
IN FAVOR OF FREE CUBA.

A Poughkeepsie Pastor Takes a Vote in His Church.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Dec. 20.—The Rev. M. L. Gates, pastor of the Hedding Methodist Episcopal Church of this city, in his sermon to-night, created a novel scene in his church by alluding to President Cleveland as "our duck-hunting President down South somewhere," and expressing the hope that the Executive would be supplied with "more stiffness for his bones by Congress at once."

The sermon was on the Cuban question, and after Mr. Gates said enthusiastically, "May we soon see the day when the Stars and Stripes will float over that island of sugar," he called on every one in the congregation who favored American interference in Cuba's behalf to stand up. About fifty young men in the audience sprang to their feet, while the thousand or more kept their seats. The number did not meet the pastor's expectations, and he told the young men to remain standing until the spirit of patriotism should move the other members of the congregation to stand up for their country. As he proceeded to attack Spain and declare for immediate interference on the part of the United States, one by one the members of the congregation arose, until half the number were on their feet. He did not ask for the sentiment of the others, but said he would depend upon them in case of war.

He declared that Jesuitism is to blame for most of the troubles in Cuba.

Three divisions of the Ancient Order of Hibernians of Dutchess County held a convention at Wappinger's Falls to-day, and adopted resolutions pledging substantial aid to Cuba in her struggle for freedom. The resolution says: "We will do all we can under the law of our own country as to financial aid. We can send money to Cuba for sick soldiers, but not to buy rifles."