

# AFFAIRS IN CUBA.

## News from the Insurgents—Bubbles—Arrests of Political Offenders—Miscellaneous Intelligence.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, April 10, 1869.

The Siguaneya, the name of a mountainous district situated on the south side of the island, about 20 miles south from Cienfuegos, the chain of mountains extending from the Hanabanilla River toward Trinidad and the coast. According to all reports, both Cuban and Spanish, a Cuban army of ten to fifteen thousand men, and consisting of the very flower of the Cubans from the Cinco Villas, occupied this region. The Spanish troops, over four thousand strong, left Cienfuegos, Villa Clara and Trinidad simultaneously on the 28th, and according to the official account published arrived on the 31st at Siguaneya, within easy communicating distance. The troops were commanded by Generals BUCETA LETONA PELAEZ and ESCALANTE, the big guns of the army of operations, and on arriving at the Siguaneya the official report concludes by stating that they did not meet with a single insurgent, although they had marched from different directions, had explored everywhere, and had found the defences of the insurgents abandoned. This official history is one of the strangest and most peculiar documents I have ever read, and I have been wondering how and in what manner an army of twelve thousand men, completely surrounded, managed to make themselves invisible and escape without even a single man having been seen by the attacking forces. At any rate, the troops returned from whence they came, and the insurgents are somewhere else. In view of the peculiar results attending these hunts, or battues, as the Spaniards factiously term them, the journals are advocating that a padron or census be taken of every person residing in the island, specifying their particular residence, and making them liable to be tried as insurgents if they should be found away from home at any time without having first given notice to the Police, and giving a clear account where they have been. The Cubans enjoy an immense advantage over the Spaniards in this respect, as they can come and go at will, disperse when there is any indication of defeat, and again assemble when there are any probabilities of success. Excepting a very few Cubans brought up in Spain, or some members of the aristocracy and nobility, the insurgents can count on the rest of their countrymen, and on their aid and sympathy. The fighting Cubans from Puerto Principe, Bayamo and Holguin are by themselves sufficient to keep the Spaniards busily employed for many months to come, and in their region of the country it will be impossible to organize successfully the proposed rural Police, as in the Cinco Villas, where the planters are now organizing a regular Police force of 800 infantry and 200 cavalry.

### BUBBLES.

The statement that the revolution would be over in thirty to sixty days—that the Spanish Government has sent money to Cuba—that, according to A. OAKLEY HALL and HENRY WARD BEECHER, the insurgents now hold 147 towns and cities in the island—this is almost true, but 146½ of these towns have been recently imported from the moon, the entire island not containing 147, and the insurgents holding only half of Gibarra, that is, a few houses on the other side of the town. The Spaniards hold all the towns, and south of Cienfuegos the insurgents hold about all the country. The matter has been pretty fairly divided.

### ARRESTS OF POLITICAL OFFENDERS.

Arrests of suspected persons continue to be made, and especially of such Cubans returning from the United States who have been sufficiently imprudent to attract the attention of the Spanish spies. Five passengers, who arrived by the *Eagle*, were arrested and are now confined in the Morro. New-York is full of spies, and, as a friend informs me who has a chance to know, their reports about the movements of prominent Cubans in the United States are most minute and voluminous. I asked whether all such spies were Spaniards. "Oh no; no nation is unrepresented, and Cuba furnishes a larger number than old Spain; but we don't place so much faith in their reports, because they are from such Cubans as we know to be blackguards, and who would sell their father for money." "But how do they manage to understand the English language?" I asked again. "We have men of all nations in our employ, and your American detectives are most excellent to govern our spies, and order them where to go and how to act."

Among the prisoners brought by the *Rapido* are the following from St. Spiritus: LUIS ALCANTARA, Notary of the Army; JUAN MARQUEZ, Justice of the Peace; Dr. JUDALECIO TALAS, Alderman; LEANDRO ECHEMENDIA, Alderman; D. ECHEMENDIA, physician; A. DE MENERES, Lieutenant of Volunteers and Public Surveyor; J. M. CANCIO, RAMON CASTANEDA, ANTONIO ECHEMENDIA, GOMEZ, the manufacturer of the cartridges which were sent to Gibarra, and to which the priest CASTILLO, who was sent to Fernando Po, furnished the lead, and many others of note and distinction.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Several street rows, caused by political excitement, took place last night.

The Treasurer of the University, Mr. JULIAN PEREIRA, has run away, taking the salaries of the Professors and some University funds with him. PEREIRA only imitated the Government, which some five months ago robbed the University of \$60,000, its reserve fund and savings, calling it a loan.

Mr. CRABB, the administrator of ALDAMA's estate, has been arrested and confined in the jail at Matanzas, charged with having caused the death of nine negroes on the plantation, and of holding suspicious meetings of foreigners on the estate. Owing to the influence of ALDAMA he was released.

QUASIMODO.