

## Military Organization of the Cubans.

### A New Campaign Mapped Out by the Spaniards.

### The Spanish Press on the New York Herald's Correspondence.

**The Campaign in Camaguey—Goyeneche Returns Again—The Insurgents in the Interior—Their Military Organization—The Number of Spanish Troops—Captured Correspondence—Valmaseda Marching on Puerto Principe—Operations in Holguin—Other News.**

HAVANA, Feb. 15, 1870.

The chief point of interest in reference to matters in this island still remains in the section known as Camaguey, the military centre of which is the city of Puerto Principe. By the steamer Moctezuma, which arrived on Sunday, the 13th, we have dates from that place to the 10th. As is known, Goyeneche went out the second time on the 5th. He had made arrangements for an extensive march, carrying a large quantity of provisions, &c., but for some unexplained reason he returned on the 8th. We naturally have nothing but Spanish accounts concerning operations, and these are most incomplete and unsatisfactory. The *Diario de la Marina*, of this city, has a correspondent with the column who starts out with the intention of writing a regular history of the campaign, but he seems to have no idea of military operations, and fancies his readers will be more interested with the glories of Spain, abuse of the rebels and his ideas as to the proper method of carrying on the war than in the recital of bald facts. As to the last expedition of Goyeneche, which, as the writer says, lasted four days, nothing of importance occurred. The insurgents could not be found, although it had been reported they were expecting the column behind, strong intrenchments. A few spies, by which title every person caught is dignified, were taken and shot, and nothing more. The writer, in speaking of the campaign in Camaguey, so inauspiciously inaugurated by Puello, says that heretofore operations have been confined to guarding the railroad between Puerto Principe and Nuevitas and protecting the rich section of the Cinco Villas from destruction. So the insurgents were enabled to gather themselves in the Camaguey, where, moving from estate to estate, remained the President and House of Representatives. Here for fourteen months, excepting a little time, the insurgent leaders have passed the life of the ancient patriarchs, proud and happy. Here were the main support of the insurrection and the men of the most prudence. "It cannot be denied that in their files were men of military renown and capacity, and they have managed to excite among the credulous and ignorant a terrible fanaticism."

As showing the spirit of vanity which affects "these democrats fighting against a military despotism," the writer recounts the articles in reference to the military organization as passed by the House and approved by the President. Most of these are familiar to the readers of the *HERALD*. The grades established under that of the President, who is *ex-officio* general and commander-in-chief, are lieutenant general, major general, brigadier general, colonel, lieutenant colonel, &c. The island is divided into four military departments—namely, the Eastern, the Camaguey, Las Villas and the Western. Each department is under the command of a lieutenant general, who has under him one major general. The departments are divided into military districts, as follows:—The Eastern into Cuba, Bayamo and Holguin; the Camaguey into Tunas and Camaguey; Las Villas into Santi Espiritu, Remedios, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos and Trinidad. The Western Department will be divided into military districts as soon as the exigencies will permit. Each district is under the command of a major general, who has under him a brigadier general. The further organization is described as showing the number of officials, compared with those of the Spanish army, which is considerably greater, the writer seeming to forget that this organization is for the purposes of the war only. Article twenty-five of the act referred to provides that all citizens of the republic, without distinction, shall serve the republic in such manner as they are capable. With the correspondence is a number of captured letters, which are mostly old, and show nothing of interest. One, under date of the 24th of December, 1869, signed by Carlos Varela, prefect, states that "his Excellency the Citizen Governor" is much pained at the number of desertions, and suggests means for remedying the same.

The anticipated advance of Valmaseda from Las Tunas to operate in conjunction with Puello and Goyeneche is spoken of. This movement will bring the Spanish forces in front and rear of the insurgents.

The journals of this city place the number of troops now operating in the Camaguey at 15,000. This must include those under Valmaseda in conjunction with those of Puello, Goyeneche and Acosta. It is doubtless not far from the truth. With what success the insurgents can combat these no correct opinion can be formed, for the effective numbers of the Cubans are not known. It is highly probable that, as heretofore, they will keep out of the way of any considerable force.

A quantity of captured correspondence is published in the journals here, but it is mostly old and affords nothing new on the subject of the insurrection. Portions of it refer to the march of Valmaseda to Bayamo, a year ago. One of the letters, of date the 6th of January, 1870, addressed to the Marquis of Santa Lucia, makes incidental mention of the affair on the 1st of January, and is confirmatory of the defeat of Puello. It is as follows:—

VISTA HERMOZA, Jan. 6, 1870.

MY DEAR MARQUIS—I have just received your favor of the 4th. It is very strange you have not received several I have sent you. You must know how well we have begun the year, which would not have been so if the ex-General had remained at the head of our troops. Young Suerita assures me that from Martin Leynas he knows of the departure of General Quesada very soon. I have placed my people two leagues from the city, on a line so nothing escapes me. It commences on the estate "Chiquita," extending to the "Corralillo." The troops which left by the road of Guaguabo kept on the road at Cacicques; I calculate 300 infantry and 200 cavalry. To-day I have forwarded the safe conducts to Ignacio, so he can countersign them to send to the city. May the new year be more friendly to you and your family, now that it has opened so gloriously for our army. Ever yours,  
FRANCISCO DE ARREDONDO Y MIRANDA.

The writer of this letter is a young man, son of a once prominent lawyer of Puerto Principe, now deceased.

Private advices from Nuevitas state that, contrary to the Spanish reports, some fighting took place during Goyeneche's late march, in which he lost heavily. This is confirmed by passengers arrived by the Moctezuma, and in view of his unexpected return it is not improbable.

The *Prensa* says, by private letters it is known that Valmaseda was within twelve leagues from Holguin and it was expected he would move on rapidly to Puerto Principe. Correspondence from Gibara to the 10th, published in the *Diario*, says that the movement of troops and volunteers in that jurisdiction is general. Forces had arrived some days previous from Cuba and Bayamo and they were scouting the country in different directions. Hundreds of families were presenting themselves, while others, more rebellious, hid or hid themselves. Several of the latter had paid their last tribute to humanity. The same correspondence mentions the discovery, within sight of that port, of the schooner *Kassau* Herald, which had run aground and was entirely abandoned. He states that she had on board 100 boxes ammunition for Remington rifles, 100 arms of different patterns, twenty-five saddles, two medicine chests and two boxes medicine. Other and more reliable accounts state that she contained nothing whatever and there were traces of a cargo having been recently landed from her.

The Military Intendente, D. Juan Gonzalo, has gone to the Cinco Villas, and thence will proceed to Sanago de Cuba on a tour of inspection.

Since my last, thanks to the efforts of the authorities, entire quiet has reigned in the city. There have been arrested three persons connected with the assassination of Greenwalt and the wounding of the two Americans, Foster and Johnson. No official announcement of the arrest of the principal has been made, but it is generally understood he is in custody. The wounded men are getting on well.

The Commissary of Police, in whose district is situated the house from which Felipe Valdes, a carpenter, was taken out and murdered as mentioned in a previous despatch, has been suspended until he accomplishes the arrest of the perpetrators. As he considers that in doing this his own death will result he prefers to lose his place.

The Cuban executed on Saturday was named D. Andres Galiano y Orasco. Great efforts were made by his friends to save him, but in vain. He was a member of the volunteer artillery here, and was executed for disloyal words spoken when under the influence of liquor. He died with remarkable serenity.

A gentleman recently from a visit to an estate between Matanzas and Cardenas mentions the execution of some six Chinamen for the murder of an overseer, as before reported. It is known that the murdered man was in the habit of treating his laborers with great cruelty, and his death was the result of a combination among them and as a warning to other overseers to be less brutal and tyrannical. The Chinamen from the various estates were

present to witness the execution, but with very little good effect, as the condemned were chattering in the most lively and cheerful manner in view of their immediate return to the "Flowery Land," which, as they believe, awaits them after death.

An effort was recently made to assassinate Don Ramon Herrera, colonel of one of the volunteer regiments here, as he was moving along the street in the evening. The assassin struck at him with a dagger, but he started back in time to save himself, and, drawing his sword, succeeded in securing the man. The Spaniards say that a league has been formed to murder all the colonels of volunteers, and this was the first attempt to carry out the determination.

The Mexican ex-President Santa Anna arrived here on the Moctezuma. His arrival is supposed to have some connection with the present difficulties in Mexico. Soon after landing he was waited upon by an aid of the Captain General, who called his attention to the order of General Lerandi directing him to leave the island, and informed him that he could not remain here, but must leave immediately. Whether this unfortunate old intriguer will wend his steps is unknown.

The head of the Treasury here is indefatigable in the prosecution of reforms. As the result of his efforts we find in a decree of the Regent, affecting the administration of the finances here, an article which provides that appointees shall undergo an examination as to their fitness for position; that they shall hold their positions for life, being only removable for cause, and that lines of promotion shall be established, which shall not be deviated from except where want of capacity is manifested.

Thus, with the abolition of the direct taxes, removes the chief causes of complaint among the Cubans, those which lay at the base of the revolution.