

THE SHOOTING OF AMERICANS IN HAVANA

One Killed and Two Dangerously Wounded for Wearing Blue Cravats—Details of the Affair—Action of the American Consul—Efforts of the Government to Arrest the Assassins.

HAVANA, Feb. 7, 1870.

It is with profound regret that I report another wholesale assassination in this city, in which three young Americans were the victims, a fourth escaping without injury. Some three weeks since there came here from New York four young men named respectively Isaac Greenwall, Thomas K. Foster, Hugh Johnson and Gardner Wells, engaged by a certain drug firm in the manufacture of an article of perfumery. Following their arrivals they were engaged in their labors, and being ignorant of the city and unacquainted with the language, scarcely left their residence save to go to their place of business. Yesterday morning they dress themselves with more than a usual degree of care and started out about eleven o'clock to have their pictures taken at Frederick's gallery. They had on blue cravats, a thing much worn in the States, but regarded here among the more ignorant as indicating sympathy with the insurrection. Of this, however, they were ignorant. Arrived at the head of Obrapia street, where it intercepts the Parque, near the Albia theatre, they were met by a person in citizen's dress, but wearing the hat of a volunteer and armed, who cried "Halta!" and approached them, speaking something in Spanish, and grabbed the necktie first of Greenwall and then of Foster. They backed away from him, when he fired at Greenwall, who fell, and immediately a crowd gathered and other shots were fired, which seriously wounded Johnson and Foster. The latter, however, managed to extricate himself from the crowd, and getting into a hack reached home, as did Wells, who was uninjured. Greenwall, who was mortally wounded, was compelled to walk to the Cellador's, in Barcelona street, which he did with the greatest difficulty, and on entering fell dead on the floor. Johnson was taken to the jail, where he was placed in the hospital, remaining until morning, when he was taken by his friends to his residence. The body of Greenwall was carelessly thrown on a bier and carried off for burial. It will, however, be exhumed and sent to his friends in the North. He leaves a wife and seven children.

During yesterday the house of the firm, by whom these young men were employed, was visited by a number of officials and the testimony of Wells and Foster taken.

An examination of the wounded men this morning shows that Foster was cut across the back of the head, seemingly by a bayonet. He was also shot in the neck, the ball from which was extracted. On his side was a bayonet wound, passing into the abdominal cavity, and another superficial wound in front of the abdomen. He also has other superficial wounds in various parts of his body. Johnson was wounded in the temple, and the symptoms showed that the ball had traversed the brain and was still in there. This is not certain, however. Strongest hopes are entertained that both will recover.

Mr. Henry C. Hall immediately took the most active and energetic measures concerning the unfortunate affair. Getting the facts of the case from the survivors, he immediately telegraphed to Washington and afterwards called at the palace. Here he learned that the matter was attracting undivided attention. The utmost indignation was expressed at the outrage and all of the resources of the government are at work to discover the perpetrator or perpetrators, who will be shot within two hours after their identification. This afternoon will appear in the papers an offer of \$1,000 reward for the arrest of the murderer. Among the better class of people the feeling of indignation and regret is universal, as it is known that such acts are likely to intensify the feelings against Spanish dominion on this continent.

Since the foregoing was written I learn that the deceased, Isaac Greenwall, was a German, and came to the island with a passport of the North German Confederation. Mr. Will, the German Consul, is interesting himself in the affair. He represents the Captain General as fiercely determined to bring the perpetrators to justice.

The following communication in reference to the affair was addressed to your correspondent this morning by a long time resident of Havana:—

My indignation boils over. Four young American gentlemen passing through the streets on Sunday morning are stopped by volunteers, one killed and two nearly so, because they wore blue cravats. * * * The Captain General is entirely and solely responsible for this. For months he has permitted the volunteers to kill all they chose to consider guilty of a crime. They have never been punished. Last night a servant, a volunteer, informed me that he had a right to shoot me if I committed an offence. I asked him who made him a judge? He responded, "Martial law exists." "You ought," I said, "to take me to the authorities and let them punish." "Oh, they would be bribed and you would escape." There are 5,000 ignorant fellows here who believe they have this power and right. The other half of the volunteers probably know better. If General de Rodas had taught a few of the assassins that he alone could punish, had he maintained the authority of law and order which he has now the power of doing, these innocent people would not have been so treated. General Dulce could not do it. He had no means of enforcing his authority. Rodas has, and therefore I hold, as I believe will every intelligent person, that he is responsible.

Government is a farce here; an armed mob rules. General Rodas is the mere figure of a Captain General and not a reality. Some power should protect us. Neutrals have rights.

There are many rumors afloat concerning the killing of Cubans, and it is claimed that six or eight have been slaughtered within the past two days, but they can be traced to no reliable source.

The affair of the steaming Colonel Lloyd Aspinwall, recently from Hayti and captured by the Spanish war steamer Hernan Cortes and brought here, has attracted the attention of the American Consul, and she will probably be released. She was duly despatched by the Spanish Consul at Port au Prince for Havana, and carried mails for the United States squadron. Her papers were in every respect regular, and the captain, McCarty, complains much of his detention and treatment. He has been placed *incommunicado* and not furnished with sufficient to eat, and otherwise badly treated.

The Assassin of Mr. Greenwall Arrested—Havana Quiet—News from Other Points.

HAVANA, Feb. 12, 1870.

The assassin of Isaac Greenwall was arrested in this city last night. He is a native of the Canary islands and a sergeant in the Fifth battalion of volunteers. A court martial will be immediately convened for the trial of the murderer.

The city is now perfectly quiet. No disturbance has occurred since Sunday last.

Telegraphic communication between Trinidad and Havana has been re established and again open for business.

Despatches from San Miguel have been received. The troops now occupy that city, and many families from the insurrectionary district had arrived and were settling in that town.