

## GROSS TREATMENT OF A BRITISH SUBJECT BY THE SPANISH AUTHORITIES IN CUBA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

In the columns of the HERALD of the 27th ultimo mention is made by your Havana correspondent of my arrival at that port, the outrage of the Spanish authorities attending the same, and the protests thereto of Captain E. Van Sice (of the steamer) and the party more directly concerned—said paragraph possessing none other but veritable information in the embodiment of that on which no further light has been thrown by the lawless invaders of both national dignity and the inalienable rights of man. In virtue of the initiative taken by you, I deem it my duty, with your permission, to use the same medium of bringing to public notice the important coincidences and relative circumstances of this Cuban invasion.

I embarked on the 13th ultimo on the United States steam packet Columbia for Havana, in the employ of a respectable firm of this city having there established a branch business, to which I was directed for service, I having previously complied with the requirements of the Spanish laws. On my arrival there, after the customary investigation of passports, the passengers, without exception, were allowed to land, among whom was the unfortunate victim, Isaac Greenwall, an account of whose assassination I have read in to-day's HERALD, with an incredible opinion of the Spanish good will toward all foreigners, and the miraculous escape of him who now lives to be avenged. After being thirty minutes on the sacred soil of Cuba I was compelled by an order of the Captain General to re-embark. Discretion being the better part of valor, I submitted to the kind attention of the "Caballero," and was promptly returned to the vessel in which I had arrived, and delivered to the purser as contraband merchandise, thereby involving a trio international difficulty, as I was then under both British and American protection. Desirous of ventilating the difficulty existing I procured an interview with my employer, who promptly came on board and acquiesced to the compliance of my just request; but having obtained in the execution thereof the irresistible monosyllable used in answer to all appeals of Spanish authority, I therefore concluded to make a formal demand of my Consul, which was delivered by Captain Van Sice in person, of the result of which I am yet ignorant.

On the departure of the steamer I was sent on shore by Captain Van Sice, he having refused to take me back to New York unless remunerated; but the steamer was hailed, boarded and the order enforced, I arriving at New York on the 26th ult., a living victim of Spanish temerity.

During my arrest I expected at any moment to be removed from the vessel and be conducted to some dismal dungeon, or perhaps to the place of execution. Having thus providentially escaped, I have now placed my case in the hands of Mr. Thornton, who as the worthy representative of the government of which I am an inalienable subject, has promptly notified me of the preliminary steps taken by him to an immediate and impartial investigation and the furtherance of my prayer. If the treachery of an unknown enemy has been at work, if the appearance "Cubana" I possess, or the misfortune of my speaking the language, either of which has created suspicions imperative to the action aforesaid, I have no doubt that the government of her Britannic Majesty will prepare me the path of self-defence and inaugurate a new era in Spanish policy.

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JAMES C. HILL.