

End of the Dissensions Among the Patriots.

Captured Correspondence—The Deposition of Quesada and Appointment of Jordan—Interesting Letter to the Marquis of Santa Lucia—The Landing of Goicouria—Items of the Insurrection—The Assault on Americans—The Perpetrator Captured.

HAVANA, Feb. 19, 1870.

The *Diario de la Marina* and other journals of the city have for the past week been publishing the documents recently collected from the estate of the Marquis of Santa Lucia by the division of Goyeneche. From them the former claims it is shown that the government of the so-called Cuban republic is an *embryon*—that is, has not the most remote resemblance to a regular government with the organized representation of a State. Disorder, confusion, discontent and faction reveal in all their lines the desire to command, resistance to and a disposition to exceed authority. While this is a strained conclusion such as an enemy would arrive at, there is a shadow of truth in the indication of the documents and in the fact. Spain has had the tutorage of the Cubans for some centuries, and she has not been careful to instruct them in the art of government, and it is no more than natural that under the disadvantageous circumstances mistakes, differences of opinion and dissensions should arise. That these are likely to prove fatal to the Cuban cause, or, indeed, very dangerous, is not indicated in this captured correspondence, through all of which a spirit of elevated patriotism and confidence in ultimate success is very apparent. The letters are numerous and mostly short, scarcely one of them in itself being of sufficient interest to warrant translation and publication. They are mostly taken up with those small details of organization and administration which, while of much importance to the participants, are of no consequence to those only interested in the result of events. They confirm what was already known, that the differences between the Cubans grew out of the fact that many were opposed to the inauguration of the revolution of 1868 on the ground that sufficient preparation had not been made, and, secondly, the appointment of Quesada as Commander-in-Chief. Chief of those who opposed the revolution at the start—and no doubt wisely—was Napoleon Arango, who favored the acceptance of proffered reforms as a base of settlement. Outnumbered and compelled to yield, he has been in a chronic state of discontent ever since, and, though perhaps his patriotism cannot be questioned, by his dissatisfaction and intrigues he has much retarded the success of the cause. It is now evident that the appointment of Quesada was a mistake. Not only Napoleon Arango, but a large number of the more sagacious and influential Cubans of Camaguey were opposed to him. With small capabilities, he was presumptuous, assuming and tyrannical. He had neither the intelligence to see the necessity of amicable union nor the facilities the exercise of which was necessary to bring it about. Owing to this, in his discontent Arango had many supporters, and the loss of that golden opportunity in the summer of 1869, when the Spaniards were shut up in Puerto Principe dying from cholera and the vomito, was lost to the patriots of Camaguey. While all this is indicated to some extent in these letters, it is equally shown that the cause of these troubles ends with the deposition of Quesada. Though there is nothing to show that Arango is content, it is evident nothing further is feared from him, and it is much to say that nowhere in the correspondence is any want of confidence in Cespedes or his Cabinet manifested.

The more important of the letters I translate, in great part, as follows. It is without date, but evidently written very recently:—

MY DEAR MARQUIS—According to my promise I give you what has transpired from the day before yesterday up to today as it has come to my knowledge. Last night Gaspar Gurguilla was here, and I learned through him that Jordan and Ignacio (Agramonte) had been in the House of Representatives. The first named, or perhaps I should say both, went to see if they could bring about a reconsideration of the deposition of General Quesada or his resignation, but the House did not admit the proposition, and maintained its resolution. * * * Jordan has written a kind of proclamation, which I think has not yet been printed, in which he calls on the young men of Camaguey to occupy their posts in the army, so much in want of officers; that he expects, from their proverbial patriotism, that they will help him, &c. It is well written, and clearly intended for the young men who have not entered the ranks because Quesada was commander-in-chief. I believe that now the Molinas, Adanes and the others of Caonao will do honor to their names. God grant it may be so. Gaspar tells me that Jordan has influenced the President to suspend for the time being the conference which was to take place on the 21st, as it is not convenient for the chiefs to leave their encampments save in case of something of vital importance to the country. It is said that the 25th of this month or the 1st of January has been proposed for the meeting. However, this seems very strange to me, as, according to Zoononte, he encountered the General on the road with sixteen men, who were, I suppose, the friends that accompany him from Palo Quemado. Zoononte also says that it is not known in the House that the meeting has been postponed. To-day Faucho has received a splendid letter from Zambrana, in which he speaks of what has passed. It is a document, in my opinion, important for the history of the revolution, on account of the share falling to Zambrana, as a friend of the General. I would tell you something from this letter full of civic virtue, but I had better await your coming, when you can read it all.

Chicho Valdes was here to-day; he came at liberty from the Mauble, where, in a long conversation which he had with the Major General, he (the General) said, among other good things, that upon the word of a brother (Masonic) he was always disposed to defend the constitution with his life, if required. Chicho is crazy with contentment over the attitude which the House has taken. He does nothing but praise their measures. Moreover, he told me another very important thing. He says when he was imprisoned Napoleon and Aristides Arango presented themselves to him, offering their good services, likewise those of the rest of the brothers and their partisans, their arms, &c. All that was necessary in case he should wish to protest against the arbitrary act of his imprisonment and overthrow the constitutional government. Chicho told them to return to their homes; that was not the way to be good patriots; that he knew how to protest if he thought it expedient, and in a manner that one should protest before a legally and legitimately constituted government, and which he would defend with his words and his blood. What do you think of this? It is said that the President has given M. Arango a safe conduct for the (Cinco) villas, with very good recommendations. On this subject I have written to-day to Zambrana. It is necessary to place this crazy one (Arango) in a place where he can do no harm. It is necessary to prevent his going to the (Cinco) villas. If everything is in good order there he will be sure to destroy the harmony.

I was forgetting to tell you that it seems Jordan is to remain commander-in-chief *ad interim*. So he signs himself in the proclamation which Gurguilla brought. This morning the men of Fernando Aguers passed by here in the direction of Aciento. Do you know for what purpose? It is very strange that they abandon the place. You cannot complain for want of news. * * * Do not forget to return the papers you will have sent to you. * * * Adios I and command your brother, or rather your son.

EDRICO.

Another of these letters, addressed to the President of the House of Representatives August 5, 1869, says that 1,200 soldiers had died of cholera and vomito in Puerto Principe, besides 1,000 of the inhabitants among the lower orders. It also mentions the number of troops in garrison and those stationed along the line of the railroad, showing the writer to be entirely well informed. A number of encounters in various parts of the island are mentioned, with results favorable to the Cubans.

The *Diario* of yesterday professes to have information from a trustworthy source that the English schooner *Herald*, from Nassau, landed her passengers, thirty-six in number, on the reefs to the leeward of Point Bejuquera. Among them were Domingo Goicouria, Eloy Camacho, two negroes and an Asiatic. A force of volunteers, under the Lieutenant Governor and Military Commander of Gibara, encountered them in Kesbiona and the Sierra of Socarriño, killing seven and making four prisoners; the latter were executed after a summary court martial. One of them had been employed in the Post Office of Havana and another in the telegraph office at Guanabacoa. The balance of the expeditionists on the 14th were shut up in the sierra mentioned, and it was thought none would escape. From the report of those who were shot it seems the intended point of landing was at Mulas; but this was found impracticable. On disembarking each one took a carbine and twenty cartridges. The vessel and cargo as abandoned is valued at \$4,000. A letter from Gibara, dated the 14th, says that among those shot was the Chief Prisciliano Cardet. This information is exclusive in the *Diario*, and, curious to say, we have nothing official concerning it. The story, whether true or false, will have the effect of mitigating the chagrin which was felt here on account of the successful landing of Goicouria in face of the gunboats now encircling the island.

The letter referred to states that Valmaseda was in Holguin, preparing for immediate operations in that part of the Eastern Department still occupied by insurgents.

The steamer *Villa Clara*, at Bataban on the evening of the 15th, brings dates from Santiago de Cuba to the 11th, Manzanillo, Bayamo and Trinidad to the 17th. A letter from the former place says that the members of the Cuban Junta in that city have been arrested. They are persons well known, and it is claimed that in their "conviction and confession" all the ramifications of the conspiracies are made known.

The *Voluntario* of Manzanillo mentions that on the morning of the 9th a column (destined to operate with Valmaseda) had left there for Bayamo under Colonel Juan M. Ampudia. "Reconnoissances" are reported in the vicinity of Bayamo without important result. The *Imparcial* of Trinidad mentions a reconnoissance in the hills of that jurisdiction where was encountered a party of insurgents strongly entrenched, who were routed, as usual. A private letter says:—"In regard to the insurrection matters are rather worse than better here. On the night of the 12th inst. eight married women were taken from their houses and placed in jail; one of them is the wife of an American merchant of this place. Up to this date (the 15th) they remain in confinement."

Several persons connected with the murder of Isaac Greenwath and the murderous assault on Foster and Johnson have been arrested. The Governor is morally certain that he has in custody the principal in this affair, and as soon as the two young men mentioned are sufficiently recovered they will be taken to the cabanas for the purpose of identifying him. Six of those connected with the Matanzas outbreak, following the death of Castañon, are also in the cabanas.

There are numerous reports of dissatisfaction toward the Captain General by the volunteers here, attributed to the arrest of the Matanzas rioters and other cases. It does not seem that anything serious is likely to result from it.