of a wagon road to Camajuaní, as recommended in the report of the civil governor, dated June 4, 1899.

Water is obtained entirely from wells, springs and cisterns.

The civil hospital is in a bad condition and unsafe. It should be vacated and renovated; meanwhile, the vacant hospital of María Cristina should be repaired and equipped for the occupancy of the patients from the civil hospital, as per estimates.

There are in this place two other hospitals, two orphan asylums and an asylum for women and children.

REMEDIOS.

Remedios is situated near the north coast, and has a

population of about 12,000. It is one of the old towns, with narrow streets and bad pavements. It has no water works and no sewerage.

A ditch around the town, built by the Spaniards for defense, needed cleaning up and has now been put in order so as to afford drainage to the naturally low land on which the town is built.

The houses are all old, and the streets are narrow with very narrow sidewalks. The port of Remedios is Caibarién, about four miles distant.

The town is dependent on wells and rain water. There are two hospitals and an orphan asylum, all requiring renovation and equipment.

CAMAJUANI AND PLACETAS.

These two towns lie in the tobacco region, which is rapidly recovering from the effects of the war, but the work of reconstruction is carried on under great discouragements and difficulty for lack of cattle, etc.

In conclusion, (and in compliance with Circular No. 10, Insular Affairs, March 25, which only reached this office July 1st) I wish to state that the conditions of the Province of Santa Clara are virtually the same as those existing in the Province of Matanzas, as set forth in my report of February 20, 1899. So far as these provinces are concerned, a condition of complete tranquillity prevails. The insignificant disorders, which have occurred from time to time, are no greater than might occur in any well-governed country. Although the poverty of the people offers small inducements to brigandage, it yet acts as a great temptation to petty thefts under the pressure of want and actual hunger. Whatever disorders may hereafter occur, I am sure may be ascribed mainly to the lack of sufficient and profitable occupation for the people, and it is for this reason that I strongly urge again, as I have done before on every suitable occasion, the necessity of some practical measures for the relief of agriculture. All kinds of public works are merely subsidiary to this, and prosperity must eventually rest on the produce of the land. I have submitted my views on this important subject at various times heretofore, and therefore forbear from further reference to them at this time.

It is well known that the problems which are presented for solution in this island are economic rather than political. Primarily, they concern agriculture and the distribu-

tion of the agricultural products, rather than the organization and control of political parties or the details of civil government.

The West India Islands, and Cuba, especially, have been the scene, for the last thirty years, of one of the most destructive commercial wars that has ever been waged between civilized nations. Of course I allude to the competition between the production of beet sugar in Europe and the cane sugar in these islands, complicated in the case of Cuba by the strenuous efforts of Spain to exact the full measure of contributions in the form of taxes which the previous profit in sugar growing enabled the people to pay without serious embarrassment. In other words, the economic system controlling these islands has been at war with the continental system of sugar production, where high bounties and subsidies have been paid to enable the producers of beet sugar to capture the markets of the world.

It is not possible within the limits of this report, to specify the details of this competition, but the immediate result has been the ruin of the cane sugar interest, followed by the rebellion of the Cuban people and the destruction of almost all of their agencies of production, except the land. I assume, therefore, that our primary object should be to establish such conditions and apply such remedial measures as will place the agricultural interests of the island again on their feet.

As before stated in this report, cane sugar is the principal product of the island, and the capacity to produce and deliver this sugar to the markets of the world in competition with beet sugar is the real problem to be solved. Every measure which tends to restore the interest to its old, and I believe its natural advantages, should receive the careful consideration of those charged with the responsibilities of administering this island and of establishing its permanent relations with the United States. The successful solution of this question will, in my judgment, solve nearly all of the problems which confront the people of Cuba.

Whatever feeling of political unrest there may be in this province at present, is due solely to the suspicion fostered by agitators and by the newspapers, that we do not intend to live up to the voluntary pledge contained in section 4 of the Joint Resolution of Intervention not "to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof * * * * * and when that is accomplished to leave the government and control of the Island to its people."

The pacification referred to in this declaration, it may be fairly held, was accomplished when the armed forces of Spain were withdrawn from the island, and certainly when the treaty of peace was ratified. The Cubans have since then looked with some impatience for the steps necessary to carry out our solemn declaration. Their repeated inquiries having elicited no authoritative assurance as to our present policy, they are, naturally, ready to believe in the existence of projects for annexation, as has intimated more or less frequently of late by the press of both countries.

So far at least as concerns the provinces in my department, I feel justified in expressing the opinion that action on the political problem can now be taken with safety and with the assurance of success. The way in which this can be done logically and satisfactorily is suggested with sufficient clearness in the President's message of December 5, 1898, wherein he says, "As soon as we * * * have pacified the island, it will be necessary to give aid and direction to the people to form a government for themselves. This should be done at the earliest moment consistent with safety and assured success. It is important that our relations with these people shall be of the most friendly character and the commercial relations close and reciprocal."

To carry this into effect, a convention of the Cuban people should be assembled to form a constitution of government, using the best means already existing for selecting the delegates rather than to wait for a regular census. To assist this convention in its work, the United States might send a committee of Senators, Judges of the Supreme Court, with advisory and even supervisory powers, as the constitution must meet the approval not only of the Cuban people, but also must be satisfactory to the Intervening Government, which in a measure stands responsible for the peace and welfare of the Island under its new conditions.

Models for this fundamental instrument will be found in our own Federal Constitution, and in those of our several states. An important departure from these in the matter of the franchise may perhaps be deemed advisable, for while it has long been the belief of many thoughtful Americans that there is less danger to the state in investing the ignorant man with suffrage than in depriving him of all influence in the government, in the light of our own experience of the last thirty-five years, a contrary view may well be maintained. It certainly will be easier to gradually extend a franchise based upon an educational

test, as it is found desirable and safe to do so, than to attempt, later, to impose restrictions upon a suffrage, which may prove to have been granted without due consideration.

A constitution satisfactory to the convention, to our own committee, and to the President, having been formulated, it would remain only to submit it to the approval of the Cuban people and to inaugurate a government under it, which could be done with little delay.

The next step would be to make with the new republic a treaty of alliance, friendship and commerce, which should provide,

1st.—For the guarantee to the people of Cuba of a peaceable and stable government, republican in form.

2nd.—For the free entry into each country of the natural and manufactured products of the other, under the protection of a common and uniform tariff as against all other nations.

3rd.—For the administration of the Customs and Sanitary Service of the Island, under supervision of Commissioners appointed by the government of the United States.

4th.—For a Postal Union, as with Canada; for the cession of a naval station, and further, for the regulation of such other important matters of mutual concern as might be agreed upon.

If the objection should be raised that other nations having West Indian possessions, would also claim the benefits of free trade with the United States under the «Most favored nations» clause in existing treaties, it might be answered that the benefits of this clause can be claimed only when the circumstances and conditions are identical. Inasmuch as the treaty in question is yet to be framed, it would surely be within the power of those negotiating it to make the stipulations and conditions such as exist with no other nation.

But if for any reason this could not be done, the worst that could happen to Cuba would be the admission to the markets of the United States of the natural and manufactured products of Jamaica, Trinidad, Hayti, and perhaps other small West India Islands. In this competition, Cuba would still have a material advantage in her proximity to our ports, and in the extent and fertility of her arable lands.

If the rest of the Island is in as forward a condition as the Provinces of this Department, I see no reason why the Cu-

ban Government could not be organized and such a treaty as I have briefly indicated could not be negotiated and placed in the hands of the Senate by the close of the current year. It is believed that any other method of procedure would involve a delay of at least three years and the contingencies of disorders in Cuba and of a Congressional and Presidential election, with the neutralization of nearly one-third of our army, for the same period.

So far as I can perceive, we are gaining nothing by delay. The Cuban people are in as good condition for self-government as they are likely to be in one or even two years hence, while the feeling of distrust is on the increase.

In short, what Cuba requires is immediate economic relief. Measures such as I have indicated briefly above, taken now, though not as perfect as those that might be devised, will produce a better effect in restoring confidence and in giving encouragement to the people than promises of action at some future time.

If I have written with what may appear to be undue confidence, I beg to call attention to the fact that my conclusions are based not only upon my observations and study of the questions arising here, but upon the experience gained in dealing with similar questions while in command of the Department of Georgia in the first year of the Reconstruction Period.

Very respectfully,

JAMES H. WILSON.

Brigadier General Volunteers.

APPENDIX "C."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 5th, 1899.

To the

Commanding General,

Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara.

SIR:—

I have the honor to submit the following report upon the affairs of this Department, up to and including the 31st ultimo. My recent arrival (July 6th), prevents the subject being treated with the familiarity that I would like.

The Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara was organized by General Order No. 74, A. G. O., April 17th, 1899, to date from April 25th, 1899. It was formed by consolidating the Department of Matanzas with the Department of Santa Clara. These Departments had been garrisoned by troops of the 1st Army Corps. The Department of Matanzas had existed since January 10th, 1899, on which date Major General James H. Wilson, U. S. Vols., arrived with the Headquarters of the 1st Army Corps, and assumed command in this city. The Department of Santa Clara had been in existence since January 4th, 1899, when Major General J. C. Bates, U. S. Vols., arrived with the Headquarters of the 1st Division, 1st Army Corps, and assumed command in Cienfuegos. Both Departments were announced in General Order 193, A. G. O., series 1898. It is appropriate to state here General Wilson assumed command of the 1st Army Corps at Lexington, Ky., on the 13th day of October, per G. O. 166 A. G. O., series 1898, and that during the movement of the Corps from Kentucky to Georgia, and the subsequent movement from the latter state to Cuba, the health of the command was remarkably good, showing the thoughtful care that had been exercised, both on the part of the Corps Commander and Division

Commanders, Major General J. C. Bates, Major General William Ludlow and Brigadier General Joseph P. Sanger, who succeeded General Ludlow in command of the 2nd Division.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TROOPS.

DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS.

The troops arrived in the following order: One battalion of the 3rd U. S. Vol. Engineers, December 22nd, 1898; the 12th New York Vol. Infy., Jan. 4th; on Jan. 10th, the first battalion of the 8th Mass. Vol. Infy., the 12th and 16th Companies U. S. Vol. Signal Corps, and the 1st battalion of the 160th Indiana Vol. Infy.; on Jan. 13th, the 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 8th Massachusetts; on Jan. 18th, Hospital 1st Brigade, 2nd Division, 1st Army Corps; Jan. 19th, 2nd battalion 160th Indiana Vol. Infy.; Jan. 21st, 3rd Kentucky Vol. Infy. With the exception of the 1st battalion of the 3rd Kentucky, which took station at La Union, Jan. 25th, and the 2nd battalion at Cárdenas, Jan. 26th, the troops mentioned took station at Matanzas, as did the 3rd battalion of the 160th Indiana Vol. Infy., which arrived on January 27th. In these commands, there were 220 officers and 4576 enlisted men present, and 24 officers and 479 enlisted men absent.

February 5th, 6 troops of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry, 12 officers and 486 enlisted men, arrived at Matanzas, and on the 28th of February there were present in the Department 234 officers and 4991 enlisted men, with 26 officers and 400 enlisted men absent, making a total of 5391 enlisted, and an aggregate of 5651.

The movement of the volunteers from the Department commenced March 22d, when the 12th New York V. I. sailed for the United States under orders for muster-out, with 43 officers and 964 enlisted men. March 27th, the 160th Indiana V. I., 49 officers and 1018 enlisted men, also sailed for the United States, making a total withdrawn for the month of 92 officers and 1982 enlisted men.

March 18th, 4 companies of the 10th U. S. Infantry, 8 officers and 344 enlisted men, arrived from Havana and were ordered to Cárdenas. March 20th, 8 companies of the same regiment, 26 officers and 758 enlisted men, reached Matanzas. On March 31st there were present in the Department 160 officers and 4209 enlisted men, with 50 officers

and 243 enlisted men absent, making a total of 4452, and an aggregate of 4662.

The out-going movement of the volunteers continued in April, the 8th Massachusetts V. I. embarking April 3rd, and the 3rd Kentucky V. I. April 8th, and the 3rd battalion of the 3rd U. S. Vol. Engineers April 14th.

The 12th Company U. S. Vol. Signal Corps was mustered out at Matanzas April 19th.

DEPARTMENT OF SANTA CLARA.

Six companies of the 4th Tennessee V. I., arrived at Sancti Spiritus December 12th, 1898, and the other 6 companies at Trinidad December 6th, 1898. On December 31st, one battalion of the 2d Illinois V. I. arrived at Cienfuegos, and returned to Havana January 12th, 1899.

The 6th Ohio V. I. arrived at Cienfuegos, on January 4th, and on the 27th of the same month the 16th Company U. S. Vol. Signal Corps reached Cienfuegos from Matanzas. On January 31st, there were present in the Department 106 officers and 2287 enlisted men, with 11 officers and 215 enlisted men absent, making a total of 2502, and an aggregate of 2619.

During the month of February troops arrived at Cienfuegos, and took station as follows:

February 2nd, 31st Michigan V. I., at Amaro;

February 9th, Headquarters and 1 battalion 3rd U. S. Vol. Engineers at Cienfuegos;

February 21st, Headquarters and 6 troops 2d U. S. Cavalry, at Cienfuegos.

On February 28th, there were present in the Department 181 officers, and 4137 enlisted men, with 47 officers and 392 enlisted men absent, making a total of 4529, and an aggregate of 4757.

The movement of volunteers from the Department commenced March 28th, when the 4th Tennessee V. I. sailed for the United States, with 43 officers and 1139 enlisted men. On March 31st there were present in the Department 133 officers and 3001 enlisted men, with 39 officers and 312 enlisted men absent, making a total of 3313, and an aggregate of 3485.

The 31st Michigan V. I., and the 2nd battalion of the 3rd U. S. Vol. Engineers left for the United States April 13th, and the 6th Ohio V. I., April 21st.

The Headquarters, Band and 8 companies of the 2d U. S. Infantry arrived at Cienfuegos April 19th, and departed for stations as follows:

Company	" A "	April 21st,	Sancti Spíritus;
"	" E "	" 20th,	Caibarién;
"	" F "	" 20th,	Sagua la Grande;
"	" G "	" 22nd,	Trinidad;
"	" H "	" 20th,	Remedios.

The latter company was transferred to Caibarién April 26th.

Major General J. C. Bates was relieved from command of the Department of Santa Clara by General Orders No. 26, Headquarters Division of Cuba, dated April 19th, and left for the United States, via Havana, April 26th.

GREATEST NUMBER OF TROOPS IN THE TWO PROVINCES.

The greatest number of troops serving at any time within the two provinces was on March 20th, when the organizations serving in the Department of Santa Clara had 177 officers and 4146 enlisted men present and 39 officers and 312 enlisted men absent, making a total of 4458 enlisted, and an aggregate of 4674. On the same date the Department of Matanzas had present 252 officers and 6191 enlisted men, with 50 officers and 243 enlisted men absent, making a total of 6434, and an aggregate of 6736, and a total in the two Departments of 10,892, and an aggregate of 11,410.

TEMPORARY CAMPS.

DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS:

Matanzas: Troops were encamped on the north side of Matanzas Bay, near the outskirts of the city. This site was used for all volunteer organizations and by two battalions of the 10th U. S. Infantry until June 27th, when the said two battalions moved into barracks in the city.

Six troops of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry went into camp on the north side of the city, near the San Juan river, February 6th, remaining there until July 8th, when they moved into Hamilton Barracks.

The camp at Cárdenas, Cuba, was used by all troops in that vicinity from January 26th to June 9th, when the battalion of the 10th U. S. Infantry remaining at that post moved into Cárdenas Barracks. The camp at La Unión,

Cuba, was used by all troops there from January 25th to April 4th, when they were withdrawn and the camp at that place was discontinued.

DEPARTMENT OF SANTA CLARA:

The camp at Candelaria, near Cienfuegos, was occupied by a battalion of the 2d Illinois V. I., from December 31st, 1898, to January 12th, 1899, and by the 6th Ohio V. I., from January 4th to April 21st.

A battalion of the 3rd U. S. Vol. Engineers was encamped near Cienfuegos from February 10th to April 13th. The Provost Guard and the Quartermaster's Corral were encamped on the edge of the same city from January 5th, and the 16th Company U. S. Vol. Signal Corps from January 27th to April 1st. Market No. 2 was used as a corral from February 20th to May 20th.

Six troops of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry were encamped near Cienfuegos from February 22nd to the latter part of April, when they moved into barracks at Santa Clara and Placetas.

The 31st Michigan V. I. was encamped at Amaro from February 2nd until April 12th, and a detachment of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry at the same place from the time the 31st Michigan V. I. left until May 1st. A temporary camp of a detachment of the 31st Michigan V. I. was established at Rodrigo, the railroad station for Amaro, from February 2nd to March 13th.

Brigade Headquarters, Brigadier General Simon Snyder commanding, and six companies of the 4th Tennessee V. I., were encamped at Sancti Spíritus from December 12th, 1898, to March 28th, 1899, and two companies of the 6th Ohio V. I. from the latter date until March 31st, when they moved into barracks.

Six companies of the 4th Tennessee V. I. were encamped at Trinidad from December 6th, 1898, to March 7th, 1899, when they moved into barracks at that place, which barracks have since been used by troops stationed there.

Three companies of the 6th Ohio V. I. were encamped at Santa Clara from January 15th until April 8th, going from there to camp at Candelaria.

One company of the 6th Ohio V. I. was encamped at Sagua la Grande from January 26th to March 13th, and one company of the 31st Michigan V. I. from the latter

date until April 1st, when barracks were leased for troops at that place.

One company of the 31st Michigan V. I. was encamped at Remedios from March 6th until April 12th, when they were relieved by a detachment of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry. Company "H," 2nd U. S. Infantry, arrived April 21st, and proceeded to Caibarién April 26th, when the camp at Remedios was discontinued.

One company of the 31st Michigan was encamped at Placetas, near the present barracks, from February 27th to April 12th.

The troops at Caibarién have been quartered in a warehouse leased as barracks since the arrival of the first company, "I" of the 31st Michigan V. I., at that post, February 12th.

The camp at Paso Caballo was first occupied March 31st by a detachment of the 6th Ohio V. I.

DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA:

The troops serving within the limits of the two departments when merged into the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara, were :

- 2nd U. S. Infantry, 8 companies ;
- 2nd U. S. Cavalry, 12 troops :
- 10th U. S. Infantry, 12 companies, and the
- 16th Company, U. S. Vol. Signal Corps, then under orders to proceed to the United States for muster-out.

These troops were stationed as follows :

2nd U. S. Cavalry :

- Headquarters, Band and 4 troops at Santa Clara;
- 2 troops at Placetas;
- 6 troops at Matanzas.

2nd U. S. Infantry:

- Headquarters, Band and 3 companies at Cienfuegos;
- 2 companies at Caibarién;
- 1 company at Sancti Spiritus;
- 1 company at Trinidad;
- 1 company at Sagua la Grande.

10th U. S. Infantry:

- Headquarters, Band and 8 companies at Matanzas,
- 4 companies at Cárdenas.

Since the organization of the Department the troops have been augmented by the arrival, May 30th at Cienfuegos, of 4 companies of the 2nd U. S. Infantry, 13 officers and 433 enlisted men.

The following changes, for sanitary reasons, in stations of troops have taken place in the Department since April 25th:

2nd U. S. Infantry, from Cienfuegos to Paso Caballo, June 16th, Headquarters, Band and 3 companies;

July 18th, two companies;

July 29th, the remaining two companies, except a small detachment to guard government property.

At the time of the organization of the Department all of the troops in the Province of Santa Clara were in barracks. At Caibarién and Sagua la Grande buildings were rented for barracks, and at Paso Caballo new buildings were constructed. In the Province of Matanzas troops moved into barracks on the following dates:

Eight Companies 10th U. S. Infantry, Matanzas, June 27th.

Four Companies 10th U. S. Infantry, Cárdenas, June 9th.

Six Troops 2nd U. S. Cavalry, Matanzas, July 8th.

The strength of the command, present and absent by posts, July 31st, was as follows:

POSTS AND ORGANIZATIONS	OFFICERS.		ENLISTED.		Total Enlisted.	Aggregate
	Prest	Abst.	Prest.	Abst.		
Gen'l Officer and Staff.	15	1				16
Attached.....	4					4
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	7*		7			7
Santa Clara Barracks, Hdqs, Band, Troops B, E, H & K, 2nd Cavalry.....	10	9	352	20	372	391
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	3*		10	1	11	11
Placetas Barracks, Troops I & L, 2nd Cavalry.....	3	3	170	9	179	185
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	2*		5	1	6	6
Caibarien Barracks, Cos. E & H, 2nd Infantry.....	5	1	194	2	196	202
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	2*		6		6	6
Cienfuegos Barracks, Dthmnt. Co. M 2nd Inf'ty.	3		43		43	46
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	2*		10	1	11	11
Rowell Barracks. Hdqs., Band, Cos. B, C, D, I, K, L, & M, 2nd Infantry.	16	9	682	21	703	728
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	2*		10		10	10
Sagua Barracks, Co. F, 2nd Infantry	2	1	98	6	104	107
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	2*		7		7	7
Sancti Spiritus Barracks, Co. A, 2nd Infantry.....	3		96	5	104	107
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	3*		6		6	6
La Popa Bks., Trinidad, Co. G., 2nd Infantry.....	2	1	105	1	106	109
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	2*		6		6	6
Cárdenas Barracks, Cos. C, D, E & M, 10th Inf'ty.....	5	5	256	18	274	284
A. A. S. & Hosp. Corps.....	3*		4		4	4

GARRISON OF MATANZAS.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS.		ENLISTED.		Total Enlisted	Aggregate
	Pres.	Abst.	Pres.	Abst.		
District Hospital.....	1		34	4	38	39
A. A. Surgeons.....	4*					
Hamilton Barracks, Troops A, C, D, F, G & M, 2nd Cavalry.....	10	9	482	34	516	535
Hospital Corps.....			2		2	2
Santa Cristina Barracks, Hdqs., Band & Cos. A, B, F, G, K & L, 10th Inf'ty.	17	9	445	17	462	488
Hospital Corps.....			1	2	3	3
Drum Barracks, Cos. H & I, 10th Infantry.....	2	3	140	6	146	151
Hospital Corps.....			1		1	1

* Acting Assistant Surgeons not included in aggregate.

The strength of the command, present and absent by regiments, July 31st, 1899, is as follows:

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS.		ENLISTED.		Total Enlisted.	Aggregate.
	Pres.	Absl.	Pres.	Absl.		
Gen'l Officer & Staff.....	15	1	6		6	22
Hospital Corps	1		109	9	118	119
2nd U. S. Cavalry.....	23	21	1004	63	1067	1111
2nd U. S. Infantry.....	31	12	1218	35	1253	1296
10th U. S. Infantry.....	24	17	840	41	881	922
<i>Total</i>	94	51	3177	148	3325	3470
Staff Officers Attached	4					
A. A. Surgeons.....	32					

The officers absent are on service as follows:

2nd U. S. Cavalry:

Detached Service.....	12
Volunteer Commissions.....	6
Sick leave.....	1
Ordinary leave.....	2

2nd U. S. Infantry:

Detached Service.....	5
Volunteer Commissions.....	3
Sick leave.....	4

10th U. S. Infantry:

Detached Service.....	11
Volunteer Commissions.....	1
Sick leave.....	4
Ordinary leave.....	1

That the number of officers absent seriously affects the efficiency of the regiments cannot be questioned, and as in any future war these conditions will doubtless be repeated in the regular service, the appointment of temporary company officers seems worthy of consideration. These officers might be selected from the best qualified noncommissioned officers and assigned to regiments other than those in which they have served as enlisted men. Proper legislation could give the power of appointment and assignment to the President, without requiring commissions, and confirmation by the Senate, just as lieutenants, for instance, have in the past been appointed judge advocates at Department Headquarters with the rank and pay of a captain. When the services of the noncommissioned officers are no longer required as temporary officers, they could revert to their former positions, as was the case recently with a number who held appointments in the so-called immune regiments.

This deficiency of officers is especially felt under the existing conditions in Cuba, where so many civil duties are required of them. The difficulty is still further increased by the large number of recruits recently received.

MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

RECONNAISSANCES.

Soon after the arrival of the troops of the 2d U. S. Cavalry at Matanzas, detachments of that regiment with details of engineer troops were sent at various times by the Department Commander through the Province of Matanzas to familiarize the men with the country, and to make and correct maps, and ascertain the condition of the inhabitants.

DRILLS, ETC.

So far as practicable other military instruction has been carried on, and it is intended that this be made very thorough, now that the troops, except two companies recently ordered from Cienfuegos to a temporary camp at Paso Caballo, are located in fairly comfortable barracks, and much of the warm season has passed without serious sickness.

TARGET PRACTICE.

The necessary orders have been given for the preparation at the different posts of ranges for target practice, and while it is not expected that the full course can be completed at

most of the garrisons, it is believed very thorough instruction will be given at the short and mid-ranges, and considerable practice held at the long ranges, and in skirmishing. The months of August, September and October have been designated as the target season, but owing to the difficulty in preparing the ranges and the unfavorable climatic conditions, Post Commanders have been authorized to select the most favorable time during these months, conforming as to the limit of the firing period to the provisions of the Regulations for Small Arms Practice.

HEALTH OF THE COMMAND.

The general health of the command is, and has been, exceptionally good. There can be no question that this is, in a great measure, the result of the thorough sanitary regulations which have been enforced. Circular No. 2, current series, from these Headquarters, prescribes that one day in every week, all military duties will be dispensed with, except the necessary guard and police, and a thorough disinfection made of those portions of the barracks used for living purposes, including dormitories, dining rooms, kitchens, amusements and orderly rooms, porches and privies.

CLOTHING.

Many complaints have been received, especially from the cavalry, that proper clothing has not been supplied, although requisitions were duly submitted. It is observed that some of the troops, particularly the cavalry, present a very shabby appearance, as a result of the delay in filling these requisitions. Khakie uniforms are needed at once to enable the troops to appear neatly and soldierly. The Surgeon at Hamilton Barracks is of the opinion that the health of the troops stationed there will be seriously impaired because of the lack of such clothing, which prevents the men making the necessary changes when their garments become wet from perspiration.

LIGHTS.

Many of the barracks are poorly lighted. In several of these, electric lights would add greatly to the comfort of the men, and can be easily furnished if authority be given therefor. They would doubtless prove to be beneficial to health, by encouraging the men to remain in their barracks during the evening. Lamps are objectionable on account

of the heat they throw out, and because of the high winds reported as prevailing where several of the barracks are located. If there are no lights, the men naturally stray away from the barracks until bed-time.

ICE.

There are many and loud calls for a more liberal supply of ice.

CAMPS TO BE OCCUPIED IN CASE OF AN EPIDEMIC.

Camp sites have been selected in the vicinity of all posts, and arrangements made for quickly transferring the troops into camps in case an epidemic of yellow fever appears in the barracks.

It is pleasant to note that reports from the various posts indicate friendly relations exist between the military and the natives.

The many and complex civil duties which have devolved upon the officers in this department have been performed with intelligence and zeal, with credit to themselves and honor to the country.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

E. J. McCLERNAND,

Adjutant General.

APPENDIX "D"

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 3rd, 1899.

*The Adjutant General,
Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara,
Matanzas, Cuba.*

SIR:

I have the honor to submit the following annual report.

The office of the Inspector General of the Department of Matanzas was filled by Major F. D. Baldwin, 5th Infantry, late Lieutenant Colonel and Inspector General, U. S. V., from January 12th until the Provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara were combined on April 25th, to form the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara. He was then made Inspector General of the new Department and continued on this duty until June 16th, on which date he was relieved as directed by Par. 38, S. O. 133, c. s., Headquarters of the Army.

On January 23rd Capt. J. K. Thompson, A. A. G., U. S. V., was detailed as his Assistant and remained on such duty until May 10th, when he left the Department.

On June 16th, Captain Frederick S. Foltz, 2d Cavalry, was temporarily assigned to duty as Acting Inspector General of the Department, relieving Major Baldwin.

By par. 20., S. O. 143, c. s., Headquarters of the Army, Major Joseph H. Dorst, 2d Cavalry, was appointed Acting Inspector General of the Department, and took charge of the office on July 8th, Capt. Foltz remaining on duty as Assistant.

The records of the former Department of Santa Clara show that Major Thomas M. Woodruff, Inspector General, U. S. Volunteers, who was announced as Inspector General of that Department by General Orders No. 17, c. s., Headquarters of the Army, never reported for duty, and that the duties of the office were performed, at least in part, by Ma-

for John B. Rodman, Chief Ordnance Officer, U. S. Volunteers.

So far as can be gathered from the records of the Department, Major Rodman inspected the Headquarters, and Companies A, F, G, H, K, and M, 4th Tenn. Vol. Infantry, at Trinidad, Cuba, on January 20th, and the Headquarters and Companies A, C, E, F, G, H, L, M, 6th Ohio Vol. Infantry, at Cienfuegos, Cuba, about February 18th. This is about all that can be gleaned from the records, but there is no doubt whatever that the Inspector General's time was fully occupied with the well known and very exacting duties, mostly of an advisory and educational character, daily devolving upon the Inspector General of a volunteer force, and with investigating and gathering information on any subjects, often of a personal nature, concerning the requests complaints, and necessities of the people and the condition of their local institutions. Judging from experience elsewhere, written communications other than occasional endorsements were rarely necessary, nor was there time to make a written record of the Inspector General's action on the multifarious details, military and civil, which were daily brought to his attention and often settled by himself on the spot.

On January 12th, Lt. Col. F. D. Baldwin was directed to proceed, in company with the Chief Engineer and the Chief Surgeon of the Department, to the various railroad stations and towns in the Province of Matanzas, to learn where to station troops to maintain order, and to procure information as to the condition of the people and the food supply. These officers covered all but a small part of Matanzas Province, and submitted two joint reports to the Adjutant General of the Department of Matanzas, one dated January 19th and the other January 20th. The duty was finally completed by Lt. Col. Baldwin, assisted by Capt. J. K. Thompson, A. A. G., U. S. Volunteers. A report was submitted by them to the Adjutant General of the Department on January 28th.

From January 31st to February 3rd, Lt. Col. Baldwin visited La Unión, Colón and Cárdenas in connection with locating and establishing camps at those places.

February 6th, he visited La Unión on business connected with the relief of indigent Cubans. February 10th, he joined the Inspector General of the Army at La Unión and accompanied him in his inspections at Matanzas on the 11th and 12th, and at Cárdenas on the 14th and 15th.

February 16th to 20th he visited five towns in the interior on business connected with the quartering of troops in barracks.

March 10th he was directed to visit all *términos* in the Province of Matanzas, in company with Brigade Surgeon J. D. Glennan, U. S. V., for the purpose of making a careful inspection of the conditions and necessities of the people.

The Departments of Matanzas and of Santa Clara having just been abolished, and the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara created, on April 27th he was directed to proceed to all *términos* and places occupied by troops and by rural police in the province of Santa Clara, to inspect all troops and the supplies and depots at each point occupied by troops, and at each of the other places carry out verbal instructions of the Department Commander.

On July 13th, Major J. H. Dorst, 2nd U. S. Cavalry, Acting Inspector General, was directed to proceed to Cienfuegos, Trinidad and Sancti Spíritus, for the purpose of inspecting the troops in the vicinity of those places and the sanitary conditions of the towns; also for the purpose of examining the conditions of the municipalities, of investigating the relations between the civil and military authorities, and the efficiency of the means adopted along the southern coast for quarantining against yellow fever. On the same day Captain Frederick S. Foltz, 2nd U. S. Cavalry, Assistant to the Acting Inspector General, was ordered on similar duty to all other posts in the Department.

In addition to the foregoing, there were numerous inspections of public property, special inspections of certain details about camps, barracks, corrals, etc., which were made as the occasion for them arose, and special investigations of other incidental matters. Naturally many civil questions, both personal and administrative, also required investigation and elucidation.

The records show that on April 3rd Lieutenant Colonel Baldwin and Brigade Surgeon Glennan submitted a report showing the population and condition of the people in the Province of Matanzas—exclusive of the *Término* of Matanzas—on March 31st. A *término* corresponds to our county.

The statistical information was necessarily based largely on estimates. The records of births and deaths were confessedly inaccurate. The statistics submitted were classified under the following heads for each *termino*:

Population.

Number of families.

"	"	widows.
"	"	orphans.
"	"	children under 18 yrs. of age.
"	"	sick.
"	"	helpless.
"	"	helpless requiring indefinite support.
"	"	in orphan asylums.
"	"	schools.
"	"	children attending school.
"	"	deaths and births, 1896, '97, '98, '99.
"	"	oxen required.
"	"	destitute in January, 1899.
"	"	" " March, 1899.
"	"	sugar mills operating.
"	"	" " serviceable but not operating.
"	"	" " destroyed.

A similar report, showing the condition on May 31st of the Province of Santa Clara—with the exception of the termino of Cienfuegos—which omitted school statistics but showed the number of horses, mules and oxen in 1896 and also in May, 1899, was forwarded by Lieutenant Colonel Baldwin to the Adjutant General of the Department on June 2nd, 1899. With it was submitted a list of the number of municipal policemen in the province, the number of each grade, the salary of each and the annual expenditure on their account. Minor reports were also made, showing the number and kind of civil officials and employees in the various terminos, with their salaries and the cost of municipal administration. The data material thus collected has been supplemented and amended by information furnished by the civil authorities and by repeated investigations made by medical and other officers of the Department Staff while making inspections concerning their own department. Further, all post commanders are required to render weekly reports on the condition and progress of the people in their locality, on the condition and need of schools, asylums, hospitals and jails, on the sanitary condition of market houses, slaughter houses, dwellings, streets and yards, and on any other subject whatever, civil or military, that may be of interest or about which action should be taken.

During the inspection made by Captain Foltz and myself in July, we could learn of no cases of destitution uncared

for. The supply of our troops, the sums furnished from the Customs receipts of the Island for local purposes, and the payment of the Cuban troops, have put small amounts of money in circulation among the poorer class of people. Apparently most of them find it necessary to expend their money as fast as received to supply their immediate necessities. The majority of those who have gone to the country are only partially self-supporting, as they have but few tools besides machetes, and but few domestic animals and seeds. While they can raise a few vegetables, they are anaemic and show the want of good meat food to give them strength. Unfortunately, the canned roast beef furnished with the Cuban rations does not fill this want. According to some of our medical officers, good meat is really more essential to the health of many of these people than clothing.

If they cannot get fresh meat they prefer bacon to canned beef on account of the grease it furnishes for cooking, as lard or grease in any form except bacon is not furnished by us, not being a part of the government ration. On account of the small amount of food products raised, the price of food remains high, particularly fresh meat of any kind. After more than three years of war, persecution and starvation, the mass of the people are tired of fighting. They are anxious to go to work, become self-supporting and enjoy the tranquillity of an independent domestic life. Their natural occupation always has been and must remain agricultural. What they require in order to begin work are agricultural implements, seeds and domestic animals. These are not in Cuba except in insignificant quantities. Until agriculture and cattle raising are well started, the price of food stuffs must remain high, municipalities will be unable to collect money to pay their debts, and a large number of the people must remain paupers.

The towns and cities were generally in good sanitary condition, much better than towns without sewers in the United States, and with streets and yards much cleaner. The death rate continues rather high in the towns, which is accounted for by the fact that all aged paupers, of which there are now many, all destitute people with chronic diseases, and many young children, have been collected in the towns in hospitals and asylums, while such number of the most vigorous element of the population as could find employment in the country have left the towns.

During the month of July, Captain Foltz and myself inspected all the troops in the Department except the gar-

arrison of the City of Matanzas, consisting of 6 troops 2nd Cavalry and 8 Companies 10th Infantry. The troops are well quartered and well fed but not always satisfactorily supplied with ice. The water supply is good, but nevertheless always boiled. Good bathing facilities are everywhere provided. There is complaint that the warmth and dampness of the climate injures the bacon and flour in storage. The supply of khakie clothing is not everywhere sufficient. There is the usual complaint as to its changeable color and some complaints that it is not well made, the trousers specially ripping very quickly. In other respects the troops are fully equipped for the field. Each organization, however, contains a very large proportion of recruits who are not acquainted with field duties, and have had little or no training in field exercises or target practice. These deficiencies are in some instances due to lack of ground in the vicinity of barracks for drill and target ranges. A great drawback, especially at present, with the large companies consisting in great part of recruits, is the paucity of officers on duty with troops and the attention that must necessarily be given by commanding officers to local sanitation and other civil matters.

Everywhere isolated buildings have been secured to be used as yellow fever hospitals if required. The necessary hospital equipment and medicines are at hand and arrangements for securing nurses have been made. At a number of places Sisters of Charity have offered their services in case of need. Suitable camp grounds, easily supplied, to which troops can be moved if fever appears, have been selected, and others to which they can again be moved. In the meantime the barracks and quarters are kept in the best possible sanitary condition, and the most insignificant case of headache or fever is at once placed under observation.

The peculiar position in which post commanders are placed with reference to the local civil authorities requires them to use judgment, much tact, patience, intelligent sympathy and often the greatest persistence. Mutual confidence and harmonious action are only possible with the preservation of good feeling and amicable relations. The post commanders in this Department have shown themselves equal to their delicate task.

With reference to the small number of officers with their regiments, it may not be out of place to mention here that the conditions existing for more than a year demonstrate conclusively that the number of Army officers fixed by law is

not large enough to meet the emergency of a small war. The part of the army which suffers most by having its officers detached is the combatant force or line, which feels the insufficient supply of officers even in peace, and which, above all things in time of war, should be kept in the best possible condition of training and discipline for fulfilling the purpose of its existence, viz; winning decisive victories on the battle-field.

While the strength and organization of the line of the army as fixed by law, will determine the minimum number of staff officers required under the most favorable circumstances,—as for instance when the army is assembled under its chief in time of peace in a section of the United States rich in supplies and having good transportation facilities,—when the army is scattered from Porto Rico to the Philippines and from Alaska to the tropics, and other conditions are different, the number of staff officers must be increased. In my opinion, the best way to meet the difficulty without unduly injuring the line is to make certain detached line officers surplus in their branch of the service.

This method is followed, I think, in the army of every civilized nation except our own. In this class should be placed all officers holding volunteer commissions, and all officers detailed on staff or other detached duty—such as details at West Point, Fort Monroe, recruiting service, etc.—by order of the Secretary of War. The places vacated by these officers should be filled by promotions and by appointments in the grade of second lieutenant. After their services are no longer required in the volunteer or on other detached duty, they may return to their arm of service as extra officers, where duty for them can always be found, and remain in this condition until a vacancy occurs for them to fill. By stopping all appointments in permanent staff departments whose duties can be performed by the line officers, occupation can also be found for many of them in those departments. This would result in the gradual abolition of permanent positions in the departments, the places being filled by line officers, who should from time to time be exchanged with others doing duty with their regiments, as should also be done with all officers on detached service. In order to secure a sufficiency of such officers to suit existing conditions, the President should be empowered by law to fix their number within a maximum and minimum limit. The abolition of a permanent staff would be approved by substantially all the experienced offi-

cers of the line and by many staff officers themselves. The successful result of the recent war with Spain shows how very capable line officers are of performing staff duties.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. DORST,

*Major, 2nd U. S. Cavalry,
Acting Inspector General.*

APPENDIX "E."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF JUDGE ADVOCATE.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 7, 1899.

*The Adjutant General,
Department Matanzas and Santa Clara,
Matanzas, Cuba.*

SIR:—

In compliance with your instructions of July 27th, 1899, I have the honor to submit the following report covering the business of this office to include July 31st, 1899. So far as I can ascertain from the records of the Department of Santa Clara and the Department of Matanzas, together with those of the present Department, formed by the consolidation of those two, the following is the number and character of cases tried by Courts Martial.

Before General Courts-Martial the following trials have been had:

Trials of Commissioned Officers.....	2
Trials of enlisted men.....	222
Trials and acquittals of enlisted men	21

CHARACTER OF OFFENSES.

Violation of 17th A. W., Selling or losing uniform.....	5
" 20th " " Disrespect to Comdg officer...	8
" 21st " " Disobedience of orders.....	16
" 22nd " " Exciting mutiny.....	1
" 32nd " " Absent without leave.....	54
" 33nd " " Failure to report for duty.....	20
" 38th " " Drunkenness on duty.....	35
" 39th " " Sentinel asleep on post.....	19
" 40th " " Quitting Guard.....	42
" 47th " " Desertion	21
" 60th " " Fraud	5

Violation of 62nd A. W.

Drunk and Disorderly.....	29
Breach of Arrest.....	1
Conduct to prejudice of good order and military discipline	68
Neglect of Duty.....	1
Disobedience of orders.....	6
Disposing of uniform and clothing.....	4
Giving liquor to prisoners.....	2
Larceny	3
Assault with intent to do bodily harm.....	2

Before Summary Courts the following trials have been had:

Number of different men tried.....	933
Number of trials and acquittals.....	63
Number of trials.....	1724

CHARACTER OF OFFENSES.

Violation of 17th A. W. Selling or losing clothing.....	10
„ 21st „ „ Disobedience of orders.....	3
„ 31st „ „ Lying out of quarters.....	1
„ 32nd „ „ Absent without leave.....	371
„ 33rd „ „ Failure to report for duty.....	534
„ 34th „ „ Out of Camp.....	2
„ 35th „ „ Out of Quarters.....	1
„ 36th „ „ Hiring duty.....	1
„ 38th „ „ Drunkenness on duty.....	77
„ 39th „ „ Sentinel asleep on Post.....	3
„ 40th „ „ Quitting Guard.....	42
„ 47th „ „ Desertion	1

Violation of 62nd A. W.

Vile, abusive and disrespectful language.....	23
Failure to salute officers.....	4
Breach of arrest.....	28
Drunk and disorderly.....	273
Drunk in quarters.....	22
Disobedience of orders.....	190
Neglect of Duty.....	190
Fighting or creating disturbances	22
Conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline.....	82
Introducing liquor into camp.....	4

Violation of 62nd A. W.

Giving intoxicating liquor to prisoners.....	14
Making false statements.....	18
Committing nuisance in vicinity of quarters...	27
Insubordination	19

Work arising from purely military sources forms but a small part of that done in the office. The larger part of the office work consists of determinations of questions arising under Spanish civil and criminal law, and the amendments to the same made since January 1st, 1899, now in force in the Island. This business cannot be classified so as to show its volume or exact nature. The records are in a somewhat unsatisfactory condition, doubtless due to many changes in officers having charge of the office; but at this date the records are in a satisfactory basis as to clerical service.

H. C. CARBAUGH,

Major and Judge Advocate, U. S. V.

APPENDIX "F."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF JUDGE ADVOCATE.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 18th, 1899.

The Adjutant General,

Dept. of Matanzas and Santa Clara,

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:

A letter of the Major General Commanding the Division, directing the Commanding General of this Department to report "regarding the value of land in your Department, both improved and unimproved; the character of land conveyances, and the system of registration for the protection of titles; also the quantity of crown lands and the manner of their disposition under the present laws of Cuba," has been referred to this office.

I have the honor to herewith submit the following facts as to Real Estate in the Province of Matanzas and Santa Clara, which are comprised in this military department. No separate valuation of improved and unimproved land can be obtained; it is in fact difficult, on account of destruction of rural property by the war, to classify such property in that respect. The value of Real Estate herewith submitted is taken as ten times the net rental of the property assessed for the purpose of taxation. It is quite possible that at present this value is more than ten times the taxation assessment.

PROVINCE OF MATANZAS.

The number of different City and Rural property owners, and the number of different Rural properties in each Ter-

mino may be given together with the value of the Real Estate based as above said on the net rental, as follows:

MUNICIPALITIES		CITY PROPERTY		RURAL PROPERTY	
	Number of different property owners.	TOTAL VALUE	Number of different property owners.	Number of different properties	TOTAL VALUE
Matanzas.....	2258	\$ 6,832,678.30	978	1065	\$ 2,186,802.80
Alacranes.....	298	343,816.60	251	291	2,462,045.00
Bolondrón.....	346	525,986.60	247	274	5,454,255.30
Unión de Reyes.	264	583,286.60	33	36	925,399.20
Cabezas.....	144	132,063.30	361	363	1,178,735.00
Sabanilla.....	375	290,800.00	112	121	1,823,590.80
Guamacaro.....	188	251,591.60	136	154	3,663,748.20
Santa Ana.....	118	83,130.00	118	118	1,326,409.20
Canasí.....	92	59,257.50	56	69	896,963.00
Cárdenas.....	1600	4,201,767.50	104	119	581,662.40
Carlos Rojas....	275	146,643.30	59	62	1,582,142.20
Jovellanos.....	561	871,500.00	85	94	1,134,642.50
Cervantes.....	209	189,206.60	47	49	786,020.00
Roque.....	60	61,686.60	192	206	1,625,794.00
Cuevitas.....	337	253,120.00	209	224	1,727,377.50
Mendez Capote.	22	6,798.30	181	204	1,628,979.40
Martí.....	203	157,570.00	213	231	2,325,643.20
Maximo Gomez	211	155,200.00	141	169	1,408,868.60
Colon, now including Jagüey Grande.....	705	1,246,530.00	553	228	3,394,019.40
Macagua.....	92	84,423.30	149	168	1,305,178.50
Macuriges.....	409	639,160.00	290	317	3,032,993.80
San José de los Ramos.....	158	188,046.60	173	192	2,240,891.10
Palmillas.....	215	310,700.80	166	211	2,902,816.30
Total in Province	9140	\$17,604,963.50	4854	5269	\$45,594,977.40

As to the property which belongs to the State in the Province of Matanzas, the following is submitted.

RURAL PROPERTY:

Number of different properties.	Location.	Area, Caballerías.
34	Cabezas,	45.45
1	Guamacaro,	51.22
2	Macagua,	Not known.
1	Jovellanos,	68.00
6	Lagunillas,	19.70
7	Macuriges,	63.40
6	Roque,	15.10
5	Guanajayabo,	10.90
2	Bolondrón,	28.60
45	Guamutas,	173.50
<hr/>		<hr/>
109		475.87

CITY PROPERTIES.

262	Matanzas,
15	Máximo Gómez,
20	Carlos Rojas,
3	Cabezas,
29	Martí,
17	Alacranes,
1	Roque,
3	Macagua,
1	Sabanilla,
3	Macuriges,
1	Guamacaro,
2	San José de los Ramos,
3	Méndez Capote,
2	Santa Ana,
3	Bolondrón,

365

Of the Rural Properties twenty-eight (28) are registered in favor of the State in Property Register and eighty (80) are not registered. Of the City Properties one hundred (100) are so registered and two hundred and sixty-five (265) are not. The names of the Rural Properties and the street numbers of the City Properties are known in this of-

fic; it is also known which city properties are registered in favor of the State, and the number of cahallerias of land in each of the Rural Properties.

PROVINCE OF SANTA CLARA.

VALUE OF REAL ESTATE IN SANTA CLARA PROVINCE, BASED ON NET RENTAL OF THE PROPERTY.

CITY PROPERTY.

Municipalities.	No. of properties.	No. of property owners.	Valuation.
Santa Clara.....	1641	1241	\$ 1,722,779.00
Esperanza.....	273	203	219,806.50
Ranchuelo.....	401	213	308,646.00
San Juan de las Yeras....	131	113	87,096.00
San Diego del Valle.....	58	48	6,023.00
Cienfuegos	2637	1807	5,942,082.50
Abreus	201	173	198,916.50
San Fernando	123	108	67,825.00
Cartagena.....	158	114	144,037.30
Cruces.....	478	383	588,688.50
Palmira.....	416	359	334,137.50
Rodas.....	568	410	622,350.00
Lajas.....	354	250	394,862.50
Trinidad.....	924	789	597,071.00
Sancti Spíritus.....	1929	1820	790,875.00
\$agua la Grande.....	1718	1112	3,256,100.00
Amaro	241	177	238,467.00
Ceja de Pablo.....	246	206	183,400.00
Quemados de Güines.....	264	179	297,304.00
Rancho Veloz.....	89	63	124,150.50
Santo Domingo	373	277	431,379.00
Calabazar.....	430	354	272,987.50
Remedios	1119	956	1,007,683.50
Caibarién.....	595	320	767,758.50
Camajuaní.....	458	355	607,167.00
Placetas.....	655	402	208,400.00
Yaguajay	252	209	160,774.50
Vueltas.....	167	147	180,614.00
<i>Total.....</i>	<i>16,899</i>	<i>12,808</i>	<i>\$ 19,761,472.30</i>

RURAL PROPERTY.

Municipalities.	No. of properties.	No. of property owners.	Valuation.
Santa Clara.....	1081	1014	\$2,204,850.00
Esperanza.....	513	488	1,393,650.00
Ranchuelo.....	86	84	496,350.00
San Juan de las Yeras....	370	357	1,162,850.00
San Diego del Valle.....	536	496	1,284,000.00
Cienfuegos.....	865	811	4,188,650.00
Abreus.....	38	32	675,625.00
San Fernando.....	229	221	911,800.00
Cartagena.....	261	239	1,347,375.00
Cruces.....	75	71	745,900.00
Palmira.....	42	40	500,900.00
Rodas.....	186	180	1,840,400.00
Lajas.....	246	238	1,815,470.00
Trinidad.....	604	569	1,578,775.00
Sancti Spiritus.....	767	781	1,622,550.00
Sagua la Grande.....	265	241	2,268,300.00
Amaro.....	162	153	713,600.00
Ceja de Pablo.....	251	223	1,175,500.00
Quemado de Güines.....	402	371	1,830,300.00
Rancho Veloz.....	85	76	1,544,625.00
Santo Domingo.....	535	510	2,383,300.00
Calabazar.....	306	286	1,998,350.00
Remedios.....	305	283	1,161,075.00
Caibarien.....	48	36	248,300.00
Camajuaní.....	226	210	1,643,375.00
Placetas.....	286	279	2,025,175.00
Yaguajay.....	843	127	818,600.00
Vueltas.....	478	459	2,258,450.00
<i>Total</i>	9,391	8,885	\$41,838,395.00

The amount of City Property in the Province of Santa Clara belonging to the State is unknown. The following information can be given as to the Rural Property:

Municipalities	Number of different properties.	Area.—Caballerías.
Remedios.....	2	53.5
Cartagena.....	1	Unknown.
Rodas.....	6	45.
Santa Clara.....	6	97.
Sagua la Grande.....	7	165.
Cienfuegos.....	3	Unknown.
Trinidad.....	3	"

In addition to the above there is one rural property by the name of Regla containing twenty-three (23) caballerias; location unknown.

In the Province of Santa Clara there is also a plantation by the name of Caridad and one by the name of Santo Domingo of which the areas are unknown.

In Rodas there is a plantation by the name of San Rafael of which the area is unknown.

In the Municipality of Cienfuegos there are seven (7) keys namely: Campos, Arrena, Alcatraz, Nueva, Diego Perez, Loco, Piedra; areas unknown.

The assessment for taxes was made before the war, and the new Tax Register has not yet been made for Santa Clara, consequently the valuation is not accurate. I am of the opinion that the rental value as shown by the tax assessment of rental is too small. In making up this data as to the value of land in the two Provinces I am especially indebted to Señor F. López Leiva and General Manuel Rodriguez, respectively, Principal Administrators of the Haciendas at Santa Clara and Matanzas, for their efforts in furnishing me the data from which this portion of the report has been compiled.

I am also indebted to Fernando Gonzalez Veranes, Registrar of Property in the city of Matanzas, for assisting me in compiling the following information regarding registration of property titles and conveyance by sale of private and State property in the Island of Cuba.

CONVEYANCE OR SALE OF LANDS AND SYSTEM OF REGISTERING TITLES.

Article 334, Book 2, Title 1, of the Civil Code defines what property is known as immovable or realty.

Articles 605 to 608, inclusive, Book 2, Title 8, Civil Code, establishes the Registry of Property and directs that it be carried out in accordance with the "Ley Hipotecaria," or Mortgage Law. A copy of the Articles of the Civil Code and of the Mortgage Law are herewith transmitted.

General regulations for the execution of the Mortgage Law in Spanish ultramarine provinces were approved by Royal Decree dated July 18th, 1893, and comprise 462 articles and the prescribed models, all contained with index in 268 pages of printed matter.

The title to landed property sold by one private person

to another passes on the execution of the public writing or deed made before a public notary and signed by the contracting parties, attested by the Notary Public. The following steps are the usual ones which obtain in such sales, and in registration of the titles :

First: The legal status of the property is ascertained from the Registry of Property.

Second: A certificate of title, either literal or by report, can be obtained, which is made on the responsibility of the Registrar under his bond. This certificate will aid the Notary to know and make known to the contracting parties the status of the title, and to assure them as to whether title to the property can be registered.

Third: The deed is now executed before the Notary, signed by the contracting parties and attested by the Notary.

Fourth: Copy of the deed is now taken to the Registrar of Property in his character "delegado de hacienda," for his valuation of the property for the taxes which must be paid on the contract according to the legal tariff.

Fifth: A copy of the deed is now taken to the Hacienda with the assessment made by the Registrar of Property, for the approval of the assessment and payment of the taxes. The Hacienda gives to the owner on payment of the taxes another receipt called "carta de paga."

Sixth: The copy of the deed with the certificate "carta de paga" is taken to the Registrar of Property in order to have it registered. The Registrar thereupon registers the receipt of the document in the book of daily operations with the hour and date, which is good for thirty days or sixty days, in case of suspension or denial of registration.

Seventh: The Registrar of Property examines the title with a view of recording it, notifying the party as to defects and if registration is allowed, then within the prescribed period duly records the document, under a property number, signing the note of record with his full signature.

SALE OF STATE PROPERTY.

The sale of State property is in accordance with the regulations as to cancellation of paper money of the Bank of Spain of Havana, issued in Havana, December 9th, 1882, which has been modified in minor details by subsequent orders. A translation of the two principal chapters on the sale of State lands, viz.: Chapters 7 and 8, of said

regulations is hereto appended. In Chapter 1 of the general regulations for the execution of the Mortgage Law, Articles 24 to 52 inclusive, is shown the operation of the registration of property belonging to the State, either by possession or as property owner. In Article 31 it is said that immovable properties or the royal rights that the State or civil corporation may possess or administer will be inscribed consequently in the property registers of the corresponding districts.

Article 32nd says that the orders make it the duty of the officers having charge of the properties to register them. Once the inscription is made a step precedent to the transferring of the property by sale, the public administrator by proceedings settles special matters as follows:

1st: Convenience to the state of the sale.

2nd: The valuation of the property to be sold.

3rd: The auction in the terms and conditions in which it should be announced. Having made publication in the official bulletin of the Provinces for the time fixed by the regulations, they proceed to the auction, where for the private party to be able to take part, he must previously deposit ten per cent. of the amount of the valuation of the property to be sold. The auction is presided over by the Administrator of the Hacienda with a Public Notary who makes record of the proceeding and attests it. The property is sold to the best bidder and the record of the proceedings is sent to the Secretary of the Treasury for his approval. The auction being approved, the transfer of the title of the property is made in a writing or deed before a Notary Public and in the same manner as for private property.

Very respectfully,

H. C. CARBAUGE,

Major and Judge Advocate, U. S. V.

APPENDIX "G"

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,

Matanzas, Cuba, August 7th, 1899.

Adjutant General,

Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara.

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:—

In compliance with instructions contained in your letter of the 27th ult., I have the honor to submit the following report covering the operations of the Q. M. Department in the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara under the direction of Major J. B. Aleshire, Chief Quartermaster:

Headquarters of the First Army Corps arrived in Matanzas January 10, 1899. The 12th N. Y. and a battalion of the 3rd U. S. Vol. Engineers had already arrived. The 12th and 16th companies of the Signal Corps arrived with Corps Headquarters. The 8th Massachusetts, the 160th Indiana and the 3rd Kentucky arrived soon after. These organizations of the First Corps comprised the command of the Department of Matanzas.

New tents, cots and lumber and nails were furnished these several organizations by the Q. M. Department on board the transports by which they were shipped from ports in the United States. Upon their arrival they selected camp sites and proceeded to lay tent floors and establish camps, this being accomplished with materials brought with them and without expense for labor, which was performed by the troops.

An officer of the Q. M. Department had been stationed at Matanzas several months before as Depot Quartermaster, but at time of the arrival of First Corps Headquarters he had no stores whatever on hand. He was instructed to submit estimates for supplies, which were received and forwar-

ded, and at a short time thereafter stores commenced to arrive and soon he had a fairly well equipped depot.

The attention of this office was directed to renting suitable buildings for offices, orderlies' quarters and stables. Buildings were soon rented for this purpose, but the office building was found to be inadequate for the purpose, and on February 20th Headquarters offices were removed to a larger and more suitable building. An itemized statement of amounts expended for rents is herewith enclosed.

Six troops of the Second U. S. Cavalry arrived in Matanzas and selected a camp site on February 6th on a tract of land owned by Rafael Díaz. For the occupation of this land the owner was awarded One Hundred and Thirty-six (\$136.00) Dollars a month rental by a Board of Survey, which was paid by this office to include June 30, 1899. No other payments were made in this office for camp site rentals. The 10th U. S. Infantry arrived in Matanzas in the month of March and during that month the volunteer organizations generally were returned to the United States to be mustered out.

When the volunteers were replaced by regulars, the attention of this office was directed to the preparation of permanent barracks for their occupation. In the month of February estimates were submitted for the repair of Santa Cristina Barracks, the Cuartel de Caballería and the Santa Isabel Hospital in this city, and the Spanish Barracks in the city of Cárdenas. These estimates were approved and work on Santa Cristina Barracks was commenced March 1st. It was completed according to the original plan in the month of June, and turned over to the 10th Infantry as quarters for headquarters, band and six companies. The total cost of these repairs was \$22,730.76. The Cuartel de Caballería was finished according to plan about June 30th, and turned over as quarters for two companies of the 10th Infantry. The amount expended for the repairs on this building was \$6,958.98. The amount expended on Santa Isabel Hospital for repairs is \$10,323.67. These repairs have been completed according to the original plan, except the plumbing, which is now in process of completion.

The repairs to all these buildings were generally made with native labor, employed in open market. Several hundred were employed as mechanics and laborers. The wages generally paid were, for laborers sixty cents per day, and for mechanics one dollar and twenty-five cents per day, in U. S. currency. The laying of cement floors, whitewashing

and a few other items were performed by contracts, informally made.

The Spanish Barracks at Cárdenas were renovated and reconstructed as quarters for a battalion of the 10th Infantry at a total cost of about \$17,000.000.

A new post for six troops of the 2nd Cavalry was directed to be built by Division Headquarters, according to plans furnished by the Chief Quartermaster of the Division. Work was commenced in the middle of April, and was so far finished at the expiration of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, that two troops of the Second Cavalry had moved in and the remaining troops removed into these quarters on July 6th. Much work still remains to be done in finishing these buildings and in constructing additional buildings not provided for in the original plans, which have been deemed necessary, and which will not be finished for some time yet. An itemized statement of the expenditures on these buildings for labor and materials is enclosed herewith.

The troops in Matanzas have been dependent upon the city water company for a supply of water. This water company, which is a private corporation, at first charged eighty cents, American money, per one thousand gallons, which was considered exorbitant, but which was paid at the time through necessity. Efforts were made by negotiations to secure a reduction of this rate. After much argument and correspondence, soon after I took charge of this office the company agreed to accept a rate of thirty cents, American money, per thousand gallons for all water furnished the troops by gravity.

In the month of April a well-boring machine, which had been shipped to Cárdenas in pursuance of the recommendation of the Chief Engineer of this Department, was transferred to Matanzas and an attempt was made to obtain a supply of water by boring near the site of the cavalry post. At a depth of 56 feet a limited supply of fairly good water was found, but was deemed insufficient. At about 180 feet water was also struck, and also at 240 feet, but neither were of good quality. At the present time the boring has reached a depth of over 400 feet, but no other vein of water has been found and the prospect of success is not bright. This work was performed under the direction of the Chief Engineer of the Department. An itemized statement of expenditures in drilling for water is enclosed herewith.

Since the creation of the Department of Matanzas and

Santa Clara, this office has been largely occupied in completing arrangements for rental of quarters for officers in the province of Santa Clara. Considerable difficulty was experienced at some posts, particularly at Santa Clara, in obtaining suitable quarters for officers at reasonable rates. These matters have now, however, been generally settled and it is believed that both officers and troops are fairly quartered under the circumstances.

The disbursements of this office by Major Aleshire, to June 30, 1899, are as follows:

REGULAR SUPPLIES.

Purchase of wood.....	\$	348.18	
Purchase of stationery.....		88.60	
Electric light		262.49	
Miscellaneous		11.00	\$ 710.27
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INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Pay of clerks, interpreters, &c....	\$	7,264.81	
Miscellaneous		110.42	\$ 7,375.23
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BARRACKS AND QUARTERS:

Rent of buildings and grounds.	\$	2,843.86	
Labor constructing Hamilton Barracks.....		26,064.60	
Work on piers, stone blocks, iron bars, &c.....		317.91	
Material for Hamilton Barracks		1,816.10	
Miscellaneous		36.00	\$31,078.47
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ARMY TRANSPORTATION:

Pay teamsters and other employees.....	\$	7,834.44	
Water rent.....		111.27	
Labor drilling for water.....		818.20	
Miscellaneous		1,199.00	\$ 9,962.91
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Total.....			\$49,126.88

The disbursements of Major Aleshire from Island funds

are included in my report as Disbursing Quartermaster of Customs Funds.

The report of the Depot Quartermaster at Matanzas, with his statement of disbursements, is submitted herewith.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. MILLER.

Major and C. Q. M., U. S. V.,

Acting Chief Quartermaster.

*hire, Quartermaster, U. S.
ear ending June 30, 1899.*

	TO		MONTHLY RATE		Total paid	
	1899	Day				
5	January 12		\$ 4	00	\$ 32	00
			Month			
3	June 30		80	00	448	00
1	" 30		45	00	255	00
0	Febr. 20		85	00	114	75
5	March 31		12	00	26	40
0	June 30		216	67	942	51
1	April 27		12	00	10	80
1	" 30		12	00	8	00
1	May 31		10	00	16	67
1	" 31		24	00	40	00
1	June 30		12	00	32	00
6	May 31		12	00	18	00
1	" 31		12	00	12	00
0	June 30		24	00	40	80
1	" 30		24	00	24	00
1	" 30		24	00	24	00
1	" 30		12	00	12	00
1	" 30		12	00	4	00
6	" 30		136	00	657	33

The materials for construction of the 2nd Cavalry barracks were mainly shipped to Matanzas from Havana, Cuba. The list of principal items below has been prepared from invoices, for which receipts were signed by Captain Geo. S. Cartwright, Depot Quartermaster. Prices are not given in many cases.

983,382	feet Lumber.	
256	kegs Wire Nails.	
9	" " "	
9	" " Spikes.	
8 ¹¹ / ₁₂	doz. Locks and Knobs.	
16 ³ / ₄	" Barrel Bolts.	
5 ⁷ / ₁₂	" Chain "	
56 ¹ / ₂	" Hinges.	
96	Star Ventilators	{ 74 @ \$6.50 each.
		{ 20 @ \$2.13 "
3	" "	@ \$6.50 "
40	Shower Baths.	
4,799	sheets Iron. @ \$6.10 square.	
5,106	lin. feet Iron Gutter @ .06c. ft.	
1,306	" " Leaders 4 in. @ .08c. ft.	
1,705	Iron Gutter Hangers @ .06c. each.	
2,050	lin. ft. Ridge Cap @ .10c. ft.	
9	Urinals @ \$6.00 each.	
7	Tanks @ \$7.00 "	
2	" @ \$9.75 "	

Statement of cost of labor and materials for the construction of officers' quarters, barracks, stables, etc., for six (6) troops 2nd Cavalry, at Matanzas, Cuba, under the direction of Major J. B. Aleshire, Qr. Mr. U. S. Vols., during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899.

Labor from April 10 to June 30, 1899	\$26,064.60
Setting up 48 stone piers for foundation.....	38.40
Squaring 966 rough stone blocks for foundation, 12½ c.	120.75
Lengthening 252 iron bars @ 40c. each.....	100.80
Drilling holes in 252 iron bars at 40c. each.....	45.36
Opening and lengthening 504 eye bolts @ 2½c. each	12.60

MATERIALS.

235 rough stone blocks for foundation @ 80c....	188.00
650 rough stone blocks for foundation @ 60c....	390.00
266 rough stone blocks for foundation @ 50c....	133.00
258 rough stone blocks for foundation @ 40c....	103.20
400 barrels Portland cement @ \$2.25.	900.00
80 sacks lime @ 40c.....	32.00
405 iron bolts, 1,165 lbs. @ 6c. lb.....	69.90

TOTAL.....\$ 28,198.61

Respectfully submitted.

J. B. ALESHIRE,

Matanzas, Cuba,

Major & Quartermaster, U. S. Vols.

July 18, 1899.

By W. H. MILLER,

Major & Chief Qr. Mr., U. S. Vols.

Statement of cost of labor and material for water supply at Matanzas, Cuba, under the direction of Major J. B. Aleshire, Quartermaster, U. S. Vols., during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899.

LABOR.

Well-drilling engineer from April 8th to June 30, 1899, @ \$125.00 per month.....	\$ 345.83
Actual expenses of well-drilling engineer while on duty at Matanzas, Cuba, April 13th to June 30th, 1899.....	175.70

(Q. M. G. O. April 6, 1899, No. 124,937.)

Engineer from April 21st to June 30, 1899, @ \$75.00 per month.....	175.00
Fireman from April 18th to June 30, 1899, @ \$50.00 per month..	121.67

MATERIAL.

One Well-drilling outfit.....	2,900.50
1 Drive Shoe.....	} 363.00
210 „ Pipes.....	
2 „ Heads.....	
12 tons. Coal @ \$5.00 per ton.....	60.00

TOTAL \$ 4,141.70

Matanzas, Cuba, July 18, 1899.

Respectfully submitted:

J. B. ALESHIRE,

*Major & Quartermaster,
U. S. Vols.*

BY W. H. MILLER,

Major & Chief Qr. Mr., U. S. Vols.

APPENDIX "H."

OFFICE OF DEPOT QUARTERMASTER.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 4th, 1899.

*The Chief Quartermaster,
Department Matanzas and Santa Clara.
Matanzas, Cuba.*

SIR:—

In reply to your communication of August 2nd I have the honor to state that I arrived here on January 11th from Huntsville, Alabama, and relieved Captain Walter Allen, A. Q. M., U. S. V., as Quartermaster, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 1st Army Corps: and on January 13th the District of Matanzas was constituted and I became also District Quartermaster. As District Quartermaster, I became Disbursing Officer for the Department of Street Cleaning and Sanitation and have since then had charge of that Department. The first work of the organized Department began about January 24th, and the first payment was made on January 30th. At this time all payments were made in Spanish money, and I found that the Depot Quartermaster was paying one dollar per day, Spanish money, which made the pay about eighty cents, but left the government at the mercy of the money-changers. After two payments, I consulted with Captain Hosmer, Depot Quartermaster, and told him it was my intention to put the common laborers at sixty cents per day, American money, and he agreed to do the same. A few men quit work at the change, but their places were easily filled. On February 16th, Captain Hosmer was relieved, and I found he was still paying one dollar, Spanish. At noon I notified the laborers that their pay would be sixty cents, American money, whereupon they struck, but after two hours accepted the terms and returned to work. About March 6th, a strike of stevedores and other laborers threatened to involve all labor here. I notified the men working in the Street Cleaning Department, who were paid that day, that they need not work if they did not wish to; but if any one interfered with my employees who wished to work the

sentinels throughout the city had been directed to protect the laborers and might resort to harsh measures. After a few seconds the remarks were received with applause, and practically all reported for work the following day. Those who had allowed themselves to be driven from the work were discharged. This practically settled the labor question, so that little trouble has been experienced since and consequently, the construction of the barracks has been accomplished with little annoyance. July 1st of the present year, wages were advanced for laborers to seventy cents per day.

The money expended for labor handling supplies and in the construction of barracks has done an immense amount of good among the poor. While the rabid press claims that America is draining Cuba, it should be remembered that a vast amount of money has been brought into the country and distributed in the payment of the army and for labor. I enclose herewith statement of the amount of money expended by my predecessor and myself during the fiscal year 1899.

During the arrival of the troops there was considerable confusion, on account of the immense amount of supplies landed on a single dock, and a small one at that.

From February 15th until the arrival of Major Miller, the entire work fell upon Major Aleshire and myself. Major Aleshire took charge of the repairs and construction of barracks. There has been, in addition to the necessary work of the Quartermaster's Department, the trying labor connected with the Department of Sanitation. This office has seldom been closed until late at night, and most of this arduous work has fallen on my Chief Clerk, Mr. Frank M. Carder, as Captain Hosmer took with him the only clerk he had who was familiar with the routine of the Quartermaster's Department. At the time I took charge of the Depot Quartermaster's Office the duties were not divided up, and the transportation clerk did not know how to make out a bill of lading, and he had never seen a transportation request except in the distance.

During the past year the Battalion of the 3rd Engineers, the Company of the Signal Corps, the 12th New York Vols., 8th Massachusetts, 160th Indiana, 3rd Kentucky, 6 Troops of the 2d Cavalry, and Headquarters and band and 8 companies of the 10th Infantry were all received here with their property, including means of transportation. Of this number, the Battalion of the 3rd Engineers, 12th New York

Vols., 8th Massachusetts, 160th Indiana and 3rd Kentucky were embarked here for the United States. In nearly every case a regiment was embarked and left within twenty-four hours from the time of the arrival of the transport. All was done without the loss of a man or an animal. All of the property of the Volunteers was taken up in advance, to prevent any delay.

In addition to the tentage and other supplies, this office has received eighty-eight horses and eight hundred mules, and seven surplus mules, taken up. Of this large number of animals, four horses had to be destroyed on account of injuries and disease; three mules died, on march, from eating a poisonous plant, and nine had to be destroyed on account of injuries and disease. To include June 30th, one hundred and eighty-five mules were sold at auction for \$19,058, an average price of one hundred and three dollars.

Forage was received by myself during the year as follows: bran 239,600 lbs.; oats 2,614,177 lbs.; hay 3,945,652 lbs.; straw 17,217 lbs. This does not include amounts brought by volunteer organizations and not invoiced to me. The forage issued, was as follows: bran 107,110 lbs.; oats, 2,325,849 lbs.; hay 3,614,098 lbs.; and straw 17,217 lbs. There was no loss of forage during this time not covered by savings, and on June 30th I took up 15,000 lbs. of oats and 50,000 lbs. of hay.

The Depot Quartermaster shipped by rail during this time 38 officers, 984 men, 29 horses, 33 mules, 1,989,839 lbs. subsistence stores, 863,669 lbs. Q. M. stores, 8315 lbs. ordnance stores, 17,051 lbs., medical supplies, 147,207 lbs. signal property, and 6,768 lbs. miscellaneous stores. The main part of the transportation by water consisted of the four volunteer regiments and the battalion of the 3rd Engineers, with their baggage and supplies. The following has been shipped from here during the year by water: Officers 203, men 4,577, animals 67, and 1,570,417 lbs. of freight.

The results of the work of the Sanitary Department are best shown by the number of deaths in the city, which is as follows, beginning with December: December 449; January 323; February 257; March 205; April 136; May 131; June 118. The charitable work carried on by our government in feeding and taking care of the poor, while it has wrought an immense amount of good, has added much to the labor of the Quartermaster's Department.

The only deaths among the troops at this place were one sergeant of the Signal Corps, killed by the fall of a

telephone pole, and one private of the 10th Infantry, drowned, accidental or suicidal.

I have already forwarded a list of expenditures from the Island Fund, and enclose list of expenditures by my predecessor and myself from appropriations for the Quartermaster's Department. My own expenditures include pay of teamsters, and practically all expenditures for the volunteer organizations.

In order to transfer the funds received from sale of government property to New York, I cashed all treasury checks obtainable, with the result that checks on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York are now cashed at par value by one firm, doing away entirely with the exorbitant charges made on our first arrival.

There has always been an abundance of fuel and forage on hand, and the only complaints I have heard with reference to the Quartermaster's Department have been in reference to the supply of clothing.

With reference to the sanitary work at Matanzas, will state that both the Quartermaster General and the Depot Quartermaster in New York have been prompt in honoring each request.

Very respectfully,

GEO. S. CARTWRIGHT,

Major & Quartermaster U. S. Vols.,

Depot Quartermaster.

APPENDIX "I"

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF DISBURSING QUARTERMASTER.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 9, 1899.

*Adjutant General,
Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara,
Matanzas, Cuba.*

SIR:

I have the honor to submit the following report relating to the Customs Funds of the Island of Cuba, received and disbursed through the late Chief Quartermaster, Department of Santa Clara, and since the discontinuance of that office, through the Disbursing Quartermaster for Civil Business, Headquarters Department Matanzas and Santa Clara, for the period commencing January 3rd, 1899, and ending with the Fiscal Year, June 30th, 1899.

The disbursements are shown by towns and cities, rather than under "Appropriations," as the funds received prior to April 1st, 1899, were under heads dissimilar to those now used in the Customs Accounts.

RECEIVED.

Custom House, Isabela de Sagua	\$ 10,000.00
Major J. B. Aleshire, Q. M., U. S. Vols.....	6,320.51
Custom House, Cienfuegos.....	319,024.99
Major E. F. Ladd, U. S. Vols., Treasurer...	2,814.03

Total Received.....\$338,159.53

DISBURSED.

CÁRDENAS:
Repairs to Commissary storehouse.....\$ 20.28

CAIBARIÉN:
Street cleaning and sanitation...\$ 2,000.00
Rent of barracks..... 400.00

Total..... \$ 2,400.00

REMEDIOS:

Street cleaning and sanitation...	\$ 2,000.00
Teachers, District of Remedios..	2,514.74
Pay of Interpreter.....	170.00
Repair of Hospital.....	1,000.00

Total \$ 5,684.74

PLACETAS:

Repair of barracks.....	\$ 1,523.27
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YAGUAJAY:

Sanitation	\$ 1,500.00
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SANTA CLARA:

Street cleaning and sanitation....	\$ 6,347.87
Municipal salaries.....	4,923.08
Repair of barracks.....	427.00
Traveling expenses civilian em- ployé	6.00

Total..... \$ 11,703.95

TRINIDAD:

Construction of pipe line.....	\$ 1,194.47
Tax Assessor.....	156.00
Pay of Interpreter.....	605.00
Street cleaning and sanitation....	3,080.91
Post office employees (December)..	290.88
Unloading Cuban rations.....	51.00

Total..... \$ 5,378.26

MATANZAS:

Repairs to Santa Isabel Hospital..	\$ 1,616.62
Repairs Provost Guard building..	55.00
Water for public buildings.....	136.12
Salaries employees Provincial Di- putacion	820.10
Printing orders, etc.....	79.50
Moving office safe.....	7.00
Traveling expenses civilian em- ployees.....	168.44
Pay civilian employees.....	36.67
Reimbursement Subsistence Dept. U. S. A. for beef supplied to Hospitals, Matanzas.....	1,708.06
Post Office Money orders.....	9.99

Total..... \$ 4,637.50

SAGUA LA GRANDE:

Rent of kitchen and mess room...	\$ 16.80
Repair of Barracks	41.25
Electric light.....	11.50
Sanitation.....	1,515.00
School equipment.....	300.00
Repair of Orphan Asylum.....	700.00
Subsistence detachment Provost Marshal	418.54
Unloading Cuban rations.....	69.84
Pay of interpreter.....	162.50
Traveling expenses interpreters...	72.80

Total..... \$ 3,308.23

SANCTI SPIRITUS:

Repair of Military Barracks.....	\$ 7,440.98
Rent Provost Guard building.....	57.33
Rent Cuban ration storehouse.. ..	20.00
Demolishing convent.....	1,189.38
Construction of crematory.....	452.20
Pay of interpreter.....	143.00
Street cleaning and sanitation....	4,790.00
Construction of corral.....	565.20
Guide for military party	40.00
Seed corn for poor.....	166.67
Farming tools for poor.....	520.83

Total..... \$ 15,385.59

CIENFUEGOS:

Construction of barracks, Paso Caballo	\$40,382.52
Street cleaning and sanitation...	29,035.15
Moving disinfecting plant from Santa Clara.....	153.91
Maintenance Civil Hospital.....	19,318.66
Salaries Civilian employees.....	4,141.20
Salaries Superintendent Public Instruction	420.00
Municipal Salaries.....	15,768.76
Miscellaneous expenses Hdqrs. Department	273.42
Payment damages to pproperty....	40.00

Traveling expenses civilian employees.....	47.75
Repair of Military Barracks.....	2,710.30
Establishment and maintenance of switch at Camp Candelaria...	189.01
Repair of well drilling outfit.....	35.85
Electric lighting.....	184.46
Printing orders, etc.....	77.40
Shelter for public animals at corral.....	325.95
Repair to Gov't dock.....	5,000.00
Post Office Money Orders.....	23.88
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$118,155.22</u>

PROVINCE SANTA CLARA:

Payment Rural Guard.....	\$80,932.14
Payment Cuban Guides.....	344.75
Payment deficit of Terminos.....	62,998.40
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$144,275.29</u>

Placed to the official credit of the
Treasurer of the Island of Cuba. \$ 6,116.02

Carried to Fiscal Year ending June
30, 1900, under Sanitation..... 14,747.59

Total..... \$ 20,863.61

TOTAL AMOUNT DISBURSED..... \$334,835.94

Cash remaining on hand for the
payment of outstanding indebtedness..... \$ 3,323.59

Total..... \$338,159.53

In addition to the above I have the honor to submit the following report of Receipts and Disbursements of Customs Funds, by Major J. B. Aleshire, Q. M., U. S. V., Chief Quartermaster, Department Matanzas and Santa Clara, for the period commencing March 6th, and ending with the Fiscal Year June 30, 1899.

RECEIVED.

Total amount of Customs Funds
received from all sources..... \$141,782.74

DISBURSED.

MATANZAS:

Repair Santa Cristina Barracks...	\$22,730.76
Repair Spanish Cavalry Barracks.	6,958.98
Repair Santa Isabel Hospital.....	12,397.59
Fitting up telegraph office, Hdqrs., Building.....	125.92
Refundment to Q. M. Dept. for amounts expended on Island buildings.....	312.67
Pay civilian employees.....	6,044.83
Traveling expenses civilian em- ployees.....	228.95
Traveling expenses Officers.....	106.78
Printing orders, etc.....	76.50
Transportation civil prisoners.....	7.72
Secret Service.....	50.00
Material for Police Headquarters..	46.30
Municipal salaries (Police)	2,727.79
Casket for civilian teamster.....	69.44
To Captain John Biddle, Corps Engrs. U. S. A., for construction of Fire Dept building..	9,821.00

Total..... \$ 61,705.23

PLACETAS:

To Capt. John H. Gardner, 2nd Cavalry, under appropriations..	
“Barracks and Quarters”.....	\$ 1,200.00
“Sanitation”.....	1,600.00

Total..... \$ 2,800.00

SANTA CLARA:

To Lieut. P. D. Lochridge, 2nd Cavalry, under appropriation “Barracks and Quarters”.....	\$ 4,957.00
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COLON:

To Capt. Logan Feland, 3rd Ken- tucky, for repair of Jail.....	314.86
To Capt. H. B. Chamberlin, A. Q. M., U. S. V., for Repair of Jail	685.14

Total..... \$ 1,000.00

PROVINCE OF MATANZAS:

To Capt. Arthur Murray, 1st Artillery, for payment of deficits of Terminos.....	\$ 65,000.00
TOTAL AMOUNT DISBURSED.....	\$135,462.23
Transferred to Maj. W. H. Miller, C. Q. M., U. S. V., Disbursing Quartermaster	\$ 6,320.51
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$141,782.74</i>

Respectfully Submitted,

W. H. MILLER,

*Major, C. Q. M., U. S. Vols.
Disbursing Quartermaster.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS
AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF DISBURSING QUARTERMASTER.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 6th, 1899.

The Adjutant General,

Dept. of Matanzas and Santa Clara,

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:

I have the honor to submit the following report covering the operations of the Office of Chief Quartermaster of the late Department of Santa Clara, from the date of the arrival of the troops, January 3rd, until the consolidation of the two departments into the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara and from that time to June 30th, as Disbursing Quartermaster.

The 6th Ohio Vol. Infantry accompanied the Commanding General from Charleston, S. C., to Cienfuegos, Cuba. Upon arrival two Battalions went into camp upon a tract of land previously selected by Capt. Walter B. Barker, A. Q. M., U. S. Vols., about three miles north of the city. An exorbitant claim for rent for this tract, was afterward made by the owner, and refused by the Military Authorities, since which time no further claim has been presented. The other Battalion went into camp about a mile from the city of Santa Clara, upon ground free of rent.

The 4th Tenn. Vol. Infantry was stationed at Sancti Spiritus and Trinidad, prior to the arrival of the Department Headquarters at Cienfuegos.

The 31st Michigan Vol. Infantry arrived by transport at Cienfuegos about February 1st, the Headquarters and a portion of the Regiment taking station at Amaro, where a tract of land was rented for use as camp site, for \$50, during the continuance of the camp; the remainder of the

Regiment was encamped at various points on the north coast.

One Battalion of the 3rd Regiment Engineers arrived February 9th, and went into camp about a mile from Cienfuegos, upon land rented at \$17 per month, remaining until early in April, when it moved into the old Spanish Barracks at Cienfuegos, which had been put in good condition at the expense of the Customs Fund.

The 16th Co., U. S. Vol. Signal Corps, arrived about the middle of January, and was encamped upon a tract of land adjacent to the city of Cienfuegos, without cost for rent to the Government.

Tent floors for the above commands were supplied from lumber received by the Chief Quartermaster from the Depot Quartermaster at Charleston, S. C.

Headquarters and 6 Troops of the 2d Cavalry, arrived by transport at Cienfuegos about February 20th, and went into camp adjacent to the city, upon land rented for the purpose, at \$50 per month, remaining until early in April, when Headquarters and 4 troops went into Barracks at Santa Clara, and two troops marched to take station at Placetás.

Two Battalions of the 2d U. S. Infantry, arrived at Cienfuegos about April 20th, 2 Companies going by steamer, one to take station in the old Spanish Barracks at Sancti Spíritus, the other in the old Spanish Barracks at Trinidad, relieving 2 companies of the 6th Ohio Vol. Infy., which had, a few days previously, relieved the 4th Tenn. Infy., to enable it to take transport for the U. S.; one company to Caibarién, one company to Remedios, (since to Caibarién), into Barracks which had been rented since March 20th, at \$300 per month; one to Sagua la Grande, into Barracks which had been rented since April 1st, at \$173.00 per month, with corral, and use of water, at \$ 60 per month; the remainder of the two Battalions, with Headquarters, went into the old Spanish Barrack at Cienfuegos, vacated by the Battalion of the 3rd Engineers, which, with the 31st Michigan Vol. Infy., sailed by transport, April 13th, for the U. S. The 3rd Battalion of the 2d Infantry arrived about May 30th, and took station at Cienfuegos, relieving two companies of the same Regiment, which were sent to the new Barracks at Paso Caballo.

The 16th. Co. Vol. Signal Corps left Cienfuegos by rail for Havana about May 6th.

In March a site was selected for Barracks, for Headquar-

ters, and four Companies of Infantry, at Paso Caballo, at the mouth of Cienfuegos Harbor, and construction was commenced early in April, continuing under payment from Customs Funds, amounting to \$40,382.52, until about the middle of June, when Quartermaster's Funds were made available for the continuance of the construction. The bulk of the lumber, together with the window sash, blinds, roofing tin, and gutters for the purpose, were purchased in the U. S. At the close of the Fiscal Year June 30th, the buildings were practically completed, with the exception of tile roofing for two barracks. No other buildings were erected in the Department under the direction of the Quartermaster's Department, with the exception of a warehouse, near the bay, at Cienfuegos, upon land rented for the purpose, together with the use of the adjacent wharf, at \$75 per month. Warehouses were rented in the city of Cienfuegos to accommodate property of the Department, and buildings for use as offices for the various Staff Officers.

A considerable quantity of lime was brought from Charleston, with the troops, and freely used as disinfectant, upon landing, particularly in the neighborhood of the docks, where it was much needed.

Forage for the use of the public animals was received by transport, and merchant vessels, from the U. S., at Cienfuegos, and from there distributed to the various Commands throughout the Department. Authority was obtained for the purchase of grass, in lieu of hay, for public animals, at the stations of the 31st Michigan Regiment, and report from the Quartermaster of the regiment states the experiment was successful.

The fuel for the use of troops was purchased at the different stations, at the average price of about \$3.50 per cord. It was found to be much cheaper to purchase wood locally than to ship it from the U. S.

The troops throughout the Department, generally, were early supplied with Khaki uniforms, and in a few instances Commanding Officers of companies availed themselves of an offer made by the Chief Quartermaster of the Division to supply the men of their commands with Panamá straw hats, at \$24, Spanish Gold, per dozen.

The question of water supply for troops was one requiring considerable attention, as at some stations, the supply was both limited and of an inferior quality. That for the troops at Cienfuegos, and in camp in its vicinity, was brought from Palmyra, a distance of about 12 miles by rail; the

Railroad Company being already provided with large tank cars. An attempt to drive a well near the Barracks, at Cienfuegos, by the Rand Well Drill Company, being unsuccessful, the outfit was moved to Paso Caballo, where at a depth of 78 feet a good quality of water was reached, which has been found ample to supply the wants of the post.

The disbursement of funds pertaining to the Quartermaster Department, throughout the Dept. of Santa Clara, was made mainly by the Chief Quartermaster, at Cienfuegos. The Quartermaster of the 4th Tennessee Vol. Infantry was supplied with funds prior to the arrival of Department Headquarters, and made disbursements in the region of his station, Trinidad.

The Chief Quartermaster of the Dept. received and disbursed, under the various appropriations and for the following purposes.

REGULAR SUPPLIES.

Purchase of fuel	\$ 3,958.21
For lighting public buildings, offices, etc.....	472.27
For payment of civilian employees.....	2,597.50
For purchase of kitchen utensils.....	167.50
For purchase of grass, in lieu of hay.....	259.91
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 7,455.39</u>

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

For payment of civilian employees.....	\$ 7,274.46
For pay of interpreters.....	1,816.01
For purchase of medicines, blacksmith tools, &c.	366.40
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 9,456.87</u>

BARRACKS AND QUARTERS.

For labor and material, construction of barracks at Paso Caballo.....	\$ 20,417.39
For rent of buildings used as warehouses, offices, etc.....	6,819.16
For labor and material, construction of ware- house, and miscellaneous purchases.....	2,899.71
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 30,136.56</u>

ARMY TRANSPORTATION.

For pilotage of U. S. transports in and out of harbor, lighterage, labor loading and unloading.....	\$ 15,145.80
For payment of civilian employees	19,965.99
For various expenses in supplying water to troops	1,291.96
For fuel for steam lighter "Laura".....	715.00
For labor in loading and unloading cars, vessels, etc.....	2,893.21
For transportation of building material and laborers to Paso Caballo	2,919.23
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 42,931.19</u>

CLOTHING AND EQUIPAGE.

For the purchase of various articles of equipage \$	26.85
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 26.85</u>

Respectfully submitted:

W. H. MILLER,

Major, C. Q. M., U. S. Vols.

Disbursing Quartermaster,

Late C. Q. M. Dep. Santa Clara.

APPENDIX "J"

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF CHIEF COMMISSARY.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 4th, 1899.

The Adjutant General.

Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara.

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:—

I have the honor to submit the following report relative to Subsistence affairs in this Department for the period from December 13th, 1898, to June 30th, 1899:

DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS.

Major E. F. Taggart, Chief Commissary, U. S. Volunteers, arrived at Matanzas January 10th, 1899, and was Chief Commissary of the Department from that date until May 1st, 1899. As his time and attention were almost entirely devoted to the relief of the destitute, the work of supplying the troops devolved upon the Purchasing and Depot Commissary, who practically made all requisitions and arrangements for the supply of the troops. Major Taggart was assisted in his relief work by Capt. Bean, 8th Mass. Vols., and Chaplain Saunders of the same regiment, and the Depot Commissary, Matanzas. A brief history of the Depot Commissary, Matanzas, will essentially cover the operations of purely Subsistence matters in the Department of Matanzas.

THE DEPOT COMMISSARY, MATANZAS.

I arrived at Matanzas December 13th, 1898, in the capacity of Purchasing and Depot Commissary, accompanied by a clerk without any experience whatever in the Subsistence Department, and proceeded to select a building for a Depot Commissary. This was no easy matter, as the most suitable buildings and locations were then occupied by Spa-

nish soldiers. The building selected was occupied January 6th, 1899.

A battalion of the 3rd U. S. Volunteer Engineers having arrived in December, 1898, and Brigadier General Sanger, U. S. V., having arrived January 1st, 1899, I had to borrow Subsistence property to enable me to make sales and issues until other property arrived. As each incoming organization was provided with thirty or more days of issue and sales stores, it was not anticipated that any demands would be made on the Depot Commissary so soon, but there being no suitable place for the organizations to store their supplies, upon arrival, all except what were required for immediate use were transferred to the Depot Commissary. While this resulted in a great saving for the government on account of the better protection of the stores, it imposed on my limited and inexperienced force of clerks and employees a tremendous amount of work, which was augmented by the condition of the stores received and the irregular and improper way in which invoices and receipts were made out by some of the volunteer Commissaries. The work of the Depot was further increased by the fact that almost simultaneously with its establishment, orders were given to issue rations to the destitute, and these orders varied in size from ten to thousands of rations. During January and February, in addition to supplying the troops of the Department, the Depot Commissary received from the «Comal» 175,000 Cuban rations and about 125,000 from Havana, and distributed and issued these in the Province of Matanzas. Captain Bean, 8th Mass. Vol. Inf., and Captain Golden, C. S., U. S. V., assisted in the distribution of those received from the «Comal». The city hospitals continued to be supplied in toto, including fresh meat, by the Depot Commissary until April 1st, 1899, and with fresh meat until May 31st, 1899.

From January to April 30th, 1899, the commands supplied from this depot were the 3rd U. S. Vol. Engineers; 12th N. Y. Inf., U. S. V.; 8th Mass. Inf., U. S. V.; 160th Indiana Inf., U. S. V.; 3rd Kentucky Inf., U. S. V., 10th U. S. Inf., and 2nd U. S. Cav., all of which were stationed at Matanzas except one battalion at Cardenas; and, during February and March, one battalion was stationed at La Unión.

There were issued to troops, during January, 1899, 142,600 rations; in February, 140,000; in March, 168,000; in April, 42,000. Total issues for the period January 1st to April 30th, 1899, 492,600 rations. The estimates of ra-

tions are based on the number of enlisted men present during the month.

The Depot Commissary was also a Post Commissary, as he made issues to a part of, and sales to the *entire* command. The sales from January 1st to June 30th, 1899, amounted to \$25,539.05. During this period there were sold at auction surplus stores amounting to \$2,209.38, condemned stores (butter received from Santiago de Cuba) amounting to \$84.00, condemned yeast cakes amounting to \$829.40, and 1151 lbs. of breakfast bacon, amounting to \$124.31, were destroyed. Total value of stores condemned and destroyed, \$953.71.

After the consolidation of the old departments, all posts in the Department of Santa Clara were partly supplied from this Depot.

DEPARTMENT OF SANTA CLARA.

On account of insufficient data, I am unable to report upon subsistence matters in this Department. For information see Captain E. B. Fenton's, C. S., U. S. V., report appended hereto.

From January 1st to April 30th, 1899, there were issued in this Department 324,700 rations.

DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

On April 17th, 1899, the Departments of Matanzas and Santa Clara were consolidated and known as the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara. by G. O. 84, c. s., A. G. O., and on April 22nd, 1899, I was appointed Chief Commissary of this Department by S. O. No. 94, c. s., A. G. O.

At this time the troops in the Department were the 2nd U. S. Cav., 10th U. S. Infy., and eight companies of the 2nd U. S. Infy., stationed as follows:

8 companies 10th Infy. and 6 troops 2d Cav., at Matanzas.

4 companies	10th Infantry,	at	Cárdenas,
1 company	2nd	"	" Sagua la Grande,
2 companies	"	"	" Caibarién,
3	"	"	" Cienfuegos,
1 company	"	"	" Sancti Spíritus,
1	"	"	" Trinidad,
2 troops of	"	U. S. Cav.	" Placetas,
4	"	"	" Santa Clara.

The first part of May, 1899, the garrison at Cienfuegos was increased by four (4) companies of the 2nd U. S. Infantry. At present the same troops occupy the above posts.

I assumed the duties of Chief Commissary May 1st, 1899, and found Subsistence affairs in the Department about as follows:

The Chief Commissary's office was practically without records or books that pertain to such an office; Caibarién, Placetas and Santa Clara had recently been occupied by their present garrisons and consequently had a small quantity of Subsistence supplies on hand; Sagua la Grande, Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus had a surplus on hand; the Depot Commissary, Cienfuegos, whence these places had been supplied, had a surplus of some and a deficiency of other articles; several posts were without Commissary Sergeants; the Post Commissaries, as a rule, were inexperienced and on account of the scarcity of officers had to perform other duties which interfered with their Commissary duties; the posts were numerous and the means of transportation poor--all of which made the work of this office very trying and arduous. Every effort was made to dispose of the surplus to the best of advantage. This was accomplished by transferring supplies from post to post, by sales at auction and to the Island of Cuba for the destitute. Notwithstanding this, the supply of the troops has been satisfactory, as but few complaints have been received.

The principal cause of complaint has been the uncertainty and insufficiency of the ice supply. All efforts to properly supply the troops with this necessary article have been unsuccessful and will be so, until more ice-plants shall be constructed in the Island. When the refrigerators now en route reach their destinations, every post in the Department will be supplied with one sufficiently large to hold fresh meat and perishable articles to supply the command; but without ice they will be of no value. For these and sanitary and economical reasons, I cannot urge too strongly that some action be taken to supply the deficiency in ice plants. During June it cost about \$1,600.00 to supply this Department with ice, and when the refrigerators are supplied, it will cost over \$2,000.00 monthly.

RATIONS ISSUED.

In May there were issued in the Department 102,400 rations; in June, 94,040.

Total issued in Dept. of Matanzas & Santa Clara.	197,440
" " " " " Matanzas	492,600
" " " " " Santa Clara.....	324,700
Aggregate.....	1,014,740

The climatic conditions here are such that stores very rapidly deteriorate, and wastage on bacon when it has been stored three or four months is about 15%. On this account the only way to properly supply the troops here is by small and frequent shipments.

The addition of fresh fish and dried fruits to the ration has been much appreciated and of great value to troops in this tropical climate.

Notwithstanding numerous attempts, I have found it almost impossible, where a guarantee is required, to make agreements or contracts for the supply of any of the posts in the Department with ice and fresh fish, consequently most of these purchases have been in open market.

EXPENSES.

The wages of clerks, messenger and interpreter, laborers by the month, day and hour, employed at the Depot Commissary from December 13th, 1898, to April 30th, 1899, amounted to \$2,312.26, and the wages of the same for both the Chief Commissary of the Department and the Depot Commissary at Matanzas during May and June, 1899, amounted to \$1,215.91; aggregate for the entire period, \$3,528.17. Total disbursements from December 13th, 1898, to June 30th, 1899, amounted to \$19,727.68. The amount disbursed is small, due to the fact that all purchases under contract were paid for by the Chief Commissary, Division of Cuba.

THE SUPPLY OF THE DESTITUTE.

In addition to his other duties, the Chief Commissary had charge of the distribution of rations to the destitute throughout the department, and *distributed* them to the *destitute* of the city of Matanzas.

Total number of rations issued to the destitute from January 1st to June 30th, 1899, was 1,930,130. A statement is appended, showing the distribution of these rations. In addition to the above, fresh meat was issued as follows:

From January 1st to April 11th, 1899, date of the Peace

Proclamation, to the city hospitals of Matanzas, 25,761½ lbs., value \$3,168.18. This was paid for from the U. S. Subsistence Funds. After April 11th, 1899, the fresh meat was paid for from the Customs Funds of the Island of Cuba. It was issued as follows:

April 12th to June 30th, 1899.

Hospitals and Asylums of Matanzas, 24,277 lbs., value	\$ 3,010.16
Hospitals and Asylums of Cardenas, 1,846 lbs., value	267.67
Hospitals and Asylums of Remedios, 648 lbs., value	93.96
<i>Total</i>	\$ 3,371.79
Total January 1st to April 11th.....	3,168.18
<i>Aggregate</i>	\$6,539.98

Great benefit was derived from the issue of this meat.

There has been a remarkable reduction in the number of the destitute since January 1st, 1899; so much so that, with very few exceptions, the distribution of rations is principally confined to the hospitals and orphan asylums.

Before closing this report, I cannot commend too highly the Commissary Sergeant, clerks and storekeepers employed by me, for the interest and zeal they have taken in their work. They have worked uncomplainingly, days, nights and Sundays; and had it not been for their willingness to do this, the vast amount of work could not have been accomplished with a much larger force in such a satisfactory manner.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the Department Commander for the cordial support he has given me in the performance of my duties.

Very respectfully,

M. R. PETERSON,

Captain and C. S., U. S. Army,

Chief and Depot Commissary.

OFFICE OF PURCHASING AND DEPOT COMMISSARY.

Cienfuegos, Cuba, August 1, 1899.

The Chief Commissary,

Department Matanzas and Santa Clara,

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:—

In reply to your telegram of July 29th asking for report of Subsistence matters in Santa Clara Province from the time of establishment of Department to consolidation with that of Matanzas, I have the honor to report that I arrived in Cienfuegos, Cuba, October 15th, 1898, Special Orders No. 232, A. G. O., dated Oct. 1, 1898, and assumed the duty of Purchasing and Depot Commissary at that station.

The first subsistence stores were sent from Havana, Cuba, by Colonel A. J. Smith, C. C. S., U. S. V., to Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus in December, 1898, for the 4th Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers, the first troops arriving in the Province. The stores came by rail from Havana and having received a telegram from Colonel Smith, to see them transferred to the boat, I did so with all possible dispatch, the stores leaving here in good condition on the steamer for destination.

The first subsistence stores for the depot arrived from Havana, Cuba, January 11th, 1899. Warehouses were hard to obtain, the owners of which wanted an exorbitant price for rental. The Depot Quartermaster secured the Lombard building on the Plaza, a two story building well adapted for a commissary warehouse below and offices above, at a rental of \$250.00 per month. Possession of the first floor was taken by me on January 15th, 1899, about which time the Chief Commissary of the Department arrived and established his offices in the building, occupying at least two-thirds of the second floor.

Beginning with the first lot, January 11th, 1899, stores were received from time to time from Havana, Cuba, and New York City in large quantities, necessitating the rental

of more store room, which was secured, conveniently located along the railroad tracks and near the wharf.

On January 22d, there was received from Havana, Cuba, 100,000 rations for issue to Cuban destitutes, necessitating the rental of a third warehouse which was secured adjoining warehouse No. 2. Up to the time of the consolidation of the Departments there were issued to destitute Cubans about 500,000 rations.

All the troops in the Province, consisting of the 4th Tennessee, 6th Ohio, 31st Michigan, and 3rd Regiment of United States Volunteers, 2d U. S. Cavalry, 2d U. S. Infantry and detachments of the U. S. Volunteer Signal Corps, stationed at different points, were supplied with stores from this depot, all shipments being made by rail with the exception of those to Trinidad, Sancti Spíritus and points near there, which were made by water.

E. B. FENTON,

Capt. and C. S., U. S. Vols.

Cuban rations issued in the Province of Matanzas from Jan. 1st, 1899, to June 30th, 1899.

TOWNS.	JAN.	FEB.	MARCH	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	Total rations.
Alfonso XII.....	15000		7500	.....	.....	.....	22500
Aguica.....		2400	1200	.....	.....	.....	3600
Altamisa.....		1800	900	.....	.....	.....	2700
Amarillas.....			9500	.....	.....	.....	9500
Bolondrón.....	3330		17400	1000	.....	.....	21730
Bermeja.....	3000		4500	.....	.....	.....	7500
Banagüises.....		1500	750	.....	.....	.....	2250
Cidra.....	15000		7500	.....	.....	.....	22500
Cervantes.....		4500	.....	.....	.....	.....	4500
Camarioca.....		8000	.....	.....	.....	.....	8000
Cabezas.....	15000		4500	.....	.....	.....	19500
Corral Nuevo....	2000		1500	.....	.....	.....	3500
Canasí.....		8000	5000	.....	.....	.....	13000
Corral Falso....	15000		7500	.....	.....	.....	22500
Cuevitas.....		4500	16000	.....	.....	.....	20500
Colón.....		7000	40000	.....	15000	.....	62000
Cárdenas.....			51000	.....	.....	12000	63000
Cimarrones.....		4500	9000	500	3500	.....	17500
Calimete.....		4500	2250	.....	.....	.....	6750
Cumanayagua....		5000	6250	.....	.....	.....	11250
Coliseo.....		4500	11000	.....	.....	.....	15500
El Roque.....		3600	1800	.....	.....	.....	5400
Guanábana.....	6000		3000	800	3060	.....	12800
Güira.....			4750	.....	450	.....	5200
Guareiras.....		4500	9000	.....	.....	.....	13500
Hato Nuevo.....		4500	16000	.....	.....	.....	20500
Isabel.....		13500	9000	.....	.....	.....	22500
Itabo.....		4500	15000	.....	.....	.....	19500
Jagüey Grande..	15000		7500	.....	.....	.....	22500
Jovellanos.....		9000	17500	.....	.....	.....	26500
Limonar.....		4500	16000	.....	.....	.....	20500
Matanzas.....	100000	75000	40000	40000	40000	40000	335000
Mocha.....	6000		5000	.....	.....	.....	11000
Maeagua.....		9500	17500	.....	.....	.....	27000
Manguito.....		1500	6000	.....	.....	.....	7500
Navajas.....	3000		1500	.....	.....	.....	4500
Palmillas.....		6000	3000	.....	.....	.....	9000
Pasajeros.....			.....	.....	5000	.....	3000
Perico.....			4500	.....	.....	.....	4500
Pijan.....		1200	609	.....	.....	.....	1800
Quintana.....		600	400	.....	.....	.....	1000
Recreo (change to Máximo Gomez)		4500	20000	.....	750	.....	25250
Retamal.....		15000	.....	.....	.....	.....	1500
Sabanilla.....	15000		17500	3000	.....	.....	35500
San José.....		6500	28000	.....	.....	.....	34500
San Pedro.....		4500	8500	.....	.....	.....	13000
Torriente.....	12000		6000	.....	.....	.....	18000
Unión.....	9000		4500	.....	.....	.....	13500
Yaguaramas....			.....	.....	2000	.....	2000
	234830	211100	465800	45300	69700	52000	1,078,230

Cuban rations issued in the Province of Santa Clara from Jan. 1st to June 30th, 1899.

From best obtainable information, 175,000 rations were landed from the "Comal" at Sagua la Grande during the month of February, 1899, and from there distributed to the surrounding country. This amount is included in the amount charged to Sagua la Grande below.

TOWNS.	JAN.	FEB.	MARCH	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	Total rations
Buena Vista.....					2000		2000
Caibarien.....		15000			6000		21000
Camarones.....					3000		3900
Cabaiguán.....				1000			1000
Cascajal.....				600			600
Ciego Montero...			5000	200			5200
Cienfuegos.....	4000	62700	18100	27200	4000	148001	130800
Cruces.....		10000			6000		16000
Esperanza.....					4000		4000
Fomento.....					2000		2000
Hormiguero.....	3000		2000		2000		7000
Lajas.....						6000	6000
Los Abreus.....					4000		4000
Morales.....		4000					4000
Paredes.....					3000		3000
Palmira.....		4000	5000	2000	4000		15000
Parque Alto Es- tate.....	3000						3000
Placetas.....					6000		6000
Ranchuelo.....					4000		4500
Remedios.....		500			9000		9000
Rodas.....			2000		1000		3000
Sagua la Grande.	15000	258000					273000
Sancti Spíritus...	15000				44500	50000	109500
San Diego.....						11000	11000
San Juan de las Yeras.....					2000		2000
Santa Clara.....	15000	45000	9500	25300	20000	50000	164800
Santo Domingo..					1000		1000
Soledad.....	2000	2000		1500			5500
Trinidad.....	15000				10000		25000
Yaguajay.....					10000		10000
	72000	401200	41600	147500	147500	181800	851900

APPENDIX "K."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF CHIEF SURGEON.

Matanzas, Cuba, July 31st, 1899.

The Adjutant General,

Dept. of Matanzas and Santa Clara,

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:—

I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Medical Department in the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara, and previously in the Department of Matanzas, during the present Military occupation from Jan. 1st until July 31st, 1899.

Prior to leaving the United States the Medical Department had made such ample provisions for the care of the sick in Cuba that never before, in that respect, was an army more completely equipped. So much had been written and said of a sensational character regarding the large size of the anticipated sick list, that we were fully prepared to treat in hospital at least 15 per cent. of the command, and with the two large general hospitals in Havana, the hospital ships and the various general hospitals in the United States, we were not in the least apprehensive that the sick would fail to receive the proper attention.

Upon the establishment of the Department of Matanzas, the Medical Department consisted of the Brigade Hospital of the 1st and 2nd Brigades, 2nd Division, 1st Army Corps, which was consolidated into one hospital known as the "District Military Hospital." This was located in a commodious villa situated on commanding ground overlooking the city and bay of Matanzas. As the building had a capacity of only fifty beds, an enclosure immediately adjacent to and to the north of the same was secured, where a number of pavilion wards under canvas were erected, thus expanding the Hospital to a total capacity of one hundred and fifty beds, with sufficient space for expansion to three

or four hundred should the occasion arise. A walled enclosure to the south of the main building afforded ample accommodations for the ambulance and wagon trains, coral men and teamsters.

In addition to the above, each regiment and detached battalion or organization was required to establish hospitals with a capacity of from ten to twenty beds each. These hospitals were complete in themselves as regards personnel and equipment, and were under the immediate control of the senior Medical Officer of each regiment or battalion.

The Military Hospital was under the command of the undersigned and consisted of a thoroughly equipped and organized field hospital of two hundred and fifty beds capacity, with sufficient supplies of medicines, hospital supplies and furniture to meet any requirements occasioned by an unusual sick report. Owing to the large quantities of Medical Stores on hand it was deemed necessary to establish a Medical Supply Depot, which was located in a convenient and commodious building in the city of Matanzas. Here all surplus supplies were stored ready for immediate use when required.

Soon after disembarkation a careful inspection was made of the entire section where it had been determined to locate the troops, including that portion of the city north east of the Yumuri river. This portion was thickly dotted with numerous small palm-leaf structures, generally designated reconcentrado huts, each of which was occupied by one or more families in abjectly destitute circumstances, living in indescribable misery, squalor, sickness and filth. Upon my recommendation, all of these huts north of San Isidro street in Versalles were, as a sanitary measure, destroyed, the occupants being paid in cash for the same, suitable temporary provision being provided for them by the Mayor of Matanzas. These buildings so burned in all amounted to about one hundred and fifty.

From the first day of landing strict sanitary regulations were enforced, and all medical officers were enjoined to report the slightest infraction.

The location of the military camp at Matanzas from a sanitary stand-point could not have been surpassed. It possessed every qualification for healthfulness and in addition was a glowing monument to the ingenuity and industry of the troops. The ground selected, although in the main level, was composed for the most part of irregular masses of what has been designated "dog-teeth" coral; at the first

glance it appeared impossible to utilize it for a camp ground, as with the greatest care it was difficult to walk over it in the day time, and impossible at night without risk of continually falling and injuring ones' self. But company streets were soon laid out in regular order, all sharp rocky projections were blasted off or otherwise demolished, all crevasses and holes filled in, fresh sand from the beach spread over all, tents were elevated on wooden frames and floors, and in a remarkably short space of time a model camp was established. All sinks were located overhanging the shore, garbage was removed daily, and urinals were located in each company.

Plants were established for boiling and filtering all drinking water. Ice and fresh meat was supplied in suitable quantities by the Commissary Department. Bathing facilities were ample and of easy access.

Daily inspections were made by the senior surgeon of each regiment and the Chief Surgeon made a weekly inspection of the entire command.

In addition to the daily cleaning and policing every tent was required to be especially cleaned and disinfected with a solution of bichloride of mercury at least twice a week. The floors and seats of all privies were similarly disinfected daily and the free use of lime in and around all privies, sinks, kitchens and tents was insisted upon.

About the middle of February a few cases of measles appeared. These were at once isolated and all the members of the regiments from which they came were individually inspected and examined by their Medical Officers. In this manner a few additional very mild cases were detected, immediately removed, all their belongings disinfected and the incipient epidemic effectually stamped out.

About the same time a few cases of typhoid fever developed. These first cases were directly traceable to infection before leaving the United States. Prompt and energetic measures were at once resorted to and an epidemic averted, although from time to time a sporadic case would appear.

On April 12th, 1899, a case of yellow fever developed in a trooper of the Second Cavalry, whose camp was located west of the city. The man had been absent in the slums of the town on a debauch for several days, so although the seat of infection could not be determined, it was presumed the disease was in no way connected with any unsanitary condition of the camp. He was at once removed to the District Hospital, isolated and eventually made a rapid

and successful recovery. His effects and those of his tent mates were thoroughly disinfected, as was also his tent and those of the entire troop. No further case appeared nor has one developed in the command to date,

Upon the evacuation of the city by the Spanish troops a large three story structure known as the "Santa Isabel Hospital", which had been occupied by the Spaniards as a Military Hospital, and turned over to the United States as Government property in the treaty of Paris, was inspected with a view of putting the same in proper condition for a Military Hospital for the U. S. troops.

Under my personal supervision this building was thoroughly cleaned and a frame structure in the rear enclosure which had been used as an isolation ward for small-pox and yellow fever destroyed by fire. My recommendation that this building be utilized for military purposes was concurred in by the Surgeon General, U. S. Army, as a result of a personal inspection made by him on January 12th, and after a long series of vexatious delays, funds were finally made available and the work of renovation begun towards the end of March. This building is at present almost completed, the finishing touches in the way of plumbing being all that remains to make it admirably adapted for hospital purposes.

Fortunately there has arisen no occasion of emergency requiring the use of this building, but had there been, the blame for not having it ready for occupancy on June 1st, or the nominal beginning of the unhealthy season, is directly due to causes exterior to this Department, over which we have no control.

In connection with the "Santa Isabel" Hospital, I would state that upon learning that this building, according to all laws of equity, was a civil institution, that it had been constructed for civil purposes and arbitrarily occupied by the Spanish for military use, and that as a result of such occupancy the sick of the city were crowded into a small villa used temporarily as a hospital, absolutely inadequate as such, and where their condition was something frightful and indescribably horrible, I made a strong effort to have this building returned to its rightful owners, at the same time submitting recommendations for additional arrangements and accommodations for the troops. During this period, as Chief Surgeon of the District of Matanzas, my recommendations were necessarily acted upon by the Chief Surgeon of the Department, who was opposed to surrender-

ing the building in question, and his views naturally prevailed with the Department Commander.

Whichever way the matter may be decided by the Commanding General of the Division, I am convinced that this building, from a standpoint of common justice and equity, belongs to the Province, and no efforts should be left unturned to have it returned to its legitimate use.

In the Department of Santa Clara, prior to the consolidation with that of Matanzas, the conditions existing as regards the troops differed in that there were a greater number of garrisoned towns, there being seven in all.

The Sanitary Inspector of the Department, Major Lewis Balch, Surgeon, U. S. Vols., made repeated inspections of these posts, and their sanitary condition was excellent when the Department ceased to exist. In accordance with this officer's recommendations the new post of Rowell Barracks at Paso Caballo was located, also the barracks at Caibarién and Placetas. A recommendation that a cantonment be made at Amaro was also submitted by this officer, but was not acted upon. This is worthy of very careful consideration should troops be kept indefinitely on this Island, as Amaro, from all reports, would be an ideal point for an inland garrison, possessing every natural advantage.

The troops in this command, with the exception of three companies of Infantry in camp at Rowell Barracks, are comfortably housed. All barrack buildings previously occupied have been so completely cleaned, disinfected and renovated that I do not believe there is the slightest danger from any previous infection that may have existed. All old vaults and cesspools have been cleaned, disinfected and filled in, and in many instances the "Reed latrine" or commode is utilized.

The quarters are well ventilated and lighted, the floor space is in many instances constricted, but owing to the open character of the buildings and the large veranda and porches surrounding them, the unsanitary features of this overcrowding are to a large extent minimized. The sanitary condition of the barracks can be considered excellent, and the same may be said of the command. Pursuant to Circular No. 2, July 8th, from your office, thorough cleaning and disinfection is constantly being done and the usual sanitary precautions incidental to garrison life are being rigidly adhered to.

All drinking water is boiled and in many instances filtered; bathing facilities are with few exceptions excellent;

the character of the food good, and the habits of the men in keeping with other commands of regulars with whom it has been my good fortune to serve. There has been much talk of the large percentage of venereal diseases amongst the men, and a personal and individual examination by the medical officers of the troops revealed the fact that although these statements have been to a certain extent exaggerated, the prevalence of venereal diseases in Matanzas is such as to exert a material effect upon the size of the sick report. In a total strength of 1,121 there are 150 sick, or a percentage of 13.3; of these 70 are venereal in character, or a percentage of 6.2, leaving a sick report of 7.1 % of other diseases, which at this season of the year is not excessive.

The most serious problem affecting the Commissary Department and vitally associated with modern sanitary conditions is that relating to the supply of ice for troops serving in the tropics. Civilization and sanitation have demonstrated that ice has long since ceased to be a luxury and become a necessity, consequently in the modern days of ice machines there is no excuse for the absence of this article in all of our garrisons. The present system of purchasing from outside parties, except in transient cases, is expensive, uncertain and in every way undesirable. Ice plants of sufficient capacity should be located in certain localities, which will be distributing points for the smaller garrisons. They should be under the direct supervision of the Commissary or Quartermaster Department. The system of having them under control of the Medical Department is unsatisfactory and does not fulfill the conditions requisite for service on this Island.

In this Department there are at present twelve Military Posts; of these three are in the city of Matanzas, and have but one hospital. At the remaining nine posts military hospitals of ample capacities have been established, and abundant facilities are at hand for taking care of a large sick list. These hospitals are located either in buildings especially rented for the purpose or in those vacated by Spanish troops, and which prior to occupancy were thoroughly renovated. They are fully equipped with all the necessary medicines and hospital and medical supplies, and in connection with each, suitable arrangements have been made for the isolation and proper care of any contagious or infectious disease that may occur.

Sanitary inspection of all posts in this Department are

made weekly by the Surgeons of the posts, and at frequent intervals by the Chief Surgeon and the regular Sanitary Inspectors. Reports of these inspections show that they are without exception in excellent sanitary condition. These reports have been submitted to your office.

The Medical Officers of the Department consist at present of

- 4 Majors and Surgeons, U. S. V.,
- 3 First Lieutenants and Assistant Surgeons, U. S. A.
- 32 Acting Assistant Surgeons, U. S. A.

These officers are capable and intelligent and perform their duties in an efficient and satisfactory manner.

The personnel of the Detachment of the Hospital Corps consist of:

- 6 Hospital Stewards.
- 17 Acting Hospital Stewards.
- 88 Privates of the Hospital Corps.

Of the total number of twenty-three Stewards (both grades) four are on duty in the offices of the Chief Surgeon, Sanitary Inspector and Medical Supply Depot; and of the other nineteen remaining two are sick, one absent on furlough and one soon to be discharged, thus leaving fifteen for duty, with one general and nine post hospitals. The Military Hospital in Matanzas requires at least four Stewards, each regiment in that garrison requires one for dispensary purposes, and each post in the remainder of the Department except Cienfuegos barracks, requires at least two. The quota of Stewards and Acting Stewards, including the four at Headquarters, should be twenty-seven for the Department. The number of privates of the Hospital Corps is insufficient to supply the regiments. For efficient service in this Department at present the various Detachments should be of the following strength:

Headquarters, etc.....	4	Stewards	4	Privates.
Military Hospital.....	4	„	30	„
Santa Cristina Barracks...	1	„	2	„
Hamilton „ ...	1	„	2	„
Rowell „ ...	2	„	10	„
Cienfuegos „ ...	1	„	6	„
Santa Clara „ ...	2	„	8	„
Cárdenas „ ...	2	„	8	„
Placetas „ ...	2	„	6	„
Caibarién „ ...	2	„	6	„
Sagua „ ...	2	„	6	„
La Popa (Trinidad) „ ...	2	„	6	„
Sancti Spíritus „ ...	2	„	6	„
<hr/>				
Total.....	27		100	

Five additional Stewards and twelve Privates of the Hospital Corps are therefore needed to complete the equipment of our hospitals. The term "Steward" is meant to imply either full Steward or Acting Hospital Steward.

When the command first landed the two consolidated brigade hospitals brought thirty-three female contract nurses. All but ten of these were ordered to return to the United States, and soon after one was received from Havana, thus leaving eleven nurses, who remained on duty at the Military Hospital until nearly the middle of June, when they were likewise ordered to the United States and their contracts annulled. Should the services of female nurses be required they can be obtained from Havana, and in cases of emergency the services of a local religious organization known as "Servants of Mary," who are nurses by profession, can be obtained at a moment's notice.

PUBLIC CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

When the United States Army first landed in Cuba the towns and cities in this department, like those in the balance of the Island, were in a most deplorable condition; destitution, hunger, disease and death were everywhere in evidence; such public charitable institutions as were in existence were overcrowded to an unprecedented extent and words fail to describe the utter misery of the wretched, starving inmates. Such in brief were the conditions found, and in addition to the other duties the supervision and relief of these public institutions was consigned to the Medical Department.

An inspection of all public charitable institutions was made in the city of Matanzas soon after landing, rations and medicines were as once issued and as soon as arrangements could be effected, fresh meat to the amount of one-half pound per capita was issued daily; in addition to the ration an allowance of condensed milk and in many cases canned tomatoes, potatoes and other articles were also given; fresh bread was substituted for hard tack; these issues have continued to the present time.

These institutions as soon as the Sanitary Department was organized were cleaned and disinfected, all vaults were thus treated and in many instances were filled in and portable sinks substituted, which are emptied daily by the Street Cleaning Department. In several instances, water being found scarce, an adequate supply was hauled to such institutions in Army wagons by the Quartermaster's Department, such being continued to the present time.

A villa located near "Santa Isabel" Hospital had been occupied as a temporary hospital since the civil inmates of the former had been evicted by the Spanish Military Authorities three years before. Here the condition of things was frightful to behold. One hundred and forty patients were crowded into a space which at the utmost should not contain more than sixty. Temporary tent pavilions were at once erected, floored and furnished with condemned medical property. This to a certain extent eased the congestion and afforded accommodations for thirty patients. As the deaths in this institution were frequent and the ameliorated condition in the city diminished the number of applicants for admission, the total number of inmates was gradually reduced until at present it consists of less than ninety. The building, however, as already expressed in this report and on many previous occasions, is totally inadequate, in a bad state of repair and should be vacated as soon as more suitable accommodations can be obtained.

The City Orphan Asylum consisted of one building for both boys and girls, its condition being greatly overcrowded. In conjunction with the Mayor I assisted in making arrangements for the establishment of a separate institution for boys. A suitable building was procured, cleaned, renovated and completely furnished with beds, bedding and other articles for domestic use from condemned medical property, sufficient to accommodate one hundred inmates. Owing to the large number of orphans and waifs on the streets or being taken care of by friends, the original

asylum, after the congestion had been relieved by removing nearly seventy boys, began rapidly filling up once more, until it became evident that still another institution would be necessary. This is now almost ready for occupation and the destitute orphans in the vicinity of this city may be considered as amply provided for.

Three public dispensaries were established in this city, amply supplied with medicines and surgical dressings, and put in charge of municipal physicians under the supervision of the Chief Surgeon of the District. Frequent inspections were made of all dispensaries and other public charitable institutions either by the Chief Surgeon or one of his Assistants, and any irregularities, neglect or other maladministration were reported to the Mayor and corrected.

The Chief Surgeon of the Department of Matanzas in the meanwhile had made a complete inspection of the Province. As a result the Mayors of each termino were instructed to organize their Sanitary Departments and thoroughly clean all streets, houses and enclosures. Medicines for the destitute were sent from the Medical Supply Depot at Matanzas to each town and every charitable institution in the Province.

Two orphan Asylums, one at Bolondron and a second at Máximo Gomez, each with a capacity of forty beds, were established and fairly well equipped with beds, bedding, furniture and domestic utensils. In the Province of Matanzas dispensaries were established at Colon, Jovellanos, Máximo Gomez, Limonar, La Union, Sabanilla, Cidra, Canasí, Palmillas, Manguito, Roque, and Casilda, twelve in all, for the destitute sick and amply equipped with medicines. Upon the consolidation of the Departments of Matanzas and Santa Clara the undersigned became Chief Surgeon. As no records containing a list of the charitable institutions, their conditions, requirements, etc., existed except for those in the city of Matanzas, a thorough inspection was made under the direction of the Chief Surgeon, he personally conducting many of them, of all such institutions pertaining to public charities in the Provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara. The result of the same was embodied in a special report to your office of June 22nd, 1899. A numerical summary of these institutions is hereto attached.

Soon after consolidation of the Departments Major J. H. Hysell, Surgeon, U. S. V., was designated to personally inspect all charitable institutions in the Province of Santa

Clara and organize a system of relief. This duty was performed by him ably and speedily. Food and medicines were promptly forwarded to all places in need of the same and free dispensaries were established at Cienfuegos, Santa Clara, Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus, Santo Domingo, Corralillo, Rancho Veloz, Yaguajay, Cifuentes, Lajas, Placetas, Ranchuelo, Esperanza and Cruces, fourteen in all, and liberally supplied with medicines and surgical dressings. A hospital and asylum was also started at Yaguajay.

The hospitals and asylums in this province were in a deplorable condition, the buildings out of repair and dilapidated, filthy, unsanitary, sadly in need of the most ordinary equipments, such as bedding and clothing, and destitute of all supplies. As a sanitary measure they were cleaned and rendered as habitable as possible, vaults and cess-pools were cleaned out and disinfected, and much accomplished towards making the inmates as comfortable as the circumstances permitted. Rations and medicines were freely given and whenever practicable fresh meat was issued.

Although much yet remains to complete the work thus begun, the Army may justly feel gratified at the vast improvement in the condition of the unfortunate inmates of these institutions. The hollow cheeked, hungry and forlorn faces of the children are no longer seen and all now appear well nourished and contented. The sick in the hospitals, though still requiring much, are at least surrounded by better sanitary conditions and receive sufficient food and proper medical treatment.

THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

The condition of Cuba before the military occupation from a sanitary standpoint is too well known to attempt even a vague description. The Provinces embraced in this Department were no exception to the rule, consequently immediate steps were taken after landing to inaugurate a sanitary system and put the same in force. The report of Major Lewis Balch, Surgeon, U. S. V., the Sanitary Inspector of the Department of Santa Clara, is hereto attached; this gives a summary of work performed in that Province.

Pursuant to G. O. 2, Headquarters Department of Matanzas, January 5th, 1899, Captain L. H. Mattair, 3rd Engineers, U. S. V., was detailed Sanitary Engineer and

the undersigned Sanitary Inspector of the City of Matanzas. Immediately upon the evacuation of this city by the Spanish troops, the Street Cleaning Department under Captain Mattair was organized and a thorough cleaning of all streets, houses and enclosures within the city limits begun. This work was ably managed and most admirably executed. A daily report was made to the District Commander detailing exactly what work had been accomplished. This report was submitted to the Sanitary Inspector, who caused the work so reported to be inspected by an Assistant Inspector in his Department, who in turn reported whether or not it had been properly done. In this way there was no spot in this city which retained any of the old dirt, with the exception of the vaults, cess-pools and privies, which I shall discuss separately. Coincidental with this work the Sanitary Inspector organized a system of house to house inspection. This was done by five Medical Officers of the Army who were designated as Assistant Sanitary Inspectors. During their inspections they were each accompanied by a municipal physician designated by the Mayor, an interpreter and a representative of the Street Cleaning Department. The city was divided into Districts and each party worked independently of the other. In this way the entire city was carefully gone over. A system of record cards was adopted, each card being devoted to one house. The data on these cards recorded the date, number of street, location, name of owner, size, number of stories, for what purposes used, name of family, number of families, of occupants, men, women, children, disposition of excreta, garbage, drainage; number, character and condition of closets, same of vaults and cess-pools; source of drinking water; general condition of premises, remarks. In addition each Inspector reported all cases of sickness, age and diagnosis, and whether evidences of starvation existed. These inspections compiled some valuable information and a brief summary of the result is hereto attached.

A system of diagram maps was started but never completed, owing to the departure of the battalion of the 3rd Vol. Engineers, a detail of which had charge of the work. These maps outlined all buildings in each block and gave the location of all closets, vaults, cess-pools and wells. They proved of valuable assistance in following the work of the Street Cleaning Department, and it is to be regretted that a requisition for funds for the completion of the same has been disapproved.

The subject of the cleaning of privy vaults, disposing of the excreta and ultimate establishment of systems to meet the peculiar conditions is one that merits the gravest consideration. A portion of the city is situated on ground but little above the sea level, and a system of dry earth, portable sinks will be necessary until some more permanent arrangement can be devised and established. Another portion of the city is above the level to which the city water works can deliver water. The intervening space is, in the absence of sewers, well adapted for cement lined vaults, and the introduction of modern water closet facilities. Orders have been issued by the municipal authorities, upon the recommendation of the Chief Surgeon, compelling all business houses to clean and thoroughly disinfect their vaults, wall with cement all those requiring it and to introduce modern water closets of such a character as to comply with certain sanitary limitations. This work must be completed before September 30th next, and will include about five hundred vaults. Four hundred have already been reported as cleaned and disinfected, and at an early date about two hundred will be cleaned and filled in, to be substituted by the portable sinks above mentioned, so that within a few weeks more than half the vaults will in good condition, and the remainder will be attended to before the new year. Of the above mentioned as having been cleaned, one hundred and fifty-four were done by the Street Cleaning Department, and these included those of the Palace, city jail and all charitable and public institutions.

After the first general cleaning of the city the work did not stop, but under the systematic management of Captain Mattair a permanent force was organized and the work carried on with such success that I do not believe there is a city on the Island whose streets, yards and enclosures are in a cleaner condition. This work, and all that of the Sanitary Department, has been much facilitated by the cordial relations existing between the military and the civil authorities, and especially by the universal willingness of all the people to acquiesce in our undertaking and give their individual assistance as far as possible. It is worthy of special attention that the Sanitary Inspectors have invariably been met cordially and affably by the inmates of the houses to be inspected, who not only put no obstacles in the way of the inspectors but actually rendered every assistance to make the examination as thorough as possible. In this connection I would also state that in my opinion the people are

making an earnest effort to abide by such sanitary regulations as are required, and that their natural tractability and submission to law will assist much in solving the problem of future sanitation.

It is impossible to enter into detail regarding the various ramifications of the Sanitary Department in this city. The water supply, including not only the city water works, but all cisterns and wells, all public buildings, the cemeteries, the public market, the abattoirs, the ice plant, all hotels, cafes, places of public entertainment, butcher shops, bakeries, grocers, fruit stores and all places for the sale of edibles, the milk supply and many other points of minor importance have from time to time received the personal attention of the Sanitary Inspector. Recommendations and improvements have been submitted and in most cases acted upon partially if not to the full extent. One inspection was never deemed sufficient but was invariably followed by others and the matter not allowed to drop until some action has been taken by the municipal authorities.

As far as possible all sanitary recommendations have been submitted to the Civil Authorities for execution and I have on all occasions found them anxious and willing to cooperate heartily in my schemes and undertakings. The local Sanitary Inspector, Dr. Schweyer, is an officer of push and energy, showing great activity and business-like ability in the performance of his duties.

This was particularly demonstrated in the manner in which he handled the recent case of yellow fever in this city. Being satisfied by a personal inspection that the case was one of yellow fever, I conferred with Dr. Schweyer, making certain general recommendations. In an unusually short space of time they were efficiently carried out, the patient removed, isolated and the house so thoroughly disinfected that a further spread of the disease was checked, although the case occurred in a thickly settled district on the San Juan river, near the market.

The Sanitary Work as described for this city has been carried out to a greater or less extent throughout the entire province, and it is fair to presume that all towns are in a good condition as to general cleanliness.

During the early inspections of the Department especial attention was directed towards the detection and prevention of small-pox. Twelve cases were found at Alacranes, a temporary hospital was erected and equipped by the Medical Department, the cases isolated, the community vac-

minated and further spread of the disease checked. Vaccine virus was given to all municipalities in liberal quantities and I believe that all communities in the Department are protected. Sporadic cases occasionally occur; each upon being reported is inspected and the community re-vaccinated when necessary.

One case of yellow fever existed in this city on January 1st, amongst the Spanish troops, which was attended by no serious results. On March 25th the case of a Spaniard of several years' residence in Cuba was pronounced yellow fever. On March 28th an American photographer, and on April 12th the soldier previously referred to, were taken sick and their diseases diagnosed as such. In addition to this, a case of yellow fever (*fiebre de borro*) occurred in a child four years of age. Prompt, vigorous and thorough disinfection and proper isolation prevented further spread of the disease in each instance.

Upon the advent of the unhealthy season all medical officers and municipal authorities were impressed with the importance of exerting extra vigilance and precautions, and to be unceasing in their inspections and unsparing in their use of disinfectants, lime and whitewash.

The seaport towns, being the most dangerous seats of possible infection, are more closely watched. Of these, after Matanzas, Cienfuegos presents the most serious aspect, on account of its location, peculiar unsanitary conditions and foreign commerce.

Major J. H. Hysell was designated as Sanitary Inspector of that section of the Department, with special instructions to devote his personal supervision to the health of the city. He assumed control of matters with energy and vigor, and his work up to date has met with the most gratifying results.

Owing to the development of yellow fever in Santiago and the Province of Puerto Principe, which assumed an epidemic form, and also to the fact that Havana is the well known center of infection on the Island, it was deemed necessary to adopt precautionary measures to prevent the importation of the disease into the Department.

We are so situated geographically and as regards railroad facilities that the ports of entry for disease are the seaport towns and the two railroads entering the Department from the west. Of the former on the north coast we have Matanzas, Cárdenas, La Isabela and Caibarién; on the south Cienfuegos, Casilda and Tunas.

In compliance with the wishes of the Department Commander, co-operative measures were adopted whereby the officers of the Marine Hospital Service, those of the Military Sanitary Department, and the Collectors of the Ports are working in unison towards the common end of a thorough protection against outside infection at all of the above mentioned ports.

From the west the two railroads entering this Department pass respectively through Matanzas and La Unión. A competent Inspector is located at each of these places, with orders to board all trains from the west at some point before reaching these cities. All passengers are inspected, being required to state from whence they have come and their destination. Should a case prove suspicious it will not be permitted to proceed further, and the railroad company will be compelled to transport it back to some point without the Department. All baggage, freight and express is examined, and according to instructions such as require it are disinfected.

Such, in brief, is the outline of the sanitary work in this Department. It is gratifying to be able to report that, according to present indications, the sanitary condition of the two provinces in this Department is excellent. This is demonstrated by the improved healthful look of the community, the large decrease in the death rate, the absence of all signs of starvation and the absence of yellow fever, with the sole exception of one sporadic case. Sanitary reports from the entire Department demonstrate a like condition in all sections. With the exception of the five cases which occurred in this city, there have been three in the Department, one each in Trinidad, Cienfuegos and Jovellanos, or a total in seven months of eight cases, which is probably unprecedented in the history of the Island. We are now well advanced into the unhealthy season, and everything points to a continuation of the present favorable conditions. It must be borne in mind, however, that the present methods of sanitation are but the forerunners of what remains to be done, and that unless a permanent, scientific, economic and efficient system be established the work already done will in great part bear little more than temporary fruit. No city in this Department has sewerage facilities, consequently the great problem for future sanitation is the establishment of the proper methods for collecting, removing and disposing of excreta and garbage. On that account extensive plants commensurate with the work to

be accomplished are indispensable, and it will be a very short sighted policy for those directing the future of the Island to begin economizing on things pertaining to the Sanitary. One epidemic of yellow fever in the south two years ago cost that section \$25,000,000.00, besides many valuable lives, which epidemic might have been averted by a smaller sum properly expended. It is to be trusted that a similar record may not be fastened upon the Army, which would be but just should every preventable evil not be corrected during the military occupancy.

The records of the mortality amongst the various municipalities in this Department are not at hand, but the accompanying table shows that in the City of Matanzas, which is submitted as a fair sample of the Sanitary improvement. In Cienfuegos, Cárdenas and other large cities the death rate has decreased in the same proportion.

The increased birth rate is due to the previous lax methods of enforcing registration, which is still very deficient.

In conclusion I would state that since my association with this command, which dated from December 3rd, 1898, when I reported for duty with the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 1st Army Corps, the health of the troops has been excellent. Prior to embarking for Cuba the Sanitary conditions in all camps of the Division with which I had the good fortune to serve were everything that could be expected, thereby resulting in as healthy and fine appearing a body of men as then existed in the Army.

It would not be inappropriate to state that the condition of almost perfect health in this command and its freedom from typhoid is the natural sequence of military sanitation systematically and thoroughly applied. The relative condition of the 1st Army Corps at Chickamauga and when disbanded was a practical demonstration of sanitary regulations properly carried out.

Upon leaving Chickamauga the state of affairs from all accounts was deplorable, on account of the now historical typhoid epidemic. Upon moving to Kentucky all camps were established upon principles of strict sanitation and were models in every way. Although many cases of typhoid developed as a result of previous inoculation in Chickamauga, few if any originated at Lexington.

The second move to Georgia occurred in November and the condition of the camps excelled that at Lexington, with the result that typhoid failed to develop and was practically wiped out of the 1st Army Corps. The camps in Cuba were

a still further improvement. The cases of typhoid previously referred to in this report occurred originally in one battalion of the 160th Indiana Volunteers, and were directly traceable to drinking impure water at a railroad station in Georgia on the way to Charleston to embark for Cuba.

The stamping out of this epidemic in the First Corps was due to the untiring energy of the General Officers in command. Not only were the recommendations of the Surgeons in the usual sanitary matters carried out, but owing to the close personal supervision by the brigade, division and corps commanders and repeated and careful inspections by them, the minutest detail affecting the health and cleanliness of the command received consideration. This was particularly evident to me personally in the case of Brigadier General J. P. Sanger, U. S. V., under whose immediate command I had the pleasure of serving.

I do not believe it possible with the present appliances to create a camp superior to that established by him in this city as far as the location, comfort and health in the command are concerned.

For the first four months of military occupancy the sick report was unusually low, and only began rising as recruits were substituted for older soldiers and the natural influences of the warmer weather began to be felt. In order to create a record no effort has been made to keep down the sick report, but on the contrary it has been brought to my attention that many Medical Officers are accustomed to place men on the sick report for minor febrile disturbances for the purpose of holding them under observation, lest their complaint develop into something of an infectious character; this, however, shows laudable and commendable zeal.

The Military Hospital at Matanzas has been most ably administered by Major W. B. Winn, Brigade Surgeon, U. S. V., assisted by Acting Assistant Surgeon D. W. Shelby, U. S. A. With an average of about seventy patients since its occupancy there has been from those admitted from the command but one death from disease, that of Acting Assistant Surgeon John V. Hamilton, U. S. A., which occurred on July 26th of uraemia, resulting from chronic interstitial nephritis of long standing. This hospital has always been clean, orderly and ever ready for the reception of cases. The attendants have been obliging, cheerful and efficient and no complaint of any kind or description has been received regarding it.

The records of this hospital show the following number

of sick: From January 1st to 15th the hospital was undergoing renovation and the average sick was only three. The number ranged from ten on January 16th to fifty-eight on the 31st, with a daily average of 36.25.

February	56.5
March.....	78.5
April	46
May.....	38
June.....	55.5
July.....	78
Average daily sick in Hospital.....	53

Owing to imperfect records in the office of the Chief Surgeon of the Department during the early period of occupation, records of the sick report amongst the command for the month of January are incomplete. The accompanying table gives a brief summary of the sick as reported to the Chief Surgeon of the Division. The minimum in April was due in great measure to the departure of the Volunteers and arrival of fresh troops. The latter, although unacclimated recruits, did not begin to show the effects of the climate for some time after their arrival. The number of sick has been gradually increasing and in July reached the maximum. This is in great measure due to the fact of there having been a double pay-day in the middle of that month.

In the Military Hospital in Matanzas the average sick from July 1st to 16th was sixty-four, and from 17th to 31st ninety-two.

The average daily sick during July was 265. Assuming the above figures as an estimate it is fair to presume that the same condition existed during the month, in which case the average daily sick from July 1st to 16th would be 213, 6%, and from the 17th to 31st 306, or 8.5%. This will show that the increase from June to July was 1.5%, which is about what should be expected, and the maximum will probably be reached in August at about 7.5%, when the rate will begin to decline. I believe that at this season of year pay-day exerts a very deleterious effect upon the command, not only on account of the drinking of intoxicants incidental thereto, but many men on these occasions frequent those portions of the city more liable to contain yellow fever and miasmatic infection.

The health of the command compares favorable with that of any in the Division. All Medical and line officers seem keenly alive to the importance of the sanitary situation

and are working diligently to prevent infection, and the fact of the absence of all traces of such indicates that up to the present time, at least, their efforts have been eminently successful.

The death rate in the Department has been unusually low. In the Department of Matanzas and later on that of Matanzas and Santa Clara there have been amongst the troops eight in all.

The causes of death are as follows:

Typhoid Fever.....	2
Accidental	3
Lightning	1
Suicide	1
Chronic Bright's disease.....	1
<i>Total</i>	<hr/> 8

Of the two typhoid cases that of Lieutenant H. E. Whitney, 2d Infantry, was imported from the Department of Havana, he reporting for duty whilst very ill, dying a few days later. So that practically only one man has died from disease contracted in this Department.

In the Province of Matanzas there has been no death amongst the troops except that from uraemia, previously referred to, since the military occupancy. This is an enviable record difficult to surpass.

Very respectfully,

FRANK J. IVES,

*Major and Surgeon, U. S. Vols.,
Chief Surgeon.*

NUMERICAL LIST OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT
OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

	MATANZAS.			SANTA CLARA.			TOTAL.		
	NUMBER	INMATES	CAPACITY	NUMBER	INMATES	CAPACITY	NUMBER	INMATES	CAPACITY
<i>Hospitals.</i>									
Civil-General	3	256	435	8	800	760	11	1056	1195
Male	1	85	100	1	24	40	2	109	140
Female	1	94	194	1	13	50	2	107	244
Private	1	10	47	0	0	0	1	10	47
Leper.	0	0	0	1	12	24	1	12	24
<i>Asylums,</i>									
Orphan.									
Male	1	70	75	0	0	0	1	70	75
Female	3	268	280	5	104	153	8	372	433
General	0	0	0	5	552	586	5	552	586
Widows and									
Orphans....	3	129	144	1	40	40	4	169	184
Destitute.	1	31	40	4	112	155	5	143	195
Aged	2	64	90	1	35	35	3	99	125
TOTAL.....	16	1007	1405	27	1692	1843	43	2699	3248
Dispensaries.	17	.....	.....	14	.....	.....	31		
Lazarettos ...	5	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	9		
Total institutions.	22	.....	.....	18	.....	.....	40		

In addition to the number of Lazarettos reported above, ample facilities have been made in each town in the Department for the proper care and isolation of yellow fever, small pox or any other disease requiring such.

**SUMMARY OF HOUSE TO HOUSE SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE
CITY OF MATANZAS MADE IN JANUARY, 1899, SOON AFTER
THE EVACUATION BY THE SPANISH TROOPS.**

No.	of houses inspected.....	5329
"	" families	7576
"	" occupants	36489

CLOSETS.**Condition:**

Good	834	
Bad.....	2670	
Very filthy.....	486	3990

CESS-POOLS.

Earth (without walls).....	1379	
Walled or cemented.....	322	
For kitchen use.....	404	
Unclassified	347	2452

Condition:

Good	792	
Bad.....	1489	
Very filthy.....	168	2452

SICK.

Adults.....	1175	
Children	459	1634

WATER SUPPLY.

Hydrants (houses using).....	2221	
Wells " "	1627	
Cisterns " "	50	
Vacant.....	361	
Versalles (not classed).....	539	5329

TABULATED STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF DEATHS IN THIS CITY, FROM DECEMBER 1st, 1898, TO JULY 31st, 1899, GIVEN ACCORDING TO SEX, COLOR AND RACE, TAKEN FROM THE CIVIL REGISTER IN THE PALACE AND MERCADO DISTRICTS.

MONTHS.	WHITES.		COLORED.		CHINESE.		TOTAL.
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
December, 1898.....	207	133	40	64	5	0	449
January, 1899.....	161	98	21	39	4	0	323
February, 1899.....	100	84	34	37	2	0	257
March, 1899.....	79	61	28	34	3	0	205
April, 1899.....	55	40	18	20	3	0	136
May, 1899.....	44	53	18	15	1	0	131
June, 1899.....	44	34	17	21	2	0	118
July, 1899.....	47	43	16	14	2	0	122
TOTAL.....	737	546	192	244	22	0	1741

The population, according to the census taken by the Sanitary Department in February, was 36,489; a second inspection the following month showed an increase. Including the American troops it is fair to assume the average population to be 40,000 for the seven months, in which case the monthly death rate per thousand would be:

	Total Deaths per month.	Monthly rate per 1000.	Annual rate per 1000.
December.....	449	11.22	134.5
January.....	323	8.07	96.87
February.....	257	6.42	77.1
March.....	205	5.12	61.5
April.....	136	3.40	40.8
May.....	131	3.27	39.3
June.....	118	2.95	35.4
July.....	122	3.05	36.6

The annual death rate in certain cities of the United States is as follows:

New Orleans.....	28	per 1000
Washington.....	26	" "
New York.....	24	" "
Boston.....	24	" "
Chicago	21	" "

Average death rate for the five cities, 24.6.

The ratio of 36.6 per 1000 is not an excessive one when all the circumstances attending the recent revolution and the natural unsanitary conditions of the city are taken into account. I would also state that this death rate, although not specially small, shows a marked and steady improvement in the condition of affairs, for although that of July is slightly in excess of June it must be borne in mind that owing to the natural increase due to the presence of the midsummer season, under normal conditions it should be at least 10% larger, whereas in reality there is only an increase of 3%.

TABULATED STATEMENT GIVING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS IN THE CIVIL HOSPITALS OF MATANZAS FROM DECEMBER 1ST, 1898, TO JUNE 30TH, 1899, TAKEN FROM THE RECORDS IN THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR.

MONTHS.	Hospital Santa Isabel.	Hospital San Nicolás.
December, 1898.....	61	51
January, 1899.....	48	15
February, 1899.....	36	20
March, 1899.....	23	17
April, 1899.....	24	11
May, 1899.....	20	10
June, 1899.....	16	10
July, 1899.....	13	...
TOTAL.....	241	

TABULATED STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS IN
MATANZAS FROM DECEMBER 1ST, 1898, TO JUNE 30TH,
1899, TAKEN FROM THE CIVIL REGISTER.

MONTHS.	WHITES.		COLORED.		All others.		TOTAL.
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
December, 1898.....	10	10	0	2	0	1	23
January, 1899.....	9	5	0	0	0	0	14
February, 1899.....	10	10	1	0	0	1	22
March, 1899.....	9	14	0	0	0	1	24
April, 1899.....	23	19	0	3	2	1	48
May, 1899.....	36	34	2	2	7	10	91
June, 1899.....	29	37	5	4	3	3	81
TOTAL.....	126	129	8	11	12	17	303

DISEASES.	FEBRUARY	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.
Diarrhoea	328	147	83	64	67	156
Dysentery.	28	25	12	10	12	21
Malarial Fever (Slight.).....	118	212	257	178	192	400
Malarial Fever (Grave.).....	12	12	0	3	1	1
Typhoid Fever.	5	6	2	2	4	3
Yellow Fever.....	0	0	1	0	0	0
Small Pox.....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fever not classified.	29	44	1	0	6	6
All Other Diseases.	476	533	517	215	349	586
TOTAL.....	996	979	873	472	631	1173
Returned to Duty.....	737	822	749	421	549	1002
Transferred or otherwise dis- posed of.....	70	55	64	24	36	80
Died.	1	0	0	2	2	3

**TABULATED STATEMENT BY MONTHS OF THE AVERAGE DAILY
SICK, MEAN STRENGTH OF COMMAND, AND CONSTANTLY
NON-EFFECTIVE PER 1000 MEAN STRENGTH.**

<i>1899. MONTHS.</i>	<i>Average Daily Sick.</i>	<i>Mean Strength.</i>	<i>Constantly Non-Effective per 1000.</i>
January.	45	3621	12.46
February.....	198	5225	37.89
March.....	224	4369	51.27
April.	150	2939	51.03
May.....	202	3408	59.27
June.	205	3285	62.43
July.....	265	3487	76.00
7 Months.	184	3762	48.94

Constantly non-effective per 1000 U. S. Army, 1897, 35.85
 Annual Death Rate per 1000 (ratio)..... 3.84
 Annual Death Rate per 1000 U. S. Army, 1897..... 5.11

Very respectfully,

FRANK J. IVES,

*Major and Surgeon, U. S. Vol's.,
Chief Surgeon.*

APPENDIX "L"

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 3rd, 1899.

To the

Chief Surgeon,

Dept. of Matanzas and Santa Clara,

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:

In reply to your verbal instructions that I submit a report on the sanitary work done by me since January 1st, 1899, in the Provinces of Santa Clara and Matanzas, the following is respectfully submitted:

January 8th the city of Santa Clara was visited and reported against as a station for troops at that time, small-pox existing there.

It being necessary to choose some permanent location for the camping of troops in Cienfuegos, or the building of a post, a report was submitted on January 13th to the Department Commander recommending two stations, one Rosario, a destroyed sugar estate about ten miles east of Cienfuegos, the other Paso Caballo, at the mouth of the harbor.

From January 14th to January 20th the towns Yaguaramas, Abreus, Rodas, Cartagena, Santo Domingo, Rodrigo and Quemado de Guines were visited. This inspection was made in company with the Provost Marshal of the Department and a mounted escort, and was made to learn, not only the sanitary conditions of the places visited, but also the state of the people and municipal affairs.

On January 20th Sagua la Grande was reached and from that place up to February 12th the towns of Isabela, Camajuaní, Placetas, Caibarien and Remedios were visited, examination of sanitary conditions and needs made and reported upon. The local authorities were conferred with

and advised what to do to better the existing state of affairs. The sanitary requirements of all places were great, although some efforts were being made to clean up, and as there was no money anywhere the problem of relief was not easy of solution. In several cities, such as Santa Clara, Remedios, Sagua la Grande, Cienfuegos, Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus, there were hospitals which received the sick of certain districts smaller towns being unprovided with hospitals. These institutions were all found in poor condition, some being deplorable.

Several reports up to the present time have been presented, setting forth the needs of these hospitals, and some of the suggestions have been partially carried out. The hospitals at Santa Clara, Sagua la Grande and Remedios are still in sad need of change. The hospital at Santa Clara has twice been reported as unfit for occupancy, but so far no other building has been provided. The hospital at Remedios is in much the same condition, and while other hospitals have been advised to be established at various places, as yet nine have been put in readiness to properly care for the sick.

In February further visits were made, the object being the same, viz: the betterment of the sanitary conditions. Small pox was present in several places when we took possession. As already stated it existed in Santa Clara, but reports shortly came in saying that other places were also infected. Sagua la Grande, Cifuentes, Cascajal, Los Guayos and Ranchuelo all reported small pox, the last named suffering from quite a serious outbreak.

The Chief Surgeon of the Department of Santa Clara promptly forwarded supplies of vaccine virus and medicines and local physicians were instructed to isolate the sick and to institute general vaccination. Not only the infected places were vaccinated, but virus was furnished other towns so that protection might be had, and in March the disease was stamped out.

In March, on the 9th, there was a careful examination of Paso Caballo, and a second visit later in the month for further study of water supplies was undertaken. The place was decided upon for a permanent post and the building of barracks begun. The northern towns in Santa Clara Province were also again visited to locate quarters for troops, and as a result buildings suitable for barracks were selected in Sagua la Grande, Placetas and Caibarien. Remedios was temporarily the station for a company, but was not consid-

ered a desirable or safe place for a garrison. I may state here that the question of making Remedios a station instead of Caibarién again came up in May and further inspection and reports had to be made, ending finally in its rejection. During visits made in March improvement was noticed in the cleanliness of the different places, but much still required to be done. There was no money to do work with and consequently but little headway could be made.

In April the stations in Sagua la Grande, Placetas, Caibarién and Remedios were again looked at, the quarters of the troops receiving special attention, and suggestions for their improvement were submitted.

In May an extended tour of inspection was made in company with Col. F. D. Baldwin, Inspector General, Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara. This consisted in not only examining sanitary matters but also in collecting statistics as to death rate, widows and orphans, hospitals, asylums, water supplies and all matters having to do with the health of the communities. This work was continued from the 1st to the 28th, and I personally visited the following places, the sanitary condition of many being found much improved: Sancti Spiritus, Trinidad, Yaguaramas, Agnada de Pasajeros, Carmina Real, Rodas, Cartagena, Palmira, Fernando de Camarones, Ranchuelo, San Juan de las Yeras, Santa Clara, Placetas, Remate, Menenses, Yaguajay, Buena Vista, Caibarién, Remedios, Camajuaní, Vueltas, Calabazar, Sagua la Grande, Quemado de Güines, Rancho Veloz and Corralillo. Hospitals for the troops were also located. Over two hundred miles were covered in the saddle.

Early in June Cárdenas was visited, barracks and charitable institutions being examined, and later on again went to Sagua la Grande, Placetas, Caibarién and Remedios, finding much improvement in the cleanliness of these places and the troops in excellent health. On returning from this tour the Department Commander called for a report upon the garrisoning of troops in cities, and one was submitted on the 16th. In this report the general ground was taken that as far as possible troops should not be quartered in cities. This from a sanitary point of view, for it is well known that the cities are greater centers of contagious disease than smaller towns or country districts. In a report submitted March 21st, 1899, the recommendation was made that a cantonment be established at Amaro for the troops in the northern part of Santa Clara Province. Amaro is

about ten miles south from Sagua la Grande and has an excellent water supply, and it was suggested the removing to this place the garrisons of Sagua la Grande and Caibarién. It has already been stated above that Paso Caballo was advised and the advice acted upon for the station of troops in Cienfuegos. While extra expense is caused by such stations in their preparation and the construction of proper quarters, the health of the men who serve in Cuba would be protected by being so quartered and expense should not be a consideration. I quote from the report referred to: "The garrisoning of posts throughout the island is for the benefit of the island to enable its people to recover from years of war and business depression. The sending of troops here cannot be for the benefit of the United States, for the occupation is but for such a length of time as will insure the establishment of a stable government by the natives, and then our troops are to be withdrawn. It is clearly a logical sequence that if the necessity for our soldier is not for the good and benefit of our own country those receiving the benefit should pay the cost of it, therefore, the housing of the men should be paid for from the revenues of the island. And certainly no better use can be found for these revenues than guarding the health of those who are here to enable the collecting of the revenues in peace. Cuba will not pay the pensions that follow the loss of our men in her defense. That charge will be a burden on our own tax-payers. It is but fair, therefore, that such prospective burden be lightened to the uttermost".

In July Cuevitas and Cardenas, both in Matanzas Province, were visited, and Santa Clara, Placetas and Caibarién in Santa Clara Province. Everywhere marked improvement was found in general sanitation, more activity in local authorities and a better mortuary record. The troops also were found to be healthy and no disease of a contagious nature was found anywhere. Many things still remain to be done to better and to maintain the good condition prevailing at present.

The state of the hospitals and failure to relieve their crying needs has already been referred to. In order to continue as has been inaugurated, to keep up the present high state of cleanliness, money must be used freely, for the municipalities as yet have received but little from local taxation.

The work of sanitation that has been carried on in the Department since the occupation may be fairly said to

have conduced in no little measure to the excellent health record and freedom from epidemics which is now experienced.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

LEWIS BALCH,

*Major and Brigade Surgeon, U. S. Vols.,
Sanitary Inspector.*

APPENDIX "M."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 7th, 1899.

The Adjutant General,

Dept. of Matanzas and Santa Clara.

SIR:

I have the honor to make the following report on the operations of the Engineer Department from arrival in Cuba to July 1st, 1899.

I arrived in Trinidad, Cuba, on December 5th, 1898, with the 4th Tennessee Volunteers, and assisted in placing them in camp at that point and at Sancti Spiritus, making examination of the country and riding from Trinidad to Sancti Spiritus on horseback.

I was then ordered to Matanzas and have been here since that time.

A battalion of the 3rd U. S. Volunteer Engineers under Lt. Col. Jadwin and Major W. Walke, was on duty at Matanzas from December 22nd, 1898, to April 15th, 1899, and was placed directly under my orders.

On the arrival of this battalion, which until the late afternoon of January 1st, 1899, were the only troops on duty at this point, there were 15 to 20 thousand Spanish soldiers in the city assembled from different towns in the Province.

The camp established was within the city limits, but the landing of the Engineer Battalion had to be made on the San Juan River and all property carried out in wagons to the camps, which was quietly and promptly done. Before the arrival of the troops January 1st the battalion had built a dock at the camp for unloading.

On this battalion devolved the honor of receiving the city and Province of Matanzas from the Spanish authorities. This ceremony took place with all military ceremo-

nies at noon, at Fort San Severino and the City Hall. For several days and nights the battalion acted as Provost Guard and with the co-operation of the Spanish and Cuban officials maintained perfect order and quiet in the city. This was done without difficulty, due, in great part, to the orderly nature of the Cubans and of the Spanish soldiers themselves. The latter and the U. S. soldiers were at all times on good terms, the Spanish soldiers visiting the camps and observing everything with the greatest interest.

The work performed by this batttalion was, in addition to the regular drills, parades, etc.:

Building pile and stone wharf near camps.

Building pile wharf at Custom House dock.

Laying out and preparation of camp sites and target ranges for all troops.

Repair and building of roads leading to and around camp.

Laying of water pipe to camps, construction of troughs, general control and supervision of water supply for troops. This necessitated considerable labor and constant care.

Survey of forts and batteries.

Bringing in of guns and carriages from outlying batteries.

Under Captain Mattair, 3rd U. S. V. Engs., superintendence of cleaning and sanitation and surveying of the City of Matanzas.

Making plats and estimates of all public buildings in the Province.

Investigation of water supplies.

Copying and distributing of maps.

Reconnaissance with troops and singly, covering the greater part of the Province.

The work of this battalion throughout was most satisfactory. The officers and many of the men had education and experience in different branches of engineering, and the men were practically all efficient in some mechanical trade.

In addition they were willing, hard-working and anxious to do their duty. The discipline was always excellent.

When the regiment returned to the States a number of the battalion were mustered out here and have done work in this office. Among others, Captain Mattair, who is still in charge of street-cleaning and sanitation, has succeeded in keeping the city clean, and, cooperating with the Medical Department, healthy.

The following special reports have been submitted in connection with work performed:

By Captain John H. Westerfield, Co. "M", 3rd U. S. V. Engs.

Report and estimate for repairs to Santa Isabel Hospital in Matanzas.

Estimate for reconstruction of light house and keeper's dwelling on Diana Cay in Cárdenas Bay.

Report on town of Colon, its sanitary and financial condition.

Report on the City of Cárdenas.

Report on investigation of certain dikes near the town of Recreo (Máximo Gómez) which are a menace to over 5,000 acres of surrounding country.

By Captain F. C. Hand, Co. "D", 3rd U. S. V. Engs.

Report on railroads in the Province of Matanzas.

By 1st Lieut. Elmer Zarbell, 3rd U. S. V. Engs.

Report on camp sites in vicinity of Matanzas.

By 1st Lieut. Walter S. Brown, Co. "D", 3rd U. S. V. Engs.

Report on reconnaissance between Matanzas and Cárdenas.

Report on camp site at Cárdenas.

Report on installation of water plant to carry water from Paseo de Santa Cristina to the Brigade Hospital.

By Lieut. Col. F. D. Baldwin.

Report on reconnaissance from Matanzas to Canasí and return.

By 1st Lieut. E. M. Learv, 2nd U. S. Cavalry.

Report on reconnaissance made in accordance with S. O. 44, Headquarters Department of Matanzas, dated March 1st, '99, extending from March 3rd to March 21st.

By Lieut. Frank Tompkins, 2nd U. S. Cavalry.

Report on reconnaissance made in accordance with S. O. 48, Headquarters Department of Matanzas, dated March 4th, 1899, extending from March 8th to 21st.

By Captain Fred S. Foltz and Lieut. W. F. Clark, 2nd U. S. Cav.

Report on reconnaissance trip with troop of cavalry from April 18th to May 9th, circling around the whole Province.

By H. W. Frazer, Civil Engineer.

Report and estimate of cost of necessary repairs on road from Vega de Palma to Vuelta.

Report and estimate on cost of repairing and constructing proposed road from Caibarien to Remedios.

The work performed by the Battalion 3rd U. S. Volunteer Engineers in the Province of Santa Clara, between February 10th and April 10th, is given in the appended report of Col. Gaillard.

The work done in the office has been the copying and preparing as well as distributing of maps, the photographing of forts, buildings, blockhouses and other points of interest, preparation of plans for buildings, the superintendence of cleaning and sanitation of cities, etc.

Special reports have been submitted as follows:

Report on the Province of Matanzas, pertaining particularly to topographical features and amount of cultivation.

Project on cleaning the City of Matanzas, with estimate of running expenses.

Report on water works system in Matanzas.

Project for cleaning the City of Cárdenas, with estimates.

Report on needs of repair to public wharf at Matanzas, with estimates.

Report on condition of the Government wharf here, with recommendations for a new system of wharves and approximate estimates for same.

Recommendation on light-house at Diana Cay, Cárdenas Bay.

Report on prison at Colon.

Report on works of defense, permanent and temporary, of the City of Matanzas, in accordance with instructions from Headquarters, dated March 25th, 1899.

Report on water system at Trinidad.

Report and recommendations, with estimates, on necessary public works in the Department, covering certain surveys, repair of forts, building and repair of roads in the country and certain railroads, at a total estimated cost of \$580,000.00, \$197,000 being asked for the first month; street

cleaning and repair, and sanitation six months, \$336,000; for the first month \$172,000.

Report and recommendations with estimates for sanitation and cleaning of the town of Santi Spíritus.

Report on water supply of Cienfuegos, recommending prospecting for artesian water.

Report of trip in Santa Clara Province, with recommendations for engineering work desirable.

Project on repair of streets and roads in and about Matanzas, recommending allotment of \$20,000.00 with which to carry it out.

Report on trip made from Bolondron to the mouth of the Hatiguanico or Gonzalo River.

Report and estimate for building of bridge over San Juan River, calling attention to the bridge, San Luis, over the river at present, which is worn out, the estimate being \$30,000.00.

Estimate for repair of streets in Matanzas.

The only sums actually disbursed by me have been \$4,000.00 for wharf, \$9,128.00 for Fire Department building at Matanzas (incomplete), and \$20,000.00 for streets and roads in and about Matanzas. The latter amount has not been all expended. The work of street repair is under the immediate charge of Mr. J. E. Ainsworth, formerly belonging to the 3rd U. S. V. Engs. It is, generally speaking, of a sanitary nature.

The amounts expended for sanitation have been disbursed by the Quartermaster's Department, but this office has assisted in making estimates and carrying out the projects. The same is the case with the endeavors to find water by boring. A well at Cienfuegos had to be abandoned at 275 feet without reaching water; one at Matanzas at which work is still continuing has not yet struck water, although 500 feet deep and about 400 feet below sea level. On the other hand a well at Paso Caballo 78 feet deep gives a good water supply.

The efforts at sanitation have resulted in keeping the cities and towns clean and free from disease. The principal towns have been or will be provided with odorless excavators for cleaning vaults, with tools, carts, mules, etc., belonging to the city and forming a permanent department.

The water supply is the most difficult question to handle satisfactorily. At Sagua, Sancti Spiritus and one or two smaller towns the supply seems sufficiently good. At all other cities and towns it is either insufficient or of poor

quality, or both. At Matanzas the supply is from a large spring and is good but insufficient, due to small size of main pipe; Cardenas from an underground stream of doubtful quality; at Cienfuegos from a creek, very insufficient and of doubtful purity. In the other towns, except Sagua, from a spring, and Sancti Spiritus, from the river, it comes from wells or cisterns. In these cases, as in various reports submitted, there are good available sources of supply, but more or less distant and expensive to reach.

For the smaller towns wells and cisterns will probably meet all requirements for some time. At Bolondron, for instance, there is a driven well just outside of town which pumps water into a tank and distributes it throughout the town. At almost all railroad stations and sugar mills, there are wells pumped by steam or ox-power.

Waterpower can be obtained in small quantities at a number of points. The scarcity in dry seasons makes it generally of not very great value. It is, however, used to some extent, as in the ice plant at Matanzas, the dam being originally built for a sugar mill. In the hilly country it can doubtless be used for a limited power.

The mineral resources have been but little developed. A copper mine called Menendez, near Manicaragua, has been worked. It is now idle but rumored to start in again.

The mountains between Trinidad and Cienfuegos and Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus are reported to contain gold, iron, copper, asbestos and other minerals. While they have been prospected to a certain extent, nothing definite has been done.

The lumber supply comes mostly from the mountains and in the marshy country around the Cienaga Zapata. Generally speaking, the trees are not large, it being difficult, for instance, to get piles over forty feet. The quality is good, being hard and durable. Palms, cedar, mahogany, júcaro, acana, juiquí, caoba, sabicú, ocuñe, dagame, arabo, moruro and yaba are the principal timber in the market.

RAILROADS.

The railroads of the two provinces were reported by Captain F. C. Hand, 3rd U. S. V. Engs., for Province of Matanzas, and Captain Wm. Bailey Thomas, 3rd U. S. V. Engs., for Santa Clara Province, these having already been forwarded.

In Matanzas Province there are three systems, the United

Railroad of Havana, the Matanzas Railroad and the Cárdenas and Júcaro Railroad.

The mileage is 445 miles, exclusive of private sugar lines and including short pieces in Santa Clara Province. The only extension contemplated at present is from Esles, in Santa Clara Province, on the Matanzas Railroad, to a point on the Central Railroad, to join Matanzas and Havana with Cienfuegos.

The stockholders are said to be usually sugar planters and English.

In Santa Clara Province the three principal lines have recently been united into one, called the Cuban Central, with 195 miles of road, owned, I believe, by an English syndicate.

The Matanzas Railroad and the Cárdenas and Júcaro Railroad have about 60 miles of line in this province.

The road from Tunas de Zaza to Sancti Spiritus, 24 miles, is a rough piece of road owned by Cubans. All of these roads need considerable repair.

Extensions in several directions, notably Placetas, or Santa Clara to Sancti Spiritus, are said to be contemplated, but are not yet begun.

The total mileage in operation in the department is 664 miles, besides a large quantity of private line, some standard and some narrow gauge.

RECONNAISSANCES.

Reconnaissances on foot and on horseback have been made of the Provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara by officers and men of the 2nd U. S. Cavalry and 3rd U. S. V. Engineers. These are being consolidated into a general map of each province, which will be forwarded as completed.

Blue prints of the reconnaissances and of the principal towns are appended. While they are submitted, in accordance with orders, as being drawn, it would be much more satisfactory to hold them until the general map is completed, and they would be more useful and plainer to understand.

A list of blue prints is appended.

Estimates and projects for various public works have been submitted by this office, as appear in above list, but for which funds were not granted.

This includes repair of principal forts; surveys of harbors, for improvement, either immediately or later; surveys

for study of drainage and reclamation of low lands; building highways; development of water supplies; continuation of repair of city streets; building of certain important bridges; repairing Government railroad.

The Civil Department of Public Works, of which this, the central region, is under direct charge of Mr. Portuando, has been unable to do but little on account of lack of funds. It has kept up the lights at the ports, replaced some of the buoys and rebuilt a small light-house at Diana Cay, Cárdenas Bay.

Very respectfully,

JOHN BIDDLE,

Captain, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.

Chief Engineer Dept. of Matanzas and Santa Clara.

LIST OF BLUE PRINTS OF RECONNAISSANCE SKETCHES
OF TRIPS MADE IN MATANZAS AND
SANTA CLARA PROVINCES.

PROVINCE OF MATANZAS.

*From February 13th to 24th, 1899, under Lt. Col. Jadwin,
3rd U. S. V. E.*

Camp Michie to camp at San Juan River, 4 miles from Matanzas.	Sergt. Hough,	Feb.	13th.
Camp 4 miles from Matanzas to Ingenio Magdalena.	„ McFarland.	„	14th.
Point about 1 mile West of Jesús Ma- ría to camp of Feb. 15th at Santo Cristo.....	„ Hilliard,	„	14th.
Santo Cristo to Los Palos.....	„ Leidy,	„	15th.
Los Palos to Nueva Paz.....	Lieut. Rhea,	„	15th.
Nueva Paz to Central Nueva Paz.	Sergt. Leidy,	„	16th.
Camp of Feb. 15th to 17th to camp of Feb. 17th, about 13 miles.....	„ „	„	17th.
Camp of Feb. 17th to 1 mile W. S. W. of Bolondrón.....	„ „	„	18th.
Camp W. S. W. of Bolondrón to camp of 18th to 20th, on eastern limits of Bolondrón.	„ „	„	19th.
Bolondrón to point 1 mile East of			

Ingenio Santa Ana.	Sergt. Leidy,	Feb. 20th-21st.
One mile of ruins of		
Ingenio Santa Ana to		
Sumidero	" "	22nd.
Sumidero to		
Camarioca through		
Guamacaro	" "	23rd.
Camarioca to		
Guanabana (3 shts.).	" "	24th.
Guanabana to		
Matanzas (2 shts.)	1st. Sergt. Diehr,	25th.
Point on road from		
Ceiba Mocha to		
Guanabana, to Sta.		
Ana	Lieut. Rhea,	14th.
Santo Cristo to		
Nueva Paz.....	Sergt. Hough,	15th.
Point 1 mile S. W.		
Cabezas to		
Los Palos.....	" Hilliard,	15th.
Nueva Paz to		
La Lima-Olando...	Sergt. Hilliard,	16th-17th.
Olando to		
Bolondrón.....	" "	18th.
Bazaes to		
vicinity	" Hough,	16th.
Las Guasimas to		
Bolondrón.....	" "	18th.
Bolondrón south to		
swamps.....	" "	20th.
Camp near swamps to		
Corral Falso	" "	21st.
Corral Falso to		
Bolondrón.....	" "	22nd.
Bogues to Lake.....	" McFarland,	16th.
Los Coscos to		
3½ miles southwest		
of Los Coscos.....	" "	17th.
Los Coscos to		
Caribbean Sea.....	" "	18th.
Bolondrón to		
Montalvo (Central		
Limones)	" Hough,	23rd.
Montalvo to		
Guanabana(2 shts.)	" "	24th.

Bolondrón to point 8½ miles north (Limonar)	„ Hilliard,	Feb.	22nd.
Supposed Copper Mines near Baños San Miguel.....	Lieut. Rhea,	„	22nd.
Sumidero to Limonar	„ „	„	23rd.
Limonar to camp near Guana- bana.....	Sergt. Diehr,	„	24th.
Io. Central Luisa to Io. Saratoga	Lt. Col. Jadwin,	„	21st.
Camp at Bazas to Lake.....	„ „	„	16th.
Camp Michie to camp about 5 miles southwest	Sergt. Hilliard,	„	13th.
From March 3rd to 21st, 1899, under Lt. Elmer Zarbell, 3rd U. S. V. E.			
Camp Michie to Limonar	Sergt. Hilliard,	March	4th.
Sumidero to Io. Andrea.....	„ Buttrick,	„	5th.
Andrea to Claudio (2 sheets)	Corpl. Fisher,	„	7th-8th.
Andrea to Corral Falso.....	Sergt. Hilliard,	„	6th.
Santa Catalina to San Ignacio.....	„ „	„	7th.
Ignacio to Jagüey Grande.....	„ „	„	8th.
Claudio to Jabaco	Lieut. Dibble,	„	8th.
Jabaco to Jagüey Grande.	Sergt. Knapp,	„	8th-9th.
Claudio to Jagüey Grande thence to Ingenio Rosario (San Abran.)	„ Buttrick,	„	8th-10th.
Io. San Abran to Rio Tassajo.....	Corpl. Fisher,	„	11th.
Jagüey Grande to Amarilla.....	Sergt. Hilliard,	„	10th-11th.

Rio Tasajo to beyond Palmillas..	„	Buttrick,	March	13th.
Palmillas to camp in Wilderness.	Corpl. Fisher,	„		14th.
Rio Rosario to San Pedro (2 shts.)	Sergt. Buttrick,	„		15th.
San Pedro to Aguadita	Corpl. Fisher,	„		16th.
Io. Occitania to Macagua	Sergt. Buttrick,	„		16th.
Palmillas South to Rio La Luz	„ Hilliard,	„		14th.
Palmillas South to Rio La Luz (second day.)	„ „	„		15th.
As above to Voladorès	„ „	„		16th-17th.
Aguadita to Agüica through Jacan	Corpl. Alexander,	„		17th.
Aguadita to Colon	Sergt. Buttrick,	„		18th.
Colon to El Roque	Corpl. Fisher,	„		18th.
El Roque to Jovellanos.	Sergt. Buttrick,	„		19th.
Jovellanos to San Miguel (3 shts.)	Corpl. Fisher,	„		20th.
Jovellanos to Dolores	Sergt. Hilliard,	„		20th.
San Miguel to Limonar (2 sht)...	„ Buttrick,	„		22nd.
Limonar to Matanzas	„ „	„		23rd.

From March 9th to 21st, 1899, under

Lt. W. S. Brown, U. S. V. E.

Andrinel on Canimar River, along coast to mouth of Camarioca River.	Corpl. Anderson,	March	18th.
Cross Roads 200 yds. from railroad to Guanabana.	Serg. Wright,	„	18th.

Camarioca to			
Signapa	Serg. Wright,	March	10th.
Camarioca to			
Port Camarioca.....	Corpl. Anderson,	,,	10th.
Precioso to			
Cardenas.	,,	,,	11th.
Small shack at divi-			
sion of two cross-roads			
to main road to			
Cardenas.	Sergt. Wright,	,,	11th.
Cross-roads 2½ miles			
East of Cardenas to			
San Anton	,,	,,	12th.
Cardenas to			
San Anton on the			
Cardenas y Júcaro			
R. R.	,, Leidy,	,,	12th.
San Anton to			
Sabanilla.	Corpl. Jewell,	,,	13th.
San Anton to			
Pueblo Hato Nuevo.	Sergt. Leidy,	,,	13th.
Hato Nuevo to			
San José.....	Corpl. Jewell,	,,	14th.
Pueblo Hato Nuevo to			
2½ miles N.....	Sergt. Leidy,	,,	14th.
San José to			
Sta. Gertrudis.....	Corp. Jewell,	,,	15th.
Hato Nuevo to			
La Jeza.....	,, Anderson,	,,	15th.
Pueblo Hato Nuevo to			
Ingenio Santa Ger-			
trudis.	Sergt. Leidy,	,,	15th.
Santa Gertrudis to			
Macagua.....	Corpl. Jewell,	,,	16th.
Itabo to			
San José.....	,, Anderson,	,,	16th.
Santa Gertrudis to			
Colon	Sergt. Leidy,	,,	16th.
Echevaria to			
Altamisal.....	Corpl. Jewell,	,,	17th.
Santa Gertrudis to			
Matembo.	,, Anderson,	,,	17th.
Altamisal to			
Guamacaro.	,, Jewell,	,,	17th.

Contreras to meeting main party	Sergt. Wright,	March	17th.
Santa Gertrudis to Pijuan Colon.....	„ „	„	17th.
Santa Gertrudis to Altamisal.	„ Leidy,	„	17th.
Altamisal to Cimarrones.	Corpl. Jewell,	„	18th.
Altamisal to Cimarrones.	Sergt. Leidy,,	„	18th.
Altamisal to Contreras.....	„ Wright,	„	19th.
Esquina de Tejas to 3 miles South of Cardenas.	„ Bennett,	„	19th.
Cimarrones to Limonar.	Corpl. West,	„	19th.
Cimarrones to Lakes.	„ Anderson,	„	19th.
Cimarrones to Guamacaro and Matanzas (2 sheets)	Sergt. Leidy,	„	19th.
Limones to Matanzas.	Corpl. Anderson,	„	20th.

MISCELLANEOUS TRIPS IN MATANZAS PROVINCE.

Matanzas to Aguacate, Madru- ga, Los Palos, and Las Vegas (3 sheets).....	Corpl. Anderson,	April 1st-6th.
Camp Michie to Ingenio Jobo.	Sergt. Hilliard,	„ 4th-7th.
La Unión to La Cidra by Vieja Bermeja.	„ Wright & Corpl. Alexan- der,	„ 4th-6th.
La Cidra to La Palma (2 sheets).....	Corpl. Jewell,	„ 5th.
La Cidra to La Unión vía In- genio Condesa.....	Sergt. Knapp,	„ 5th-6th.

La Cidra to

La Unión (2 sheets) Maxwell, April 5th-6th.

La Cidra to

La Unión..... Corpl. Fisher, 5th.

Cárdenas to

camp of U. S.

Troops..... Lt. Col. Jadwin, Jan.

Roads between Matanzas and Cárdenas.

Claudio.

General reconnaissance Matanzas to Ceiba Mocha and return.

Part of Matanzas Province.

Road map of the vicinity of Matanzas city.

Southern part of Matanzas Province.

SANTA CLARA PROVINCE.

Cienfuegos to Macagua and Cumanayagua.

Cienfuegos to Placetas.

Cienfuegos to Trinidad and return.

Cienfuegos to Santa Clara and return.

Sancti Spiritus to Trinidad.

Sancti Spiritus to San Juan de las Yeras.

Cienfuegos to Amaro and return.

Region of Cienfuegos.

BLUE PRINTS OF RAILROADS, RIVERS AND HARBORS

OF PROVINCES OF MATANZAS

AND SANTA CLARA.

Railroad Systems of Matanzas Province.

Standard Gauge railroads of Santa Clara Province.

Water front at mouth of San Juan and Yumuri Rivers.

Cienfuegos Harbor.

River Negro.

PLANS OF CITIES.

Colón.

Cárdenas.

Cienfuegos.

Cibarién.

OFFICE CHIEF ENGINEER,

DEPARTMENT OF SANTA CLARA,

Cienfuegos, Cuba, April 10th, 1899.

The Commanding General,
Department of Santa Clara,
Cienfuegos, Cuba.

SIR:—

I have the honor to state that in compliance with G. O. No. 19, Headquarters Department of Santa Clara, Cienfuegos, Cuba, April 5th, 1899, I have this day turned over the office to my successor, Capt. F. J. Kernan, 2nd Regiment U. S. Infantry, having been in charge of the same (under G. O. No. 10, Headquarters Department of Santa Clara, February 10th, 1899) since February 14th, 1899.

During this time, through the efficient assistance of the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Regiment, U. S. Volunteer Engineers, the following engineering work has been accomplished:

1. A foot reconnaissance of the country in the vicinity of Cienfuegos, included between the Salado and Caunao Rivers, and lying south and west of the "Trocha," limiting the late zone of cultivation, about 35 square miles in all.
2. A Detailed Hydrographic Survey of that part of the Harbor of Cienfuegos, lying between Punta Gorda and Punta de Majagua.
3. Eight hundred and eight (808) miles of mounted reconnaissance, of which 443 miles have been platted.
4. Elevations above mean low water at the intersections of all streets in the City of Cienfuegos have been determined by lines of levels and platted.
5. Engineering supervision of sanitary work in the city has been given.
6. Inspections of former Spanish Barracks in various interior towns of the Province have been made, and estimates for repairing same submitted.

7. Surveys and reports upon the various fortifications defending the Ports and Harbors of the Province of Santa Clara have been submitted.

8. Reports upon the following subjects have also been submitted:

- (a) The broad gauge railroads of this Province.
- (b) The present water supply of the City of Cienfuegos.
- (c) Improvement of the Harbor of Cienfuegos.
- (d) Available sources of fresh water for transportation in boats to the site of the proposed barracks at Paso Caballo Point.

9. Thirty-eight maps and tracings from which 263 blue prints have been made and distributed among the various U. S. Officers and Officials most interested.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

D. D. GAILLARD,

*Colonel 3rd Regiment,
U. S. V. Engineers.*

APPENDIX "N"

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER

Matanzas, Cuba, August 6th, 1899.

Adjutant General.

Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara.

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:—

Since the arrival of the United States troops in Cuba, the affairs of this office have been confined to the routine business of overseeing requisitions for supplies, statements etc.

Ordnance supplies for this Department are drawn from the Havana Depot, there being no arsenal or depot here, except that a certain amount of small arms ammunition, originally intended for emergencies, is still on hand.

On the 9th of February, a board of three officers was appointed here, and on the 13th day of March a similar board was appointed at Cienfuegos, for the purpose of listing such ordnance and ordnance stores as were turned over or abandoned by the Spanish forces, on their evacuation of the Island. The inventories so made show 4 bronze mortars, 29 bronze and 31 iron cannon, varying from 12 to 21 c/m; 4222 Remington breech-loading rifles and carbines; 4,348 spherical and conical shells, and a small amount of powder.

The field pieces and larger cannon are all muzzle-loaders and while many are rifled, they are so out of date as to be practically useless against a modern enemy. The bronze cannon were manufactured in the last and in the early part of the present century; the oldest in 1721 and the last in 1828, and several are of fine workmanship and handsomely engraved, but, at the present time, are better adapted for ornament than for use.

This ordnance is now stored in Fort San Severino, in

the batteries on the eastern shore of Matanzas bay, and in the batteries at the mouth of Cienfuegos harbor, near the present post at Paso Caballo.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. J. GLASGOW.

1st Lieut., 2nd Cavalry,

A. D. C. & A. O. O.

APPENDIX "O"

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 3rd, 1899.

The Adjutant General,

Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara.

SIR:—

I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Signal Corps attached to the Headquarters of the First Army Corps, and subsequently in the Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara. I reported as Chief Signal Officer of the Corps at Lexington, Ky., on November 8th, 1898, and accompanied the movement of the Headquarters to Macon, Georgia, arriving there November 10th, 1898. On reporting I found the following signal troops attached to the First Army Corps: the Twelfth Company U. S. V. Signal Corps, two officers and sixty-six men, under the command of Captain Frank E. Lyman, Jr., at Lexington, Ky., and a detachment of fifteen men at Knoxville Tenn., under the command of 1st Lieut. A. G. Thompson.

Both the Twelfth Company and the detachment were ordered to Macon, the Twelfth arriving there on the 15th, and the detachment from Knoxville a few days later.

As soon as the troops of the First Corps reached Macon, Columbus, Albany and Americus, telephone systems were installed at those places. The equipment of the Twelfth Company was completed as far as practicable, its transportation increased, and the men placed under instruction and drill. Repeated efforts were made to obtain the necessary instruments, material and supplies for the rehabilitation of the telegraph lines in Matanzas and Santa Clara Provinces, as at that time the First Corps was under orders to proceed to this section of Cuba. It was thought advisable to have the supplies on hand so that they could be moved with the signal troops who were to use them, rather than to trust to

picking up supplies en route, or depending upon a depot about to be established in a foreign country. The expediency of these requests was rendered evident on arrival of the signal troops in Cuba, as ample and proper supplies were not found available in the Island.

The Sixteenth Company U. S. V. Signal Corps, consisting of four officers and thirty-seven men under the command of Capt. Samuel S. Sample, joined, December 7th, 1898, it having been detached from the Fourth Army Corps at Anniston, Ala. The two companies were then organized into a battalion for purposes of administration, discipline and instruction. The Sixteenth Company was away below its authorized strength, lacked transportation, the men practically without instruction, and very poorly disciplined. The Company was recruited to full strength, its equipments improved, and the men and officers placed under instruction.

On the morning of December 15th, 1898, orders were received from your Headquarters to send a detachment consisting of a Lieutenant and twenty men fully equipped for telegraph and telephone work to Tampa, Fla., to accompany the battalion of the Third Engineers to Cuba. The detachment left that same afternoon under the command of Lieut. Opdycke, and it was supplied by an express shipment from the Savannah depot. This detachment under the command of Lieut. Opdycke arrived at Matanzas Cuba, December 23rd, 1898, and began the telephone system now existing at this place and on the 1st of January, 1899, took possession of the system of telegraph lines in the Department of Matanzas.

The condition of the Sixteenth Company not improving as rapidly as desirable, its commanding officer, Captain Sample, was sent before a board of officers to determine his fitness for command. The same was likewise done with Lieutenants Coe and Reddy. All of these officers having failed to pass the board satisfactorily, were honorably discharged in the early part of January, 1899.

On January 6th, 1899, the Twelfth and Sixteenth Companies with their entire equipment and supplies left Macon, Ga., reached Savannah on the 7th; loading the same day on the U. S. transport "Obdam," and sailing the next morning, reached Matanzas on January 10th, where they were disembarked and placed in camp. The organization of the First Army Corps having been discontinued by order of the President January 8th, 1899, and the Sixteenth

Company having been ordered to Cienfuegos, Cuba, left on January 19th, and passed from under my command.

The services of the members of the Twelfth Company were utilized from the time of their disembarkation until their final muster-out on April 19th, as operators in the various military telegraph offices in the Department, and as linemen in the telegraph system. The Twelfth Company erected and maintained the present telephone system in the city of Matanzas, and supplied signal men to communicate between transports and the shore.

The system of telegraph lines in the Department, erected and operated by the Spanish Government, was found in very bad condition and operated in a manner entirely foreign to American practice. The lines were gradually repaired and the system changed to one sanctioned by our practice. The number of employees and the rates of salary were found excessively high. American operators were placed in all important stations, superfluous employees discharged, and salaries reduced to a basis compatible with the earning capacity of the lines had they been under commercial management. The entire system of lines was inspected in January and report submitted to your office covering the same.

In compliance with verbal directions of the Department Commander, on January 12th I took charge of the post-office and installed three railroad mail clerks, who were found in the 160th Indiana, to handle the mail until the Post-Office Department should send a representative to take charge, which was not done until the latter part of the month. During the first inspection trip of the Department Commander I was instructed to investigate and report upon the mail service in the Department, and the result of this investigation was shown in my report of January 25th. On April 27th, 1899, the Departments of Matanzas and Santa Clara were consolidated. Capt. Rickard, who had up to this date been Chief Signal Officer of the Department of Santa Clara, was directed to settle all April accounts. I took formal charge of the lines and offices on the 1st May, 1899. The lines and offices were inspected in the first part of May and the result of the inspection was shown in report submitted May 8th.

On May 3rd the 16th Company U. S. V. Signal Corps was ordered to proceed to the United States via Havana for muster out of the service. The rather sudden muster out of the service of both companies of the Volunteer

Signal Corps naturally embarrassed the operation of the lines, as recourse had to be had to such civilian operators as could be procured awaiting the formation by enlistment of men for the Signal Corps of the regular army. No serious delay or interruption, however, was caused by this muster-out.

The following is a statement of the amount of business transacted in the offices in the Province of Matanzas. No statement is given of the business transacted in the Province of Santa Clara, as the reports for that Province have been made direct to the Disbursing Officer of the Corps in Havana.

This line receipts.....	\$ 3,075.72
Other line receipts.....	3,975.32
Commercial value of O. B. telegrams.....	4,032.45
Disbursements for salaries, of- fice rent, labor, repairs, maintenance, etc., etc.....	5,878.75

While the system of lines in the Department has given satisfactory communication, its physical condition is such as to necessitate complete reconstruction within the next year or so. The Spanish system of lines, some 957 miles in extent, had been practically abandoned during the three years of war with the Cubans, as the Spaniards remained in the cities, towns and blockhouses and apparently made little effort to keep up the lines. Nearly all of the wire is old and rusted, and a large part of it so badly rusted that it frequently breaks during high winds. The poles are old and a large number rotten. It will be economy in the long run to completely reconstruct the system, and by doing so the numerous vexatious temporary interruptions will be avoided. The line between Caibarién and Yaguajay should be reconstructed as soon as practicable. The line between Trinidad and Tunas de Zaza should be built to facilitate communication in that part of Santa Clara Province. Telephone lines from Placetas to Fomento, from Santa Clara to Manicaragua and from Cienfuegos to Cumanayagua and Arimao are necessary to facilitate communication for the rural guards. Estimates have been submitted covering the above recommended new constructions.

The following is a list of officers of the Volunteer Signal Corps who have served with the First Army Corps from

November 8th, 1898, to June 30th, 1899, and in the Departments of Matanzas and Santa Clara:

Captain Frank E. Lyman, Jr., commanding Twelfth Company U. S. V. Signal Corps, honorably mustered out as such and reappointed 1st Lieutenant April 17th, 1899. At present assistant to Signal Officer, Department Matanzas and Santa Clara.

Captain Samuel S. Sample, commanding Sixteenth Company U. S. V. Signal Corps, honorably mustered out of the service January 8th, 1899.

Captain Richard O. Rickard, Signal Officer, Department of Santa Clara, honorably mustered out April 26th, 1899; reappointed 2nd Lieutenant in charge of Santa Clara District.

First Lieutenant Howard D. Coe, on duty with Twelfth Company, honorably discharged January, 1899.

1st Lieut. Albert G. Thompson, attached to Twelfth Company, relieved from duty in the First Army Corps, December 17th, 1899.

1st. Lieut. Harry G. Opdycke, on duty with Twelfth Company, honorably mustered out April 12th, 1899.

1st Lieut. Peter J. Reddy, on duty with 12th Company, honorably discharged January, 1899.

1st Lieut. Charles B. Rogan, Jr., on duty with and commanding Sixteenth Company, honorably mustered out April 17th and re-appointed 2nd Lieutenant. Relieved from duty in Department June 19th, 1899.

1st Lieut. William E. Davies, on duty with Sixteenth Company, left Department in command of Sixteenth Company May 3rd, 1899.

1st Lieut. William M. Talbott, Adjutant Signal Corps Battalion, and assistant to the Chief Signal Officer of the Department till April 26th, 1899, when ordered out of Department.

I desire to express my appreciation for the faithful manner in which the following officers have discharged their duty and commend them for their zeal and ability: 1st Lieutenants Frank E. Lyman, Jr., William M. Talbott, Harry G. Opdycke, and 2nd Lieutenants Richard O. Rickard and Charles B. Rogan.

The following is a list of telegraph offices in the Department, with list of civilian employees, positions and salaries:

OFFICE	NAME OF EMPLOYEE	POSITION	SALARY
Abreus.....	M. Solves Begut.....	Opr.....	\$10.00
Alfonso XII	A. Ibarra.....	Opr.....	10.00
Caibarien....	G. E. Reed.....	Mgr.....	80.00
	J. Lagomasino.....	Opr.....	20.00
	B. Madariaga.....	Opr.....	10.00
Camajuaní...	J. W. Bishop.....	Mgr.....	80.00
	N. Y. Larda.....	Opr.....	50.00
	Juan Nuñez.....	Lineman....	30.00
Cardenas.	C. Tryon.....	Mgr.....	75.00
	A. Linares.....	Opr.....	40.00
	J. P. Falcon.....	Lineman....	20.00
	Alejandro Gomez.....	Msr.....	15.00
Ciego de Avila	José Mesa.....	Lineman....	25.00
Cienfuegos ...	P. H. Perry.....	Mgr.....	100.00
	H. Varona.....	Opr.....	50.00
	José Paldo.....	Opr.....	40.00
	C. T. Leal.....	Lineman....	30.00
	J. Gallinat.....	Msr.....	15.00
Colón.	D. T. Clement.....	Inspector ...	125.00
	G. W. Schaffer.....	Mgr.....	75.00
	V. C. Clement.....	Lineman....	60.00
	F. Alberich.....	Opr.....	40.00
	A. Cumbreno.....	Lineman....	25.00
	F. Pons.....	Msr.....	10.00
Corralillo....	A. P. Vorano.....	Opr.....	10.00
Cruces.....	F. Masvidal.....	Opr.....	25.00
Guaracabulla	Pedro Borge.....	Lineman....	30.00
	(Military Operator)		
Guayacanes..	Pedro Benitez.....	Lineman....	30.00
Isabela.	A. Bacalao.....	Opr.....	40.00
Jovellanos ...	E. Fernandez.....	Opr.....	35.00
	Enrique Oñate... ..	Lineman....	25.00
Limonar.....	B. Lapido.....	Opr.....	10.00
Macagua.....	Francisco Azua.....	Opr.....	40.00
	G. Aruca.....	Lineman....	20.00
Matanzas.....	M. C. Gould.....	Mgr.....	100.00
	G. Pons.....	Opr.....	45.00
	J. R. Franco.....	Opr.....	45.00
	Tito Renaud.....	Msr.....	30.00
	E. Diaz.....	Lineman....	25.00
	E. Solo.....	Msr.....	10.00
	J. Martinez.....	Msr.....	10.00
Moron.....	Manuel Madrigal.....	Lineman....	25.00

OFFICE	NAME OF EMPLOYEE	POSITION	SALARY
Placetass.....	G. E. Pagan.....	Mgr.....	80.00
	M. Palacios.....	Opr.....	50.00
Quemados de Gilina.	J. Ant. Ochoa.....	Opr.....	10.00
	Rafael Gregorio Alonso.	Lineman....	30.00
Rancho Veloz	Vicente Dopazo.....	Opr.....	10.00
	Domingo Martinez.....	Lineman....	30.00
Remedios	Lorenzo Novo.....	Opr.....	35.00
Rodass.....	Angel George.....	Opr.....	10.00
Sagua la Grande...	Pedro R. Giraldo.....	Opr.....	50.00
	Lazaro Navaillas.....	Opr.....	40.00
	B. Alonso.....	Lineman....	30.00
	Claro Pirez.....	Msr.....	15.00
Sancti Spiritus.....	H. C. Hobart.....	Mgr.....	80.00
	R. Masvidal.....	Opr.....	50.00
	Bienvenido Martinez...	Opr.....	40.00
	Domingo Posado.....	Lineman....	30.00
	Abraham Gomez.....	Lineman....	30.00
	Manuel Fernandez.....	Msr.....	15.00
Santa Clara...	W. J. Hepburn.....	Mgr.....	100.00
	J. J. Grady.....	Opr.....	100.00
	G. M. Stephens.....	Opr.....	100.00
	C. H. Owen.....	Opr.....	100.00
	F. de la Torre.....	Opr.....	60.00
	F. A. Marrero.....	Opr.....	60.00
	E. C. Mora.....	Opr.....	60.00
	Pedro Gregorio.....	Lineman....	39.00
	Francisco Delgado.....	Msr.....	15.00
Sto. Domingo	E. H. McGee.....	Batteryman.	10.00
	Military Operator.		
Sierra Morena	José Orri.....	Opr.....	10.00
Union ...	M. B. Martín.....	Mgr.....	75.00
	Otilio Arroyo.....	Opr.....	40.00
	Abelardo Valdés.....	Lineman....	30.00
Yaguajay	José Romaguera	Opr	50.00
Office of Signal Officer.	P. F. Doody.....	Stenogra'r...	100.00

(Mgr. for manager, Opr. for Operator, Msr. for Messenger.)

Very respectfully,

SAMUEL REBER,

*Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. V.
Signal Officer.*

Matanzas, Cuba, June 13th, 1899.

*The Adjutant General,
Department of Matanzas and Santa Clara.*

SIR:—

I have the honor to return herewith estimate for the establishment of a telephone line to unite all the stations of the Rural Guard in the Province of Santa Clara submitted by General Monteagudo, and submit herewith a map and estimate for a system of inter-communication in Santa Clara Province. The enclosed map shows the system as recommended and takes advantage of the already existing pole lines of the Military Telegraph System and of the Railroads. In estimating the cost of the material for a number of the sections it was necessary to take the distances from the map and the estimate is an approximation, but sufficiently large to cover the cost of the system. I do not think it is practicable to depend upon the Rural Guard for the erection of the lines, but in figuring cost of labor I have allowed for its assistance:

2 ten drop switch boards at \$40.00 each...	\$ 80.00
100 long distance telephone sets at \$13.50 each	1350.00
8 extension bells at 70 cts. each.....	5.60
20,500 hardwood poles at \$1.00 each.....	20,500.00
28,000 insulators at 4 cts each.....	1120.00
28,000 brackets at 1½ cts. each.....	490.00
80,000 lbs. No. 14 G. 1. B. B. wire at 5 cts....	4000.00
3,000 lbs. spikes 20 d. at 5 cts.....	150.00
3,000 lbs. spikes 40 d. at 5 cts.....	150.00
100 lbs. office wire No. 14 at 4½ cts.....	4.50
Extra Battery supplies and line tools.....	200.00
Labor for erecting poles and stringing wire...	7500.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 35550.10
5% for contingent expenses.....	1777.50
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$ 37327.60

Very respectfully,

SAMUEL REBER.

*Captain Signal Corps, U. S. V.,
Signal Officer.*

APPENDIX "P."

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND SANTA CLARA.

Matanzas, Cuba, August 4th, 1899.

The Adjutant General,

Dept. of Matanzas and Santa Clara,

Matanzas, Cuba.

SIR:

I have the honor to submit the following report:

G. O. No. 9, Feb. 9, 1899, Department Santa Clara,
authorized the following rural police:

1 Chief at.....	\$ 200.00	per month.
2 Asst. Chiefs at \$125	250.00	,, ,,
1 Secretary at.....	100.00	,, ,,
6 Chiefs of Judicial Districts @ \$75	450.00	,, ,,
150 Sergeants at \$30.....	4,500.00	,, ,,
625 Policemen at \$25.....	15,500.00	,, ,,
<hr/>		
Total.....	21,000.00	per month.

This organization was never put into effect, as the Cuban Officers and soldiers would not enlist under it, saying that the pay was too small.

Early in April last the following schedule was authorized by the late Department Commander, General Bates.

1 Chief at	\$ 300.00	per month.
1 General Secretary at.....	125.00	,, ,,
4 Chiefs of Districts at \$200.....	800.00	,, ,,
10 Captains at \$100	1,000.00	,, ,,
25 Lieutenants at \$60.....	1,500.00	,, ,,
50 Sergeants at \$34.....	1,700.00	,, ,,
500 Policemen at \$29.50.....	14,750.00	,, ,,
Rent, Office Supplies, Traveling ex- penses, etc.....	665.00	,, ,,
<hr/>		
Total.....	21,000.00	per month.

General Monteagudo, a General of Division of the Cuban Army, was appointed Chief, and he immediately began selecting, organizing and posting the force as above.

The Officers took an oath of fidelity to the Military Government of the United States, before an officer of the Army, and the Sergeants and policemen took the same oath before one of the Rural Police Officers.

While the force was being organized, a letter came from Division Headquarters in Havana, stating that the salary list was different from that of G. O. No. 9, and directing revision.

On recommendation of the Department Commander final decision was suspended, and the organization allowed to proceed as above.

In the districts of Trinidad and Sancti Spiritus, there had been local Rural Police organized by the Military District Commanders, since January 1st. Early in March General Bates authorized a rural police in these districts, each to consist of:

1 Chief at.....	\$ 100.00 per month.		
1 Asst. Chief at \$75.....	75.00	„	„
6 Sergeants at \$35.....	210.00	„	„
100 Policemen at \$25.....	2,500.00	„	„

These organizations were discontinued and the forces reduced and brought into the general organization of the province; in Trinidad the date of change being May 1st, and in Sancti Spiritus April 27th.

Under the present organization the province of Santa Clara is divided into four districts, each under an Asst. Chief.

The First District comprises the Judicial Districts of Santa Clara and Trinidad, under Gen. Machado; Hdqs. at Santa Clara.

The Second District comprises the Judicial District of Cienfuegos, under General Esquerro; Headquarters at Cienfuegos.

The Third District is the Judicial District of Sagua la Grande, under General Roban; Headquarters at Sagua la Grande.

The Fourth District comprises the Judicial Districts of Remedios and Sancti Spiritus, and is under General González, Headquarters at Placetas.

Each District is subdivided into "Zones," each under a

Captain, and the zones are again divided into "Lines," each line under a Lieutenant.

Altogether there are 94 posts of the Guard, the number of men at a post varying from 15 at Cienfuegos to four or five at the less important posts.

The police was organized with the understanding that men should use the arms, horses and equipments used by them in the Cuban Army. The men are to furnish food for their horses and are to ration and clothe themselves.

As a rule the arms are of a very poor quality and in poor condition. The horses or ponies, and saddle equipments are very poor and would stand but little real work.

All the officers and non-commissioned officers can read and write. Of the policemen I am not able to state what per cent. are unable to read and write, but in my opinion there are a great many, probably 50%.

Of the Policemen about 20% are negroes; physically they are superior to the others and mentally they will average nearly as well.

The Rural Police in its present organization is similar to the Guardia Rural the Spanish used here, and to which the people are accustomed. This guard formerly patrolled the country constantly, but such patrolling hardly seems necessary now, the country being at peace, and no bandits to cope with. Many people have told me that they thought small farmers would feel more secure in their work if they knew that there was a rural police constantly on the lookout for law-breakers. Granting that Rural Police in some form are a necessity, it would seem that in the present form too much power is given to the chief, and not enough given to the local civil authorities; local government being desired and not any form of military government.

Although the present guard has instructions to carry out the instructions of the alcaldes, where they may be stationed, the members of the Guard look on General Montea-gudo as their chief and there is a good chance of their not giving great heed to the local authorities.

The one great advantage of the present organization is that while scattered it is under one chief, and as many of the posts as necessary can be combined against any organized band of outlaws, should such appear. If the local authorities had charge of the rural police some friction might arise if it became necessary to send one post out of its own municipality.

The present rural police is un-republican in form and

idea, and is an expensive body, \$21,000.00 per month. In my opinion it would be better to increase slightly the present municipal police in each termino (where said increase seems necessary), so that the alcaldes could look after the ordinary violations of the law, in their términos, and authorize these alcaldes to employ more men, as a sort of a posse, should any organized band of law-breakers appear.

It should be understood that such a posse could pass from one termino to another in pursuit of law-breakers.

There have been so far, no organized bands of lawbreakers in Santa Clara Province, and in my opinion the chance is small of any such bands appearing.

In Santa Clara Province, in addition to the rural police there is a Governor's Police of 37 officers and also a municipal police, aggregating about 336 officers and men, doing duty in the cities and towns of the Province, under the control of the alcaldes.

A few murders have been committed and there have been many arrests for horse and cattle stealing and for petty thieving.

The monthly cost of the three forces mentioned above (Governor's, Municipal and Rural) is \$33,842.00.

In Matanzas there is a Governor's Police of six officers and men, under the immediate orders of the Civil Governor, and a municipal police aggregating about 348 Officers and men.

In Matanzas Province there is not a distinct body of Rural Police, as there is Santa Clara, but the various bodies of municipal police are given authority to have such mounted men as the districts may require.

In both provinces private guards are employed on many estates.

Under the decree of June 19th, authorizing the private guards, 16 have been reported in the Province of Matanzas.

No report has been received as yet from the Civil Governor of the Province of Santa Clara, but it is thought that there is a still larger number in that province; about 322.

Considering the unsettled state of the Island, there have been very few crimes committed in this Department; no bands of outlaws have appeared. Rumors of bandits have appeared in the newspapers, but on investigation it usually turns out that the so-called bandit is a chicken thief or a horse thief.

The people in general seem very peaceful and well disposed. They have, however, always been accustomed to

heavy police protection, both Civil and Military, and it doubtless is a wise policy to authorize a stronger police, for the present, than seems to be required by the peaceful condition of the country.

Very respectfully, .

C. J. STEVENS,

*Capt., 2nd U. S. Cavalry
Provost Marshal and Inspector of Police.*

Special Report

**On the Industrial, Economic and Social Conditions
Existing in the Department at the Date of
American Occupation, and the
Present Time.**

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MATANZAS AND
SANTA CLARA,

Matanzas, Cuba, September 7, 1899.

To the Adjutant General,

Headquarters Division of Cuba,

Havana.

SIR:—

In compliance with the instructions contained in your letter of August 18th, 1899, I submit the following special report on the industrial, economic and social conditions existing in the territory covered by this department at the date the United States assumed control, and also at the present time, for the purpose of showing the net results of the American administration of municipal and provincial affairs.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES—INITIAL RELIEF MEASURES.

After the protocol and the cessation of hostilities, and shortly before the arrival of the United States forces in this part of the Island, most of the Spanish judicial, municipal and provincial authorities resigned, and their places were filled by temporary appointments, selected by the Spanish commanders principally from the Autonomistic party, or from "pacificos" who had taken no part in the revolution.

These officials as a class were generally worthy and capable men, sincerely interested in the maintenance of order, in the reconstruction of civil government and in the re-establishment of industry and commerce. In every instance that came under my observation they performed their duties loyally and faithfully, maintaining perfect order, and, as far as was within their power, relieving suffering and want in their respective jurisdictions. They were assisted in this by the charity of those Cubans who

had saved a part of their substance, and by the timely arrival of rations and medical supplies sent out by the President of the United States in the steamer "Comal," or furnished afterward by the authority of the military governor of the Island. These supplies were distributed generally through committees appointed by the alcaldes, and in every instance it is confidently believed they reached the sick and starving people for whom they were intended. They came at a time when industry and commerce were paralyzed, and production was at its lowest stage, and they were issued in such manner as to do an almost incalculable amount of good.

The timely foresight and generosity of this assistance was fully appreciated by the Cubans, and is worthy of the highest commendation.

CUBAN ARMY — RETALIATION SUPPRESSED — MATANZAS

PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS.

Upon the evacuation of the Island by the Spanish troops, the Cuban army became an active factor in the control of civil affairs. As the officers and men were furloughed, they immediately entered into competition for both public and private employment. Some were at once engaged as municipal, rural and private police; others became candidates for office, while the greater number gradually returned to their homes, and found employment in the trades or on the farms and plantations. As a class they behaved with sobriety and moderation, and manifested a genuine desire to re-establish their homes, and resume the business of peaceful and law-abiding citizens.

At first they showed here and there a disposition to wreak vengeance on Spanish subjects resident in the island, and especially on those who had been active as Spanish volunteers; but this was immediately repressed by my orders. It was announced that every Cuban might celebrate our coming, and rejoice to his heart's content over the expulsion of the Spanish forces and the establishment of Cuban independence, but that it must be distinctly understood that the rights of such as did not for any reason care to join in the celebration must be absolutely respected. Both Cubans and Spaniards were notified that so far as the United States were concerned, the past must be regarded as a sealed book; that peace and good order must be preserved, and that the rights of all, without respect to race or allegiance, to pursue

their private occupations without interference from any quarter, must be considered as the supreme law of the land. This rule was at once cheerfully accepted by Cubans and Spaniards alike, and except in a few personal instances, has been observed in all the cities, towns and villages throughout both provinces of this department.

It is believed that it is now generally recognized as not only right and just in itself, but that it is well calculated to promote the best interests of the commonwealth. At all events, perfect peace and tranquillity prevail between all classes, colors and races, and there is no apparent reason to fear that this is not a stable condition of the people.

When it is remembered that the white race is largely in the majority, that both the white Spaniards and Cubans, as well as the colored people, are sober, orderly, law-abiding and generally industrious, it may be fairly hoped that with the reestablishment of a reasonable degree of prosperity, this gratifying state of affairs will continue to prevail.

The resignation of the late autonomistic civil governor of the province of Matanzas, and the appointment of his successor, has been fully explained in my annual report of August 1st. No further reference to the incident seems to be called for, except to point out that my recommendation was given to the gentleman selected not only for merit but upon the broad ground that all other things being equal, the officers of the successful revolution should have preference for civil employment over those who had supported the Spanish government, or stood neutral between it and those who were contending for independence. This conclusion seems to be accepted as fair by all classes in this department, and needs only to be stated to receive general recognition and approval.

CIVIL AUTHORITIES AND ADMINISTRATION.

The administrative authorities of the provinces under Spanish rule were:

1st.—A Civil Governor, appointed by the Governor General, and holding office at the will of the latter during good behavior.

2nd.—A Diputacion Provincial, elected by popular vote, and holding office four years.

3rd.—A Comision Permanente, composed of five members of the Diputacion, selected by the Provincial Governor.

The powers and duties of these authorities, and the

method of their appointment, as given in the "Leyes Provisional," are more fully alluded to in my report of February 20th on the Province of Matanzas, under the head of "Government," page 21 et seq.

The diputacion provincial and the comision permanente having been abolished as expensive and unnecessary, the civil governors, with their secretaries, clerks and a few executive policemen and messengers, constitute the entire civil government, which has no revenue of its own, and is supported directly by the insular treasury.

From the first, under instructions from the Military Governor of the Island, I have, as far as possible, conducted all business of a civil nature, whether pertaining to provincial or municipal affairs, through the channels of civil administration, and generally through the civil governor. The only exception to this rule is made in the case of Rural Police of the province of Santa Clara, which, by direction of superior authority, is controlled by a chief, who receives his instructions from these headquarters, and makes all reports directly to the adjutant general of the department.

I renew my recommendation that the control of this body be transferred to the civil governor, and that it be by him disbanded, or distributed to the municipal police, as recommended on page 21, et seq., of my report of June 20th on the Province of Santa Clara, and in my communication of June 19th on that subject.

The method of transacting the public business has worked smoothly and satisfactorily. Both the governors and all the mayors, with one exception, have given most cheerful and loyal support to the military authorities, and, in turn, the latter have done all in their power to cultivate friendly relations with the Cuban officials and to minimize military interference with the civil administration, as far as practicable confining their efforts to the protection of the property rights of foreigners, the maintenance of order, the relief of the sick and indigent, the shelter and support of the widows and orphans, and to the supervision of such sanitary work as seemed necessary to protect the troops from infectious diseases, and to promote the health of the people.

In no instance have the municipal or provincial authorities been turned out of their official buildings, nor have I occupied or permitted my staff to occupy any municipal or provincial residences for personal or private use. All general officers and their headquarters and all administrative staff officers have occupied rented buildings. The troops

have been quartered in Spanish barracks, where the latter could be disinfected, repaired and made suitable. The damage inflicted upon private property, and the rentals for the sites of all barracks and camps situated on private lands, have been settled by the quartermaster's department, or fixed by boards of officers convened therefor. It is believed that no reasonable ground for complaint has been left in any single instance.

JUDICIARY.

The Judiciary within the provinces of this department has been almost, if not entirely, changed in its personnel, and it is hoped that these changes will result in avoiding, to a great extent, delays in trials which have so characterized the workings of the courts in the past. The abolishment, in July last, of the "incomunicacion" of persons arrested or undergoing trial, and the creation of rights for such persons to have counsel, and to refuse to give incriminating evidence, marks an epoch in criminal proceedings in the island. There is yet lacking, however, a sufficient number of courts of competent jurisdiction in criminal matters, as well as effective means of securing the attendance of witnesses. These defects, together with centralization of trials for crimes in the audiencias, with which communication is difficult and expensive, result in the overcrowding of jails, now a distinctive feature in this department.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

As there seems to be some doubt in the minds of the superior authorities in reference to the development and character of municipal government in this island, I call attention to the fact that the Spanish laws in force on that subject are not only comprehensive, but based on correct principles. It is evident, however, that under the old regime they were corruptly administered in the interest of the Spaniards and Spanish officials, rather than for the benefit of the Cubans, but nobody understands this, or the change in practice which should be made, better than the present municipal authorities.

It cannot be determined when such municipal governments were first established in the island of Cuba, but it is certain that city councils were in existence in Sancti Spíritus and Trinidad, both in this department, from the date of their foundation, in 1514. From an examination of the

history of Cuban laws, it appears that these councils were governed by orders given at Havana as early as 1574. From that date the municipal laws seem to have taken on a more definite form, and to have passed through various modifications, becoming systematized into complete codes in 1846, 1867 and 1870. The present municipal law was decreed in 1878, and is now in force, with certain modifications made since that time.

Under existing provincial and municipal laws the province of Matanzas is now divided into 24, and the province and Santa Clara into 28 municipalities. The number of municipalities in these provinces has varied within narrow limits.

The government of a municipality consists of an *ayuntamiento* and a municipal junta.

The *ayuntamiento* is composed of the mayor, assistant mayor and aldermen. The latter, under Spanish rule, were elected by popular vote, and held office for four years. Vacancies in the offices of the mayor and assistant mayors are now filled by appointment by the military governor of the island, and vacancies in the offices of aldermen, without definite provision of law, and in the absence of elections, are filled by the civil governors.

The municipal junta is composed of the members of the *ayuntamiento*, and a number of associate members equal to the number of aldermen, but under existing conditions the junta seems to be a supernumerary and unnecessary organization.

The details of the organization of both provincial and municipal government have been quite fully given in my report of February 16th, 1899, on the province of Matanzas, page 21, et seq. Attention is, however, called to the fact that the qualification of electors under the electoral law of June 26th, 1890, is, that all male citizens over 25 years of age, who enjoy their full civil rights, and have lived at least two years in the municipality, are entitled to vote, provided they are not disqualified by sentence for certain criminal offenses, bankruptcy or insolvency, or as delinquent taxpayers or paupers.

The duties pertaining to municipal offices are accurately set forth in the municipal laws above referred to. Like most Spanish laws, these are complete in their details, and it may be said that the present success of municipal administration is largely due to their provisions. This success is specially noteworthy from the fact that when Spanish

rule ended, there was practically no responsibility resting upon the municipalities as to the provision of ways and means for their support. The management of their business affairs was concerned with bookkeeping, and obedience to instructions from higher authority, rather than with responsibility for raising and disbursing the revenues.

Under the new regime local self-government has been so well carried on as to accentuate the fact that through whatever troubles the island has passed, the municipality has always been the one stable element in insular government.

But it should be remembered that the municipal authorities for the first time assumed full control at the end of Spanish rule, and that under the old system the rental valuation of both rural and city property for purposes of taxation was incorrect and unreliable. They have now passed from a complex system, wherein every profession, industry and article of consumption was taxed, and from one of licenses whereby even the person of the individual was insecure out of his immediate locality without his certificate of identity, to a system of local taxation, founded on correct principles, which must tend to greatly improve municipal government.

The influence of the Spanish governmental system, extending to state, municipality, church and family, wherein the complete enjoyment of property and personal rights was unknown, is rapidly passing away, but it is hardly to be expected that the results of this pernicious system on the habits of the people can have been entirely neutralized by the short period of American occupation. The change has been great, and through the influences exerted by our counsel and example, as well as by proximity to the United States, it is confidently believed that the improvement will continue.

It is not to be overlooked, however, that in these provinces, as well as elsewhere, the people have come by experience to be reserved and suspicious, and to depend somewhat too much upon the government and upon the bounty of nature to supply their social wants, and to increase their personal comforts.

Notwithstanding the adverse conditions which have hitherto prevailed, it is but fair to state that the administration of municipal affairs since the American occupation, has been characterized by personal zeal, official integrity and correct business methods. Their system of public records is good; their accounts, as a rule, are admirably kept; their

budgets, returns and reports are models of clearness and comprehensiveness of statement, though occasionally marred by errors in figures and computations.

The municipal police in both provinces were selected by the local authorities, mostly from officers and men of the disbanded Cuban army. In Matanzas, Cárdenas and Cienfuegos they are well-organized, equipped and fairly disciplined, and in all towns they are giving satisfactory service. They are armed generally with club and revolver, and a sufficient proportion of them in the province of Matanzas are mounted to pursue malefactors in the country.

It is to be observed that the Cubans, as a rule, have not sufficient size, strength and self-reliance to make first class policemen, but they are steadily improving. At first a tendency to use the revolver too freely was observed, but a rigid enforcement of the law by the courts, and of orders from these headquarters in regard to shooting without sufficient justification, has greatly checked this evil.

As before stated, the natives are naturally a sober, orderly and inoffensive people, who willingly obey the constituted authority, and rarely give violent cause for arrest. The most serious, in fact the only disturbances which have occurred in this department, were between the police and drunken and disorderly American soldiers, or quartermaster's employees, who were wrongfully resisting arrest, but the certainty of a court martial for military offenders, and of a trial by a police court for civilians, has put an end to such occurrences. It is hoped and believed that the present municipal police, with such improvements in personnel and discipline as will naturally come with time, will prove equal to all demands upon it.

The mayors and ayuntamientos, as a rule, have received their instructions through the civil governors, and have been encouraged to exercise authority over all matters pertaining to the administration of public affairs within the limits of their municipalities. They have not been arbitrarily controlled anywhere in the department, except in the cities of Sancti Spiritus and Trinidad, where the commanding officers of the United States troops who first arrived seem to have misconceived the scope of their duties, and to have assumed official direction of all public matters in their vicinity. This policy has been reversed in these instances, and the spirit of local self-government has been encouraged, with the gratifying result that its efficiency is steadily increasing.

At the present time it may be said that municipal government throughout the department is carried on well and faithfully, and with the exception of the fact that the mayors and aldermen have been appointed by superior authority, and not elected by the people, as provided by law, it is difficult to see wherein immediate improvement is to be expected in the administration of these offices.

On the presumption that the people will, when authorized to hold elections, choose either the present incumbents, or men of equally good character, it is confidently believed that the changes which time will necessarily bring in the municipal law and customs, will, in a few years, raise municipal government in Matanzas and Santa Clara to the high degree of perfection which it has reached in the most favored states of the Union.

In view of the fact that no public improvements have been made during the revolution; that through the lack of means the public buildings, streets, parks, water-works, jails, hospitals, asylums, and even the churches, have received no repairs; that increased burthens have been thrown upon the municipal treasuries by the large number of widows and orphans, due to the war, and by starvation and sickness, due to the destruction of the farms, crops, cattle and poultry, it should not be regarded as strange that the municipal budgets have generally shown considerable deficits. Indeed, it is but reasonable under the circumstances to expect that the cost of carrying on municipal government should materially increase, not only for the present, but for the next three or four years; and possibly longer, unless such economic conditions should be established as to cause the restoration of agriculture and commerce, and bring about such a revival of business as would correspondingly increase the taxes for municipal purposes.

In order that my confidence in the capacity of the Cuban people to carry on municipal government successfully may be understood, I call attention to the fact that Matanzas, Cardenas, Colon, Jovellanos, Union de Reyes and Bolondron, the principal cities and towns in the province of Matanzas; Cienfuegos, Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus, Santa Clara, Sagua la Grande, Caibarien, Remedios and Camajuani, the principal cities and towns in the province of Santa Clara, —are today absolutely clear of epidemic disease, well policed, orderly and free from violence, rowdiness and licentiousness. They are besides in an almost perfect state of sanitation. Nearly all are furnished with civil hospitals and

orphan asylums, and all are scrupulously clean. Only five cases of sporadic yellow fever have occurred so far this year in a population rising 500,000, a circumstance without parallel in the history of the island. When it is remembered that the municipal authorities of those cities and towns have had no money to spend upon such work for the last four years, and have found their treasuries bankrupt and themselves suddenly confronted with all the problems of municipal government, with not only their own population, but with thousands of sick and starving reconcentrados to look after—with commerce and industry disorganized, the farms destroyed and the social and governmental machinery seriously deranged—a proper idea can be formed of their situation, and of what they have accomplished in eight months.

It is true that in reaching this result the municipal authorities have had the benefit of the advice and supervision of the intelligent officers of my staff, and of local commanders, where troops are stationed, but it is equally true that those officers were in nearly every instance novices in such work themselves, and that the work could not possibly have been carried through successfully but for the interested, intelligent and loyal cooperation of the local authorities.

It is a noteworthy fact that the mayors without exception are gentlemen of education, good standing and large business or professional experience. Doctor Alfredo Carnot, the mayor of Matanzas, is a dental surgeon of high standing. Doctor Fernando Mendez-Capote, mayor of Cardenas, is a distinguished and highly educated physician and surgeon. His predecessor, Don Joaquin Rojas, now a councilman, is a sugar merchant and broker of the highest character, who speaks English perfectly. Senor Juan Antonio Garmendia, mayor of Colon, is a lawyer of excellent reputation. Doctor Leopoldo Dulzaides, mayor of Union de Reyes, is a practicing physician, of American education, and a gentleman of the most sympathetic and benevolent character. General Clemente Dantin, mayor of Bolondron, and General Clemente Gomez, mayor of Jovellanos, are ex Cuban officers, distinguished for their courage, fortitude and firmness of character, and are themselves a guarantee of good order and honest administration in their communities. Doctor Jose Antonio Frias, mayor of Cienfuegos, is a doctor and professor of law in the University of Havana. He speaks the English language with facility, and has travelled abroad.

Don Luis Lopez Silvero, mayor of Santa Clara, and Don Alfredo de Figueroa, mayor of Sagua la Grande, are gentlemen of high standing. Don Domingo Garcia Loyola, mayor of Caibarien, and Don José Vidal, mayor of Camaguey, are successful merchants, long resident in the United States, and earnestly devoted to the interests of their people. Don Saturnino Sanchez e Yznaga, mayor of Trinidad, is a lawyer, a judge and a planter of wealth, honorable reputation and great influence. His predecessor, Don Carlos Yznaga, now a member of the city council, is a planter, who speaks English perfectly. Don Santiago Garcia Canizares, mayor of Sancti Spiritus, is a doctor in pharmacy, was a member of the revolutionary government, and is a gentleman of intelligence and influence.

All of these officials, and many others whose acquaintance I have made, are persons of serious character and praiseworthy public spirit. The most of them were educated abroad, or have travelled in foreign parts, and all appear to be deeply interested in promoting the good government of their country. So far as I can judge from appearance, inquiry and a close and watchful supervision of their public acts, since I came into command of this department, I feel justified in saying that they are excellent representatives of the Cuban people, and that many of them are equal in all respects to American officials of the same class.

If there is any reason why, with returning prosperity, proper municipal revenues, and the assistance of the doctors, lawyers, merchants and planters who sit in the council with them, these mayors should not continue to manage the affairs of their municipalities and of the country districts surrounding them well and satisfactorily, even after the American troops shall have been withdrawn from the Island, I am unable to perceive it. I do not believe there is any such reason, and I confidently expect the future to show that there is not.

I have dwelt upon this subject at length because it is an important one. It is recognized that the municipality is the political unit in this island, as well as in nearly every other civilized country, and, that while it may be paralyzed by war or great public calamity, it is never wiped out and scarcely ever suspended by revolution. When the municipality receives sufficient revenue, and is free to manage its own affairs within the limits of the law or of its charter, and does so with a fair degree of fidelity and honesty, all higher government becomes comparatively easy to organize

and conduct. This, it may be fairly claimed, is as likely to be the case in Cuba as in any other country.

But as the efficiency of municipal, provincial and insular self-government must in every instance depend as much, if not more, upon economic conditions than upon the racial or social peculiarities of the people, I call special attention to the following statements as to the past and present state of affairs in the provinces of this department.

STATISTICS.

The area of the province of Matanzas is given, upon the best information obtainable, as 3,300 square miles; the area of the province of Santa Clara at 8,773 square miles. Total area of the department, 12,073 square miles.

The population of Matanzas province was in 1894, 271,930, and in 1899 (approximately), 190,560. The population of Santa Clara province was in 1894, 354,122, and in 1899 (approximately), 310,000. Total population of the department, 1899 (approximately), 500,560.

It is estimated that during the war and the period immediately following, over one-third of the population of Matanzas province, and one-seventh of the population of Santa Clara province, were killed or died of sickness and starvation.

On the best evidence obtainable, the number of horned cattle is given as follows: Matanzas province, prior to the war, 298,391, and in January, 1899, 8,800; Santa Clara province, prior to the war, 966,587, and in August, 1899, 66,000.

During the first six months of this year there have been imported into the provinces, respectively, 8,896 and 24,179 head, mostly work and beef cattle—so the present stock on hand is 17,696 in Matanzas province and 66,000 in Santa Clara province.

As has been set forth in previous reports, substantially all the farm work and transportation in these two provinces is performed by oxen; and when it is borne in mind that the above figures make it probable that there were at least 50,000 yoke of cattle employed before the war in Matanzas province, and 150,000 yoke in Santa Clara, and that there are not over 5,500 yoke in the former, and 15,000 yoke in the latter, the terrible loss which has been inflicted upon the country will be apparent.

I do not dwell upon a similar decrease in the horses and mules owned in the provinces, as they were not largely used in the cultivation of the land.

It has been shown that substantially every farmhouse in the two provinces, as well as a large number of the sugar mills, were burned; that the growing crops were destroyed, the agricultural implements broken up, the poultry nearly all killed, and the farming population driven into the fortified towns and villages to starve.

From the foregoing it will be perceived that nearly all of the instruments of production in the hands of the poorer people have been swept away, and that production, outside of that carried on by the larger and richer sugar "ingenios," had entirely ceased. The people were rapidly dying from starvation and disease.

This has been fully arrested, and the farmers, through the aid of rations issued by the United States authorities, have mostly returned to the land. Many of them have reconstructed their palm-thatched cottages, and have so far progressed in the cultivation of vegetable food that the issue of rations is no longer necessary, except to the sick and debilitated people in hospitals and asylums. It is believed from this time forth that food of the character above indicated will be produced in sufficient quantities to keep the people from starving; but, owing to the great lack of cattle, hogs and poultry, flesh food, which seems absolutely necessary to maintain the laboring people in good health and strength, will be very dear and exceedingly scarce.

The clothing of the ordinary small farmer, as well as that of his wife and family, is necessarily of the lightest material. A cheap cotton cloth, generally white in color, is most commonly used by the men, while any sort of light stuff, generally the cheapest "print," suffices for the women. But this item need not greatly concern the small farmer, for the proceeds of his first crop, whatever its character, should provide some suitable clothing for himself, wife and children of size, the smaller children generally being permitted to go about without clothing until they approach the school age. What does concern him, however, and makes more expensive his living, is the absence of farm roads. This is directly due to the fact that the profits of the farm were not sufficient to permit him to pay his taxes, and have anything left with which to assist the municipality or the state in the construction of roads.

SUGAR AND TOBACCO.

Attention has been called in previous reports to the fact

that the industries of these two provinces are identical, and that they are based entirely upon agriculture.

The principal crop is sugar, the combined exports of which for the two provinces, has been for years past equal to 80 per cent. of the entire crop exported by the island. During the crop year just closed, the exports amounted to 1,444,000 sacks, valued at \$11,828,000.

The tobacco produced for the same period is estimated at 90,207 bales, valued at \$3,385,125.

The tobacco crop in the province of Santa Clara is a most important one, because it yields a prompt return for its full value, and does not require a large accumulation of capital for its successful cultivation. A man and his family, with a hoe and a single animal, can properly take care of two or three acres of tobacco land, and every family, if it has the land, can raise a greater or less quantity. No expensive machinery or plant is necessary for housing or curing the crop, and it can always be sold for cash at the nearest town or city.

In this connection it is worthy of note that the tobacco farms have suffered in exactly the same manner with the other farms of the provinces. The houses of the farmers have been burned, their stock killed and their implements broken up, their means of purchasing live stock and seed have, in most cases, been entirely swept away. An urgent appeal has been made to me from the Remedios district for means with which to purchase cattle, agricultural implements and seed and I do not doubt if they could be furnished on fair and reasonable terms, they could be easily paid for within the next two or three years.

OWNERSHIP AND CHARACTER OF LANDS. —COST OF SUGAR PRODUCTION.

The idea that the majority of sugar mills and estates in Matanzas and Santa Clara provinces were owned by foreigners, has been shown in my previous reports to be entirely false. Statistics cannot be had until after the census in reference to the smaller farms, but the belief is confidently expressed the census will show that a very large percentage of all the small holdings belongs to native Cubans.

Again, a misunderstanding has been perhaps given to the people of the United States in reference to the extent and character of the sugar growing lands of the two provinces. It is not true that all of the land is of the first quality which will grow sugar cane from 25 to 30 years without

replanting. The fact is there are but few estates of this sort. The larger proportion of the land, whether red or black soil, produces sugar, continuously and profitably for a period of no longer than 12 to 15 years, and much of it from 3 to 5 years only.

There is but little first-class new or virgin land left in any part of these provinces, though it is said that the province of Puerto Príncipe, which has not yet been furnished with railroads, has considerable quantities, cleared as well as covered with primeval forests. Nearly the whole of the arable land of Matanzas and Santa Clara has been at one time or another under cultivation, and it is proper to add that the cultivation has in most cases, except at the best sugar estates, been as simple as it could be. But little attention has been paid to high class or intensive farming. Scarcely any fertilizers have been used, and on all the small farms and many plantations, the cultivation and the agricultural implements, especially the plows, are of the most primitive character.

Under these circumstances the cost of making sugar has been high, and owing to the fact that few repairs have been made, that the fields have been generally burnt over, that the weeds and grass have taken firm hold upon the land, and that the cattle for cultivation have been killed, it is but natural to suppose that the cost of producing sugar will hereafter, even with good farming and improved methods of manufacture, remain at a standstill, if it does not increase. On account of the scarcity of labor, and the probable increase of the demand, wages will doubtless rise, whilst the cost of improved machinery and the high rate of interest which may have to be paid, all conspire to justify the belief that the sugar interest of this island will require the fostering care of the insular government and the most liberal treatment from the Government of the United States, if it is to be rapidly placed upon its feet.

From the sharp competition which has existed for the greater part of the last half century between the cane and beet sugar interests, supported as the latter has been by high bounties and export premiums, improved processes of manufacture, cheapness of capital and the low price of labor, it will be seen that the sugar cane interests of Cuba, as well as of the other West India islands, have been brought to desperate straits. There is no doubt that the commercial war between these interests and the beet sugar interests, which had its origin in the "Continental" system

of Napoleon, and which has been participated in by the nations of northern Europe on account of the necessity of diversified farm production, and perhaps to an uncertainty of the cane sugar supply, has been one of far reaching consequences.

Since about 1840 the production of beet sugar has doubled every ten years, until now, roughly speaking, it is about 6,000,000 tons per annum, as against 2,000,000 tons of cane sugar. The price of the latter has, of course, been regulated by the price of the former, and of both has been steadily downward, whilst the processes of manufacture have been constantly improving. When sugar was worth 10c per pound the cane was ground by bullock power, and the juice was evaporated in open air pans; but as the price declined grinding by steam was substituted for grinding by bullocks, vacuum pans were substituted for open air pans, the burning of the bagasse was substituted for coal or other fuel, and the modern "Central," with improved chemical methods, absolutely superseded the old-fashioned plants and processes.

The small farmer and the owner of the "colonia" now make no sugar, but sell their cane to the "central."

In the competition, the price of labor was steadily forced down until wages became so low that the laborers could not live. The plantation owner realized so little profit that he could not at the same time maintain his plant, support his family and pay his taxes. The government of Spain insisted upon the full measure of tribute which it had hitherto drawn from the island. Plantations were mortgaged in many cases for more than their value, and many of them became bankrupt. Under these conditions the war with Spain became a necessity. The laboring man, as well as the proprietor, the doctor and the lawyer, felt that he might just as well be killed in battle as to be starved to death at home—and the two revolutions, with their unheard of barbarities and waste, took place, and left the island in ruins.

AGRICULTURAL RELIEF.

The situation at the end of hostilities could not well have been worse. A few months more of the policy of "Reconcentration" must necessarily have destroyed the entire farming population. And even after the war was over, but for the mild climate, those who had escaped starvation

would, in any northern country, have died from the effects of starvation, cold and exposure. The desolation is scarcely conceivable, and this make it still more difficult to understand that a country so utterly devastated as this was, should recover so rapidly.

The actual situation of affairs, it is believed, is different from any that has ever prevailed in a civilized country. It is difficult to perceive how the devastation in the Palatinates or in the Netherlands could have been more complete.

The persistent call for assistance in the various agricultural districts is based upon the fact that the island itself, although not deprived of capital—but having no banks, and being left in a state of uncertainty as to the particular form of government, and the particular character of administration, which are to come—is compelled to look either to the insular treasury or to some extraneous source for such additional capital as will enable it to establish agriculture and commerce on a sound basis.

In view of the foregoing facts, I have strenuously urged in my report of February 16th, pages 14 and 15, in my report of June 20th, pages 13 and 14, and in a special communication to the Adjutant General of the Army dated August 29th,—that the insular treasury should make an allotment of funds for the purchase of cattle, agricultural implements and seeds to be sold to the farmers, on long time, at a low rate of interest; and also for such loans as may be necessary to assist them in reconstructing their homes, and in bringing their land again into production.

So firmly am I convinced of the wisdom, indeed of the absolute necessity, for some such measure as this, that I again reiterate my recommendation, and express the hope that if the plan which I have submitted be not regarded as feasible, some other plan, with the same end in view, may be substituted for it.

It is not to be understood that I am urging this plan for the prevention of starvation. Happily that danger has passed, let us hope forever. But unless there is a substantial revival of agriculture and industry, the people who have for the last year been sustained by the promise of the speedy recovery of prosperity, may become discouraged and reckless, and thus be impelled to give way to a spirit of disorder and violence. The fortunate and prosperous are scarcely ever vicious. The poor and the idle constitute the class which trouble the police and fill the prisons.

CATTLE RAISING.

After sugar and tobacco, the next most important interest in the island of Cuba is cattle raising. Indeed, it is probable that the capital formerly invested in that business was far in excess of that engaged in any other interest except sugar alone.

The entire country, where not absolutely devoted to the growth of sugar cane (which perhaps does not cover one-twentieth part of the superficial area) is covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, and is most admirably adapted to cattle raising.

After careful consideration, I am persuaded that a more prompt return and larger profits can be realized in the next five years in that business, in Cuba, than in any other possible industry—unless Cuban sugar should be permitted to enter the United States free of duty.

While large numbers of oxen and breeding cattle are always found, under normal conditions, in connection with cane growing, it must be remembered that they are supported almost without cost to the proprietors, by the bountiful growth of grass, which is everywhere found in the island. Even on the poorer lands, the cattle ranges are the best I have ever seen in any country in the Northern hemisphere.

This industry, however, has been, as is shown in this report, and those previously submitted, almost absolutely destroyed. The scarcity of breeding cattle is greater still than that of work cattle. The ranges of both Matanzas and Santa Clara, and especially of the southeastern part of the last named province, are absolutely divested of breeding cattle. From a visit to the Moron Trocha, in the western part of Puerto Principe, and from the report of one of my staff officers who has passed entirely through that province, I am assured that it has suffered almost as badly as the provinces of this department.

No more effective relief could be given to the island than to supply it with an adequate number of breeding cattle. If this cannot be done by the direct assistance of the insular treasury, every encouragement should be given to the establishment of banks for that purpose, as recommended by Civil Governor Gomez, of Santa Clara, in a formal report of his on this subject, duly forwarded to the Adjutant General, Division of Cuba, with my objections to certain details noted.

The purport of this plan is sufficiently indicated on page 14 of my report on the Province of Santa Clara, dated June 20th, and forwarded as an appendix to my annual report of August 1st.

POPULAR SENTIMENT.

I now beg to call attention to their general fitness for self-government, and to certain misconceptions which seem to be prevalent in reference to the people of these two provinces.

It cannot be said that any political parties have yet been organized. There are groups of political opinion, but no political parties, as we understand it in the United States, have yet made their appearance.

The Spaniards resident in the island, until they elect to become citizens (which it is understood they can do at any time, without waiting for the expiration of a year) should have no voice in determining the political future of the Island. So far as they have made their opinions known, they favor either a direct annexation, or an active protectorate, which shall insure a stable and peaceful condition of affairs.

A large proportion of Cuban planters and merchants are also supposed to hold similar views, while the official class and the ex-officers of the Cuban army, especially those who have no settled calling, are supposed to favor absolute independence.

The great mass of the laboring people in these provinces are entirely quiescent on the subject, and their opinions, when formed, will necessarily be shaped under the circumstances then existing, by the leaders in whom they have the most confidence. It is understood that so far as opinions have been formed, they are favorable to free Cuba.

No particular idea has been sufficiently developed or discussed to commit the Cuban people as a whole to any special policy for the future. So far as I can judge, if the issue were presented between annexation and absolute independence, the majority would probably favor the latter; but if the issue were presented between annexation and the establishment of such intimate commercial relations, by treaty, as would give the Cuban people assurances of a peaceful government, and free entrance into the United States for their natural and manufactured products, my judgment is that, for the present, they would be largely in favor of the latter.

But this, it must be observed, is a matter of conjecture, upon which it is difficult to form any certain judgment until the subject has been fully considered, not only here, but in the United States. I do not doubt, however, that the Cuban people would favor any reasonable concession that the United States might suggest, and its incorporation into a treaty, if the latter were so drawn as to foster their agricultural and commercial interests, and leave them absolutely independent in matters not referred to in the treaty.

CHARACTER OF POPULATION.

From the best information I have been able to gather, the population is composed two-thirds of white and one-third of colored people. In the white population the native born Cubans are largely in excess.

The proportion of Spaniards, Canary Islanders, Chinese and other foreigners in the population cannot be determined until the completion of the recently ordered census, but it is believed it will be found not larger than fifteen per cent. and that it may run as low as ten per cent. of the entire population.

The colored people are generally a strong and vigorous race. They are modest, docile well-behaved and industrious. Race antagonism does not seem to have made its appearance to any great extent: indeed, so far as these provinces are concerned, it has not shown itself in any public business except at Trinidad, where the colored people are about equal to the whites in number, and many of them are merchants, artisans and tradesmen. This is the only city in which separate schools are maintained for the different colors, and it is noteworthy that the law of the island makes no distinction in school privileges between the whites and the blacks.

In this, as in nearly every other country, the urban population is the most refined and best educated, whilst the greatest amount of illiteracy is found in the rural districts; and it is believed that if an intelligence qualification should be established as a basis for suffrage, it would disqualify nearly as large a proportion of the whites as of the blacks, in the country districts—if not throughout the community.

The higher classes of white people are generally fairly well educated. The doctors, pharmacists, engineers and planters are the most intelligent, and many of them were educated in the States or in Europe. The lawyers are likewise a well educated class, but inasmuch as the Spanish system of law prevails in Cuba, they were necessarily forced to acquire

their education and take their degrees either in Havana or in Spain. This circumstance has been mentioned by several intelligent gentlemen, in conversation with me, as sufficiently explaining the alleged inferiority in attainments and character among the members of this profession.

SELF-GOVERNMENT.

The character and condition of the people and their urgent need for practical assistance in reestablishment of agriculture and commerce having been fully set forth and considered, it now remains to call attention to the fact that unless some direct, immediate and effective pecuniary measures, such as I have recommended, can be adopted and carried out for the accomplishment of this end, a local system of government, which shall give protection to persons and property, and secure proper commercial privileges from the neighboring nations in respect to the natural and manufactured products, becomes urgently and imperatively necessary.

So far as I can judge from a close study of the people, and from intimate association with them for eight months, I am persuaded that the contention of European writers that the white race cannot become acclimatized, or maintain its social efficiency in the tropics, at least so far as Cuba is concerned, is not well founded in fact.

Without going into details, I think a careful investigation will show that the white race has become acclimatized here, and has in no degree lost its social efficiency. It seems to be as prolific, as industrious and as capable as is the Spanish race from which it is mainly descended; and this is sufficiently proved by the fact that the trade of Cuba, notwithstanding its disturbed condition, was, down to the beginning of the war, enormous. It is stated by European writers that "It exceeded that of any other tropical area of its size in the world." When this is considered in connection with the further fact that the trade of the United States with tropical countries amounts to about sixty-five per cent. of its total trade with the remainder of the world, it will be seen that the establishment of proper economic conditions in this island, and of proper trade relations with the United States, is of even greater importance than the establishment of proper political institutions.

The solution of the sugar question, and of the other questions of trade affecting this island, is the first step towards the successful solution of every other question. As it has

been well said by a European writer, "This is not a question of the relative merits of any race amongst civilized people—it is simply and purely a question of the ultimate business relations" of Cuba with the United States, and with the rest of the world.

Obviously, annexation under the Constitution of the United States, whether Cuba becomes a territory or a state, would settle all economic questions, because it would entitle the Cubans to the free and unrestricted exchange of their natural and manufactured products with the United States, but this course, for the present at least, seems to be absolutely prohibited by the terms of the Joint Resolution of Congress which resulted in the war with Spain. It would therefore appear to be the duty of those in authority, and especially of the Congress of the United States, to settle upon some other method of insuring a condition of peace, and the reestablishment of agriculture and commerce in the island.

From the best study I have been enabled to give to the subject, I am strongly of the opinion, as fully set forth in my official report of June 20th, that the line of least resistance will be found in the establishment of a local independent government, republican in form, and, as soon thereafter as practicable, in the negotiation of a treaty of alliance and commerce between Cuba and the United States, which shall give practical effect to the Monroe Doctrine, define the rights, privileges and duties of both the contracting parties on all subjects of common interest, and leave Cuba free and independent in all other matters. That such an arrangement as this would give almost instantaneous relief to Cuba, can hardly be doubted. That it would put matters on the best possible footing for the ultimate absorption of the latter into the Union by natural, voluntary and progressive steps, honorable alike to both parties, seems to be equally probable. It would give time for the Cubans to show that they are not tropical and revolutionary; not a mongrel and vicious race, and not disqualified by religion or impaired social efficiency from carrying on a peaceful and stable government, or becoming American citizens.

In my opinion, whatever may be their merits or political condition, they will never reach the highest freedom and independence of which they are capable till they are free to enter the Great Republic on a just and equal footing; and that will depend not altogether upon them, but upon the American people, who are justly jealous of their citizen-

ship; and of the inestimable privileges which the Constitution guarantees to territories and states, as well as to all their inhabitants.

Further reflection convinces me that nothing is to be gained for the United States, for the foreigners resident in this island or for the Cubans themselves, by further delay in the consideration of this important subject.

It is believed that the establishment and maintenance of a pacific and stable government, and the negotiation of a treaty which would permit the free entrance of sugar and other natural and manufactured products of Cuba into the United States and establish close and reciprocal relations between the two countries; would instantly restore confidence; create an inflow of capital, and bring about such a state of prosperity as would inevitably make this island, as no distant day, one of the richest and most prosperous countries in the Western Hemisphere, if not in the world.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

From the foregoing statements, and the facts and information set forth in the previous reports from these headquarters, it appears:

1st.—That when the United States occupied the provinces of this department, there existed apprehension and anxiety as to the maintenance of order and the reestablishment of civil government, which was converted into a state of confidence and hopefulness by the presence of the American troops.

2nd.—That from a condition of suspension or paralysis, due to the arbitrary exercise of Spanish authority, the municipal authorities throughout the department have been placed in charge of their legitimate duties, and assisted to reestablish municipal government upon a sound and efficient basis. Mayors and councilmen have been made to understand that within the sphere of their public duties they were expected to act independently and efficiently without waiting for instructions from higher authority. They have been restricted by advice from all extravagant and unnecessary expenditure; encouraged to gather up the orphans and indigent, and place them in asylums and hospitals, and to see that suffering and want were relieved in their communities as far as possible. They have been urged to open the schools and gather in the children from the streets and byways. Through the allotments from the insular treasury the school-masters have

been paid, and the schools have been put upon a better and more wholesome basis. While their expenses have been greatly increased by the organization of police, the care of the sick and orphans, and by the sanitary work which has been imposed upon them, and while their revenues have decreased by changes in the tax laws, the deficits where they have occurred in the municipal budgets have been made good by allotments from the insular treasury.

3rd.—That the administration of law was found to be in a demoralized condition, due partly to the fact that the courts were broken up by the resignation or departure of Spanish officials, and partly to the system of arbitrary arrests and the great delay in bringing accused persons to trial. All political prisoners were released, and the cases of such as had not been brought to trial were, as far as possible, investigated; and the accused were discharged from confinement. But there are many prisoners charged with violating the criminal laws yet awaiting trial. Vacancies in the courts have been filled by the military governor of the island. By the same authority changes in the laws have been made, and measures have been adopted which it is believed will result in a great improvement in the administration of justice. This branch of the public service is, however, the most complicated, and the one most difficult for military men to deal with. It is therefore the last to receive full benefit from the changed condition of affairs.

4th.—That a state of great suffering, poverty and sickness existed, with widespread need of medicines and food, which has been entirely relieved by rations issued under the authority of the military governor, so that few issues will have to be made hereafter, and they mostly to the sick and infirm in the hospitals, and to orphans in the asylums.

The necessity of the latter issues could be obviated by a direct allotment of funds to the municipalities or to the benevolent institutions, sufficient to cover their expenses, and the necessary cost of maintaining these institutions and of feeding the inmates.

5th.—That the most of the "Reconcentrados" and farmers driven from their homes, have returned to the country, and are reconstructing their cottages and growing sufficient vegetable food to prevent suffering from hunger, and to render unnecessary any further issues of rations except as above.

6th.—That a police service in every municipality has

been established, and is efficient for the maintenance of peace, good order and quietude, which prevail throughout the department.

7th.—That the cities and towns, from a condition of filth and unhealthiness, have been perfectly cleaned and put in first-class sanitary condition. Cess-pools have been emptied, yards and foul places have been cleansed, holes and badly drained localities have been filled and ditches and drains opened, until the sanitary condition of the towns and cities is as good as it is in cities of like size and situation in the United States or elsewhere.

8th.—That good relations have been established between the natives and foreign residents of the provinces, and a good understanding, with mutual trust and confidence, has been brought about between the American military authorities and the native officials of both the provincial and military governments.

9th.—That political parties have not been organized, but there has been much discussion in the newspapers, and much consideration on the part of the various political groups, in reference to future political and economic conditions, and especially in reference to the relations which are to be established between the Cuban people and the people of the United States. While there has been some discontent and some harsh and unfriendly criticism on the part of Cuban newspapers, on the whole the attitude of the people of this department has been one of friendship and hopeful expectancy.

10th.—That it must not be overlooked that in the occupancy of the cities of Matanzas, Cárdenas and Cienfuegos, and of the other towns which have been garrisoned by American troops, a great improvement has been given to the economic and social conditions by the disbursement of the quartermaster, engineer and sanitary departments for labor and material used in the construction and repairs of barracks, and in carrying on the works of improvement which have been undertaken. This, together with the conviction that the American military administration has stood for peace, good order and the honest conduct of public affairs, has been one of the most potential influences for good which has ever exerted itself in this island.

Finally, it is to be observed that all this has been done without arbitrary interference, the use of force, or by the establishment of military rules and regulations for civil affairs; and that the officers and men of the American Army

have generally shown great tact in dealing with the Cuban officials, and great kindness and consideration for the manners, customs and peculiarities of the Cuban people.

The circumstances of the case to be dealt with have had no parallel in modern history. Distinguished writers on public questions have suggested the application of the methods used by the British in the government of India; ignoring the fact that India was a conquered country; and that the system of government now in force there, grew step by step from the needs and regulations of an English trading company to such as were necessary for the control and government of an empire; and was characterized by every species of blunder and mismanagement, while this island was occupied by us, not as invaders or conquerors, but as a friendly power or a benevolent intercessor, free from selfish commercial interests, as well as from religious and social intolerance, and from ignoble purposes of every sort.

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS.

Having given my views and observations fully herein upon all subjects which have been brought to my attention or which seemed pertinent to this report, I now take the liberty of summarizing my conclusions for easier reference, on the course which I have recommended in regard to our future relations with Cuba, as set forth in my report of June 20th on the Province of Santa Clara.

Feeling assured that the successful solution of the questions pertaining to the re-establishment of agriculture, and especially to the production of cane sugar in this Island and its competition with beet sugar in our own markets, would solve nearly all the difficult problems which confront the Cuban people, I have given the most unremitting study and attention to local conditions, and to the course we should pursue under the law as it now exists.

Through our powerful intervention, Cuba has been released from Spanish domination. We have expelled the Spanish army from her borders, and the Spanish navy from her neighboring waters; but if we leave her now, or at an early day, to the government of her own people, without making specific arrangements for the protection of our permanent interests, and for the establishment of those friendly, close and reciprocal relations which should manifestly exist between her and the United States, our work will be only half done, and the question might arise

as to whether we had not better have left the unfortunate Island in the unrelenting hands of Spain.

As before stated, I feel convinced by the facts and reasons given that action on the political problems can be taken with safety as soon as the results of the census about to be taken can be made known.

In accordance with all American precedents, a representative convention of the Cuban people should be assembled, to frame a constitution and form of government, and as soon as the same should have received the approval of the President and Congress, the government organized thereunder should be elected and inaugurated with as little delay as may be necessary for its orderly and decent establishment.

Obviously the next step would be to negotiate a treaty of alliance and commerce—a treaty of reciprocity, if you please, with the new government, which should provide:

1—For the guarantee to the people of Cuba of a republican government, and that it should be both peaceable and stable.

2—For the free entry into each country of the natural and manufactured products of the other, under the protection of a common and uniform tariff as against all other nations.

(If, for any reason, it should be found impracticable to adopt this provision in full, then there should be the greatest allowable reduction of duty on sugar, which is the principal crop of the island, and the one which requires the greatest possible concession.)

3—For the administration of the customs of the island under the supervision of the United States, in such a manner as would render it certain that the smuggling of articles in which there may be free trade between the two countries, should be reduced to a minimum, and that no advantage should be had by introducing them through one country rather than the other.

4—For the cession of one or more naval stations, for the better protection of the American ports in the Gulf of Mexico and of such interoceanic canal as might hereafter be constructed under American auspices at Nicaragua or Panama.

5—The establishment of a postal union, and of uniform quarantine and sanitary laws, which, for obvious reasons, should also be under the supervision of a United States Commissioner.

6—For the regulation of such other important matters of mutual concern as might be agreed upon.

It is a noteworthy fact that if free trade in natural and manufactured products, subject only to internal revenue laws, could be allowed to this island with the United States, every essential condition of the reestablishment of agriculture and commerce would be fulfilled. Anything less than this would give only partial relief.

If it should happen that other nations having West Indian possessions should also claim the benefits of free trade with the United States under "The Most Favored Nations" clause, or that the United States could not spare the revenue which it would lose on Cuban products, and especially on Cuban sugar, this would perhaps be an argument in favor of the early admission of both Cuba and the other West Indian islands into the Union, or at least for much closer relations with the United States than they have hitherto enjoyed.

The settlement of these questions must necessarily be left to Congress, and hence I do not discuss them more fully in this report.

I feel confident, however, that the more seriously they are considered, the more likely are they to be decided in a manner which would be favorable to the adoption of the full measure of economic relief which is necessary for the complete rehabilitation of the Island of Cuba, and the maintenance therein of a stable government, supported by a prosperous and progressive people.

Respectfully submitted:

JAMES H. WILSON,

*Commanding Military Dep't of Matanzas
and Santa Clara.*