

Return of Goyenche to Puerto Principe—Spanish Report of His Operations—His Column Much Depleted—A New Expedition Projected—Eight Thousand Men Necessary to Suppress the Insurrection—Shooting of Domingo Barreta.

HAVANA, Feb. 7, 1870.

The steamer Pelago, which reached this port yesterday morning, brings news from Puerto Principe to the 4th.

Goyenche, with his "expeditionary column," had returned there, and, though no details are furnished to confirm the statement, the *Fuero* of that city announces that "the march has been an uninterrupted series of triumphs for our arms and of destruction to the rebels. All their great encampments about Najasa, so much vaunted, have been destroyed, and the following places, one after the other, occupied by our troops:—Mamanayagua, Las Vueltas, San Fernando, the formidable trench El Asiento, El Ciego de Hirotea, Santa Lucia, Carrasco, El Piton, Rio Blanco, La Baratalla, Gaimaro, El Pilon, Arroyo Hondo, Las Minas, Estate Sabanilla, Cascorro, Sebanica, Juan Gomez, Estate Chiquito and others." Most of these are stock farms. The paper continues:—"In a place called Culeco were collected a large body of insurgents, which our troops took at the point of the bayonet. There, according to information received, were Jordan, Beauvillier and Julio Sangull. In this march the insurrection has suffered terrible blows and has lost many people. Their principal chiefs and mythical government saved themselves by chance. A few white prisoners were taken and some colored. Some spies were shot on the road and several convoys of prisoners captured. On some of the estates handsome horses belonging to the insurgent chiefs were captured." No mention is made of losses on either side. Private accounts say that the column returned very much depleted, with the following prisoners:—Two old white men, three negroes, eleven women and a boy nine years of age, who, it is claimed, is a nephew of Cespedes. Such damage as was done to the insurgents was by the troops of Acozta, from Santi Espiritu, who disguised themselves as insurgents and entered the rebel camps.

It is evident from these accounts that Goyenche has really accomplished nothing, and that no engagement of any moment has taken place. Another expedition is projected with the united forces of Goyenche and Puello. The former has declared since his return that he can end the insurrection with 6,000 men, a number considerably in excess of what he thought necessary prior to his late march.

Details of the arrest and shooting of Domingo Barreta are at hand by the Pelago. It seems he had punished a negro, who, out of revenge, presented himself to the Spaniards and betrayed his whereabouts. He was taken by a considerable force sent out from Las Minas and while on the march with his family. He reported thirty men killed and twenty-six prisoners taken on the occasion. He was tried by verbal court martial and shot at once. The Governor has expressed his thanks in an official notice to the court for its promptitude in disposing of the case.

Some of the soldiers of Goyenche's column found on the estate San José de Najasa the tomb of José de Jesus Valdes Urra, known as "Chicno Valdes," an insurgent leader of considerable note. According to the inscription he died on the 6th of January last.

A letter from Nuevitas the 4th says it is reported that by the Pelago goes an officer by the name of Gomez, taking to the Captain General despatches of importance from Napoleon Arango, who, it is said, was recently in conference during an entire night with some Spanish officers. A rumor was rife that Arango had presented himself, but was known to be false before departure of the steamer.

From captured correspondence it was claimed to be known that the deposed General Quesada had collected together a large quantity of wax in a small inlet on the south side, near Santa Cruz, and had embarked with it on a small schooner intending to leave the island, but being chased by a Spanish man-of-war he was compelled to return. In Santa Ecatriz was recently found by the Spanish troops, which went out from Las Minas, on the road to Principe, a tannery with large tanks, made out of mahogany and brick work, with all requisite machinery, tankard, &c., and destroyed. It was said to belong to Cornelio Ferro, a brigadier in the insurgent army. A small column left Puerto Principe on the road to Santa Cruz recently and had an encounter in which, as reported by themselves, Don Federico Peyrehade, a dentist, well known in New York, was killed and seven prisoners taken.

On Saturday evening arrived here from Key West the Spanish war steamer Caurruca, having on board before Aviles and Alouzo, who accompanied Castañon and who were detained as witnesses, and seventeen Spaniards resident there, who have abandoned the place, as, says one of the government journals, "in consequence of the horror caused them by the infamous crime which all who respect themselves condemn." The police were very diligent in preserving order, and the Mayor had issued a proclamation in consequence.

The following named persons have been arrested either as principals or accessories in the murder of Castañon.—Joaquin Botella, José Botella, Pedro Orozco, Francisco Aceltano, Valentin Moriera, Alejandro Mendoza, Domingo Rodriguez, Patricio Gonzalez, a negro, who it seems was paid to assassinate the companions of Castañon, Señora Arias and Alouzo and N. Artuaga. The police were in search of Mateo Orozco and Carlos Rodriguez, who were recognized by Alouzo as the principal perpetrators of the assassination, and of N. Lozano, who was a captain of one of the companies on board of the Lillian. The Mayor had offered a reward of \$500 for the arrest of Mateo Orozco, and the Governor of Florida an additional reward of the same amount.

This activity of the American authorities stands out in marked relief to that of the authorities here on the occasion of killing Mr. Cobner, an American citizen, in January, 1863, when no efforts were made to discover the murderers.