

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

ARRIVAL OF THE HAVANA STEAM-SHIP COLUMBIA.

The steam-ship *Columbia*, which left Havana Oct. 22, arrived at this port yesterday. We are indebted to the courtesy of Purser MAGNA for the prompt delivery of our files and letters.

The Political Situation—Inaction of Both Parties—Stormy Weather—Health of the Island—Movements of Troops.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Oct. 22, 1870.

President GRANT'S neutrality proclamation pleased the good Spaniards of this island to a certain extent, while at the same time they complain, saying that if he had issued it at the outset of his administration the present war in Cuba would have terminated long ago. *Los Peninsulares*, relying on the justice of their cause, expect the apostle *Santiago* and Providence combined will fight their battles for them. So they themselves do little. The Cubans do still less; and therein lies the whole Cuban question. Lack of energy and practical common sense to carry into execution beautiful theories launched forth by both sides, explain why slow headway has been made, either by insurgents, during the two years they have been waging war against the Spanish authorities in Cuba, or by the Spaniards in their efforts to crush the insurrection. Now, Gen. RODAS is recalled, at his own request, Gen. CORDOBA is on the way to assume the reins of government, and we may see an increased activity for a while, after which all will relax and matters will return into their old channels.

STORMY WEATHER.

Since the hurricane of the 7th inst. continued gales, accompanied by torrents of rain, have swept over the island, destroying much property and interrupting telegraphic and railroad communication. So we are altogether without news from the insurgent districts. During the 19th and 20th inst. a hurricane, perhaps more severe than the previous one, scourged Cuba, causing great damage to crops, houses, fruit-trees, &c., particularly in the *Vuela Abajo* region. On the Western Railroad, near its present western terminus, station-houses were blown down, and on the adjoining estates the cane was laid flat, large trees broken off, farm-houses scattered, and the country side desolated. The effects of the strong wind, even with the thermometer at 80°, on the foliage of the trees, has been similar to an Autumn frost in the north. Vegetation in the country, in place of the usual tropical green, seems scorched as by heated air.

HEALTH OF THE ISLAND.

On account of the notable decrease of cases of vomito and cholera, a general order has been published, closing the temporary hospitals, and authorizing clean bills of health to be given vessels leaving this port. Really, Cuba has been afflicted. Two years of war, showing no signs of being ended, unless one or the other of the parties engaged displays more vim; a season of sickness, vomito, cholera, and small pox, such as seldom scourges a country; two hurricanes within two weeks—all go to make up a sombre picture.

MOVEMENTS OF TROOPS.

A steamer left this port at 10 this morning, loaded with troops—part of the new recruits from Spain—for one of the eastern ports of the island.