

# EASTERN CVBA



**MUNSON STEAMSHIP LINE**

**82 BEAVER STREET  
NEW YORK**

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CAUTO RIVER, PROVINCE OF ORIENTE.

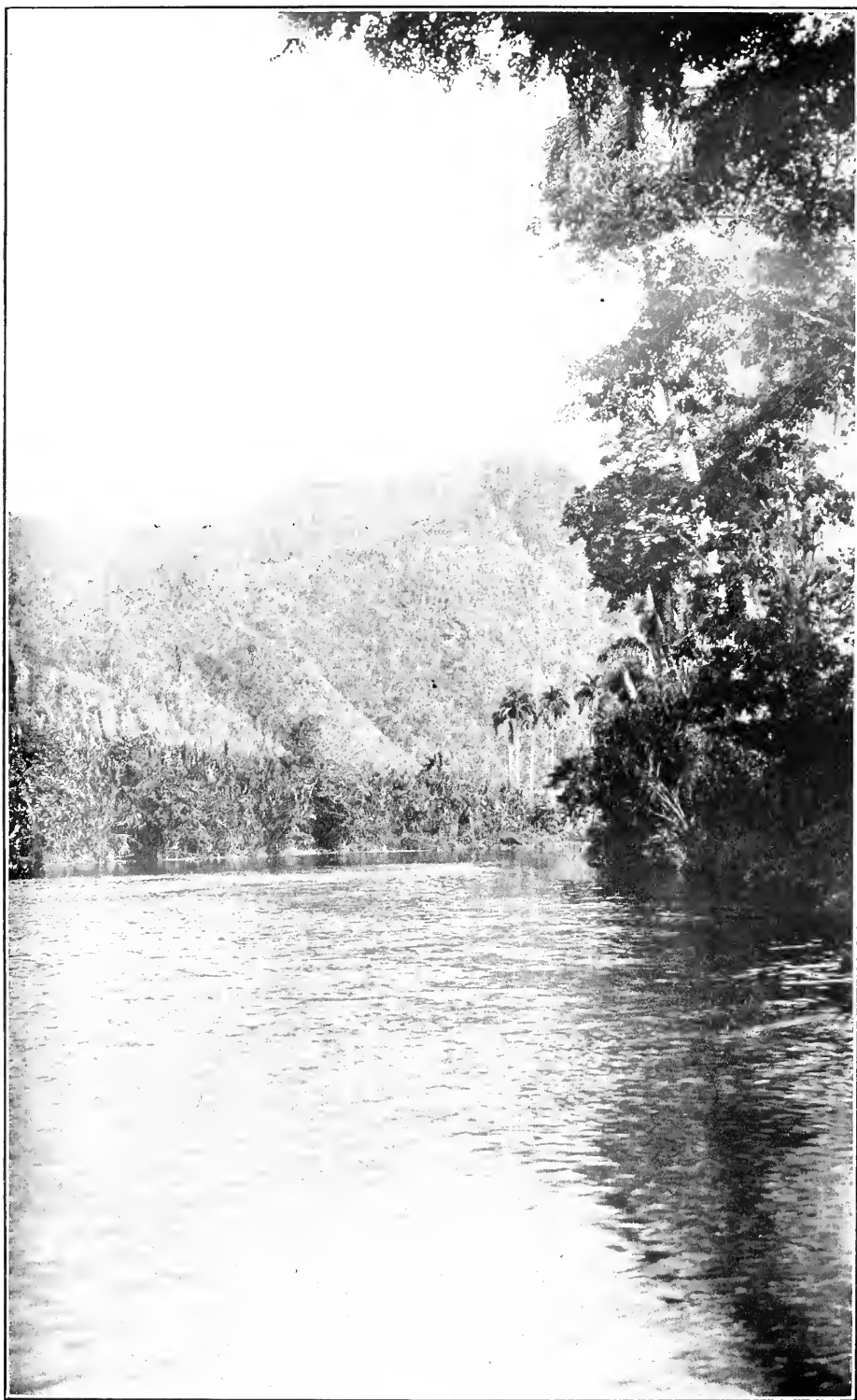
## EASTERN CUBA



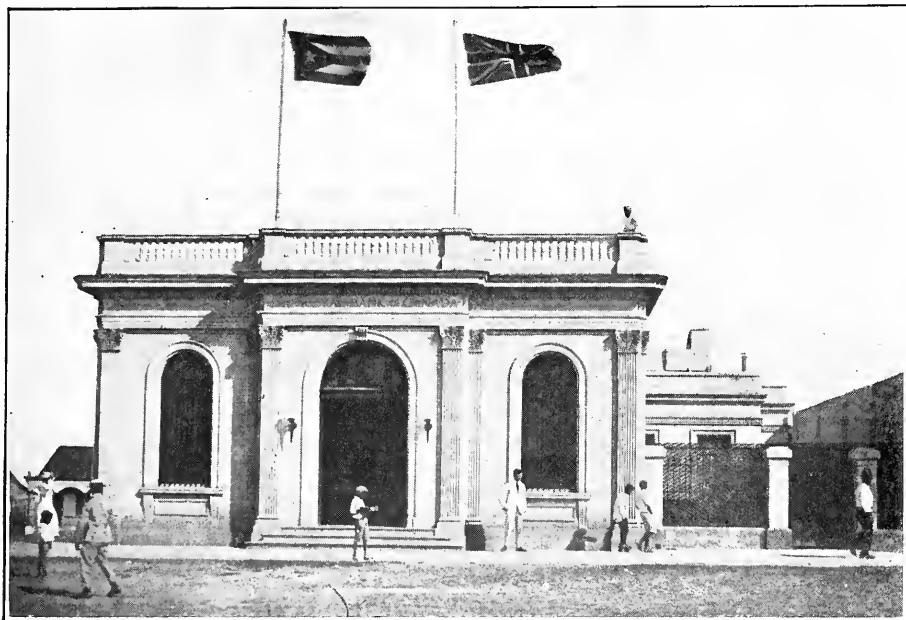
HE ISLAND OF CUBA, largest of all the West Indies, lies between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. It extends in a direction from northwest to southeast, its northwestern extremity being Cape San Antonio, in west longitude  $84^{\circ} 55'$ , and its southeastern extremity, Cape Maisi, in longitude  $74^{\circ} 12'$ .

The Island is approximately 760 miles long, with an area of 45,881 square miles. Placed on the map of the United States, it would reach from the City of New York to Indianapolis, with an average width equal to that of New Jersey. The Island is only 120 miles wide at its broadest part, and it averages from 60 to 100 miles in width.

The mortality of Cuba is lower than that of any other country in the world. The average temperature for the Island is  $76.8^{\circ}$ , with a range of  $12^{\circ}$ . It is highest in July, when it averages  $82.4^{\circ}$ , and lowest in January, with  $70.3^{\circ}$ . The humidity is not noticeable in winter months, but in summer it is relatively high.



MAYARI RIVER, PROVINCE OF ORIENTE.



ROYAL BANK OF CANADA, ANTILLA.



VIEW OF ANTILLA, LOOKING WESTWARD FROM THE HILL.



VIEW FROM THE HILL, ANTILLA.



RESIDENCE, ANTILLA.

The constant breezes, however, do much to temper the summer heat of Cuba, which seldom reaches the high marks that are sometimes recorded in the United States. Only on rare occasions does the mercury go below 60° in winter or above 90° in summer. The Island is swept by the northeast trade winds of the Atlantic.

Not only from the viewpoint of health and comfort, but from that of successful agriculture, does the distribution of rainfall play a very important part in Cuba.

The average annual rainfall is 54 inches. The rainy season, so called, begins with remarkable regularity in the middle of May and continues until the end of October, but during this period there is little or no cloudy weather, with mornings almost always bright and clear. The heavy showers come up during the afternoons and rain falls in tropical abundance for a half hour or more. Rapid evaporation of the water causes the cool nights of summer, which so surprise and delight the tourist or traveller who may remain in Cuba during the warm months. The dry season begins in November and lasts until May.

The topography of Cuba lends to the Island a peculiar and striking beauty, not found in many large islands.

The average altitude of the plain lands of Cuba is from 80 to 100 feet above sea level, although there are gently rolling, cultivable hills that are 300 feet or more in height. The Island has for its structural base a chain of mountains, varying in height from one to eight thousand feet.

Cuba has two thousand miles of seacoast and is noted for its spacious, land-locked harbors. Owing to the narrow width of the Island, its rivers and valleys are naturally short.

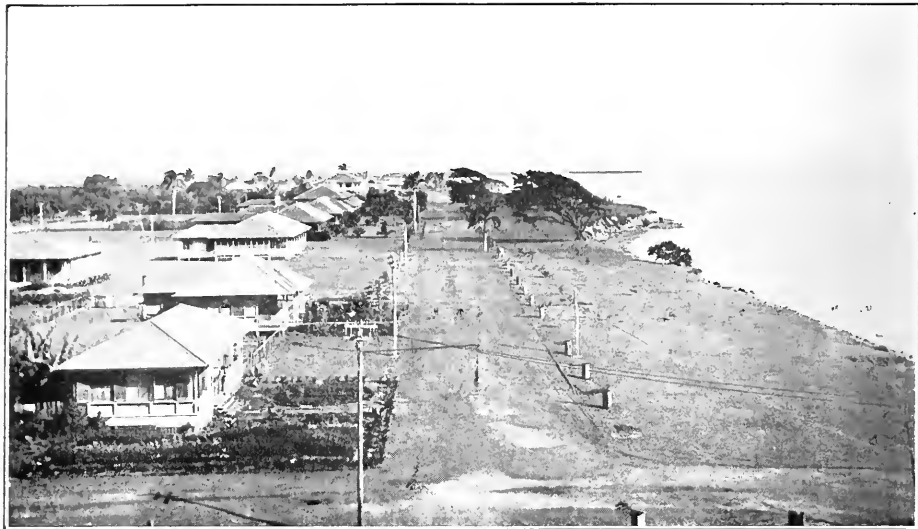
Vegetation is superlatively abundant. The flora includes many thousands of native plants and the trees embrace a variety of hardwoods, with over thirty species of palm. Practically all the fruit and vegetables of the tropics flourish in the Island and also many of those characteristic of the temperate regions.

Cuba, with a population of less than 3,000,000, could support many times the existing number of inhabitants in comfort and prosperity. The majority of the inhabitants of the Republic are the descendants of people of Spanish origin. Of the total population, 70% are white, while only 30% belong to the African race and its crosses.

One essential trait, instantly recognized by the traveller who chances to visit Cuba, is the inborn courtesy which is apparent in almost all grades of society, from that of the farmer in his bohio to the highest officials of the Island.

Eastern Cuba holds a special interest for Americans because of its past associations with the cruise of Christopher Columbus in 1492, when he discovered the Island, which he called, "The most beautiful island that human eyes have ever seen."

The eastern end of the Island is noted for its natural beauty: its mountain ranges, fertile valleys, tropical vegetation, and beautiful natural harbors make it unusually picturesque and delightful to travellers.



RESIDENCES ALONG THE BAY AT FELTON.



GUASO RIVER, GUANTANAMO.





CAUTO RIVER, PROVINCE OF ORIENTE.



INCLINED RAILWAY, FELTON.




OFFICE OF THE MUNSON STEAMSHIP LINE, ANTILLA.



THE HOTEL AT ANTILLA.

## PROVINCE OF ORIENTE




HE PROVINCE OF ORIENTE, at the eastern extremity of the Island, formerly called Santiago de Cuba, is the largest Province in Cuba. By many it is considered to be the best in natural resources, diversity of opportunity, and fertility of the land. The mountain regions are extremely rich in minerals and are covered with a rich, black soil that will produce crops of many kinds, especially coffee, cacao and citrus fruits. The land is covered with dense tropical forests and the exportation of hardwood lumber is one of the leading industries.

Sugar cane is grown extensively on the north coast, from Puerto Padre to Nipe Bay, and on the south coast, around Guantanamo, Cape Cruz and Manzanillo. There are forty-six sugar centrals in the Province and it ranks second as a sugar producing Province. The soil is naturally rich, with a high lime content; it also has abundant humus from the forests and, in the lower end of the Province, the washings from the mountains.

There is a great deal of fine pasture land in Oriente, and cattle-raising is an industry that is growing in importance. There are considerable areas in bananas on the north coast, in the region of Antilla on Nipe Bay. Around Mayari quantities of tobacco are grown and there are also some notable coconut groves along the coast.

The most extensive waterway in the Island is in the Province of Oriente, the Cauto River, with its tributaries. Thousands of acres of magnificent lands lie in huge tracts along the Cauto. The Mayari River, rising in the mountains and emptying into Nipe Bay, is also in Oriente Province.

The important ports in the Province of Oriente are Antilla, Manzanillo, Guantanamo, and Santiago de Cuba.



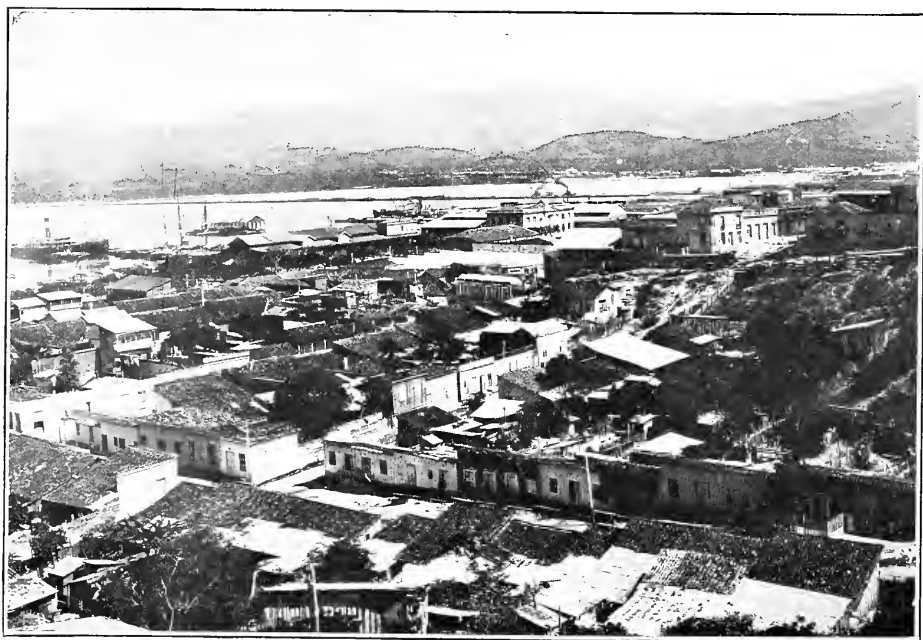
NTILLA, situated on Nipe Bay, one of the largest and best natural harbors in Cuba, is the principal port on the north shore in Eastern Cuba. Around Nipe Bay, which is a land-locked expanse of water, having an area of 150 square miles, great development is being made.

At Antilla the Cuba Company has done much toward the improvement of the port. At Preston and at Banes, a few miles away, there are some of the largest sugar mills in the Island. Banes is an excellent harbor. It has a deep, narrow entrance about three miles long, bordered by high cliffs, and is extremely picturesque. At Felton there are extensive works for the shipment of iron ore from the enormous deposits in the vicinity.

The MUNSON STEAMSHIP LINE maintains a fortnightly passenger and freight service from New York to Antilla. The distance from Antilla to Havana is 517 miles.



ALTO CEDRO, JUNCTION ON CUBA RAILROAD.



SANTIAGO, LOOKING WEST.

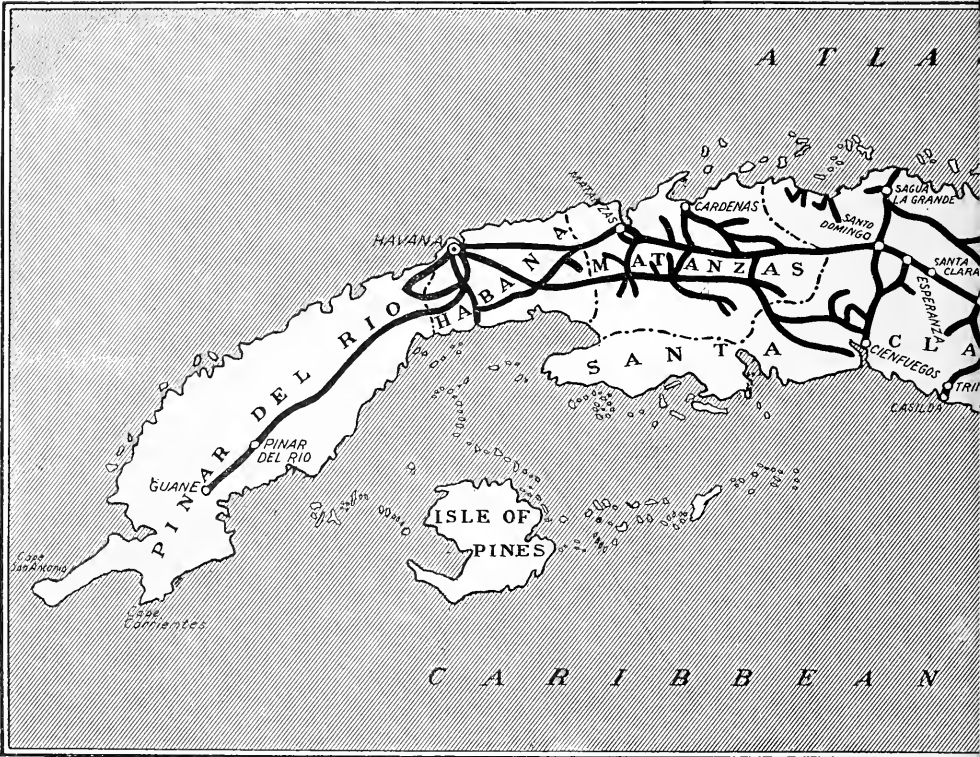


MORRO CASTLE, SANTIAGO DE CUBA.



SAN CARLOS CLUB, SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

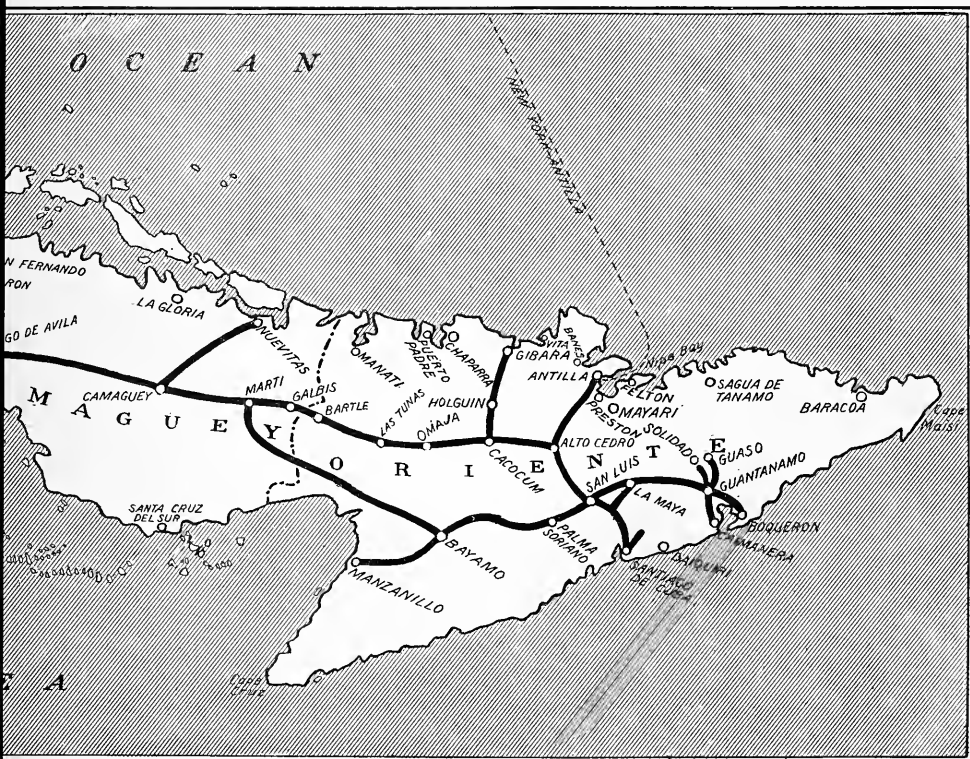
THE ISLA



Cuba is the healthiest country in the world, as the figures in the following table, giving the number of deaths per thousand, show :

Cuba .....	12.54
Australia .....	12.60
Uruguay .....	13.40
United States .....	15.00
England .....	17.70
Germany .....	17.80
France .....	20.60
Spain .....	29.70

## DF CUBA

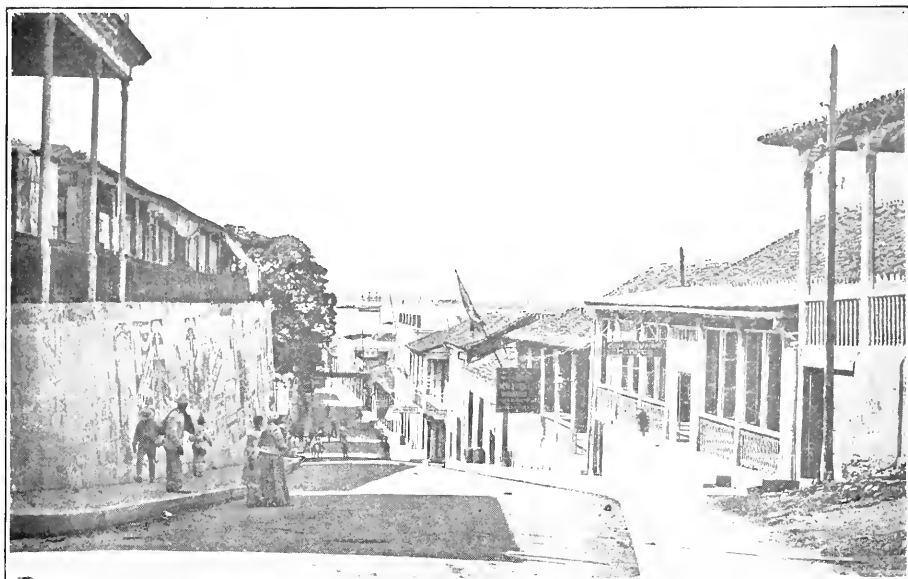


Total values of merchandise imported into the United States from Cuba, and exported from the United States to Cuba during the years ending June 30, 1917 and 1918, were as follows:

	1917	1918
Imports .....	\$253,395,410	\$264,024,006
Exports .....	178,292,328	235,469,608

The Cuban sugar crop of 1918-19 is estimated at 4,000,000 tons.



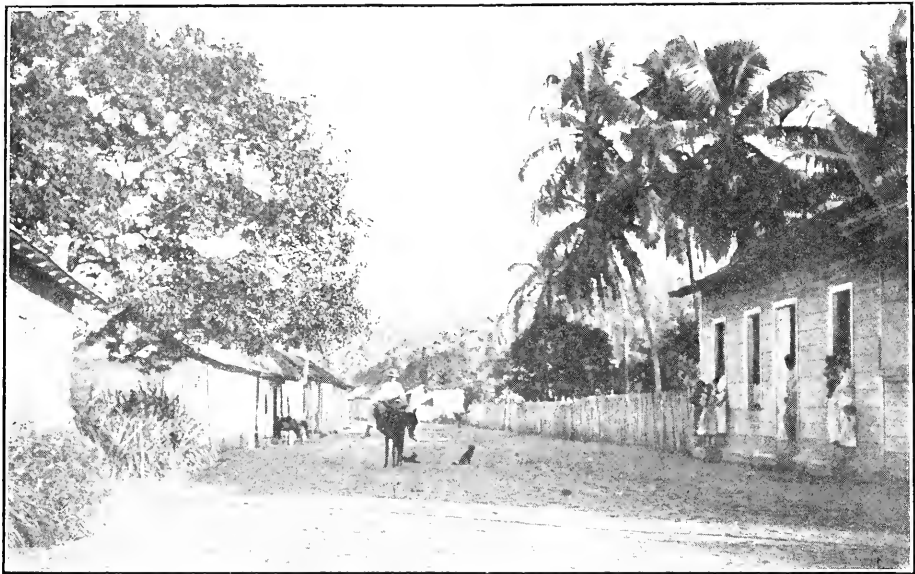


STREET IN SANTIAGO.

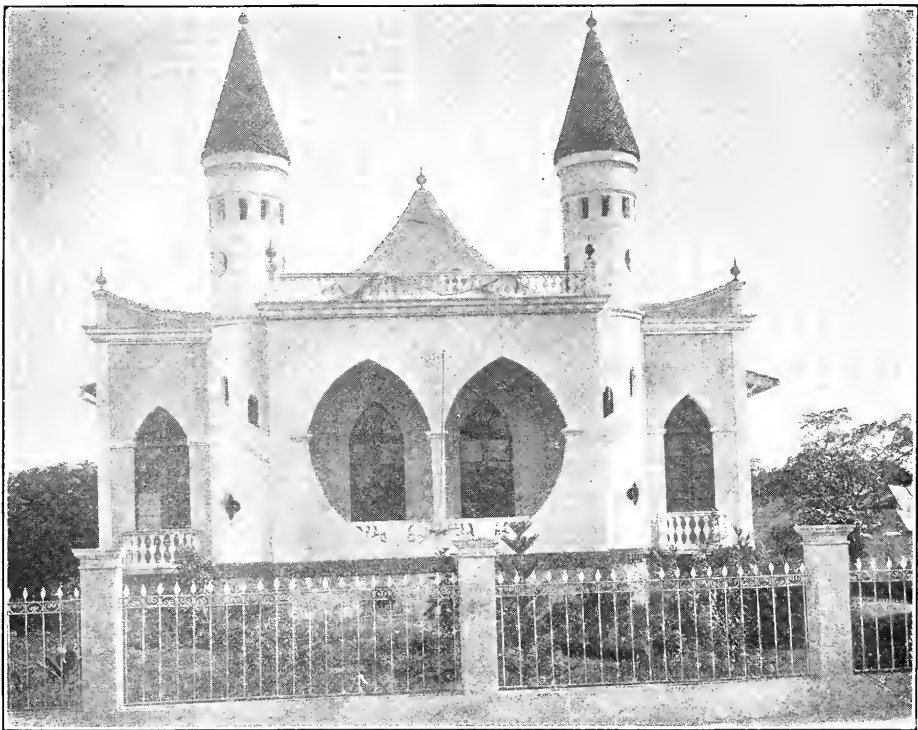


BONIATO ROAD, SANTIAGO DE CUBA.





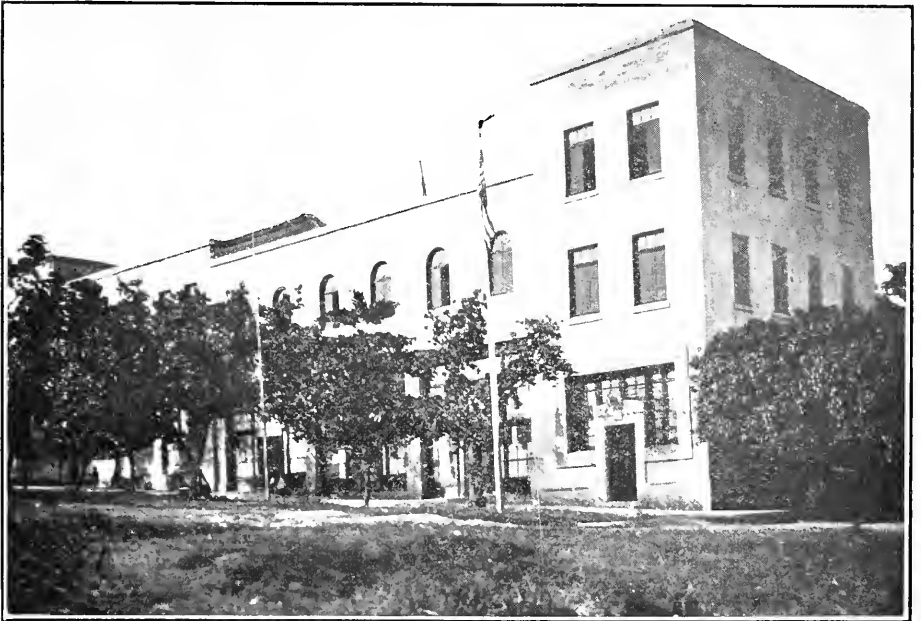
STREET IN BARACOA.



SPANISH CONSULATE, SANTIAGO DE CUBA.



DAIQUIRI.



OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN CONSUL, ANTILLA.



MANZANILLO is an important seaport on the Caribbean coast. The sugar district of Manzanillo has been famous for more than half a century. Sugar and timber are the chief exports. The city enjoys a large trade with the interior and its prominence has been largely increased by the recently completed railway which connects it with the rest of the Island.

Manzanillo is 196 miles from the port of Antilla and is reached by steamer to Antilla and rail trip via Marti or San Luis. The distance from Manzanillo to Havana is 487 miles.



GUANTANAMO is situated on Guantanamo Bay, a few miles east of Santiago de Cuba. Here the United States maintains an important naval station, and, as a strategic point, Guantanamo is of supreme importance to the peace and prosperity of the United States.

Guantanamo is reached by steamer to Antilla and a short rail trip via either Santiago or San Luis. The distance to Antilla is 105 miles and to Havana 568 miles.



ANTIAGO DE CUBA is situated among the hills at the head of one of the best harbors in the world. It was founded in 1514 and is one of the oldest cities in the Western Hemisphere. Historic events have made Santiago de Cuba a center of interest for American tourists. In the war between the United States and Spain, most of the important engagements took place in the vicinity of Santiago.

There are numerous interesting drives, the most beautiful one being to Boniato Summit. The Boniato road is one of the finest highways in Cuba. It is of heavy macadam, excellent for automobile traffic, and extends from Santiago over the mountains to San Luis. A magnificent panoramic view of the city and harbor of Santiago is obtained from this road.

Another interesting trip from the City of Santiago is to Morro Castle, which is both historic and picturesque, and still other points of interest which a tourist will not wish to miss are the famous San Juan Hill and the Peace Tree.

Santiago is described as a city of homes with pillared balconies, airy courts, spacious corridors, and tall, deep-set windows, shielded by fancifully wrought gratings and massive shutters of carved wood.

Santiago is reached by steamer to Antilla, thence by rail direct for a distance of 80 miles. It is 535 miles from Havana.



ENTRANCE TO SANTIAGO HARBOR.



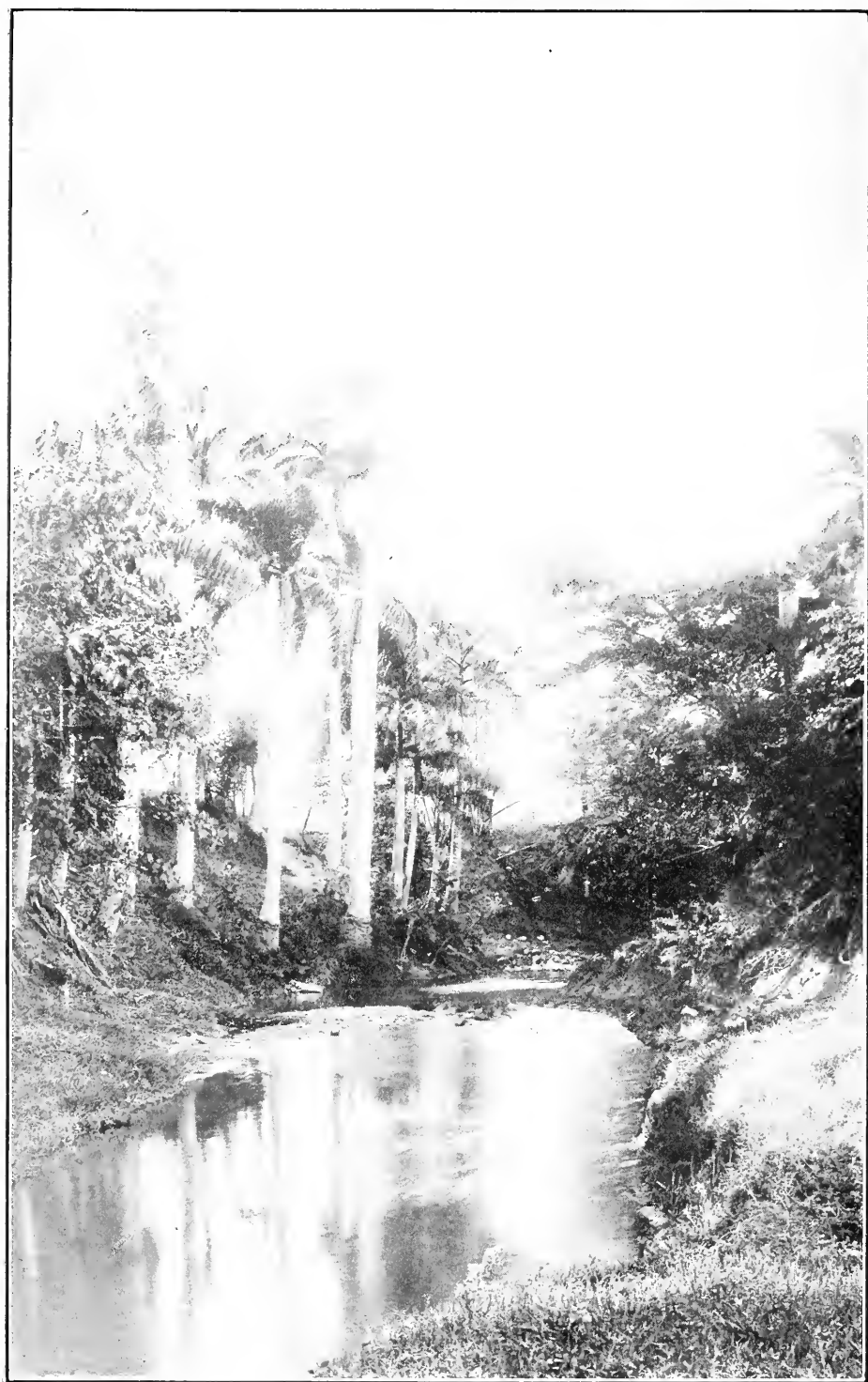
IGLESIA LAS MERCEDES, CAMAGÜEY.



ALONG THE WATERFRONT AT NUEVITAS.



A DWELLING IN BARACOA.



WILD COUNTRY.

Other towns in Oriente that deserve mention are Gibara, Chaparra, Pto, Padre and Baracoa. Gibara, Chaparra, where the Chaparra Sugar Estate is located, and Pto. Padre are situated on the north coast, west of Antilla, and the town of Baracoa is the extreme eastern port on the north shore and is reached by coastwise steamers from Antilla.

**B**ARACOA has attached to it more than casual interest, for it is one of the oldest towns of the North American continent. It was settled in 1514 by Diego Columbus, a son of Christopher Columbus. In 1518 Leo X erected a cathedral there, the first in Cuba. The town has a population of 8,000 inhabitants, who take pride not only in the town and its progress, but in the old Columbus house, which may still be seen. It was at Baracoa that Maceo and his nineteen followers landed in February, 1895, and started the revolutionary war which ended in the emancipation of Cuba.

The town, prosperous and wealthy, is beautifully situated on an elevation, on the summit of which is a star-shaped fort of medieval structure. The harbor is particularly beautiful and has a setting of high hills, which are mariners' landmarks. Baracoa is encircled by mountains that rise from the water's edge, and the city is laid out with numerous parks and avenues of palms.

There is an extensive coconut industry carried on in Baracoa, and the mills grind from 30,000 to 50,000 coconuts a day for the purpose of extracting coconut oil.

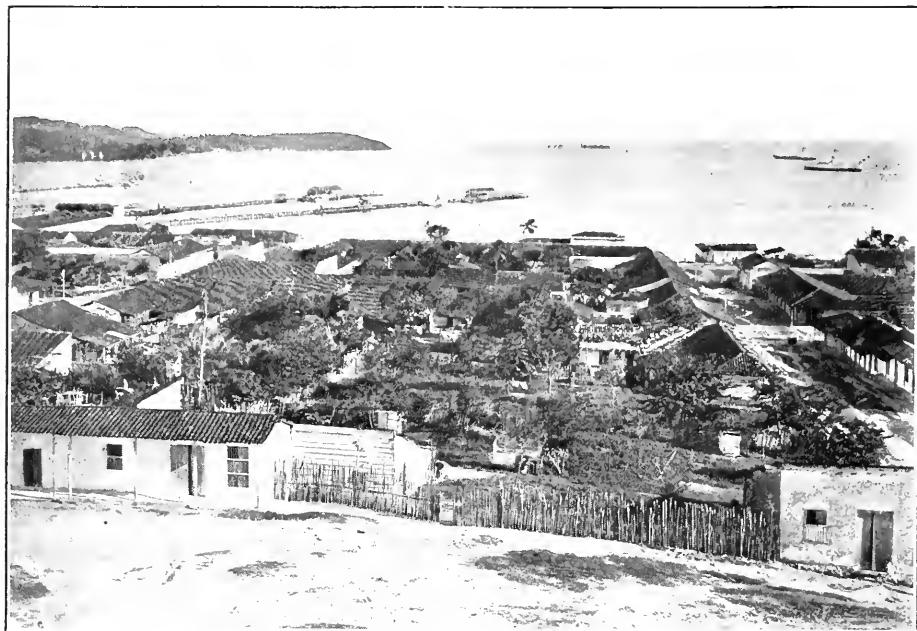
## PROVINCE OF CAMAGÜEY

**T**HE PROVINCE OF CAMAGÜEY, adjoining Oriente Province on the west, is one of the larger provinces of Cuba. It has a considerable diversity of soil, with much of the lighter variety, and the grazing and cattle industry, logging, and the production of honey and wax are the most important industries of the Province.

There are twenty-one sugar mills in Camagüey Province and the north coast is well suited for the growing of henequen.

**N**UEVITAS, on the north coast, is an old town and is the port for Camagüey, forty-three miles distant and connected by railroad. Nuevitas has a good harbor and the Cuba Railroad has constructed a large wharf and terminal at Pastelillo. A railroad is now being constructed from Nuevitas to Caibarien. These improvements will have an important bearing on the future development of Nuevitas and its commercial activities.

Sugar, lumber and citrus fruits are the chief exports, and several large sugar mills are located on the line of railroad.



NUEVITAS BAY.



MACEO STREET, CAMAGÜEY.





A STREET IN CAMAGÜEY.



STREET CORNER, CAMAGÜEY.



A GLORIA, a large American colony, is located about forty miles west of Nuevitas and may be reached by motor launches from Nuevitas.

La Gloria is one of the oldest and most prosperous American settlements in the Island and is especially noted for its citrus fruit plantations.



CAMAGÜEY, the capital of the Province bearing its name, is a place of about 35,000 inhabitants. It was founded in 1515 and was later removed from the coast to its present site in the interior. The city bore at that time the name of Puerto Principe. It was sacked by Henry Morgan and his buccaneers in 1668. In 1902 the aboriginal name, *Camagüey*, was officially restored. The city lies on a plain about midway between coasts, 550 feet above sea level. Its climate, in winter especially, is ideal.

Here the Cuba Railroad Company operates the Hotel Camagüey. The building was constructed more than half a century ago for cavalry and infantry barracks, and was long so used. It occupies, with its patios, nearly five acres. The great corridors are striking features, and the inner gardens (patios), bright with foliage, plants and tropical flowers, are beautiful indeed.

The City of Camagüey looks its antiquity. It is full of quaint and picturesque nooks and corners. The projecting window grills, the heavy cornices, and overhanging, fluted tile roofs, the crumbling masonry and the venerable aspect of streets and houses make a succession of attractive pictures. Visitors are invariably pleased to remain in Camagüey. Its modern conveniences, electric street cars, clean streets and parks, and the accommodations at the Hotel Camagüey, together with the fine climate, make Camagüey a comfortable place of residence, while its odd byways, peculiar old buildings and Moorish flavor afford much of interest. Among the many attractions of Camagüey are its time-worn churches.

Camagüey is 338 miles from Havana and 277 miles from Antilla and can be reached by steamer to Antilla, thence by rail direct.

