

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Puello's Campaign—The Cinco Villas— A Steamer Captured—Valmaseda's Proclamation—The Duello—Miscel- laneous Gossip.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Jan. 29, 1870.

PUELLO'S campaign has turned out a partial failure. The results expected from it have not been obtained, and JORDAN made such a stubborn resistance, that even the official *Gaceta* is compelled to acknowledge a great many killed and wounded. Rumors had been for some time in circulation that PUELLO, who left Nuevitas on the 22d of December last, had met with a severe check, but the journals kept very silent about it until Thursday, when a telegram was published announcing that PUELLO had reached Baga, a small town about six miles from Nuevitas. The steamer *Barcelona* brought further particulars yesterday, and the best account (Spanish, of course,) appears to be that of an eyewitness, and published in the *Diario*, a journal by no means reliable, as having lately published all sorts of cock and bull stories. It appears that after leaving Nuevitas, PUELLO was continually harassed until he reached a place called Joaquin or Juan Rodriguez on the 1st of January, where JORDAN, who by a vote of the so-called 'Cuban Chambers' has been substituted for the unlucky QUESADA in the command of the Cuban armies, awaited PUELLO and "gave him fits." The Spaniards were received with cannon and musketry fire, the first discharge killing and wounding over seventy Spaniards according to persons who took part in the fight. Having only one cannon, and the Spaniards being provided with several, the advantage in that respect was on their side, and after a severe fight, the Spaniards took the intrenchments, but had been so weakened as to compel them to retreat to Arroyo Hondo. There PUELLO remained fifteen days, until he managed to secure five carts on which to transport his wounded, the troops meanwhile suffering great hardship from want of provisions. This is a Spanish version, and published by the *Diario*. Making due allowance for those very important facts, we must naturally conclude that JORDAN gave PUELLO a great deal more than he bargained for, to put a mild construction on the affair. But this engagement, although important in itself, because it differs a little from the *Diario's* memorable bruised soldier, will not materially affect the ultimate result. The next engagement to hear from will undoubtedly be that between JORDAN and GOYENECHE, the latter having left Puerto Principe to attack the former, with a division of over 5,000 men for that purpose. The losses in the engagement between PUELLO and JORDAN are estimated at near 400 Spaniards killed and wounded, and about an equal number of Cubans. Of the wounded on both sides but very few will recover, neither party having sufficient medical assistance or the necessary bandages.

CINCO VILLAS.

The seat of war having temporarily been transferred to the eastward, and the Cubans heeding a respite from the incessant persecution of the Spanish troops, but few skirmishes of any importance have taken place. Colonel FORTERN had an encounter with the insurgents at Cambas near Remedios, when he destroyed their encampment and announced that twenty-four insurgents were killed and many wounded, and that three soldiers were killed and twelve wounded. A number of families were found in a very destitute condition in the insurgent encampments near Villa Clara, in the Aruls Mountains. A subscription in favor of these Cuban families was raised by Spanish soldiers and citizens. A few insurgents were killed near Sancti Spiritus, and about the same number of soldiers.... FREDERIGRAS, the Chief of Staff of General CAZADA, had been captured and brought to Cienfuegos, his former residence, where he was shot, together with his brother RAMON GRAS, who acted as an agent of the insurgents. The *Diario* adds that both brothers asserted that they had been willing to leave the insurgents, but that they could not retire because they would certainly be assassinated if they sought to do so.... A few engagements of minor importance had taken place between Puerto Principe and Ciega de Arila, on the line towards Moron. A reconnoissance made by Colonels LAQUIDAIN and OLLO from Aguada del Santo resulted in the destruction of several abandoned insurgent encampments, and also of one on the coffee plantations of Vega Grande, which was captured after a prolonged skirmish, the troops possessing themselves of three cannon and a number of small arms.

CAPTURE OF A STEAMER.

The Spanish man-of-war *Hernan Cortes* captured a small steamer and brought it to Nuevitas. No further particulars have been received, but judging from the small size and crew of the boat and her suspicious manner of hovering about the coast, it is surmised that she was trying to run into some bay and take passengers proceeding from the insurrectionary districts to some foreign country. Reports have been in circulation for some time that prominent revolutionists, some of them suffering from sickness or wounds received in battle, have been trying to reach Jamaica or Nassau in small boats, while others desired to send their families to a place of safety.

VALMASEDA'S PROCLAMATION.

General VALMASEDA has sent in his official report to General RODAS, in which he states that the Eastern Department is thoroughly subdued, and that he intends to take the command of the forces now in operation in and around Las Tunas. The district of Cuba is especially particularized as free from insurgents. Subsequent official information, however, shows that General VALMASEDA has been rather hasty in preparing his report, inasmuch as large bodies of insurgents have been successfully attacked by Colonel LARGAMARA and other officers of his division. Guantanamo and Baracoa have never been much troubled, but it is doubted here whether Manzanillo and Liguani are as free from the invisible rebels as the General would make us believe.

"THE CODE OF HONOR."

The steamer *Alliance*, which left yesterday for Key West, took Mr. GONZALO CASTANON, the editor of the *Voz de Cuba*, as a passenger. A little journal, published in Spanish at Key West, in the Cuban interest, called the *Republican*, made some very unpleasant remarks about CASTANON and the rest of the Havana editors. The editor of the *Prensa*, like a sensible man and a philosopher, paid no attention to it; the *Mirra*, always ready to swallow an insult, and to offer one gratuitously whenever the opportunity presents itself, made but a slight allusion to it. CASTANON, of the *Voz*, whose waning popularity needed a little stimulant, but whose personal valor and liberal views are beyond reproach, accepted the affront and sent a challenge, which was immediately accepted by Mr. REYES, the editor of the Key West paper.

MISCELLANEOUS GOSSIP.

The tobacco crop in the Vuelta Abajo will be a poor one in many districts, the want of rain having killed or injured many plants; this will produce suffering among the many small planters, the drouth also preventing them from raising their supplies of provisions.... A trial was made with the 100-pound Parrot on the new gunboat; the boat itself behaved remarkably well. At the first discharge of the gun loaded with a spherical shell the gun ran back seventy-eight centimetres, less than half of the distance which the carriage is intended for to run back, and on the second discharge the rebuff was but eighty-one centimetres. The carriage is pronounced a great success by Spanish and American engineers. QUASIMODO.

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