

## Serenade to Mr. Seward by the Volunteers of Havana.

### Mr. Seward's Response to an Address of Welcome.

### No Expectations of an Early Termination of the Revolution.

The steamship Columbia, Captain Van Sice, from Havana on the 22d inst., arrived at this port last evening.

### Serenade to Mr. Seward by the Volunteers of Havana—Address of the Deputation and Response of Mr. Seward—His Future Movements.

HAVANA, Jan. 20, 1870.

Mr. Seward has been and continues to be the recipient of such attentions from the authorities and citizens here as must be extremely agreeable to him personally and as a representative of the great republic. On Tuesday, the 18th, at eight o'clock in the evening, he was treated to a beautiful serenade by the volunteers of Havana. In considerable numbers they formed a hollow square in front of the Telegraph Hotel, where Mr. Seward is residing, carrying torches, and in the centre three bands played a variety of national and operatic airs, closing with "Yankee Doodle," which had the effect of exciting some enthusiasm among the few Americans present. Meanwhile a deputation of volunteers and prominent citizens waited upon him, headed by General D. Julian Zulueta, who addressed him in the following words:—

EXCELLENT SIR—The corps of volunteers of this capital, united with a number of prominent citizens of the same, who, by their character, represent the people, have the honor to extend their compliments to your Excellency on your happy arrival in their midst. When you stood at the head of the Department of State of the great American nation you favored us with your presence, and we have not forgotten that your Excellency spoke very kindly in reference to our country, which you recently spoke of with the pleasing expression of "Mother of the New World." If, then, your Excellency received the respectful recognition which was due to your elevated official position, we regard it as a sacred duty to receive you with the same respect, and even more cordially, rendering to the eminent statesman and the man of noble sentiments the distinguished homage that in other times might be considered as a demonstration of courtesy to a distinguished official. Be pleased, your Excellency, to accept the sincere manifestation of the sentiments which animate the loyal Spaniards of Cuba, who are pleased to render this tribute of affection and respect to him whom they justly consider as one of the glories of the American nation."

To this Mr. Seward responded as follows:—

GENTLEMEN, OFFICERS AND CITIZENS OF HAVANA—Four years have passed since the occasion to which you have referred, when I was greeted, on passing through this port, by a welcome, which all the world regarded as not more generous to myself personally than just and fraternal to the United States. Since that time peace has been perfected in the United States, and civil war has broken out in Spain and Cuba. The balance of power in Europe has been readjusted by the sword; Russian America has been added to the United States; Central America and South America have scarcely known repose; Mexico has resumed the walk of constitutional life. Notwithstanding I have been an observer and an actor in some of these transactions, the address which you have made to me and the pleasing circumstances under which it is presented are almost effective in making me forget the lapse of time and feel that I have returned to Cuba after a mere temporary separation from its hospitable shores. Gentlemen, the island of Cuba is an essential part of the great modern systems of commerce and civilization. All nations are interested in its permanent peace and enduring prosperity. I congratulate you with all my heart upon the great expansion and improvement which have occurred since my former visit; I pray God that this progress may continue and that peace and harmony may not only be restored to the island of Cuba, but also that the political situation in Spain herself, the most ancient ally of the United States, may have a safe and happy issue from all existing complications. Gentlemen, I am sure that my countrymen will acknowledge in a more fitting manner than I have been able to do the generous hospitality you have extended to me.

Before the address came a glass of wine, and a number of people were presented to Mr. Seward and the members of his suite and much good feeling prevailed. The serenade closed at half-past nine o'clock, and the large crowd which had gathered quickly dispersed.

The remarks of Mr. Seward, with that gratefulness of compliment which the Spaniard is never lacking to his friend, were printed by the *Diario de la Marina* in both English and Spanish.

Yesterday Mr. Seward dined with the Captain General at the official country residence, outside the city, and attended the theatre in the evening.

Mr. Seward has determined to remain here about two weeks, when he will proceed to St. Thomas or some of the other West Indies, returning so as to reach his home the latter part of February or first of March.

### The Termination of the Insurrection Not Expected Until 1871—The Ideas and Intentions of the Colonial Authorities—The Diplomatic Questions—Encounters in the Cinco Villas—Conspiracy Among the Negroes—Recapture of a Sloop by the Spaniards—Nothing Yet Known of Puello.

HAVANA, Jan. 22, 1870.

Distinguished and no doubt extremely well informed persons in Washington are predicting an early termination of the insurrection in this island. Among them is that erudite diplomatist, Mr. Edward Lee Plumb, whose knowledge of the condition of affairs here, derived from Spanish officials and from a visit to a sugar estate outside of Matanzas a week prior to his departure, when he was not in the slightest danger from insurgents or anybody else, enables him to speak by authority. It is a subject of regret that these gentlemen cannot infuse into the breast of the Spanish representatives here whose duty it is to suppress the insurrection some little of that sublime confidence with which they are overflowing.

From very high and most reliable authority I am able to state that these representatives do not anticipate an end to this war prior to the winter of 1870 and 1871. While no doubt is felt of their power to end it before that time the sacrifices to that end are thought to be too great and by no means essential to the ultimate interest and glory of Spain. As long as any doubt was entertained of the course of the United States on the subject of recognition and the departure of the gunboats all possible efforts were put forth without regard to sacrifice. Now it is assumed to be known that in no case is it the policy of Grant's administration to recognize the Cubans as belligerents, and it is believed the gunboats will effectually prevent any supplies reaching them to the increase of their strength. It is argued that in all those sections of the island where the interests of the government and of Spaniards are involved and where so much destruction has not taken place as to render them useless few, if any, insurgents remain, and agricultural operations, from which are derived primarily the resources of the government and the wealth of the people, are going on as usual. The insurgents occupying the more remote, rugged and inaccessible localities, though suffering much from want of clothing, salt and other necessities, have plenty to eat, are in large numbers, and, being thoroughly acquainted with the country, it is exceedingly difficult to get at them with troops, particularly those not acclimated. It is realized that during the little more than a month which remains and in which European troops can campaign the insurgents' forces cannot be destroyed, and as the prosecution of the campaign beyond that time would only cause the useless sacrifice of thousands of the patriots who have come out here to preserve the national integrity that portion of the country now occupied will be held, and the troops made to do as little as possible during the summer, at the end of which they will have become accustomed to the climate and enabled to search out the Cubans, constantly growing weaker from a cessation of supplies. Meanwhile and until the unhealthy season sets in all possible will be accomplished for the good of the cause and the satisfying of public opinion.

It is surmised among some more thoughtful people here that other and deeper calculations enter into a prolonging of this contest. The idea, originally suggested, I think, by the *HERALD*, that important negotiations touching this island between the United States and Spain might follow on a termination of the war, is regarded as very likely, as thereby can be explained the very peculiar and inconsistent course of the Washington administration in reference to Cuba. It is thought probable that hopes of a sale of the island have been incited in the breast of Fish and others when once the pride and dignity of Spain have been vindicated, and that, without any intention of carrying out their positive or implied promises, the unprincipled and sly politicians at the head of the Spanish government are only anxious to gain time for a settlement of their pecuniary difficulties which will enable them to snap their fingers in the face of the great republic, which they and the whole Spanish people hate with an intensity equal to their fear. However this may be, it is certain this war is not to be ended in a few weeks or months, but, on the contrary, will fill up the measure of another year with all its changes and vicissitudes.

The interest regarding the insurrection is still centered in the campaign of Puello in Camaguey, of whom at this writing we have heard nothing. The steamer *Pelajo*, from Nuevitas and other points

along the coast, is overdue and momentarily expected. She will doubtless furnish us with the information so anxiously desired. The *Diario* accounts for the scarcity of news from that section by the paucity of steamers touching on the north side, and adds that the gunboats once prepared for sea constant communication will be kept up.

The official *Gazette* continues to publish reports of encounters in the Cinco Villas, notwithstanding the oft repeated assurances of the complete pacification of that section. A recent despatch says that the constant and active prosecution of which they have been the object in Trinidad has obliged Villamil and his band to retire to the most inaccessible of the mountains of Limones and Navanjo, in that jurisdiction, where they united with Martinez and Vivas. Learning of their whereabouts in that place Lieutenant Colonel Moreno, in combination with Luquidam, attacked them, following them from place to place, and causing twenty-four deaths, capturing the usually mentioned large quantities of arms, provisions, &c. It is claimed that Keloff, "the Pole," was wounded in one of the encounters recently.

In Santiago de Cuba a considerable number of troops, subdivided in small bands, are going about without encountering any insurgents, who keep out of their way. A report was in circulation on the 15th among the Cubans that a great fight had taken place at Palma Soriana, but it was denied by the *Bandera Española* of that date, which claimed that perfect tranquillity reigned in the locality referred to.

The *Papelón Nacional*, of Cienfuegos, mentions the discovery of a conspiracy among some laborers on the estates Constanza, Cienegueta, San Francisco and Simpatía, with the object of reducing the others and joining the insurgents. Five of the negroes on Constanza had been convicted and confessed, and were to suffer condign punishment, whatever that may be. Fourteen slaves had escaped from the same estate and reached the insurgents.

From the same journal we learn of the recapture of the coasting sloop Catalan. This vessel sailed from Mansanillo on the 21st of November for Cienfuegos, and was captured by the insurgents, of which the Spanish press at the time made no mention. Learning of her whereabouts the commanders of the war steamers Guadalquivir and Garrion left their anchorage at Santa Cruz on the 11th for her capture. At three P. M. they arrived off the stream Micurije, up which two boats were sent from the steamers, carrying eighty-five marines and troops and one piece of artillery. They succeeded in taking the sloop, which was burned. They also captured a canoe, with two carbines, destroyed another, burned two ranches and two boats, and caused the enemy, who offered some resistance, to fly. The account states that the insurgents had constructed two large canoes, in which to bring arms from the Keys, south of the island, to the coast, and that the Catalan was employed to go to Calman to lighten ships, so that her destruction will prove a serious loss to the insurgents.

The *Official Gazette* publishes what purports to be an address from Joaquin Carvallo, late an insurgent chief, to the Cubans, calling on them to lay down their arms, and claiming that the provisional government has granted to Cuba all those rights to secure which the revolution was inaugurated.

From some captured documents of the insurgents it seems an election has taken place in Trinidad by which C. Antonio Lorda was elected Governor and C. Mariano Jimenez Lieutenant Governor.

There is a foolish rumor here, to which the *Diario* has given place in its columns, said to have originated in Puerto Principe, that Quesada and Marmol have been relieved from command and subjected to court martial, and that Jordan has been made commander-in-chief.

A portion of the village of Salto, in Cienfuegos, has been burned to ashes by the insurgent chief Benito Noé.

The *Foz de Cuba* of last evening published a résumé of operations in the Cinco Villas during December, from which it appears that only ten of the thirty-one days of that month passed without an encounter with the insurgents, which argues well for the "complete pacification" of that district.

Colonel D. Francisco Benegasi has at last been heard from. He arrived here on the 19th, and has been for some time suffering from a severe wound, received, as say the journals now, on the march between Gibara and Holquin. With the usual reticence of the Spaniards, in anything at all unfavorable to their cause, no mention was made of the encounter or the wounding of this officer. General Valera, Colonel of the reserves of Santo Domingo, in Sagü La Grande, who accompanied the last convoy to Las Tunas, is now Governor of that place. Additional accounts concerning the passage of this convoy have been received. They place the loss of the insurgents at ninety killed, but otherwise afford nothing new.

In Santa Clara has been shot D. Ramon Maria Gras, accused of disloyalty, and in San Juan his brother Ricardo and Dr. Morado, charged with the same offence.

Lieutenant Colonel Victoriano Mendiguen recently died of disease in Jiguani.

The Third battalion of volunteers of this city has gone to the Pinar del Rio to relieve the Fifth.

The foreign legion of this city is fast completing its organization. One hundred Germans, 200 Frenchmen, two Englishmen and one American have thus far joined it. It will turn out for the first time tomorrow.

The property of the following persons has been embargoed:—D. Francisco Garcia Osuna, now residing abroad, and D. Pablo José Casañas, a citizen of Gagua, also abroad. Eleven hundred and fifty-five confiscations have taken place in Puerto Principe.

There arrived here on the steamer Columbia a young man named James C. Hill, a photographer by profession, and a British subject. His passport was duly vised by the Spanish Consul in New York, yet for some cause on landing he was arrested and sent back aboard the steamer. As under the passport the action of the Columbia in bringing him here was justifiable, Captain Van Sice naturally objects to his ship being made a boarding house for political prisoners, and threatens to send the man off his vessel unless his fare is paid to New York. The British Consul has interested himself in the matter, but up to near the hour of the steamer sailing nothing has been done.

The steamer *Pelajo*, from Gibara and Nuevitas, arrived here this morning, having left the latter place on the 18th. Nothing whatever had been heard of the column of Puello. Rumors were afloat, but there was no trust in them. One of them was to the effect that Puello was fortifying at Guamaro. Goynueche had arrived at Puerto Principe from Ciego de Avila without firing a shot, and had gone out again, though his destination was not known. It was supposed he would move towards Najasa. Cholera had again broken out in Principe. Five thousand arrived with Goynueche, and two hours after their arrival thirty were dead from cholera.