

The New York papers contain pretty full accounts of the Cuban expedition, in the steamer Arago, on Tuesday last, but they differ as to the number of men. The United States Marshal, General Barlow, didn't know of the expedition until the reporters called on him for information—a remarkable case of ignorance, certainly. The first developments were caused by a prominent lawyer endeavoring to prevent the departure of his brother, a minor. He had an interview with the Cuban officers, and secured the return of the lad from the tug boat on which he had embarked. We make up from the New York papers the annexed incidents of the sailing of the expeditionary force:

On Tuesday night up to a late hour, the whiskey shops on the west side of the city, along West, Washington, Greenwich, Canal, Hudson and Varick streets, in Spring and Charlton, and all along from the Battery up to the terminus of the Eight ward, were filled with an overflow of noise, rough looking customers. These fellows all had packages, bundles of stockings, old jackets, paper parcels, valises, and in many cases knapsacks that had seen service in our civil war. These men were rather noisy, and seemed to have a fair supply of money to spend, as if they were furnished by a generous hand. They had all on their person, revolvers dirks, double-barreled pistols, and in not a few instances (this is an actual fact) rifles and muskets of improved pattern. Whenever they became so noisy, this swarm of filibusters, who ate and drank and joked and played dominoes, small framed, dark eyed looking fellows, evidently in some authority, would slip in, say something about the police, and then the hurrah talk would stop. At eleven o'clock the whisky shops were suddenly deserted, and the crowds of half armed filibusters began to turn out in seeming obedience to some sudden call. These men drinking and carousing during the night were belonging to the Cuban Army of Liberation.

On Saturday last the steamer Arago, Capt. Hilton, cleared from the Custom House, for St. Thomas, under Peruvian colors, but until yesterday morning she was lying inside of Sandy Hook, flying American and Peruvian colors. But the sequel will show why the Arago waited so long for fair weather.

The last batch of Cuban recruits, numbering nine hundred men, were under the command of General Guiccerrea, whose father was with Lopez in the unfortunate expedition to Cardenas in 1851. The General commanding the expedition of the Arago, is from St. Thomas, and has been fighting under Cespedes and Quesada. The men selected, or rather accepted, in the different Cuban drill-rooms, were principally young Americans and Irishmen of good fighting stock and adventurous spirit, with here and there a sprinkling of Germans, who are supposed to be experts in drilling practice. There was also a sprinkling of Poles and Frenchmen. The officers were, as a general thing, in the regular ranks. Cubans, who seemed to be very flush and liberal with their greenbacks and gold pieces.

Two tugs, the Yankee, and Phillip, had been hired to transport the men on board of the Arago. Several of the men went on board with their rifles on their shoulders. The tugs moved about so as not to excite suspicion from the watchful authorities, and the place of embarkation was changed a half dozen times. All this time the Arago was lying below in the bay waiting for the men.

Pier 43, North River, was the place designated for the principal companies to meet and take their departure, though the Yankee left from a point further up the river, and other companies were brought from the Jersey and Staten Island shores. At three o'clock p. m. the officer having general command of the expedition made his appearance on the dock at Pier 43, and immediately a scene of bustle and confusion ensued. The commanding officer was at once recognized as General Guiccerrea. Owing to the delay the officers became anxious, and feared that the authorities would overhaul them before they could get afloat. There were between 200 and 300 men at this dock, waiting to be transported to the ship which was to convey them to their destination. The men were Germans, Irishmen, Cubans and Americans. They passed the time by strolling around the dock, some of them carrying muskets, and all of them armed with revolvers, knives, &c. During this delay several of the men becoming faint-hearted, skulked away, and, it is alleged, deserted.

At precisely 3 o'clock p. m. the little steamer Phillip ran quietly up to the dock, and in a very short time the patriots had taken farewell of a few who were left behind, and embarked. The tug then immediately steamed down the bay, and up to 6 o'clock did not return. It was expected that she would see all the men safely embarked, and conduct the Arago over the bar before leaving her. The Arago then, having been kept under full head of steam, and everything in readiness for a quick voyage, would put to sea as rapidly as possible. These men were also chiefly Germans. There were several Irishmen, also, and the few Cubans that were among them seemed to have come along to engineer the matter, and to "see the boys off."

The person having command of the recruits was a tall active man, wearing a large white slouched hat and civilian's dress. The men addressed him as "Colonel," and he is supposed to be an ex-officer of the Union or Confederate army. He was very intelligent looking and was evidently in earnest. He remarked that he should hold command over these troops until some one smarter than himself should offer to supersede him. This officer held the treasure and paid all the incidental expenses incurred by the men. In paying a dinner bill for the men he took from a bag under his coat an immense roll of "greenbacks," and counted out the sum required without making any objection to the bill. He was quite free in conversing with those around him, and without hesitation stated that the number of men that would go by this expedition was about 900. He also said that the men would be supplied with uniforms when they got on board. There was 1,000 stand of arms on the vessel, 60,000 rounds of ammunition, several cannon, shot, and other munitions of war. He would not reveal his name, or that of any of his officers and men.

The New York Times says the estimated number of men on the Arago is three hundred, each provided with a rifle and uniform. There was also a large quantity of light clothing taken on board, and provisions were taken sufficient to last during a voyage of one month or six weeks.

General Thomas Jordan (Beauregard's Chief of Staff at Shiloh) is said to be in command of the men who left this city. Captain Bailey, late of the United States Army, Colonel Warne, late of the United States Volunteers, seven French and four English officers on leave of absence, and sixty-two ex-officers of the United States and Confederate Armies are also reported among those enlisted in the enterprise.

The correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says: The expedition is the handiwork of the Cuban Junta in this city. The United States Marshal was notified of these facts. He telegraphed them at once to Secretary Fish, and asked for instructions, but with what result cannot be ascertained.

There are but ten Americans among the party, all the rest being Cubans, with the exception of six negroes. Their destination is Dead Man's Island, one of the Florida keys, and after debarking there, it is their intention to embark for the Cuban coast in small boats. The voyage, it is said, can be made in four hours. The whole number of rifles on board is said to be about five hundred.

It is said that the United States authorities here have winked at this movement, which was no secret to some of the Marshal's deputies; but whether this allegation is just or otherwise, time and inquiry will show.

The organ of the Cuban Junta in New York, *La Revolution*, is out in a very bitter article with reference to the policy of the United States Government. It says: "There is not a steamer that sails for Cuba which does not carry out magnificent supplies and armaments for our enemies, the Spaniards. Their troops have arms that have been constructed in some model workshop of the model Re-

public, with the sanction of its Government; and those arms only go there to slaughter defenseless Republicans, to murder brave and noble men, whose first act, upon asking for their liberty, was to grant the same to their slaves. Is this neutrality? No; a thousand times no!"

\*\*\* Every thing was done openly. The volunteers went on board the steamship with their muskets over their shoulders, after having partaken of a dinner at a public hotel. There was no attempt made by the United States authorities to put a stop to the expedition, although the administration, must have been aware of it, as relatives of some of the young men on board telegraphed to Secretary Fish to have the vessel stopped.

The United States authorities here excuse themselves on the ground that, as President Grant has as yet issued no neutrality proclamation, they are not supposed to know that any insurrection prevails in Cuba or any where else. Heretofore it has been the invariable practice of our Presidents, when any filibustering expedition was on foot, to promptly announce the intention of the Administration to enforce the neutrality laws. That President Grant has so far neglected to do so, to say the least, significant.

The New York Evening Post of Wednesday says: "A second vessel left this port last evening with troops and ammunition for the assistance of this vessel leads to the impression that the Government is not disposed to interfere in any movement made in the interests of the insurgents."

## Off for Cuba.

**The Chickamauga Sails from Baltimore—The Departure of the Cuban Expedition from New York.**

BALTIMORE, May 5.—The steamship Chickamauga, formerly a blockade runner, and a very vast vessel, left here yesterday. It is rumored her destination was Cuba, and that she carried munitions of war for the Cubans.

NEW YORK, May 6.—It proves that the Arago took no recruits for Cuba. The schooner Grapeshot, which was reported to have sailed for Cuba with volunteers, still lies in the harbor.

A large number of Spencer rifles for the Spanish troops were forwarded by the Columbia to-day. Mr. Plumb, our new Consul to Havana, sailed on her.

NEW YORK, May 6.—The *Herald* states that the steamer Arago put to sea on Monday, not Tuesday, and up to the hour when she was left by the pilot, had not on board any ambitious adventurers, but only a full complement of men to work her. She goes to replace in the Peruvian service a vessel just lost, and goes with the permission of the Government to change her flag while out.

The statement is confirmed that the steamer Perrot has sailed with a Cuban expedition, and it is added that she carried five hundred men and a full cargo of guns and ammunition. The *Sun* says a revenue cutter sailed from Brooklyn navy yard on Saturday to head off the expedition which is to sail from the Florida coast. Also, that the Government has knowledge of the building of thirty gunboats in New York, Boston and Canada for Spain. Also, that some weeks ago a prominent rifle manufacturer, a New England man, was given a large order by an insurgent agent for breach loading rifles. The order was promptly filled, the arms proceed in cases, but the manufacturers refuse to deliver them until they are paid for.

A Washington dispatch states that our Government has resolved not to prevent the departure of any vessel, whether loaded with arms or not, provided their apparent destination is not direct for Cuba. In other words, vessels cleared for Nassau, Jamaica, Mexico or any other place with which we are on friendly terms, will be allowed to leave, no matter how much war material or passengers they may carry.

In reply to inquiries from parties interested, including, it is said, the Spanish Minister, our Government has declared that such war material must be regarded as merchandise, and the people on board such vessels as travelers or persons leaving our ports on legitimate business.

The *Herald's* Washington dispatch says: A dispatch has been received by the British Minister from the English Consul at Havana, giving an account of other Spanish outrages on the high seas. According to the dispatch, a Spanish war vessel lailed an English brig at sea, and the latter refusing to stop, was fired into by the Spaniards, and sunk. This is the substance of a dispatch which Mr. Thornton immediately sent to his government over the cable. As the dispatch is extremely meager, not stating whether the information respecting the outrage was received originally from the Spanish man-of-war or from some survivors of the sunken brig, the authorities here scarcely know whether to credit it or not.