

KEY WEST.

**A Reign of Terror—Attempted Assassination—
A Man Stabbed and Then Thrown Off a
Wharf—The Death of Castañon to be
Avenged.**

KEY WEST, March 24, 1870.

The savage malignity of the Spanish volunteers seems not to have abated one iota since the killing of Castañon; and what was at first considered an unfounded rumor of a certain number of Spanish volunteers delegated to come to Key West to avenge the death of Castañon now proves to be a painful reality. For the last few days the Cubans have been holding a fair, the proceeds to go to "Suffering Cuba." The hall not being large enough wherein the fair was held, a temporary frame work was erected adjoining, which was covered with canvas. Among the many who thronged the place was one Edward Botella, with two ladies, sitting at one side engaged in conversation. To the astonishment of those who witnessed the act, the canvas was ripped open and a face peered in through the opening, behind Botella. The back of the seat was somewhat in the way. Another hole was quickly made and a knife thrust through at the heart of Botella. Fortunately his arm protected him. The knife entered the arm a little above the elbow, creating a serious, but it is thought, not dangerous wound. The would-be assassin escaped, and in that joyous assemblage another tragedy was prevented. The wounded man was promptly cared for by his many friends. Señor Botella being a brother of the supposed murderer of Castañon, who is now lying in jail in this city, proves conclusively that the blow was not struck at random, but intended for the heart of him whose relationship, unfortunately, made him the shining mark for Spanish vengeance.

Last night, at about half-past ten o'clock, a Cuban by the name of Placido Yagüendo—sometimes called Morales Lemus, from his resemblance to Lemus—

while at the wharf looking for the steamer Cuba, hourly expected from Havana, was suddenly assaulted and stabbed by two Spaniards, who then pushed him off the wharf into the water, and thereafter began throwing large pieces of coal at him to make sure of his destruction. Fortunately, the night being very dark, and Yequiendo being a good swimmer, he succeeded in making his escape. Yequiendo was intending to go to New York per the Cuba to join an expedition supposed to be sitting out for Cuba from that point.

I improve the present opportunity to assure you that the Cubans at Key West are remarkably quiet and well behaved, and without industrious. They wish not to create any disturbance or be implicated in further trouble; but from what I have learned they feel that if the present prosecution still continues in Key West "forbearance (with them) will soon cease to be a virtue."