

Dependency of the Spaniards—More Troops Applied for and Refused—Anticipated Return of De Rodas to Havana—The Havana Press on the President's Message—Cholera Among the Troops and Soldiers—Capture of a Convoy.

HAVANA, June 25, 1870.

The Spaniards of this city are at present in a very melancholy frame of mind, and meetings of the Casino Español, in consideration of the situation, are numerous. There has ceased to be, if there ever was, any confidence in the early restoration of peace. What a few hundred determined men can do against the power of a great nation was demonstrated in the Florida war, a thing often referred to here as showing that the present struggle, carried on with many more advantages than had the poor Indian, is likely to continue for an indefinite period. In spite of the rose-water reports of the Captain General, the truth leaks out. Army officers returning from the field, where they have had a far better opportunity for obtaining a correct knowledge of affairs than have the authorities themselves, blurt out the truth with the characteristic frankness of their profession, and say that nothing has been accomplished towards the suppression of the insurrection; that it is stronger than ever; that the Cubans fight like demons when they are likely to accomplish anything by it, oftentimes dropping their muskets and launching themselves with desperate energy on the troops, machete in hand.

Again, the effect of the real condition of affairs upon all mercantile interests here is severely felt. This tells the truth. The favorable reports do not restore property to its value previous to the insurrection; do not raise the rents, which are now comparatively small, buildings which formerly rented for sixty ounces now remaining unoccupied, though offered at twenty and thirty. Little confidence is felt and all business operations are cramped and conducted with undue caution. The necessity for more troops is beginning to be recognized and freely talked about. Indeed, it is confidently stated that the Casino Español, which really the convention that governs the island, recently telegraphed to Madrid asking for 20,000 more troops, the expenses of which they would pay, and the response came back, "We can not send you even five more men." And so there is tribulation among the Spaniards; for who knows but the pretty uniforms of the volunteers may ere long have to be carried to the field, there to be soiled and shot at by the hated followers of the tri-color banner? His Excellency, he of Rhodes, has not been able to fulfil his promises. His popularity has much decreased. It is thought he ought to go to Spain, and that he will soon after his return, no daily expected. But who knows? And what then? Another figurehead, to be received with much ceremony and no enthusiasm, to issue bombastic proclamations, try and fail and go home, and, perchance, until, like a certain Viceroy of Spain in the case of Mexico, one comes out, acknowledging the independence of the island and returns again wiser and no better.

To add to the general perplexity and discomfort epidemic cholera has broken out along the coast and in the garrisoned places, and is making dreadful havoc among the unacclimated troops, worn down as they are by their arduous labors during the past season. It is said, too, to be prevalent among the war vessels cruising about the island, and some of the officers and many of the men on the gunboats and men-of-war have already died. The yellow fever cases as yet in the city have been very few, but a goodly number of sailors have been sent to the hospital from the various war vessels in the harbor. All this furnishes cause of depression which neither the impertinent message of Grant, nor the resultant action of Congress is sufficient to remove, and incites gloomy forebodings for the future.

The *Diario de la Marina* considers the President's message in three long articles, published in its successive issues. The first treats of the character of the contest, defending the Spaniards from the charges of cruelty and claiming for them, on the contrary, the greatest clemency, as shown in the proclamations of Lersundi, Dulce and De Rodas. It justifies the killing of prisoners, on the ground that they have no recognized political status before the world, and, therefore, can only be treated as malefactors. The second considers the situation of the insurgents and the law of nations applicable thereto. In it the *Diario* cheerfully and fully coincides with the learned and erudite Chief Magistrate. A parallel is drawn between the insurgents and the patriots struggling for liberty during the American revolution, and, naturally, no similarity is discovered. The third considers the detention of American vessels, the treatment of American citizens in the island and the confiscation of property belonging to them. Of vessels it states there have been but two detained, the schooner *Mary Lowell* and the steamer *Lloyd Asplwall*, and it is argued that the suspicious circumstances surrounding them justify the action. It refers with some bitterness, in this connection, to the expedition of the *Hornet* and the *Lillian*. In the matter of the treatment of American citizens it states that they are subject to the laws of the country and liable to punishment for offences. It refers to the fact that many who have claimed to be such were in reality not American citizens, but claimed to be in order to seek immunity for their crimes. It denies that any property of American citizens has been confiscated.

Advices from the Eastern Department state that the rains have caused an inundation of the rivers Buey and Nicotea, covering a vast extent of country and that all operations have consequently been paralyzed.

The insurgents continue active in the jurisdiction of Colon, in the Western Department, and we have now reports of small encounters from that section with the same regularity as from the Cinco Villas. The last of these took place in the mountains of Saichica and resulted, according to Spanish accounts, in the dispersion of the insurgents with only a few killed. The only point of interest from Trinidad is a statement in the *Imparcial* that a detachment of troops recently went out from that city on a reconnaissance and coming upon two insurgents sleeping killed them.

The cholera to an extent, has broken out in Havana. It is confined to the low miasmatic localities and to the poorer classes, among whom it is said to be raging with considerable virulence. Fires are kindled at various points in the localities mentioned during the evening and some other sanitary steps taken. Quite a large number from among the troops have died from the disease.

A telegram received here, stating that the Cortes had suddenly adjourned until November, and that three war vessels had sailed from Cadiz with sealed orders, has excited much interest and speculation here.

A private letter, dated Gibara the 18th, states that the insurgents had captured a convoy comprising fourteen carts, loaded with prisoners, while moving between Camagan and Bijaru, in the jurisdiction of Holguin. It was intended for the supply of certain posts in the country.

The Latest from the Camaguey—No Rebels Found—Second Cargo of the Upton—Freemasons Released.

HAVANA, June 26, 1870.

His Excellency the Captain General, under date of the 24th from Puerto Principe, informs us that the calamity of the *Upton* has caused great dismay among the insurgents; that the second cargo landed is more valuable than the first, and that among the killed is Mestre, the one-handed. The columns are unable to find any enemy. One of them wandered over a space of forty-four leagues without encountering any. Another had caused some twelve deaths, among them a "Yankee so-called colonel" whatever that may be. Arteaga and family, coming to present themselves, had been made prisoners, and two others had been hanged for the same offence. The telegrams from Santa Clara, Santi Espiritu and other points are becoming woefully unimportant, being generally taken up in announcing the death of one or two insurgents.

Ten foreigners, arrested for being in attendance at a Masonic meeting, have been released. A number of them called on Mr. Dunlop, her Majesty's Consul General, and expressed their thanks for his efforts in their behalf.