

Arrival of General Quesada in New York— His Reception—Present Situation in Cuba—The Resources of the Insur- gent Forces—The Thirty Gun- boats—Their Effectiveness.

Great was the commotion caused at the Cortlandt street ferry and Jersey City railroad station yesterday, at about four P. M., when some 300 Cubans were seen hurrying across, evidently bent upon something serious, and it was soon hinted that another expedition was in active preparation. An expedition it proved to be, but also one of peace. The Cubans were expecting their favorite leader, General Quesada, who had been telegraphed as being a passenger on board of the train due at the Jersey City station at forty minutes past four o'clock. Punctual to its time the train whirled into the station. No sooner was it brought to a stand still than the cars were invaded by the anxious crowd, eager to grasp the hand of a chief who has effected so much towards the good issue of the insurrection in Cuba. On making his appearance loud cheers of welcome rent the air. "Viva Cuba Libre!" "Viva General Quesada!" "Viva Cespedes!" Then came three cheers more for the General's special edification. Everybody had some questions to put, and everybody wished to be first; consequently the combined efforts ended in a general rush, carrying the General and his immediate friends through the station to the carriage which awaited them outside. Señor Morales Lemus was absent, owing to an indisposition, but was represented by his secretary. The Cuban Junta was represented by Messrs. Mestre and Varona, and the Cuban Club by Messrs. Pineiro, Delmonte, Galvez and Valdez Mendoza. When crossing the river the

CUBAN FLAG

was hoisted by some enterprising youth, who boldly mounted the roof of the ferryboat, and with his flag attached to the driver's whip waived it in full view of the Spanish frigate,

LA VICTORIA,

renewed cheers were indulged in, and soon the crowd landed at the foot of Cortlandt street, whence they proceeded up Broadway to the Hoffman House, where for the present the General has taken up his quarters.

THE GENERAL'S APPEARANCE.

General Quesada is a man of middle stature and possesses a fine military bearing. His age is about thirty-seven and his features show evident traces of recent exposure. His head is remarkably well shaped and indicates a large amount of personal courage, combined with a strong will and perseverance. He fully expressed his opinion that the

CAUSE OF CUBA

stands better now than ever it did hitherto, that is up to the date of his departure from the patriot headquarters, on January 24. Moreover the men are now disciplined soldiers, fully up to their work as such and determined rather to die than run from the enemy. Virtually speaking the insurgents are slated to hold the whole island with the exception of the cities of Havana and Colon. The General states that all the other cities in the island could have easily been taken, but he preferred not incurring the risk that such steps would necessitate for the present. Moreover, it would have taken too much of his available force to hold them when taken, and, under existing circumstances, he did not deem it expedient to venture to such an extent. The troops have abundance of

ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

The artillery numbers thirteen light field pieces, and they have 20,000 rifles. Only some 8,000 men are armed with machetes. Horses and cattle of all descriptions are stated to be fully equal to the demand, and many of the infantry are mounted when necessary. Throughout the territory under the control of the republican government agriculture continues as actively as during times of peace, but all parts in the immediate vicinity of the Spaniards are purposely devastated or burned, so as to cut off their supplies. The General reports that numbers of Spaniards are continually passing over to the patriot forces, which he has tolerated, although much against his will, more from charity than otherwise. In his opinion the Spaniards are effectually played out, as their movements are closely watched by the advanced guards of the insurgents, who lose no opportunity to harass them and cut off portions of their forces.

THE THIRTY GUNBOATS.

about which so much talk was made, are subjects that excite the General's risibility. Firstly, because it is utterly impossible that thirty gunboats can effectively guard such an extent of seaboard; and secondly, because they are not capable of keeping out at sea, and draw too much water to approach the coast generally. Their cost of maintenance is enormous and their utility nil. The insurgents have a special force of 7,000 men who act as coast guards and are effective enough to repulse any attack from the sea. In respect to the action of the United States government in allowing them to sail, the General attributes it purely to a want of knowledge of the actual state of affairs in Cuba, which he can easily explain.

GENERAL JORDAN

is reported to be an active and able soldier and evidently stands high in the opinions of the insurgent chiefs. General Quesada left the command of the patriot forces in order to undertake a

SPECIAL MISSION.

not only to the government of the United States, but also to the European governments, in which capacity he is duly accredited by the acting President, Cespedes, who authorizes him to do all in his power to aid and further the interests of the republic of Cuba. In his official capacity he is assisted by Colonel Varona as secretary and Major Loyaga. On his way to New York he passed through the capital, but did not stop, having business to attend to in this city that required his presence personally previous to presenting himself officially to the authorities at Washington.

The prevailing opinion of the General and his companions is that the general aspect of ideas in respect to Cuban affairs will materially change when he has tendered an exact statement of the actual position. Should he be right, then may we wish him Godspeed and success in the good cause.