

entitled him in public estimation to an opportunity to return with all the power and pomp and circumstance of an American conqueror and Cuban deliverer. But that might have made him formidable as a presidential candidate. So Gen. Shafter was sent to Santiago in command of the first expedition, Gen. Lee being assured that when it came to taking Havana, he should have his innings. But Havana gave up without a blow. However, a governor general of the island was needed during our temporary occupation, and who so fit as Lee? But the president preferred a fluffy martinet, Gen. Brooke, and Lee was given the governorship only of Havana province. That seemed fit enough, as far as it went, since the city of Havana had been the central scene of Lee's Cuban experiences, and as governor of the province he would of course govern the city through his subordinate, Gen. Ludlow, to whose immediate control the city was assigned. But hardly had Lee arrived in Cuba, when the city of Havana was detached from the province and Ludlow withdrawn thereby from Lee's command. In consequence, Lee is now what you might call a suburban military governor. Could shelving be more smoothly done?

It is significant of much that is hopeful that the Patria, the organ of the Cuban revolutionary party, conspicuously publishes single tax articles from the pen of J. de D. Tejada, and that the articles are reproduced in the best papers of Cuba.

It is not all plain sailing for Gov. Pingree, the republican executive of Michigan. Before the people he has his own way, for they trust him. In popular contests, consequently, he wins easily. The party corruptionists and bosses grind their teeth and swear fluently, but they give Pingree right of way when there is a referendum. It is different, though, when the legislature comes to act. There the corruptionists and bosses have an advantage over a bluff, straightforward, honest leader like Pingree. So it has

come about that the United States senator whose reelection Pingree opposed because the senator had proved to be a mere tool of the lumber ring, was forced upon the party and the state by the republican caucus. So too it came about that Pingree's measure for taxing railroad corporations equally with individual property owners was defeated last year. But Pingree is more than bluff, straightforward and honest. He is also determined, resourceful and courageous. And this winter he announces to the corporation tools of his party in the Michigan legislature that unless they pass an equal taxation measure, he will refuse to sign the appropriation bill. That would apparently be a rash remedy; but desperate cases require rash remedies. It may be inferred, besides, that Gov. Pingree knows the people of Michigan well enough to believe that they will endure temporarily the inconveniences of no appropriations for public business, so long as they realize that the legislature can avoid the inconveniences by simply making corporations pay their fair proportion of taxes. It is not probable that Pingree will be unhorsed in this tournament.

The kind of republican management in the matter of senatorships which Pingree had to meet and fight in Michigan, was like that which the republican governor of New York has made no attempt to fight. Pingree did his best to defeat Burrows, the corporation senator from Michigan; but Roosevelt did not resist if indeed he did not favor the election from New York of Depew, the corporation clerk. Aside from his reputation as an after dinner speaker, and as a declaimer of platitudes on anniversary occasions, Depew has no reputation at all except as head servant of the Vanderbilt family. Originally a Vanderbilt lobbyist at Albany when the Albany legislature was most unblushingly corrupt and the lobby consequently most powerful, he has been promoted step by step in the Vanderbilt service, until now that family, through the amiability of the repub-

lican party of New York, advance him to a seat in the United States senate—the second place in importance that they can hope to have within their gift—while he is yet chairman of the board of the Vanderbilt roads. It is as a Vanderbilt servant, not as a statesman—for he is the one and not the other—that Chauncey M. Depew enters the United States senate. His election for that place is the most impudent confession the republican party has yet made of its decadence. It is even more impudent than the selection of Mark Hanna, for he was opposed within his party and had to buy his way through.

Two British workingmen, Messrs. Thorne and Inskip, the former of the Gas Workers' Union and the latter of the Boot and Shoe Operatives, were sent as labor delegates from Great Britain to the convention of the American Federation of Labor recently held at Kansas City. They have just returned to England, and their interviews in London newspapers show their ideas of the condition of American as compared with English workingmen. Mr. Thorne says that he—

as a workingman would not choose the United States as a home.

Mr. Inskip comes to the same conclusion. Speaking with deference of his American brethren, he is nevertheless of opinion that—

the workers in England are better off than the workmen in the United States, for, while the latter may earn more in actual cash, the purchasing capacity of their wages for the necessities of life is less by comparison than the wages paid in England.

And this after years of tariff protection expressly for the benefit of American workmen. England, the one country against which our tariff barriers are especially erected, nevertheless gives her workingmen a better living than workingmen can get in protected America! As a protective measure for workingmen, the tariff would seem, then, to be a dismal failure.