

## CUBAN AFFAIRS.

### ARRIVAL OF THE STEAM-SHIP MORRO CASTLE.

The steam-ship *Morro Castle*, which left Havana on Nov. 5, reached this port yesterday. By the courtesy of Pursor R. W. ALBERT our letters and papers were promptly delivered at this office.

### The Political Situation—Prospects—Ruin and Misery—Doings of Officials—Financial and Agricultural News.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Nov. 5, 1870.

The Cuban muddle has lasted so long already that public attention is barely fixed on affairs in this island. And yet matters here are such as to compel every American to watch the course of events with interest, because Cuba is the key to the Gulf of Mexico. The situation is extremely bad; a momentary gleam of satisfaction is produced among the Spaniards when they learn that some leader of more or less importance among the Cubans has been killed, but as another always takes his place, affairs remain precisely as they were a year ago. To describe details or the movements of the numerous Spanish and Cuban columns in the field would be superfluous and uninteresting. Gen. CARO, the fat and stupid Commander-in-Chief, who made himself famous by his heroic action of appropriating the fine horse of the surrendered Cuban General, CASTELLANOS, and substituting for it a broken-down nag, has amassed a nice little sum, computed at nearly \$150,000, and now leaves for Spain in disgrace. He has not done anything; is ridiculed by the Cubans and hated by the Spaniards. The Cubans do not hate him, because he never injured them. Gen. ZEA, the Chief of Staff of Gen. RODAS, assumes command, and will undoubtedly make himself heard, provided the Spaniards are able to do anything against the Cuban forces. Gen. MERELO, alias Merelito, the broken-down beau and gamester of the Puerta del Sol, also retires to Spain, and is relieved by Gen. GOYENECHÉ. Falstaff VALMASEDA is untiring in his efforts to have his men killed and allow MODESTO DIAZ, and other Cuban leaders to do just as they please in the Eastern Department. The Spanish journals confess this fact, and give full particulars of the taking of Tiarrriba and the killing of its garrison, by the forces of MODESTO DIAZ. The general situation of affairs cannot be better described than by giving extracts from the following letter, published in the *Dario*, from Santiago de Cuba:

#### RUIN AND MISERY.

The writer first describes the Tiarrriba fight, and excuses the bad luck of the Spanish forces, on the ground that "VALMASEDA, who is directing his operations with great skill from his desk, was not able to surround the insurgents according to his well laid plans." The correspondent adds that the property destroyed by DIAZ amounts to several millions of dollars, and that the poor have been completely ruined in those jurisdictions within the past few months. The correspondent also confesses that commerce is prostrate, and that credit and good faith are fast disappearing; also, that vice, misery and indolence are on the increase. After describing the misery in the Department, and the need for more troops, the correspondent says: "Added to this hopeless picture, we have the natural indolence and apathy of the country, which beholds its wealth disappearing without opposition. Everybody complains of the situation, but nobody does anything to stop the war and the vandalism of the enemy; all await the initiative and the activity of the Government, which labors under so many difficulties." This, from a Spanish source, proves conclusively that matters are bad for the Spaniards in the Eastern Department, and that VALMASEDA is not proving himself either a soldier or statesman, and although VALMASEDA is still the idol of the ultra volunteers, the better informed know that he has been one of the principal obstacles toward the finishing of the revolution.

#### GEN. RODAS

remains at Havana, and the report of his early return to Spain lacks confirmation. To judge from the arrangements he is making for his family, there is no probability of his leaving. The other principal officials will naturally remain as long as he does.

#### GEN. FORTUN,

who was the prime mover and head of the faction which kept RODAS several weeks in the Central Department, making overtures to surrender, but who wished at the same time to set himself up as an opposition President to CESPEDÉS, was captured by the noted Spanish guerrilla MONTANEZ, together with a number of others, and shot. Gen. GABRIEL FORTUN was a very prominent man among the Cuban forces, and although he did not take any active part in the field lately, nevertheless exercised a great deal of influence. A report relating to his companion in the enterprise of last Summer, Gen. CORNELIO PORRO, has also been received, announcing that he, with several others, had attempted to leave the island, and had already embarked in a sloop, when they were compelled to return by their late companions, who said they must rise or fall together.

#### FINANCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL NEWS.

In the City of Havana money is a drug and abundant for all commercial purposes, but the reverse is the case in the interior, where misery prevails to the fullest extent of the meaning of the word. The heavy rains which have fallen since the hurricane, have improved the condition of the fields, and the cane crop looks exceedingly promising. In some sections of the country the damage caused by the hurricane will not exceed five per cent., while in others, it amounts to over twenty-five, and there is every reason to believe that the estates on the south side will begin grinding when dry weather sets in.

QUASIMODO.