

The Cuban Insurrection—A Provisional Government Formed.

ORGANIZATION OF A REPUBLIC.

Correspondence by the steamer Columbia dated at Nuevitas, May 11th, contains the important announcement that a Republican government has been fully organized by the insurgents in Cuba. Cespedes was elected President, Aguilera Vice President, and Quesada Commander-in-Chief of all the forces. President Cespedes had issued an inaugural address full of hope in ultimate success.

CESPEDES' PROCLAMATION.

The following is a proclamation of President Cespedes to the people of Cuba:

"Compatriots! The establishment of a free government in Cuba, on the basis of Democratic principles, was the most fervent wish of my heart. The effective realization of this wish was, therefore, enough to satisfy my aspirations and amply repay the services which, jointly with you, I may have been able to devote to the cause of Cuban independence. But the will of my compatriots has gone far beyond this by investing me with the most honored of all duties, the Supreme Majesty of the Republic. I am not blind to the great labors required in the exercise of the high functions which you have placed in my charge in these critical moments, notwithstanding the aid that may be derived from other powers of the State. I am not ignorant of the grave responsibility which I assume in accepting the Presidency of our new-born Republic. I know that my weak powers would be far from being equal to the demand if left to themselves alone. But this will not occur, and that conviction fills me with faith in the future. In the act of beginning the struggle with the oppressor, Cuba has assumed the solemn duty to consummate her independence or perish in the attempt, and in giving herself a Democratic government she obligates herself to become Republican. This double obligation, contracted in the presence of free America, before the liberal world, and, what is more, before our own conscience, signifies our determination to be heroic and to be virtuous. Cubans! On your heroism I rely for the consummation of our independence, and on your virtue I count to consolidate the Republic. You may count on my abnegation of self.

[Signed] CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES."

QUESADA'S BUGLE CALL.

Gen. Quesada, who was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban forces, issued a stirring proclamation, closing as follows: "I implore you, sons of Cuba, to recollect at all hours the proclamation of Valmaseda. That document will shorten the time necessary for the triumph of our cause. That document is an additional proof of the character of our enemies. Those beings appear to be deprived even of those gifts which nature has conceded to irrationals, the instinct of foresight and of warning. We have to struggle with tyrants, always such; the very same ones of the inquisition, of the conquest, and of Spanish domination in America. In birth and in death they live and succeed the Torquemadas, the Pizarros, the Boves, the Morillas, the Tacos, the Conchas, and the Valmasedas. We have to combat with the assassins of the old women and of children, with the mutilators of the dead, with the idolators of gold.

"Cubans! If you would save your honor and that of your families, if you would conquer forever your liberty, be soldiers. War leads you to peace and happiness. Inertia, precipitates you to misfortune and to dishonor. Viva Cuba! Viva the President of the Republic! Viva the liberating Army! Patria and Liberty!

MANUEL QUESADA."

News have been received direct from Cespedes by Cubans in New York city confirming fully the defeat of the Spanish forces in attempting to open the railroad from Nuevitas to Puerto Principe. The date and channel of receipt is kept private for prudential reasons.

The loss of the Spaniards is set down at about 1000 in killed and wounded. The Cuban forces is stated to have been 3500 men under Quesada intrenched on the road, and the Spanish numbered about the same. The fighting was by far the severest which has taken place during the war. The battle was decided by the arrival of the Marquis of Santa Lucia with 4000 men, a large number of whom were mounted, but who, though very poorly armed, made a desperate and successful charge on the flank of the Spaniards of 500 colored troops. A little over 400 shot their officers and went over to the Cubans. The remainder are neither with the insurgents, nor the Spaniards, and are supposed to have taken to the woods.

All the baggage, provision and ammunition of the Spaniards carried in ten cars and dragged on the rails by oxen together with the dead and chief part of the wounded, were abandoned to the Cubans, who, after the battle advanced six miles to San Miguel where they destroyed the barracks and quarters in sight of the retreating Spaniards. The loss of the Cubans is given at several hundreds. A vessel since returned to the United States, had a few days before landed arms and ammunition. The Spanish General Letona is reported wounded, but whether in that action is not said. Cespedes and the insurgents feel confident of success.

Private advices from Cuba to-day, from both Cuban and Spanish sources, represent affairs very favorable for the insurgents. The western part of the island, which has thus far been very quiet, was beginning to show signs of revolting. A vessel from Yucatan had landed 400 men well armed on the western coast, and these were rapidly persuading the native Cubans and negroes to join the insurrection. In the Central Department many of the Spanish volunteer soldiers were deserting and joining the insurgents under promises to receive larger wages than were paid by the Spanish government. Many of the Spanish officers were also openly expressing dissatisfaction, and threatening to leave the island or refuse to do duty longer. The Cuban emissaries were at work with them, and hope before long to produce an open revolt among the Spanish troops.