

## CUBAN AFFAIRS.

### ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP MORRO CASTLE.

The steamship *Morro Castle*, which left Havana on Dec. 25, reached this port yesterday. Purser R. W. ALBERT has our thanks for courtesies.

### Puello's Proclamation—Wholesale Banishment—Fresh Troubles—Mutiny.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 25, 1869.

General PUELLO, a St. Domingo man, who holds the rank of a Field Marshal in the Spanish army, and commands the Central Department at Puerto Principe, has made up his mind (on paper at least) to attack the insurgents. His proclamation is evidence of the great weakness of the Spaniards in that part of the country until now, and of their inability to more than defend the town, and keep means of communication open between Puerto Principe and Nuevitas; so that the grandiloquent accounts from that region during the Summer were only *canards* after all. Yet, immediately following this proclamation, it is announced by the Spanish authorities that the insurgents fired at the sentries, and that General PUELLO, at the head of 500 men, had to go out and try to drive them off. Whether he succeeded or not is left to the imagination of the reader.

#### WHOLESALE BANISHMENT.

Fifty prominent Cubans had their houses searched, and at the same time received orders to hold themselves in readiness to sail on the Spanish mail steamer which left here yesterday for Cadiz. The manner in which this searching and notifying was done is, according to the story of Mr. JOSE SILVERIO JARRIN, one of the unfortunates, as follows:

"I was suddenly awakened by repeated knocks at my door about 4 o'clock in the morning, and on inquiry as to the cause, was answered from without to open the door for the Police. I immediately complied with the direction, when the Commissary of Police, with several aids, presented themselves and began to look over all my papers. When the search was concluded, said Commissary said: 'Mr. JARRIN, if I had found anything suspicious I would have shown you this order,' touching a folded paper he held in his right hand, 'but as I found nothing I merely show you this order, one to be in readiness to embark on Friday as a prisoner of State.' Of course there would have been no other course than to comply, although I pledge you my word of honor that I have not been connected in the slightest manner with any political movement."

Only one person of those ordered to leave received permission to remain, and as rumor has it, he only to the 30th instant. The exception was in favor of Mr. GONZALO ALFONSO, a gentleman 78 years of age, who, for many months has been confined to his bed.

The prisoners were all persons connected with the agricultural interests of the island, so the cultivation of sugar and the maintenance of the plantations in good order will not be benefited. The prisoners had to pay for their passage, travelling first class, however, on a very fine steamer, and many taking their entire families with them. The scene on the wharf, when they all embarked, was extremely sad.

The comparison between the appearance of the Fernando Po prisoners and those who left to-day was noticeable. The first party was mainly composed of demagogues and revolutionists; yesterday's expedition consisted of the most respectable and talented men of Havana.

#### FRESH TROUBLES.

It is certain, however, if these men had not been sent away a riot at least would have taken place in Havana, for uneasy movements were observed among all classes.

The volunteers were beginning to get excited, and the threats that Christmas night would be the date of a universal uprising by blacks and whites had been a matter of common talk for some months. The uprising, however, began on Wednesday night, when the stables and lumber yards on Calle Prado, near Animas, were discovered to be on fire, the flames soon destroying more than half of the block. At the same time a proclamation was distributed about the city.

"HAVANESE: The despotic and sanguinary Spanish Government is gathering its hordes to launch them against our heroic brethren in the East. Forty thousand tools of despotism march against them, and will you remain inactive! No! Let us go and help them! Let us fly to arm and battle, and, with the magic shout of liberty or death, let us show to the world that admires us, what a nation is capable of, fighting for its independence. Havaneese! Soon we will go to help with our hands to save our dear Cuba. We will defy all dangers with a calm mind as justice and reason are on our side and the god of victory will crown your Titanic battle with triumph."

#### MUTINY.

The Catalan Volunteers were feasted and *fêted*, but they did not believe in being made beasts of burden. They were treated rather badly on board the steamer coming from Spain, and several attempts at mutiny took place. When they were being put aboard for Nuevitas on Monday, they broke out in open mutiny, and threatened to kill their officers and others, because 1,400 men were to leave on the steamer *Montezuma*, a little vessel of about 600 tons, with accommodations for about 400 men, and when at the utmost crowding of every part of the ship only 800 could find standing room. They refused to go. The authorities became alarmed, as these Catalans were on the point of inaugurating a riot, and as fast as the order could be sent, half were disembarked, and a man-of-war gotten in readiness to take them off.

QUASIMODO.