

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

ARRIVAL OF THE HAVANA STEAM-SHIP COLUMBIA.

Particulars of the Capture and Death of Gen. Goicouria.

The steam-ship *Columbia*, which left Havana on Saturday last, May 7, reached this port yesterday. Our regular correspondent, whose letter is printed below, supplies us with full particulars of the capture and death of Gen. GOICOURIA. The letter was received as promptly as usual, thanks to the courtesy of Purser MAGNA.

Capture and Death of Goicouria—Wholesale Forgery—Discovery of an Insurrectionary Powder-Mill—The New "Assassination Dodge"—Bayamo and Santiago News—Miscellaneous Gossip.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, May 7, 1870.

Gen. DOMINGO GOICOURIA, who only lately arrived from Nassau in the schooner *Herald*, was captured on Guajaba Key, on the 3d inst., by two soldiers from the Spanish man-of-war *Isabel la Católica*. GOICOURIA, it is stated, was attempting to escape by swimming to another Key, when the soldiers sighted him. On the 4th he was carried to Nuevitas and Puerto Principe and confined during the day in the old cavalry barracks. Gen. RODAS had an interview with him, and a correspondent of the *Voz de Cuba* states that GOICOURIA pronounced the revolution a lie, that he regretted his course, (which is doubtful,) and that his intention had been to go to Mexico. The town of Puerto Principe is now only garrisoned by volunteers, and the people are reported to have exhibited the utmost pleasure when GOICOURIA was being carried through the streets, shouting for Spain and RODAS vehemently. RODAS ordered that GOICOURIA be sent to Havana for trial, and in consequence the prisoner left Nuevitas on the 5th, on the coaster *Triunfo*, for Havana. The *Diario* and *Voz de Cuba*, giving an account of GOICOURIA's capture, very seriously called on the volunteers to behave themselves and remain tranquil, letting the law take its course. The advice is very good but ought not to be needed. According to GOICOURIA, seven more persons are on the Key, namely, three pilots or guides, two *Agüeros*, and an American or Canadian Colonel. The capture of GOICOURIA is the first capture of any real importance effected by the Spaniards, and consequently these are highly elated. GOICOURIA was connected with the Lopez and Pinto expeditions, and the *Lillian* expedition, and since 1847 has been steadily working and plodding against the Spanish Government, which he hated so deeply. Toward evening crowds of people lined the sea-shore and wharves, awaiting the arrival of the *Triunfo*—the masses remaining there patiently long after darkness had set in, and when it would have been impossible to recognize a steamer, much less an individual. About 7 o'clock a dull murmur was heard from the crowds, and the *Triunfo* at that moment steamed rapidly around the Morro. Boats from ashore, crowded with people, immediately attempted to get alongside of the steamer, but the authorities had sent a man-of-war's boat alongside, and taken GOICOURIA by water to the *Castilla de la Punta*, opposite the Morro, and thence immediately to jail. The crowds soon filled the vacant spaces around the prison, but their curiosity was only repaid by a sight of the walls, the volunteers not permitting any body to enter unless provided with a pass. A drum-head Court-martial was organized, and their sentence came in a short time, the verdict being such as was generally expected, that GOICOURIA should be garroted. When the sentence was announced GOICOURIA was taken out of his cell and placed in capilla, (the chapel,) where he remained until 4 o'clock this morning, when he was carried under a heavy volunteer guard to the *Castillo del Principe*, at the head of the Paseo, where the garrote platform had been erected. A few minutes before 8 he was taken to the scaffold, accompanied by a priest. His step was firm, and his countenance expressed neither fear or remorse. Looking for a moment at the chair, he calmly turned around, held out his hands to the executioner to be tied. His lips were seen to move, but I could not learn whether he said anything or not. About five thousand persons surrounded the scaffold. The iron ring was fastened around his neck, the executioner gave a turn of the wrench, the head fell on one side, and GOICOURIA was no more. There is a kind of uneasy feeling in the city, the Cubans being of opinion that some excesses will be committed, but I doubt it. Gen. GOICOURIA leaves a wife, daughter and son. His wife and daughter are in Brazil, the daughter having married a Brazilian Count. Another son was killed in the present war. The general impression is that the six or seven men remaining on Guajaba Key will certainly be captured.

WHOLESALE FORGERY.

Everybody who wishes to leave the island is compelled to provide himself with a passport, which is obtained by presenting a Police document called a *cedula*. Yesterday it was discovered that a number of counterfeit *cedulas* had been presented, thus enabling a large number of Cubans to escape or leave. The clerks at the Passport Bureau and several others were arrested, and important developments will undoubtedly be made. Every day some new trick is discovered whereby the Cubans take in the authorities.

DISCOVERY OF A POWDER-MILL.

The *Diario*, of Tuesday, announced the discovery of a large quantity of nitre, sulphur, and other materials used in the manufacture of powder, and also of a number of implements for the same purpose, at the farm known as El Doctor, at Cana, in the jurisdiction of Santiago de las Vegas, and only about fifteen miles from Havana. A number of persons suspected of being connected with the enterprise were arrested, and all indications tend to make certain the fact that the powder was intended for the use of the Cubans in the field. It also proves conclusively that the insurrection is not confined to the Eastern Department alone, and that the Cubans have not yet given up the idea of raising the *Vuelta Abajo* region, although the Havana Press always praises the farmers and inhabitants of the *Vuelta Abajo*, because these same men were once instrumental in capturing LOPEZ and some of his party. That the Spaniards still believe that the country people of this island will change their mode of thinking, and even join the Spaniards in suppressing the people, perhaps acting as the people in the *Vuelta Abajo* did during the Lopez Expedition, hunting Yankees and other filibusters at \$17 per head, is abundantly proven by the following editorial from the *Voz de Cuba*:

"The reaction in favor of Spain is daily increasing in the confines of the insurrection; of this the continual surrenders and the attitude in which the surrendering persons place themselves, furnish abundant proof. Those who a short time back wore in arms against the mother country, demand today to fight alongside of the troops against the devilish enemies of the wealth and future of Cuba, and this attitude will be the death-blow of the insurrection. The party of the traitor NARCISSO LOPEZ was destroyed by the country people, (the army claims to have done it,) who hunted the filibusters down like wild beasts and penetrated into retreats which are not easily found by troops, but are very well gotten at by those who know every inch of the ground. The country people will at present also find those who manage to hide in a few days destroy the last remnants of banditism."

So the *Voz de Cuba* and many Spaniards think. A very intelligent Spanish merchant having informed me that the Government would offer a reward of \$50 for the head of every revolutionist, the insurrection would be over in less than a month. But it he is right in his supposition, I fear that hundreds of

heads which never belonged to insurgent bodies would be presented for the sake of the \$50.

THE NEW "ASSASSINATION DODGE."

For a long time past we have heard nothing of prisoners being shot while attempting to escape from their guards. The Chapelgorris volunteers, of Colon, and a detachment of regular soldiers, were guarding four prisoners, accused of being connected with the killing of the four volunteers at Alvarez. The guards numbered nearly sixty, and surrounding these whole four manacled prisoners. When these prisoners tried to escape and attempted to hide in a neighboring mountain, thereupon the guards fired and killed them. So says the Spanish paper. Only in Cuba do manacled prisoners, with their hands tied behind their backs and tied all together, with a long rope held by the soldiers, try to escape. Why did not the Spanish papers, in order to save decorum, say that these men were tried by a drum-head Court-martial, found guilty and executed. This at least would have given the assassination a legal look, but this dodge is exploded; every child in Cuba knows the trick, and it has become a household word. Found dead having tried to escape, is the epitaph.

BAYAMO AND SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

Spanish advices from Bayamo and surrounding region announce that the negroes are at present the principal victims of the war. The *Diario* of Santiago de Cuba says that MODESTA DIAZ managed to enter the jurisdiction of Bayamo with all his negroes; that he pressed all the country people into service, who not only abandoned DIAZ, but also induced some of his regulars to do the same. There is current, also, the time-honored story that insurgents are running away, frightened and disbanded. The *Voluntario* newspaper of Manzanillo announces that DIAZ has been defeated, and that the Governor of that place ordered all detachments to be strengthened in order to avoid surprises. These Spanish editors have a queer way of putting things in the beginning of the sentence; the editor of the *Voluntario* says that the insurgents are dispersed and so forth, and then winds up with the announcement that the garrisons have been re-inforced to avoid surprises! A number of skirmishes had taken place. The Bayamo newspaper also announces a number of skirmishes. Judging from the accounts published by these journals, the insurgents so badly whipped and in such complete dispersion number nearly 3,000 men, and fight the Spanish columns whenever they present themselves.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

A number of Cienfuegos ladies have arrived here, having been banished from their native city by Court-martial. One of these ladies states that even the chickens and frogs are insurgents now, and I believe she is perfectly correct....The *Monitor Dictator*, and the gun-boat *Yantic*, arrived three days ago from San Domingo. The *Yantic* left Sir CHAS. BRIGHT at Santiago de Cuba; he will successively visit the different ports in the West Indies, at which the Panama and West India Cable will touch.... A commission of merchant Captains and Engineers belonging to the United States Navy are surveying the steamer *Lloyd Aspinwall*. Their report will decide whether the *Aspinwall* will remain here any longer, or if she will proceed at once to the United States for repairs....Contre-Admiral MONTAJO assumed, today, the position of Captain of the port of Havana, vice Admiral JACOB OREYRO, who returns to Spain....Field-Marshal PEDRO CARO arrived in the mail steamer from Spain, yesterday. He will occupy the position of Commanding-General of the Camaguey, vacated by PUELLO.

QUASIMODO.