

# CUBA AND SPAIN.

## The Privateer Hornet Spoken at Sea.

### Her Destination Declared to be Cuba.

### Her Arrival and Detention at Wilmington.

### The Probable Action of the United States Authorities.

### Judge Pierrepont's Views on the Question.

In Sunday morning's issue of the *TIMES* the last appearance of the Cuban cruiser *Hornet*, *Prince Albert* or *Cuba*, off Barnegat, on Thursday afternoon, was noted. Since that day no reliable information of her exact location could be obtained, owing to the religious secrecy with which everything concerning that mysterious craft was kept. Despite all this the *TIMES* has found means to follow her in her passage along the coast. Yesterday afternoon a vessel arrived at this port from the South, whose Captain furnished us with the following news concerning the vessel in question. On Saturday morning at daybreak he was called on deck by his first officer, who told him that a very suspicious looking craft was on the weather bow. The officer's reason for disturbing the slumbers of his superior, was that he had never before seen, to use his own expression, "such a very long snooking looking hermaphrodite brig." The skipper hastily donned his pantaloons, sea boots and overcoat, and hurried up the companionway. Arrived on deck he found the weather very blustering and threatening; casting his eye in the direction indicated by his mate, he discovered a vessel on the starboard tack with but two masts, square-rigged forward, long Clyde clipper built, of 1,200 or 1,500 tons burden. He immediately ordered the officer of the deck to get the signals up and prepare to speak her. Then, hoisting the American ensign at the mizzen peak, he awaited the stranger craft's showing her colors. After considerable delay, and before unfurling his national bunting, the brig's commander ran up MARRYATT's signal for "What ship is that?" To this our informant replied, and sought similar enlightenment with regard to the other. The answer was the *Cuba*, belonging to and bound for Cuba. He then ran up the Cuban flag, squared his head yards a little, and altered his course to east by north. After a few more questions and answers, with the usual wishes for each other's speedy and safe arrival at their destined ports, they parted, the brig again luffing to the wind, hauling in her main sheets, and bracing her yards sharp up. What surprised our friend most was discovering that the brig was a steamer, evidently deeply laden, and journeying along in such a quiet manner under sail when there were plenty of good ports near in which he might get any quantity of coal and in a very short time. However, that he soon understood on getting a copy of the *TIMES* from his pilot, explaining the existence of the privateer, which he had no difficulty in identifying with the large, rakish-looking brig.

#### Views of Judge Pierrepont.

Our reporter visited Hon. EDWARDS PIERREPONT, United States District-Attorney, yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of ascertaining his private views, both as a lawyer and a citizen, about the course likely to be pursued by the Government in the Spanish-Cuban war. He spoke very frankly and unhesitatingly in reply to the interrogatories which were put to him. He said the time was rapidly approaching when the Administration would be called on to decide on the question of giving belligerent rights to the Cubans. He thought the crisis in the Cuban revolution, so far as regarded recognition by the United States, would be reached during the next few days, when a demand will probably be made for the release of the Spanish gunboats. The latter being nearly ready for sea, the Government will have to determine whether they shall proceed to their destination or be judicially held. If the last course is taken, a recognition of Cuban belligerency will have to be given, in which case the Neutrality laws will affect the Spanish as well as their adversaries, permitting neither power to take expeditions or war vessels from this country. At present the gunboats are detained by Governmental direction, on complaint of the Peruvian Minister. The District-Attorney said, however, there could be but very little doubt about their really being intended for use against Cuba, although he believed the Peruvian Minister to be sincere in his belief that they were to be employed against his country.

He has received no official directions about the course to be taken by the Government, either in the case of the gunboats or the steamer *Euterpe*. He said he made efforts to find out the feelings of the public before presenting his resolutions in support of Cuba before the late State Republican Convention, and he discovered the prevailing sentiment and sympathy to be with the Cubans.

#### Seizure of the "Hornet" in Cape Fear River—Her Supply of Coal Exhausted.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Oct. 4.—The privateer *Hornet*, alias *Cuba*, appeared off Smithville Saturday evening, flying the Cuban colors. It has been definitely ascertained that she has 200 men and thirty officers on board; the majority of the latter are ex-Confederates. She anchored inside the bar, and sent her engineer and purser to this city to secure a supply of coal, that taken on board off New-York not being adapted to quick movements. Suspicions being soon aroused, the officers, after engaging a supply of coal, returned to their vessel without making arrangements to get the coal aboard. They left this city last night about 12 o'clock for Smithville, thirty-five miles below, in a small rowboat. Collector RUMLEY chartered the steam tug *Alpha* this morning at 4 o'clock, and having placed in the hands of a Deputy United States Marshal a warrant issued by a United States Commissioner, placed him on board with a part of the Customs force, with orders to detain the privateer until further orders. Colonel FRANK, commanding the United States troops at Post Smithville, is expected to co-operate with the Deputy Marshal if necessary. The *Alpha* has not yet returned. Further intelligence will be telegraphed immediately on her arrival. The officers who visited the city were very bold and confident, insisting that there is no process by which the privateer can be legally detained. The event creates much excitement and comment.

#### List of Officers—The Understanding of Her Legal Status.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Oct. 4.—Evening.—The privateer *Hornet*, or *Cuba*, was seized by the Deputy United States Marshal, at Smithville, at 12 M. to-day, and brought up and anchored a half a mile below the city this evening. A number of her officers are now in the city, and are positive that there is

no pretext under which she can be detained by the authorities any longer than is necessary to have an investigation into her armament and crew. The *Cuba* is a formidable vessel, and is represented as having great speed. She is short of coal and provisions now, and her machinery is considerably deranged. The following is a complete list of her officers:

Commodore Edward Higgins, Commander; Thomas L. Darwin, Lieutenant-Commander; David A. Telfair, Navigating Officer and Lieutenant; C. W. Read, Lieutenant; Dr. Fred. J. McNulty, Surgeon; Eugene Valiente, Paymaster; Prentiss Ingram, Captain of Marines and Private Secretary to the Commodore; Dr. E. W. Dubois, Assistant Surgeon; D. D. Munro, First Lieutenant of Marines; Nicholas Esling, Master; R. Sommers, Henry S. Cooke, A. M. Mason, R. H. Gibson, William D. Phillips, Ensigns; Antonia Munez, Louis French, Midshipmen; Robert Graham, Chief Engineer; John Lynch, William H. Robinson, James Dennison, First Assistant Engineers; Stephen Kearny, Joaquim Aguiar, Edward Toballas, Second Assistant Engineers; John Mulley, Paymaster's Clerk; W. J. Faherty, Master's Mate.

#### Another Cuban Expedition—Arrival of the Alabama at Fernandina.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Oct. 4.—The *Morning News* has reports from Florida of the arrival of the steamship *Alabama* at Fernandina on Friday night, from New-York, with 400 men, including sixty officers, for the Cuban expedition, now rendezvousing on the Gulf coast. The men were immediately put aboard the cars and sent to Cedar Keys, where steamers await them. Two hundred men arrived at Baldwin, Fla., from Savannah on Saturday night, supposed to be a portion of the command now organizing in Middle Georgia.

#### No Intervention by the United States Government.

MADRID, Oct. 4.—It is asserted that the United States Government has renounced all ideas of intervening in the case of Cuba.

#### The Monitor Dictator not yet Sailed.

The *Monitor Dictator*, which was to have sailed from the Navy Yard on Saturday, was detained, owing to a discovery made, almost at the last moment, that one of her boilers was leaking. She had to be held for repairs.