

GENERAL TELEGRAMS.

TERRIBLE HURRICANE.

A Fearful Visitation on the Island of Cuba—Two Thousand Persons Drowned at Matanzas—Vessels Wrecked, Property Destroyed, Crops Damaged.

HAVANA, Oct. 16.—The French mail steamer *Darien* has been lost fifteen miles to the windward of Guantanamo. All hands were saved. Friday night there was a severe hurricane on the bay. But slight damage was done, however, to the vessels and to property in the city. Trees were prostrated but no houses. In the country, the growing cane and other crops were damaged. A hurricane has also occurred at Matanzas with most disastrous effects. Communication between that place and Havana was interrupted till today. An extraordinary rise of two rivers inundated the intervening ground where the railway depots were located. The depots, trains, passengers and houses all disappeared. Two thousand persons are said to have been lost. The damage to property was enormous.

The steam-ship *Missouri* sailed from this port for New-York, but when two miles off Morro-Castle encountered heavy seas and was compelled to return. The steamer of the British line, hence for St. Thomas, was obliged to put into Matanzas on account of the heavy weather. Cardenas also suffered much from the hurricane Friday. The lower part of the city was laid waste. The interior of the island, back of Cardenas and Matanzas, is desolated. The cane being somewhat backward this season, sustained less damage than other crops. The hurricane was the severest which has visited this island within a century.

The following is a list of the total wrecks at Matanzas: Brig *Baxter*, of New-York; bark *Hunt*, of Portland; brig *Charles E.*, of Portland; schooner *Edwin*, of Bridgeport.

The following vessels were damaged: schooner *Palmer*, of Bath; bark *Mary*.

There was great loss to cooperage and stock in the warehouses on the low ground at Matanzas, which were all destroyed. The influx of the sea caused a great rise in the rivers; when the sea receded everything was swept away by the returning flood.

Further Particulars of the Great Storm—Consternation at Havana—Losses in Various Parts of the Island—The Hurricane at Key West.

HAVANA, Oct. 15, via KEY WEST, Oct. 16.—On the 6th inst. the barometer fell rapidly and the wind commenced. In the evening it blew heavily from the north-east until the morning, when it lulled. In the afternoon it redoubled in violence. The Captain of the Port signaled danger, giving orders to the vessels in the harbor to get up steam for resisting the storm, and to make their anchors secure as much as possible for the night. On the 7th the wind blew in a hurricane, though it has not been equal in violence to that of 1865. The consternation was general. All doors and windows were barred and the streets were deserted. In the morning the wind had much decreased in violence. I made a visit to the wharf; the harbor showed less damage than was expected. Several vessels had been drifted with no injury except to their rigging. Some coast-draggers have been driven ashore. In the city, several small houses have been unroofed, and some windows, blinds and shutters blown off. In the plazas and alamedas the trees and flower shrubs are all down. No lives have been lost. The cars have stopped running. The roads are greatly damaged by the water. The telegraph lines are interrupted.

A messenger arrived from Matanzas says: "Last night the heavy rain and wind caused the junction of the San Juan and Yumun Rivers, which overflowed different parts of the town. The districts of Zoubert and Versailles are under water. The loss of lives is estimated at 2,000 persons drowned. The bridges over the San Luis Basin and Youmens River are destroyed, and so are the warehouses on the banks of the San Juan. The city presents the sight of complete desolation. It is reported that the damage at Cardenas was considerable, but we are without details. At Guines many houses have been unroofed, the church tower blown down, and the trees in the plaza destroyed. The rice-fields in the vicinity are laid waste. Reports from the country say that all the trees in the plantain groves are destroyed, and also many cane-fields. A great damage will materially interfere with the growing crop. The coasting steamer *Villa Clara* is ashore on Cayo Hacha; they expect to get her off. Other coasting steamers are reported to be safe. A dispatch dated in Santiago de Cuba on the 10th, reports the loss of the French steamer *Darien*. All aboard were saved. The passengers and correspondence have got safely to that city. The *City of Merida* arrived from Vera Cruz, and the *Tyne* for St. Thomas sailed on Sunday. The *Missouri* left last evening and returned this morning. A violent wind has been blowing from the north-west since Saturday.

KEY WEST, Fla., Oct. 14, via Puerta Rosa, Fla., Oct. 16.—The hurricane began on the 7th, continuing for five days from the north-east. The barometer had averaged twenty-nine—alternately rising and falling. All the lower streets are flooded, and communications can only be kept by traversing in boats from one part of the town to the other. The steamers *Cuba* and *Gulf Stream* were four days getting to the wharf. The *Cuba* reports she felt the hurricane seventy miles out. The naval squadron and monitors are all safe.

CONFIRMATION.

HAVANA, Oct. 16.—The effects of the hurricane upon the island are much worse than at first supposed. The disasters at Matanzas are confirmed; no particulars have been received. The heavy weather renders communication by sea between Havana and Matanzas impossible.