figures estimated there, too. "But we planters, on the contrary," continues the Cienfuegos esism, the result of actual experience. Some gentlemen inform me that they are still getting an at the conclusion he would have reached had arroba and a half less than the normal yield, the reception been given, for he has selected and the frequent rains not only delay work but produce variations in the juices; they are away behind in their work and fear that the end of the campaign (stopped by the advent of the real rainy season) will find much cane unground. We are some 150,000 behind 1910 and it will be difficult in the three remaining months to make that up.

The market here, as it closed to-day, was quiet with tendency downwards. A refiner had bought at 35/16, delivery during April; this would seem to indicate improvement, but large lots offered at these same figures find no takers. Little lots needed to complete shipments sometimes find exceptional sale. Latest operations made public are as follows:

Bags.	Cent.	Reales.	
6.000	96 at	6.46	Cinfuegos
2.000	96 at	6.45	Matanzas
600	95 at	6.381/2	Transhipment
15.000	96 at		Cardenas
1.800	96 at	6.30	Sagua
2,000	96 at	6.31	Delivery this mon

On the 24th Socorro sewed up her hundred thousandth bag. The owner, Sr. Pedro Arenal, proposes to fill 250,000 this campaign. He plans to improve his machinery and fill 400,000 bags in 1913. He has the cane planted to do it. Two million arrobas of his cane are being ground this year at another factory than his own. He controls two thousand caballerias of land (33 1/3 acres to the cab.). It used to support twenty-eight mills of the passed regime. Sr. Arenal had sold before the campaign began more than 100,000 bags at 6.92 reales which makes him and his colones feel safe and happy right now.

M. Emil Fuchs, the famous British portrait painter, friend of Queen Victoria, and of King Edward, is in Havana, and it is reported be will paint before he leaves a portrait of the late Sr. D. Antonio Gonzalez de Mendoza, whose sons still own Santa Gertrudis at Banaguises. This, the third largest mill in Matanzas Province, is one of the few which has remained in the hands of the family which developed it. Generation after generation of Mendoza succeeds to the management, and it speaks well for the progressive spirit of that great family that through all the changes which have revolutionized the sugar industry in Cuba, and despite political cataclysms which have ruined many of their fellow planters, the Mendozas have not only hung on to Santa Gertrudis, but they have kept it in the forefront among down-to-date mills. M. Fuch is said to be painting in an upper room in the Mendoza residence here in Havana from old photographs of Sr. Mendoza.

He is at the present moment, however, at Central Conchita at Union, the guest of Sr. Juan Pedro Baro. It was an open secret when M. Fuchs arrived here that he desired to paint the portrait of the Cuban lady who most nearly embodied, to his mind, the womanly loveliness for which this island is justly famous. It had

the reception was abandoned, greatly to the regret of the ladies who were to have attended. age and has, many agree, arrived nevertheless Mrs. Juan Pedro Baro (Catalina Laza) as his subject, and she has consented. The wife of the owner of Conchita is, it is universally conceded, hundred pounds of cane. one of the loveliest ladies in this land, and M. Fuchs has awarded the apple well.

As to politics, there was a time last week when the quiet which prevailed here was diagnosed even in official circles as the calm which precedes the throes of final dissolution. It was made plain that Ferrera resigned the speakership and seat as representative from Santa Clara because Gomez, having given him his tion which draws on apace, was encouraging Governor Asbert whereas Ferrera had picked first time this sort of thing had happened, Ferrara took his doll rags and retired into the interior of the island leaving word, in his resignation, that the republic he and Gomez have been running isn't fit to be associated with ceeded by few more modern plants in the island. anyhow. Next development was that Gomez was about to resign; this, however, was too good to be true. It seems the president had merely murmured in the bosom of his family with some "intimates" present that Ferraia had made him mighty sick of his job. Of course, go-betweens immediately set about to effect a tabled his resignation) and the president, but

Until they are brought into the fold, the bastian. Liberals cannot present the "united front" they need to put up-to Menocal, to Knox and to the Veterans, who are mustering their forces for Camaguey on the 10th. On that date, out of the wilderness of central Cuba we are to hear their thousand voices as one a-crying: "Where did you get it?" "Cuba's Soil for the Small Planter!" "Pensions!" And some expect to discern a faint echo to it all sounding very much like: "Come across."

## Porto Rico.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Porto Rico, February 28, 1912. been planned to give a reception in his nonor and consequently favorable for grinding in every lands, etc., by the Loiza Sugar Company, new and, in fact, the invitation list was made up section of the Island, with heavy local showers centrifugals, crystallizers, and a large Stirling when he arrived; on it were the names of the occasionally never of long enough duration to boiler are among the most important innova-handsomest women in this capital, of every affect the operation of cane cutting and trans-

Major Maud, of Camaguey, in the Royal Bank nationality. The tragic death of Sra. Rosa de portation. Complaints are, however, made all of Canada, the other day, and what he said indi- G. de Mendoza de Pedroso threw those who over the island that the purity of the juice so cates that in Camaguey these are about the would have been his hosts into mourning and far this season has been very low, doubtless caused by the late rains in December.

The Central Vannina" which started last teemed contemporary, "are dominated by pessim- M. Fuchs, however, has used his eyes to advant- crop with a rendiment of 131/2 pounds of sugar per hundred pounds of cane, has so far only been able to obtain a rendiment of about 11 pounds, and this is much above the average of the island, which so far probably does not exceed 91/2 pounds of sugar in sacks from each

> Central Juncos is one of the best working centrals in the island, and they have a very fine crop of cane and so far have had an excellent run, a continuance of which is necessary to be able to take off their crop in good time. A proposed new central in the Caguas district, which might have proved a competitor of Juncos, has been finally abandoned so it is to be expected that Juncos will, before word to remain neutral in the presidential elec- long, be making considerable extensions to their plant, and considering that they control one of the best cane-growing districts in Porto Rico Zayas as the winner and was backing "the and a railroad to the sea their position is a Chinaman's" Boom. Inasmuch as it wasn't the most favorable one. Their milling plant is a combination of a Krajewski crusher, a Whitney six-roller mill, followed by a Krajewski third mill, and under the able direction of Mr. E. Miller, chief engineer, seems to give results ex-

> Central "Plazuella" started grinding this week and with the exception of a few trifling interruptions, everything worked most satisfactorily. The owners, designers, manager, and, last but not least, the indefatigable chief engineer, Mr. James Leary, are the be congratulated on the successful completion of their very extensive reconciliation between the speaker (the house improvements. The designs of the extensions were carried out by the firm of Giorgetti Cinthe talented Italian remained firm. Gomez tron Abov & Co., under the able direction of meanwhile sent a letter to Asbert telling him their Chief Engineer Mr. A. Massel, till reit was all a mistake about his being the "official cently connected with the well-known engineers candidate" (the Asbertists are talking yet down and contractors Messrs McMurtrie-Guiler Co., in the governor's office), and, as the Lucha of San Juan and New York. While this cenputs it, the president and Zayas kissed and tral is one of the last to begin grinding, they made up two thousandth and then something will probably profit considerably by the delay, time. Ferrara is said to be inclining, therefore, owing to the continual rise in price of sugar and to relent and return to that public life from improvement in quality of juice. Owing to the which he departed so suddenly, "considering absence of Don Eduardo Giorgetti in Europe himself useless." The latest rift in the Liberal all summer most of the management of this lute (that lute is a fancywork of patches) is bus.ness fell on the shoulders of his young that the Hernandistas (followers of Dr. Euse- partner Mr. Ruiz Soler, who, nevertheless, bio Hernandez) have come out with a declara- found time to look after two other new centrals tion that they give not a hoot for all these in which he is heavily interested, the Camuy happenings-it is Hernandez for theirs' regard- Sugar Company factory at Camuy, and the La Plata Sugar Company factory near San Se-

> > The Camuy Sugar Company also started grinding this week and while the reports which have reached town are not extensive, it is understood that the preliminary trials were quite satisfactory and Mr. Barton L. Keen, who has been looking after the work personally lately, will doubtless be able to hand it over to the company within a few days.

Progreso sugar factory, the property of the Cia. Azucarera de la Carolina, which has been entirely remodeled this year has recently started grinding, and is now working very satisfactorily. A new mill has been installed which was purchased from the Central Buena Weather .- The weather continues very dry Vista, recently closed owing to purchase of