

## SPANISH AFFAIRS.

### American Claims--The Captaincy of Cuba--The Question of Slavery--Republicanism--A General Amnesty--The Throne of Spain--France and Spain.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MADRID, Monday, Aug. 15, 1870.

The claims presented by our Cabinet to the Spanish Government are the subject of deep thought to M. MORET, the Minister of the Colonies, who is losing no time in investigating them. Gen. SICKLES, who is at La Granja, with his daughter, was invited to the diplomatic dinner given by the Regent at his residence, to the Chinese Ambassadors, and on this occasion he received a formal promise that Spain would give complete satisfaction to the American citizens who had been deprived of their property illegally by the authorities of St. Jacques, in Cuba. An order has been sent by telegraph to immediately set at liberty all the North American prisoners, and to treat them with kindness. Our Ambassador has officially informed his Government of the good intentions of Spain with regard to these claims, which will be settled at the earliest possible date, although some of the demands for indemnity are rather exaggerated, but notwithstanding this, due justice will be done.

#### THE CAPTAINCY OF CUBA.

Gen. CABALLERO DE RODAS has sent in his resignation in such terms that the Ministers have no doubt as to the correctness of their decision; but, nevertheless, they have not thought fit to receive it, in face of the present serious circumstances, and when the insurgents are far from laying down their arms. The General is not satisfied with the steps taken by the Minister of the Colonies. He writes to the young Minister that a few well-devised decrees, put into execution immediately, would be more useful in pacifying the island than all the armies they can possibly send. The Ministers have sent to Havana instructions for at once proceeding to the election of the Municipalities, the members of the General Council, and the Deputies for the Cortes.

#### SLAVERY IN CUBA.

The advocates for the immediate and unconditional abolition of slavery are considerable at Havana, and they are striving actively to get the majority at the elections, and purge the island of this social wound, which was unknown to the Egyptians, and which is called slavery.

#### REPUBLICANISM.

Last evening and during the night large crowds gathered at the doors of the Soleil, but they were not of a seditious character. A report had been spread about that the Republic had been proclaimed at Paris, and that the Minister of the Interior had been informed of it, but as no one could give the text of the dispatch it died out. The Republicans of Madrid and the whole of Spain have been informed that the Directory is permanently sitting, and that they must hold themselves ready to act on the first advice given them. In order to quiet the impatient, the members of the Directory of Madrid have published a manifesto, in which they entreat their party not to uselessly compromise their cause by partial risings, which would afford the Government an opportunity of fighting them with the troops. They have recommended them to be calm and prudent under the grave circumstances that exist for the moment, but which, in the course of a few days, will be decisive. Several Republican Deputies, who had been banished for having taken part in the events that took place at Barcelona, Valentia, Malaga, Cadiz and Saragossa, have returned to Spain, thanks to the general amnesty that has been decreed.

#### A GENERAL AMNESTY.

There is not at the present time in Spain a single individual detained for political offenses. All the doors of the political prisons are open. As to those who were sent to the Philippine Islands, they have been informed that they can return when they like. This order was sent by telegraph as far as the Pointe de Galles, and by post the rest of the way.

#### THE WAR.

In Madrid there exists a strong feeling in favor of the Prussians. You will readily understand that the friends of Gen. PRIM, who greatly desired to see the Prince of HOHENZOLLERN on the throne of Spain, cannot easily forgive French diplomacy for having caused this candidature to fail, as it would have secured to the General the direction of the political affairs of the country. It is therefore quite natural that they should wish for the success of the Prussians, who would help them to remove the embarrassments into which this unfortunate country is plunged. The Republicans wish to see the reign of NAPOLEON come to an end, and France, who has for eighteen years endured all the severities of one of the most arbitrary despotisms, return to liberty; but they take special care to declare that they do not confound the Empire with France. They ardently desire that the French Democracy may get the upper hand, and, as in the days of MOREAU PICHIEGRU, make a mighty effort and drive the enemy from the soil of France. Every one is in expectation of important news.

#### THE THRONE OF SPAIN.

Gen. PRIM paid a visit to the French Ambassador as soon as he learned the defeat of Marshal MCMAHON. I know that after this visit he sent for M. SALAZAR, of Mazaredo, the agent who went to Berlin to negotiate the candidature of Prince LEOPOLD of Hohenzollern, and he ordered him to set out at once to have an interview with M. DE BISMARCK, for the purpose of asking him whether the Spanish Government, in the event of Prussia being victorious, could depend upon her support and the Prince of HOHENZOLLERN. On the other hand, the General is carrying on, by means of M. GASSET-ARTIME, another negotiation with the ex-Queen ISABELLA, in order to induce her to allow the Prince of BOURBON to come to Spain. He has given his word of honor that he will answer for him as for his own son, and that he will get him crowned King if his mother and grandmother will consent to remain in France for two years longer.

#### FRANCE AND SPAIN.

I am assured that M. OLOZAGA has received orders to return to Madrid to enlighten the Government upon the true state of the Empire. But the motive for recalling him is very different. They find that M. OLOZAGA is too friendly with the Court, and they are afraid lest the ascendancy which the Empress has over him should impel him to some imprudent step. M. OLOZAGA has pledged his Government to form an alliance with France and to send her a division of 25,000 or 30,000 troops; but Spain will not depart from her neutrality. Her political and financial position render it imperative for her to remain absolutely aloof from the struggle that is going on, and she awaits the result.